

Tenth Series, Vol, XLIII No. 9

Wednesday, August 16, 1995
Śravana 25, 1917 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Fourteenth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XLIII contains Nos. 1-10)

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

Wednesday, August 16, 1995/Sravana 25, 1917(Saka).

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, August 16, 1995/Sravana 25, 1917 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

HEALTH FOR ALL

*201. Shri Manjay Lal :
Shri Guman Mal Lodha :

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to achieve the target of Health For All by the end of 2000 A.D.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made so far in this regard; and

(d) the number of persons covered under this programme so far?

ANNEXURE

Goals for Health and Family Welfare Programmes Level as Quoted in National Health Policy vis-vis Achievements

Sl. No.	Indicator	Level as Quoted in NHP	Goals			Achievements	
			1985	1990	2000	1990	Current Level of Achievements (as per latest available figures)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Infant Mortality Rate						
	Rural	136(1978)	122			86	82
	Urban	70(1978)	60			50	45
	Combined	125(1978)	106	87	Below 60	80	74(1993)
	Perinatal Mortality	67(1976)			30-35	49.6	47.5(1992)
2.	Crude death rate	Around 14	12	10.4	9.0	9.6	9.2(1993)
3.	Pre-school child (1-5 Yrs.) mortality	24(1976-77)	20-24	15-20	10	26.5	26.5(1992)
4.	Maternal mortality rate	4-5(1976)	3-4	2-3	Below 2	4	4(1993)
5.	Life expectancy at birth (Yrs.)						
	Male	52.6(1976-81)	55.1	57.6	64	58.1 (1986-91)	60.6 (1991-96)

[English]

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A huge network of rural health infrastructure comprising 1,31,900 Sub-centres, 22,156 Primary Health Centres and 2,377 Community Health Centres has been set up throughout the country to provide comprehensive health care in rural areas. Secondary and tertiary level hospitals, which are referral institutions, provide specialised health care facilities. Programmes are under implementation to control eradicate communicable and non-communicable diseases like Malaria, Tuberculosis, Leprosy, Blindness, AIDS and Cancer etc. Under the Family Welfare Programme, emphasis has been given for Child Survival and Safe Motherhood including immunization.

Development of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy is being encouraged to widen the network for the delivery of health services to the people. Involvement of voluntary organizations/NGOs, Private Sectors including NRIs, Industries and Private Practitioners, etc. has also been encouraged to provide comprehensive health care to the people.

Details showing the parameter-wise targets for the year 2000 AD, and the present achievements are given in the enclosed Annexure.

All the Programmes mentioned above are being implemented throughout the Country for the benefit of entire population.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Female	51.6(1976-81)	54.3	57.1	64	59.1 (1986-91)	61.7 (1991-96)
6.	Babies with birth weight below 2500 gms (Percentage)	30	25	18	10	—	30 (1992)
7.	Crude birth rate	Around 35	31	27.0	21.0	29.9	28.5(1993)
8.	Effective couple Protection (Percentage)	23.6 (March,82)	37.0	42.0	60.0	44.1 (March, 91)	45.4 (March 1994)
9.	Net reproduction rate (NRR)	1.48(1981)	1.34	1.17	1.0	—	1.6
10.	Growth rate (annual)	2.24 (1971-81)	1.90	1.66	1.20	—	2.14 (1981-91)
11.	Family Size	4.4(1975)	3.8	—	2.3	4.0(1988)	
12.	Pregnant mothers receiving antenatal care (%)	40-50	50-60	60-75	100	60(1988)	82(1993)
13.	Deliveries by trained birth attendants (%)	30-35	50	80	100	40-50	47.3(1992)
14.	Immunization status (% coverage)						
	TT (for pregnant Women)	20	60	100	100	78.16	82.48 (1993-94)
	TT (for school children)						
	10 years		40	100	100	60.5	60.5
	16 years	20	60	100	100	86.45	86.45
	DPT (Children below 3 years)	25	70	85	85	98.19	93.10 (1993-94)
	Polio (infants)	5	50	70	85	101.51	93.57 (1993-94)
	BCG (infants)	65	70	80	85	101.51	96.95 (1993-94)
	DT (New school entrants 5-6 years)	20	80	85	85	82.0	82.0
	Typhoid (New school entrants 5-6 years)	2	70	85	85	62.6 (1987-88)	62.6
15.	Leprosy-percentage of disease arrested cases out of these detected*	20	40	60	80	65.0	74.86
16.	TB percentage of disease arrested case out of those detected	50	60	75	90	66	66
17.	Blindness prevalence (%)	1.4	1	0.7	0.3	1.49	1.49

* = cases cured after 1983 out of the 4 million estimated leprosy cases.

NHP = National Health Policy.

Source : National Health Policy, 1983**

[Translation]

Shri Manjay Lal : It was announced under the National Health Policy, 1993 that there would be Health for all by 2000 AD. Even after expiry of 13 years, no effective steps have so far been taken in this regard. Of course, some hospitals and Sub-Health Centres have been opened. In the meantime, the new economic policy was introduced in 1991, as a result of which the prices of medicines have gone up enormously. It has become impossible for a commonman to buy medicines. Not to speak of availability of medicines in the hospitals in the rural areas, even paper is not available to write prescriptions. I had gone to Muzafferpur. Recently, there was an outbreak of encephalitis, a disease of Japanese origin there.

Mr. Speaker : You have raised a very good question. You speak for everybody's information and also to guide the Government and not to level allegations.

Shri Manjay Lal : I am putting the question. All those people were living below the poverty line who died of encephalitis. I would like to know from the Government whether arrangements will be made to get such people insured compulsorily and to provide free treatment, medical test and medicines who number half of the total population.

Mr. Speaker : A very good question.

The Minister of Health and Family Welfare (Shri A. R. Antulay) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is correct that the National Health Policy was adopted by the Parliament in 1983 and it was agreed upon to provide all possible facilities in regard to health for all by 2000 A.D. This is written in the policy.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had stated in this House a week ago in reply to a question that we will be able to achieve this target within 4 years. Unfortunately, it is not possible to achieve it. However, the Government will try to achieve this target to that extent it is possible. Before giving reply to the question asked by the hon. Member I would like to say that in the past, Ayurvedic Physicians used to provide treatment to the people and everyone got proper treatment in the villages itself. Unless the same process is adopted, and Ayurveda is encouraged, it is not possible to provide this facility to everyone in the country in view of the increasing population. It is very difficult to provide health facility to one and all in a country having a population of 100 crores. The Government will make very effort to do this task within the next 4 or 8 years by selecting some areas in a state. Basic facilities will be accorded priority.

Now communicable and non-communicable diseases have also been covered under the Health Policy. Thereafter, the question of giving nutrition to a mother before giving birth to a baby and to a child after birth, comes. Mortality rate has decreased. Efforts are being made to reduce it to the lowest. The issue of health is linked with man right from his birth to death. This is a very important issue. Therefore, we all should think over it as the hon. Member has said. And that is why, after two or three days we...

[English]

Mr. Speaker : The operative part of the question relates to life insurance, can it be done ?

Shri A. R. Antulay : I am coming to that. That also will not be that easy thing as you have said.

[Translation]

Therefore, it covers that also. The Health Statement is of 1983 in which a mention has been made about insurance policy also. Recently, our Prime Minister has made an announcement regarding insurance of some people. Now it remains to be seen whether the Government can cover the total population of 100 crores under this policy in regard to health ? That is a question. But it is very difficult to provide treatment to all even after covering them under this policy. It is correct that after covering in the insurance policy if a man dies, insured amount or money spent for medicine can be given. But it does not seem possible that he can use it if the medical facility is not near or there is no facility like mobile hospital. That is why I have covered a meeting of all MPs and medical practitioners and after collecting their suggestions we will ponder over this issue, because this task cannot be done by a Government or a party alone. We can do it unitedly. Therefore, this national programme which is under National Policy has to be implemented and we want cooperation from all sections. The Government will also consider the issue of insurance. But today, we can not make any commitment... (Interruptions)

Shri Manjay Lal : What about the health insurance ?

Shri A. R. Antulay : We cannot make any commitment today in regard to health insurance. This is what I want to say. After making commitment we will have to see as to how it should be implemented. There will be insurance for health and not for the sake of insurance. There is no use of making insurance if we cannot provide health facilities to the people.

Shri Manjay Lal : Mr. Speaker, Sir, This announcement was made in 1983. Thirteen years have passed and only four years are left; but the Government has not taken a decision so far. My specific question was that they should get themselves insured and receive treatment.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, my second question is in regard to private hospitals. It has been mentioned in the policy that private persons are allowed to open hospitals. Sir, big private hospitals are being opened. I would like to know from the Government whether 50 percent quota will be fixed in the private hospitals for the common people to take treatment, particularly for those who are living below the poverty line and who cannot afford to receive treatment from these hospitals so that they may get free treatment and medical test facilities there.

Shri A. R. Antulay : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg your pardon and would like to say that the hon. Member must have read in the 'Financial Express and Economic Times' that when some of the top industrialists of this country met

the hon. Prime Minister, he asked a question as to what they wanted to do for the poor people. The hon. Prime Minister had suggested them that they should construct a hospital together with the establishment of their industry. Medium and big size hospitals should be constructed according to the size of the industry.

If the industry is multinational, it can adopt one or more districts for health care. This has also been mentioned in the reply that the Government wants to receive the services of private practitioners and industrialists also. And if N.R.Is, N.G.Os and other organisations are willing to come in this field, they can also be accepted. What the hon. Member is saying is correct. So far as the Apolo and big hospitals are concerned, they are for fatal diseases and for rich people. The Government will have to bring forward a legislation to provide free treatment to 50 percent poor people. We will try to do this. I am thinking about providing free treatment to at least 25 to 30 percent poor people, if not for 50 percent, in the big hospitals. A legislation should be brought forward in this regard by the Government if need be. The Government is pondering over this issue.

Shri Datta Meghe : The private hospitals can be entrusted this job. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

Mr. Speaker : No, no. Lodhaji, please.

[Translation]

Shri Guman Mal Lodha : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Vohra Committee was constituted in 1946, it had recommended that a public health centre should be opened for a population of 20 thousand people under the scheme of "health for all by 2000 A.D." In Part (a) of my question I have sought to know as to in how many States, the target fixed in 1946 for opening a health centre for a population of 20 thousand has so far been achieved as per the recommendation of the Vohra Committee and if not, the reasons therefor ? The (b) part of my question is that the Government has talked of promoting Ayurveda but the difference between the allocation of budget for Ayurveda and Allopathy is more than hundred percent. My question is as to what targets have been fixed to promote Ayurveda and the extent to which the difference of budget allocation will be reduced. The (c) part of my question is that the Government had said that health insurance cannot be introduced as that will not serve the purpose, but the people in other countries of the world get money for their treatment only due to health insurance. Will the Government reconsider the issue of health insurance seriously ?

Shri A. R. Antulay : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did not say that we will not consider it. I forgot the earlier two questions asked by the hon. Member before he asked his third question. Therefore, I come to the third question with your kind permission.

Mr. Speaker : His second question was that sufficient

budget has not been allocated for promotion of Ayurveda.

Shri Guman Mal Lodha : In what proportion will it be given ?

Shri A. R. Antulay : It is correct that there is a big difference between the budget allocation of Ayurveda and Allopathy. However, with the permission of the hon. Speaker, I would like to say that it would be better to revise the scheme of Ayurveda as per the guidance of the Prime Minister instead of allocating budget for it. Last week, the Prime Minister while intervening, said that the budget allocation for Ayurveda will not be reduced. This much can be said at this time and the science of our Acharyas...*(Interruptions)*

Shri Guman Mal Lodha : This slogan has already been given. In what proportion it will be given and to what extent the gap will be reduced ?

Mr. Speaker : This is not a slogan but an assurance. Funds will not be reduced. This is a very important matter.

(Interruptions)

[English]

Shri Guman Mal Lodha : The Government should itself think about the assurance before transferring it to the Assurance Committee as the hon. Speaker himself has said that it will be implemented.

Shri Hari Kishore Singh : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government has made tall promises about the National Health Policy. About 50 lakh people become victims of tuberculosis every year and nearly 50 million population is affected by this disease. As per a report, about half of the total population is afflicted with tuberculosis in one way or the other. What measures the Government is going to take to eradicate tuberculosis from this country by 2001 A.D.

Shri A. R. Antulay : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had said in this regard, while replying to a supplementary question put by an hon. Member that tuberculosis was incurable when we got independence. But now it is curable. A lot of money has to be spent on its treatment if it has reached second or third stage. I had said on behalf of the Government that we want to set up a detecting machinery to diagnose it as early as possible. The Government is trying to eradicate polio by organising Pulse Polio campaigns all over the country and by giving polio vaccine to the children of one to three years age group on 9 December, 1995 and 20 January, 1996. The Government is giving wider publicity to the programme. Similarly, every one will be medically examined to know whether he is a victim of tuberculosis. And if it is detected in the early stage, the total cost on its treatment will be less comparatively. Therefore, it is in the interest of all in the country to detect it immediately because it is curable and we should get it cured before it reaches the second and third stage. The Government is making a programme in which doctors will go to every village and check up the people to detect tuberculosis.

[English]

Shri A. Charles : Under the 'Health for all by 2000 AD' there are certain targets to be reached in different areas of health such as mortality rate, health of pre-school child, etc. From the statement it is seen that in a very few cases we have already achieved the targets, in certain cases we are nearing the targets and in other cases we are a little behind. But Kerala is one State where we have achieved almost all the targets. But there is a problem. The fact that a State has achieved the target does not mean that the health condition of the poor people is all right. We have to go a long way in fulfilling the basic needs of the poor people in the rural areas. Wherever the targets have been achieved suddenly the financial assistance from the Government of India is stopped.

May I suggest to the hon. Minister that a programme for the whole State may be chalked out so that if in one area we succeed, the rest of the amount can be diverted to other areas? For example the incidence of dangerous diseases like cancer and AIDS has increased in Kerala. Then the whole project can be considered as one and the whole allocation can be made irrespective of the fact whether the State has achieved some targets or not.

[Translation]

Shri A. R. Antulay : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is right that if a target under a programme has been achieved by a state, it does not mean that no assistance should be given to that state for health care programmes. Assistance can be stopped only for the programme under which target has been achieved. In this regard, I would like to know from the hon. Member as to why the Government has cut short the budget for health programme also. We will not let this happen. This is all I want to say at this moment.

[English]

Dr. Jayanta Rongpi : Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the entire health care system at the grassroot level the institution we are having is the Primary Health Centre with its sub-centres. I have visited the sub-centres in many remote areas of the North-East and also some other areas. The staffing pattern in those sub-centres is such that the single Auxiliary Nurse Midwife posted there cannot usually stay in the sub-centre. Thus when the sub-centres are not functioning the target set for 2000 AD becomes a farce. So, I would like to know whether the Government would think of changing the staffing pattern of the sub-centres.

The second part of my question is about the immunisation programme. Until and unless we achieve the target of immunisation our very target of Health for 2000 AD will not be successful. From my personal experience in the medical profession and also from my experience in many parts of this country, I have seen a good number of Primary Health Centres—forgetting about sub-centres which is the next stage—are not having any electricity connections. Because of that they are not able to maintain a refrigerator to store the vaccines. I would like to know whether the Government has chalked out any programme

to provide electricity or any alternative arrangement to supply power to those Primary Health Centres so that the immunisation programme could be successful.

There are many other defects in this care system.

Therefore, I would like to know whether the government is thinking of making a midway reappraisal of the entire health care system so that even if we cannot achieve our target by 2000 A.D., we can achieve it at the earliest. Is there any plan of such reappraisal?

[Translation]

Shri A. R. Antulay : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given reply to the question on immunisation today and in this connection, I would not like to waste the time of the House. So far as the Primary Health Centres and sub-centres are concerned, we are aware and the hon. Member is right in saying that these centres lack requisite primary health care facilities. It is also true that the M.B.B.S. doctors do not express their willingness to work in these centres. We have chalked out a programme of attracting them to work in villages. We are also aware that though we have a policy of sending M.B.B.S. doctors to villages, yet there is a clause in the bond which exempts them from being deputed to villages once they deposit some money. Some days ago, we gave a thought to this aspect that if the doctors can escape from rendering their duty in villages by depositing some money, then this Government can not get the money in lieu of divesting the poor of their right of getting medical facilities and, as such, that sub-clause should be deleted. We had thought of issuing a directive making it obligatory for the doctors to serve in villages but we neither have any authority to issue such a directive, because the Indian Council of Medical Education is an autonomous institution, nor can we authoritatively ask the Council to do so. In this regard, we will bring forth a legislation covering all the autonomous institutions. All the questions raised here are genuine because every hon. Member is well acquainted with the problems of common man, the man at the grassroots level whereas the autonomous bodies are not. We are here to give reply to their questions but the Government has no right to set them right. No autonomous body is answerable to the people. Therefore, as the hon. Member has said, the Government should have the right to issue directives to all autonomous bodies under the Government, barring the sub-judice matters and other important cases. Hence, we will contemplate over how to equip these P.H.Cs and sub-centres fully. We will also consider any other suggestion of the hon. Member in this regard. We want to extend these facilities to the last man of every village as to my mind, this is the most noble deed. (Interruptions)

Dr. G. L. Kanaujia : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am making repeated submissions but no reply is forthcoming from your side. I have requested four times. (Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Speaker : This is a breach of privilege. I will take action against the hon. Member. This is the second time he is doing it.

[Translation]

Dr. G. L. Kanaujia : I am repeatedly requesting but you are not giving me the opportunity. It is for the fourth time now...(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker : Look, 20-25 minutes have been taken for one question only.

[English]

I am referring this matter about the breach of privilege to the Privileges Committee for taking proper action against the Member who is repeating the same thing in the House. Now, you sit down. This will be looked into by the Privileges Committee. This is not correct. I have given 25 minutes for one question. There are so many questions and the Members have come and complained to me that other questions are not being taken up.

Now, you answer about the breach of privilege to the Privileges Committee.

ELCTORAL REFORMS

+

*203. **Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh** :
Shri Chitta Basu :

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is need for immediate poll reforms;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered the recommendations of a number of Committees, particularly those of the Dinesh Goswami Committee;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken in this regard ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Shri H. R. Bhardwaj) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Government has already introduced in the Lok Sabha three Bills namely, the Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Bill, 1994; the Constitution (Eighty-fourth Amendment) Bill, 1994 and the Election Commission (Charging of Expenses on the Consolidated Fund of India) Bill, 1994 to give effect to certain proposals on electoral reforms.

[Translation]

Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the way the Government gave reply to the question of electoral reforms raises apprehensions about the intention and the policy of the Government with regard to initiating electoral reforms. Elections constitute the main pillar of democracy but, today, this pillar has shaken. Therefore, we think that this Government believes in muscle power and money power for winning the elections.

All the hon. Members have expressed their concern over it and now the situation has reached such a stage that unless reforms are undertaken, democracy cannot be saved and entry of benevolent people into politics cannot be ensured. Therefore, I would like to know the efforts the Government has made for amending the law on the basis of the points raised by Dinesh Goswami Committee, constituted to give suggestions on poll reforms and which had submitted its report on which all the parties had expressed their concensus ?

Shri H. R. Bhardwaj : Sir, with all humility, I would like to deny in the strongest words the allegation of the hon. Member that this Government is reluctant to undertake poll reforms. I would like to inform the hon. Member that the Dinesh Goswami Committee report to which the hon. Member has referred to has been studied and discussed umpteen times all the parties and amendments were brought forth to all the unanimous proposals emanating from those discussions. There were 32 proposals in the Dinesh Goswami report of which amendments were brought for 23 proposals in the People's Representation Act. Hence, it is not good to say that the Dinesh Goswami report was not studied or discussed. All the leaders of the opposition parties are well aware of the depth and seriousness with which this report was dealt with and studied. They are also aware of the points of disagreement...(Interruptions)

[English]

It does not serve any purpose if you interfere.

[Translation]

I have no objection if the points on which there was unanimity among all the parties are brought forward before the House. I am saying that three bills based on the recommendations of the Dinesh Goswami Committee regarding the points of agreement between all the parties are under consideration of the House. Therefore, I would like to say that the Government earnestly desires to enforce these reforms as soon as possible and we are willing to meet and discuss with all the opposition parties anytime, anywhere.

Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the importance they attach to these reforms is manifest from his reply. That is why, they are going to give effect to these in a haste. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you can yourself see that these suggestions remained pending with the Government for so many years and now it wants to pass these in such a haste. That Committee had given the suggestion of formation of mobile booths to enable the poor people to exercise their right to vote properly as they can not make independent use of that right. I would like to know whether this suggestion has been included in these Bills or not ?

[English]

Shri H. R. Bhardwaj : Sir, these are matters about amendment of rules which are not covered by the Act.

They can be done at any time by the Election Commission and Mobile Booths have been provided in sensitive polling areas.

Shri Saifuddin Choudhury : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we all agree that the electoral reforms cannot wait any longer and in the background of the Vohra Committee Report, it has become very urgent that we take steps to reform our electoral system in a proper way. Now, there are many things to be tackled like money power, muscle power, casteism, communalism, partial behaviour of the officials etc., and everybody knows about them.

Sir, the Minister has talked about three Bills that had to come, one of which could not be taken up due to many other reasons which we all know. But through the Supreme Court verdict, that is on way to settlement which is regarding multi-member Election Commission. The second Bill regarding amending of the Representation of People Act contained many good provisions. It could be further modified and strengthened. There is no doubt about it. Why can the Government not bring it immediately so that certain meaningful steps can be taken in that direction? Can the Minister tell us as to when he is going to bring that Bill?

Shri H. R. Bhardwaj : Sir, so far as that Bill is concerned, we can take it up as and when the House wants, I am in your hands...(Interruptions)

Shri Saifuddin Choudhury : This is a very serious matter. You bring it. We will support it.

Shri H. R. Bhardwaj : I have moved it already.

Shri Saifuddin Choudhury : Then, why is it still to be taken up?

Shri H. R. Bhardwaj : You give me time.

Shri Saifuddin Choudhury : Who will give you the time?

Shri H. R. Bhardwaj : It is before the House.

Shri Basudeb Acharia : Who prevents you from bringing it?

Shri H. R. Bhardwaj : Sir, I have to take a proper approach. If the hon. Member remembers, we had sent this Bill to the Joint Committee of both the Houses. There were certain proposals which were modified in the Bill and on that we also had a meeting with the opposition. Sir, let me explain to the hon. Members that it was on two counts that we had earlier made a provision under Article 29A on the use of religion and religious names by the political parties. Then, there was a suggestion by the Committee saying, 'No, you include the original Article 123 of the Representation of People's Act—caste, language and other ingredients of Article 123', on which there was a total opposition from some hon. Members...

Shri Saifuddin Choudhury : Who are those hon. Members?

Shri H. R. Bhardwaj : And therefore you accommodate

them saying that 'if you accept Article 123 as a whole, we can immediately pass the Bill.'

Shri Saifuddin Choudhury : There may be opposition or no opposition. It can be passed by a majority.

Shri H. R. Bhardwaj : So, we are sincere and we will...(Interruptions)

Shri Saifuddin Choudhury : It is not a Constitution Amendment Bill.

Shri Inder Jit : Sir, it was any privilege to be a member of the Dinesh Goswami Committee and in the light of my membership, I would like to ask two questions.

Firstly, this Committee had strongly public funding of elections. I would like to know whether the Government is going to consider that at all.

Secondly, we had also favoured greater use of the electronic media, not merely at the national level—in terms of national broadcasts—but also at the State level. Now that we have three T.V. channels, would the Government consider the possibility of enabling candidates both for the Parliament and the Assemblies to make use of the electronic media within the State at one level? And so far as the national level is concerned, that could be monopolised by the leaders at the national level. Has the Government given any thought to this matter and since the Prime Minister is also present in the House today at this Question Hour, may I especially request him...(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker : Why do you not use the word 'use' and not 'monopolised'?

Shri Inder Jit : Sir, I stand corrected. Would the hon. Prime Minister be good enough to throw some light on these basic issues?

Shri H. R. Bhardwaj : Sir, so far as the public funding is concerned, I would like to correct the hon. Member that it was not the public funding but it was partial funding in the matter of printing of one or two copies of electoral rolls, some stationery, some posters etc. and we found that it is totally inadequate. Then, there was a question about the independent candidates and others. So, that provision has still not been implemented. This issue of public funding is a very serious one and that has not been implemented.

With regard to media, you know very well that during the election it is controlled by the Election Commission and if they want to elaborate on that provision, we can certainly sit and discuss with the Election Commission. The media is not monopolised during the elections.

Shri Inder Jit : Sir, I am conscious of the fact that there was no unanimous recommendation on public funding. But three Members—the former Chief Election Commissioner, Mr. Shakdhar, Mr. L. P. Singh and I—had recommended this and expressed the hope that the Government, even though it was not unanimous, would take this into consideration.

Mr. Speaker : No, No. Mr. Dighe, please.

Shri Sharad Dighe : Mr. Speaker, Sir, one of the most desirable electoral reforms was the introduction of identity cards. During the last Assembly elections it had taken a great momentum in several States. But due to some legal difficulties in the Supreme Court as well as some administrative and financial difficulties faced by certain States, it has now been halted and I am afraid that till the next Lok Sabha elections, it may not be possible to introduce this. I would ask the Government whether it will remove all these legal, administrative and financial difficulties in the way of introduction of identity card system before the next Lok Sabha elections.

Shri H. R. Bhardwaj : Sir, I would like to inform the hon. House that the Government has already removed all the difficulties, both legal and financial. The hon. Prime Minister called all the Chief Ministers as well as the Election Commissioner and took a meeting. We immediately set apart Rs. 225 crore for the States to be used for identity cards. We have still made a provision for an equal amount in this year's budget for this purpose. I am very happy to tell that this programme of issuing identity cards is continuing with the same speed.

I had already informed the House that these practical difficulties are no longer with the Central Government. They are being faced by the State Governments in having their voters out and getting them photographed etc.

[Translation]

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the entire House is in agreement with this fact and has said time and again that election process should be reformed. It appears that you too are in agreement with the reply given by hon. Minister. But you are concentrating more on what is a matter of controversy. There are so many things in the Dinesh Goswami Committee's Report on which there is no controversy. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he will give priority to pass reforms without creating any controversy by collecting related facts instead of getting involved in the tangle that the Government could make excuse that cannot be brought as he has said that there is a controversy. So, I want to ask from you whether you will try to get the reforms passed, about which there is no protest by any party ?

Shri H. R. Bhardwaj : We appreciate all that has been said in the House and therefore we will by our best to do it as soon as possible.

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri : You have tried to ward off the issue.

Shri H. R. Bhardwaj : How could I say that I will get it done tomorrow.

[English]

Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is not only a demand from all sides of the House for

immediate electoral reforms, but the Minister will agree that there is a very strong public opinion in the country also. There are many things which have been already agreed upon and there are certain things on which the discussions are going on. There will always be differences on many things. But it does not mean that if there are differences, then the necessary steps should not be taken to bring the necessary reforms. There is a unanimous demand from the Opposition and the Government has also assured in the beginning of this Session that in this Session they will bring the Electoral Reforms Bill. Now, I am again pinpointing this question. Still there are 10 days left in this Session. So, in view of the agreement from the side of the Government and the unanimous demand of the Opposition that this Bill should be passed in this Session itself, will the Minister bring this Bill in this Session itself ?

Shri H. R. Bhardwaj : Sir, I have noted the demand of the House and I have assured that we will do our best.

[Translation]

Shri Ram Prasad Singh : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was often talked about delimitation in the House and a Committee was formed about the reserved constituencies and perhaps a report has also been presented in the House. I want to know from the Minister whether the Government proposes to bring changes in the delimitation of the constituencies and reserve other constituencies in lieu of them ? The number of voters has considerably increased according to population in all constituencies...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker : No, No. This will become apparent after the Bill introduced.

(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker : Such questions are not allowed.

Shri Ram Prasad Singh : Please tell me whether you are going to bring changes to the report of the committee about delimitation of the constituencies ?

Mr. Speaker : This all has been told to all leaders.

(Interruptions)

Shri Rajveer Singh : Mr. Speaker, Sir, people are scared of election machinery after the Vohra Committee report has been presented. I want to know whether the Prime Minister will bring such a Bill in the House, in which it should be stipulated that if any political party gives ticket to a person of criminal record then it is liable to lose its registration ?

Mr. Speaker : Do not ask this kind of questions.

(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker : If you want, you may please move Private Members Bill.

Shri Rajveer Singh : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had moved a Private Members' Bill.

Mr. Speaker : What the Government bring in the Bill is not asked about.

(Interruptions)

Shri Rajveer Singh : Mr. Speaker, Sir, whether permission will be given to the people of criminal antecedents for contesting election or not ?

Mr. Speaker : That is in the law....

(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker : This is not allowed.

[English]

Dr. Kartikeswar Patra : In the past, during several State Assembly elections, the Government had experienced several lacunae and loopholes and the Government had overcome those lacunae. Is the Government thinking of undertaking some remedial measures other than those recommendations made by the Goswami Committee ? What measures did the Government consider after these elections were over ?

Shri H. R. Bhardwaj : The issue of electoral reforms is a matter of experience which we gain in each general election and the Election Commission makes those recommendations to the Government. We receive suggestions from the hon. Members and, sometimes, on the public demand and each one is taken care of, assessed and then brought before the House. So, it is a continuing process and whenever it is required, we always bring in these measures.

Mr. Speaker : He is wanting to know what are the remedies, according to the Government, against the use of money power, muscle power and narrow ideologies in the elections.

Shri H. R. Bhardwaj : With regard to money power, recently, they have increased the limit to make it realistic so that whatever can be legitimised has been done, and then on party donations and all such things, some law was passed; it can still be improved. These evils are there in the system and we are Cognizant of it.

[Translation]

POPULATION POLICY

+

***205. Shri Nitish Kumar :**
Dr. Mahadeepak Singh Shakya :

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether a committee to prepare a "Population Policy" for the country was constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan in the year, 1993;

(b) if so, the composition thereof and whether the

committee has submitted the report to the Government;

(c) if so, the date on which the Government have received the report and the details of recommendations made thereon;

(d) whether any action plan has been prepared to implement the said recommendations; and

(e) if so, the outline thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

[English]

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The other members of the Group of Experts were Shri T.V. Antony, Dr. K.B. Pathak, Prof. Ashish Bose, Smt. Avabai B. Wadia, Smt. Devaki Jain, Dr. Vasant Gowarikar, Shri Pravin Visaria, Shri N. Bhaskara Rao and Dr. J.P. Gupta. The Group of Experts submitted its Report on 24th May 1994. The Report has been laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 14th June, 1994.

(d) and (e) A draft National Population Policy has been prepared.

[Translation]

Shri Nitish Kumar : Mr. Speaker, Sir, population growth is a big problem in the country. The increasing pace of population is marginalising the fruits of whatever development is taking place and that is how we are lagging behind in terms of development. The rapid growth of population has become a matter of concern and is being debated in the country and normally a charge is levelled that political parties are not serious about it. We all know that the report of the Committee has been presented in the House. The Draft National Population Policy was supposed to be debated during the last session, but that could not materialise. We want to know from the Minister that by what time the Government will manage to frame the National Population Policy and by what time it wants to discuss it and implement it by making an action plan on the basis of the discussion?

[English]

Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar : Sir, about the National Population Policy, we have circulated the Report given by the Group of Experts to the State Governments and various Departments. We have received the comments of the State Governments; we have to take the views of the State Governments before formulating the National Policy on Population. We have started the departmental exercise—discussion in our Department, and we are trying to formulate the National Policy as soon as possible, I will not be in a position to give a definite date as of today.

[Translation]

Shri Nitish Kumar : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you too must be understanding it and if the process of 'as soon as possible' goes on unabated the pace at which population

is increasing will one day make us also helpless and the development of the country will suffer miserably. A Bill was also brought on it and it was debated also that let us start it from our own house only. It was stipulated that those of the members who have more children will loose their eligibility...*(Interruptions)*. This is not for matter's sake. Charity begins at home. Better if we control ourselves and enforce it from back date. This process of warding off the issue will not help. The report that has come, proves that the rate of population growth is more in the Hindi heartland. The National average is nereby 84 percent. The National average should be 28.3 percent and in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and U.P., the average rate is somewhere 30%, 33% and 36 percent. So whether any special action plan is proposed to be introduced in these Hindi speaking states where there is no impact of propaganda carried out against population growth so that the population growth could be controlled.

[English]

Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar : The hon. Member is right. He has rightly mentioned the States where the family welfare programmes are a little bit slow when compared to the other States. For that reason, the Government of India has selected 90 districts of our country and those districts are mostly from these States and we have given a separate special funding for expeditious implementation of the programmes and also for infrastructure development in the PH level and CH level so that they can take up the family welfare programme effectively and also there is information, communication and education component in that programme. We have taken up the programme in 90 districts mostly from these States.

[Translation]

Dr. Mahadeepak Singh Shakya : Our colleague has asked so many things. I will ask you in brief.

Mr. Speaker : Not from me.

Dr. Mahadeepak Singh Shakya : I will like to ask from hon. Minister as to by what time he will implement the report presented here and whether any recommendations were made for controlling population on the basis of morality, if so, then what measures have been taken to enforce the propaganda campaign against population growth.

Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar : I have already said that the report that we have produced on the floor of the House has also been sent to the State Governments. Several states have sent their comments in this regard and comments from some states are still awaited. We have sent copies of this report to various departments. We will finalise this policy at the earliest after receiving the comments.

Dr. Mahadeepak Singh Shakya : I have not got reply about the point of morality.

[English]

Mr. Speaker : Don't say like that,

(Interruptions)

Shri Indrajit Gupta : The reply given by the hon. Minister is liable to cause some confusion. At least, it is confusing me. I understood him to say that no population policy as such has yet been finally formulated. Some departmental exercise is being undertaken, the outcome of which we will await, of course. But I am sure it will fructify during the period of the Eighth Five Year Plan. It may come in the next Plan. I do not know. At the same time, the hon. Minister said that a policy has been laid on the Table before Parliament. Perhaps, the hon. Minister is referring to that Paper which was discussed in this House a couple of Sessions ago. I am not quite clear. Anyway, I would like to know whether among the many aspects of this policy or proposed policy which are going to be taken into account, they have any proposals to introduce some system by which some material incentives are given to people who do not exceed a certain family norm as far as children are concerned or alternatively a disincentive to those people who exceed those norms and produce a number of children.

Have they any concept of this incentive and disincentive because in many countries this method is being followed. In China it is being followed with a considerable success.

Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar : We had already passed a National Population Policy as far back as 1976 and we are going to update that policy with our present experience in the various States. As the hon. Member has rightly said, there is a too strong view about this incentive and disincentive thing. We are examining both the views. The one view has said that it should be a voluntary thing and there should not be any incentive. The other view has said that there should be some incentive also. So, we have not taken a view whether we are going to continue with our incentive thing or will discontinue the incentive thing. That is on the formulative stage because we have got different views from different States. We are taking into consideration all their views.

Shri Saifuddin Choudhury : Please do not discontinue with it.

[Translation]

Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at present the rate of population growth is far faster than the production which has created an imbalance. Does the Government propose to make efforts through education for creating public awareness against the dangers of population explosion to get co-operation of all the sections of society so that public could come forward for solving this problem.

Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar : The hon. Member has said an important thing. In the study conducted by our department, we found that Family Welfare Programmes have been much successful in these areas where

percentage of women education is higher and the States where women education is low, the family welfare programmes have not been that successful. I wish that people of those states should also be consulted to pay more attention on women education. In this way we find that family welfare programme is not a separate and independent issue but almost all the social issues are involved in it. We have to review all these social aspects and education is one of the important issues among them.

[English]

DRINKING WATER

*207 Dr. Sakshiji : Will the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any arrangement through Science and Technology inputs to provide safe drinking water in different parts of the country; and

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

[Translation]

The Minister of Rural Areas and Employment (Dr. Jagannath Mishra) : (a) and (b) Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statewise details are given at Annexures - I to VIII

Annexure-I

Defluoridation Plants

State	No. of Plants Approved		No. of Plants Installed	
	F&D	HPA	F&D	HPA
	(I) Andhra Pradesh	30	269	29
(II) Haryana	5		5	
(III) Gujarat	11		11	
(IV) Karnataka	10	9	2	9
(V) Madhya Pradesh	2	8	2	8
(VI) Maharashtra	2	2	2	2
(VII) Punjab	2		2	
(VIII) Rajasthan	40	64	40	28
(IX) Tamilnadu	4	11		11
(X) Uttar Pradesh		12		12
(XI) Kerala		2		
Total	106	377	93	334

F&D:Fill & Draw

Annexure - II

Desalination Plants

State	No. of Plants Approved	No. of Plants Installed
(I) Andhra Pradesh	14	14
(II) Gujarat	12	11
(III) Haryana	2	2
(IV) Maharashtra	2	2
(V) Rajasthan	92	85
(VI) Tamilnadu	21	20
(VII) West Bengal	3	3
(VIII) Lakshadweep	10	10
(IX) Pondicherry	7	3
Total	163	150

Annexure - III

Iron Removal Plants

State	No. of Plants Approved	No. of Plants Commissioned
(I) Assam	3772	3772 *
(II) Arunachal Pradesh	65	67
(III) Bihar	2500	300
(IV) Kerala	30	30
(V) Madhya Pradesh	2734	2734 *
(VI) Maharashtra	74	50
(VII) Manipur	255	248
(VIII) Meghalaya	200	200
(IX) Mizoram	100	100
(X) Nagaland	174	174 *
(XI) Orissa	3780	768
(XII) Tamilnadu	25	6
(XIII) Tripura	500	165
(XIV) Uttar Pradesh	319	319 *
(XV) West Bengal	1000	22
(XVI) Pondicherry	20	13
Total	15548	8968

* Including 1875, 1722 and 43 plants setup in Assam, MP, and UP respectively in other schemes.

Annexure - IV
Guineaworm Eradication

State	No. of Villages		No. of Affected		No. of Sterwells	
	No Source	Inadequate Source	Villages (1-1-95)	Cases	Approved	Converted
(I) Andhra Pradesh	—	8	26	0	238	238
(II) Gujarat	—	—	0	0	276	276
(III) Karnataka	—	30	51	10	190	86
(IV) Maharashtra	—	—	0	0	794	382
(V) Madhya Pradesh	—	52	59	13	3217	3199
(VI) Rajasthan	9	33	667	340	2569	2569
Total	9	123	803	363	7284	6750

Annexure - V
SPV Pumping System

State	Number Approved	Number Commissioned	1	2	3
(I) Andhra Pradesh	11	11	(VII) Maharashtra	5	5
(II) Assam	4	4	(VIII) Meghalaya	4	4
(III) Bihar	10	9	(IX) Orissa	6	6
(IV) Gujarat	5	7	(X) Rajasthan	42	36
(V) Karnataka	10	10	(XI) Sikkim	5	4
(VI) Madhya Pradesh	24	17	(XII) Uttar Pradesh	2	2
			(XIII) West Bengal	9	5
			(XIV) Tripura	5	5
			Total	142	125

Annexure - VI
Setting up of Water Quality Testing Laboratory

State	Stationery Laboratories		Mobile Laboratories		
	Sanctioned	Established	Sanctioned	Delivered	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Andhra Pradesh		22	14	—	—
2. Arunachal Pradesh		1	1	1	1
3. Assam		23	6	1	1
4. Bihar		5	5	—	—
5. Goa		1	1	—	—
6. Gujarat		16	14	1	1
7. Haryana		9	4	1	1
8. Himachal Pradesh		2	2	1	1
9. Jammu & Kashmir		6	2	—	—
10. Karnataka		10	6	1	1

1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Kerala	3	3	—	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	48	26	1	1
13.	Maharashtra	3	3	2	2
14.	Manipur	1	1	1	1
15.	Meghalaya	1	1	1	1
16.	Mizoram	1	1	1	1
17.	Nagaland	1	1	1	1
18.	Orissa	13	8	1	1
19.	Punjab	7	3	—	—
20.	Rajasthan	30	20	2	2
21.	Sikkim	1	1	1	1
22.	Tamilnadu	13	7	1	1
23.	Tripura	1	1	1	1
24.	Uttar Pradesh	59	26	2	2
25.	A&N Islands	1	1	—	—
26.	Daman & Diu	2	2	—	—
27.	Lakshadweep	2	2	—	—
28.	Pondicherry	2	2	—	—
29.	Delhi	1	1	1	1
30.	Chandigarh	1	1	—	—
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	1	—	—
Total		287	167	22	22

Annexure -VII

Statement showing No. of Hand Pumps installed/
working

Sl. No.	State/UT	No of hand pumps		
		Installed	In working condition	% working
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pr.	212083	186753	88.06
2.	Arunachal Pr.	20	20	100.00
3.	Assam	115000	100000	86.96
4.	Bihar	689300	605500	87.84
5.	Goa	421	393	93.35
6.	Gujarat	57086	53450	93.63
7.	Haryana	75	55	73.33
8.	Himachal Pr.	150	135	90.00
9.	J. & K.	330	330	100.00
10.	Karnataka	128268	126662	98.75
11.	Kerala	4660	3619	77.66
12.	Madhya Pr.	260221	250400	96.23
13.	Maharashtra	111688	95253	85.28
14.	Manipur	1574	1561	99.17

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Meghalaya	850	684	80.47
16.	Mizoram	280	280	100.00
17.	Nagaland	30	23	76.67
18.	Orissa	122235	107128	87.64
19.	Punjab	310	310	100.00
20.	Rajasthan	123120	108200	87.88
21.	Sikkim	0	0	0.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	134800	132733	98.47
23.	Tripura	9553	5976	62.56
24.	Uttar Pradesh	385625	374321	97.07
25.	West Bengal	165000	120000	72.73
26.	A&N Islands	41	37	90.24
27.	Chandigarh			
28.	D&N Haveli	458	458	100.00
29.	Daman & Diu	391	391	100.00
30.	Delhi	1458	1081	72.16
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0.00
32.	Pondicherry			
All India		2525067	2275753	90.13

Data for Pondicherry is not available.

Annexure - VIII
Financial Progress for Schemes of Water Harvesting Structures

Sl. No.	State	District	Month	Total Cost of Approved Schemes		Money Released		Expenditure												Balance	
				(original)	(revised)	Upto 1994-95	In 1995-96	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	Total (10+11+12+13+14+15+16+17+18)	Amount Due (6-9)			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Kurnool	6/94	14,310	14,310	13,610	13,610	13,610	0,350	0,370	4,070	2,950	0,080	0,080	6,480	3,110		7,820	0,700		
		East Godavari	2/95	28,300	28,570	28,033	28,033	28,033	11,538	2,372	3,030	0,480	6,480	3,110				27,010	0,537		
		Mehboobnagar	1/95	15,840	15,840	15,840	15,840	15,840	1,690	3,630	2,340	0,860	1,260					9,780	0,000		
		Prakasham	5/94	19,000	18,690	18,250	18,250	18,250	5,380	0,270	10,540							16,190	0,440		
		West Godavari	5/94	8,700	9,600	8,675	8,675	8,675	5,860	2,000								7,860	0,925		
		Krishna	5/94	29,650	31,150	29,650	29,650	29,650	8,270	1,200	9,450	9,410						28,330	1,500		
		Guntur	5/94	20,000	21,250	20,000	20,000	20,000	11,980	0,940	2,280	3,550	1,250					20,000	1,250		
		Anantpur	5/94	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	6,570	4,160	0,150	3,130	2,200	1,580				15,790	0,000		
		Chittoor	5/94	10,000	10,000	9,333	9,333	9,333	2,860	1,280	0,320	2,780						7,240	0,667		
		Cuddapah	5/94	22,750	22,750	22,750	22,750	22,750	3,29	0,970	7,140	3,290	2,520					13,920	0,000		
2.	Bihar	Palamou	3/94	12,930	12,930	6,465	6,465	6,465										6,465	6,465		
3.	Gujarat	Kachch	9/94	195,854	195,854	167,500	167,500	167,500										171,110	28,354		
		Jamnagar	3/95	120,092	120,092	120,092	120,092	120,092										112,350	0,000		
4.	Haryana	Gurgaon	2/95	15,520	15,520	10,000	10,000	10,000			0,859	3,572	0,729					5,160	5,520		
		Dharwar	1/95	87,400	87,400	72,080	72,080	72,080	24,750	15,046		0,000		0,228				40,024	15,320		
5.	Karnataka	Gulbarga	11/93	39,000	39,000	39,000	39,000	39,000			27,950							27,950	0,000		
		Raichur	4/94	69,400	69,400	69,400	69,400	69,400	16,699	25,617	11,230							53,546	0,000		
6.	Machya Pradesh	Jhabua	2/93	111,080	111,080	111,080	111,080	111,080	33,647	56,594	38,619	1,890						130,750	0,000		
		Rajgarh	2/93	143,060	143,060	143,060	143,060	143,060	0,180	108,620	38,820	22,550						170,170	0,000		
		Shahdol	2/93	314,600	314,600	306,870	306,870	306,870										301,430	7,730		
7.	Maharashtra	Satara	5/92	6,810	6,810	6,400	6,400	6,400										8,390	0,410		
		Latur	3/94	19,975	19,975	16,990	16,990	16,990			8,410	16,135	27,350					51,895	2,985		
8.	Mizoram	Other Areas		3,520	3,520	1,760	1,760	1,760										0,000	1,760		
9.	Punjab	Amritsar		29,320	29,320	14,660	14,660	14,660										0,000	14,660		
		Firozpur		0,938	0,938	0,470	0,470	0,470										0,000	0,468		
		Ropar etc	4/95	27,590	27,590	18,790	18,790	18,790			0,650	15,490	4,560	7,440	2,450			30,670	8,800		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
10.	Rajasthan	Churu	3/94	33,000	33,000	31,500	31,500	31,500			4,800			16,880				21,680	1,500	
		Barnar	3/94	34,400	34,400	33,200	33,200	33,200				1,810			22,810				24,620	1,200
		Nagaur	3/94	33,000	33,000	30,000	30,000	30,000							19,140				19,140	3,000
11.	Sikkim	S/W Sikkim	8/92	53,540	53,540	53,540	53,540	53,540		15,400	16,090	18,930	6,140						56,560	0,000
12.	Tamil Nadu	Ramanathapuram	2/95	29,440	29,440	28,720	28,720	28,720		2,170	6,720	8,860	7,700	1,945	7,400				21,390	0,720
13.	Tripura	North Tripura	3/94	154,960	154,960	127,480	127,480	127,480							18,550	30,610			83,200	27,480
14.	Uttar Pradesh	Mirzapur	1/90	140,840	140,840	140,840	140,840	140,840											0,000	0,000
		Hamiipur	3/91	81,490	81,490	81,490	81,490	81,490		23,980	19,610	33,500							77,090	0,000
		Agra	5/95	35,040	35,040	19,000	19,000	19,000					1,250						1,250	16,040
		Sultanpur	6/94	224,090	224,090	224,090	224,090	224,090					221,293						221,293	0,000
		Banda		173,900	173,900	86,950	86,950	86,950											0,000	86,950
15.	West Bengal	Midnapur	12/94	39,658	39,658	39,658	39,658	39,658				5,000	10,000	14,000	8,577				37,577	0,000
		Bankura	4/95	33,730	33,730	33,730	33,730	33,730		16,200	3,980	0,830		1,580	5,040	0,000			27,630	-0,000
		Purulia	12/93	30,664	30,664	15,334	15,334	15,334					0,806	2,974	0,350				4,130	15,330
16.	Lakshdweep	Lakshdweep	5/95	47,600	47,600	21,780	21,780	21,780		4,350	2,420	0,570	0,000	0,570	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	7,910	25,820
17.	Pondichery	Pondichery	2/94	108,550	108,550	103,450	103,450	103,450		12,160	8,170	33,100	17,220	4,660	1,300				76,610	5,100
		Total		2639,541	2643,151	2361,520	2361,520	2361,520		52,516	214,251	292,822	172,314	346,873	155,464	109,022	7,368	0,080	1943,990	281,631

Dr. Sakshiji : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Government whether the plants installed in various parts of the country to provide safe drinking water with the assistance of science and technology inputs, are not working properly. If so, the number of such plants statewise and what are the main reasons for their malfunctioning. Alongwith it, I would like to ask whether the Government propose to instal the plants to remove salinity from water in Uttar Pradesh, particularly in Mathura district? If so, by when this plan will be introduced and if not, the reasons therefor.

Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar : Mr. Speaker, Sir, answers to all these questions are given in the statement alongwith the list of states. The details of what is being done and where laboratories are being set up are given in the list.

Dr. Sakshiji : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to seek an answer to my question. I have written to Central Government time and again but my letters were not replied. Unfortunately in my parliamentary constituency safe drinking water is not available even at 300 feet below the surface. There is brakish water. There is a Sekaria Public Trust of Bombay in my area and through it I have spent Rs. 50 lakh personally for this purpose. This trust has also written to Government saying that it is ready to bear half of the expenses for solving the drinking water problem of this large area provided the Government would bears the rest 50 percent expenses to be incurred on such project.

Mr. Speaker : It should come through State Government. Such issues are not included in it.

Dr. Sakshiji : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to raise another point. What is the total number of laboratories in the country for testing the quality of water and number of permanent and mobile laboratories among them? Have all the quality testing laboratories so far sanctioned been set up in all the states? If not, the reasons therefor, and by when these are likely to be set up?

Dr. Jagannath Mishra : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this information is also given in it. I would like to say this much only that the Government, especially the hon. Prime Minister has taken interest in improving the quality of water. As a result of this Rs. 10.66 crore have been spent during 1991-92, Rs. 9.78 crore during 1992-93, Rs. 75.39 crore in 1993-94 and Rs. 100 crores during 1994-95. These statistics reveal the interest of the Government on this issue.

- **Shri Vijoy Kumar Yadav** : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise an ordinary issue. The hon. Minister comes from Bihar. Is it a fact that safe drinking water is not available to one fourth population of the State? If so, by when safe drinking water would be made available for the entire population.

Mr. Speaker : This question relates to the State Government.

Shri Upendra Nath Verma : Mr. Speaker, Sir, is it

a fact that 75 percent of the total population of the country is not getting safe drinking water through Science and Technology.

Dr. Jagannath Mishra : Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the information given a few days ago, presently only 4 lakh villages are partially getting safe drinking water and 1 lakh 40 thousand are not getting safe drinking water at all. The Government has decided to provide safe drinking water to these villages by 15th August 1997. We are trying our best to provide safe drinking water and to improve the quality of water through research laboratories. We would provide safe drinking water by cleaning it in laboratories being set up in all the regions under the present scientific facilities.

Shri Dileep Singh Bhuria : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said that safe drinking water is being supplied to a number of cities and villages. The underground water is going down in our cities and villages. I would like to know as to what measures are being taken to recharge it. Secondly, there are small mohallas in villages, where people have to travel several kilometers for bringing drinking water from rivers. The Government instals one handpump for the whole village. I would like to know as to whether the Government propose to instal one handpump in every mohalla of the village.

Mr. Speaker : The State Government would reply to the second question and the first question relates to irrigation department.

[English]

Shri Dileep Singh Bhuria : Sir, it is regarding underground water?

Mr. Speaker : No.

[Translation]

Shri Virendra Singh : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his reply the hon. Minister has stated that arrangement for safe drinking water is being made through scientific laboratories. This arrangement is for those places where water is available, it may be pure or impure. But there are several places in this country like hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar where drinking water is not available. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that apart from the arrangements for pure or impure water, by when the arrangement for drinking water would be made for every hilly area, village and streets of the country.

Dr. Jagannath Mishra : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have told that scientific means are being applied to find out underground water sources and instructions are being issued for drilling at places about which information was given by the State Governments and we have achieved success in this field. According to information given by the states about the underground water, there are sources in 17 thousand villages where drilling was done. 15 thousand underground water sources have been found through State Governments.

We are trying our best to fully utilize the available scientific capacity in this field. This technique is being used to find out water sources. Drilling is being done at those places and water is being made available where it is found...*(Interruptions)*

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

CORE COMMITTEE ON COFFEE

*161. **Shri A. Indrakaran Reddy** : Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted a Core Committee on Coffee for formulating policies particularly in the wake of internationally fluctuating prices of coffee;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the report from the said group is likely to be received?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) to (c) Government have constituted a Core Committee on Coffee on 30th January, 1995 under the Chairmanship of Commerce Secretary, with representatives of growers, traders and exporters of Coffee as members, in order to have close, continual interaction with the Industry and to discuss various contemporary issues relating to the Coffee Industry as they arise from time to time. The Committee is not meant to submit any formal report. One meeting of the Core Committee has been held so far on 21st June, 1995 in which, inter alia, issues concerning compulsory pooling of coffee and bringing about moderation in domestic coffee prices etc. were discussed.

UNUSED AIRPORTS

*162. **Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya** : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are airports in the country which are either not being used or not being used to their full capacity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any plan for the proper utilization of these airports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) to (d) Optimal utilisation of airports would depend upon the airlines operating adequate frequencies of flights which can be handled by the airports. At present only 5 International Airports at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Trivandrum and a few domestic airports are optimally utilised. 31 airports and 5 civil enclaves are not being used.

Steps for improving the utilisation of the under/unutilized airports include :

- (i) encouraging private operators to commence flights/ enhance frequencies to such airports;
- (ii) utilise such airports for the purpose of training flights;
- (iii) establishment of aircraft maintenance bases; and
- (iv) Besides, State Governments have been requested to take over some of the hitherto unused airports for their upkeep and better utilisation.

[Translation]

IMPORT OF SECOND HAND CAPITAL GOODS

*163. **Dr. Chinta Mohan** :
Shri Nitish Kumar :

Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated June 9, 1995 under caption 'Reforms attract import of rejected Machinery' ;

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

(c) the details of licences issued by the Government for import of second hand capital goods and the foreign exchange spent thereon during 1994 and 1995 till-date, industry-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to curb the import of such old machines?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir.

Second hand capital goods can be imported without a licence subject to actual user condition. The importer is required to furnish to the Customs at the time of clearance of goods a declaration to the effect that the second hand capital goods being imported have a minimum residual life of five years. If the CIF value of second hand capital goods being imported is Rs.1 crore and above, the importer is also required to furnish to the Customs at the time of the clearance of the goods, a certificate from an Inspection and Certification Agency.

Licences are also given for import of second hand capital goods under the EPCG Scheme, provided the residual life of the machinery is 5 years in the case of imports with 15% concessional duty or 10 years in case of imports made under Zero Duty. Under EPCG Scheme also the applicant has to furnish a declaration regarding the residual life of the machines and their value in addition to a certificate from any of the Inspection & Certification Agencies specified in Appendix XI-A of the current Handbook of Procedures (Vol. I). All applications are considered and approved by a Committee duly represented by Technical Ministries/Departments to ascertain the justification for such imports made under this Scheme.

Industry-wise position of EPCG Licences issued with

effect from 1-4-1994 till date for import of Second Hand Capital Goods is given below :

Sl. No.	Sector	No. of Licences issued	CIF Value thereof (Rs. in lacs.)
1.	Textile	142	17434.86
2.	Engineering	74	9371.54
3.	Leather	11	697.64
4.	Drugs/Chemicals	13	247.90
5.	Electronics	7	487.81
6.	Service Sector	Nil	—
7.	Steel	1	486.07
8.	Others	41	15668.49

PRODUCTION AND REMUNERATIVE PRICES OF TOBACCO

*164. **Shri N.J. Rathwa** : Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of tobacco in the country particularly in Gujarat during each of the last three years including the current financial year;

(b) whether tobacco in large quantity is lying with the farmers in some States due to non-lifting of the same by the Tobacco Board;

(c) whether the growers of tobacco of some States have demanded remunerative prices for their produces;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to lift the entire stock of tobacco grown in the country and particularly in Gujarat and to provide the remunerative prices to the growers?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) Production of tobacco in the country and in Gujarat during the last three years are as under :

Year	(Production in Million Kgs.)		
	In India		In Gujarat
	All Tobacco including FCV Cured Virginia)	FCV(Flue/	Only Non-FCV
1992-93	580.60	168.50	177.10
1993-94	528.00	125.50	179.20
1994-95	533.50	107.00	180.00

(Sources : D.E.S., New Delhi, Directorate of Tobacco Development, Madras and USDA Circular of January, 1995)

Production figures for the current financial year (1995-

96) are not available as Tobacco Plantation for this year will commence only in September/October months.

(b) Under the provision of Section 8 of the Tobacco Board Act, 1975, production and marketing of only FCV (Flue Cured Virginia) Tobacco are at present under the purview of the Tobacco Board which determines the annual crop size of tobacco in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa and Maharashtra. No FCV tobacco is lying with growers of these States as a result of non-lifting of the same by the Tobacco Board.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Tobacco Growers Association in Karnataka demanded in December, 1994 for remunerative prices for FCV tobacco.

(e) As Tobacco Board deals only with FCV tobacco in the country, it takes steps for production and marketing operations of FCV tobacco which ensures remunerative prices for the growers.

[English]

WORLD BANK SUGGESTIONS REGARDING BOP PROBLEM

*165. **Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya** :
Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has warned India about the increasing size of India's internal debt and the possibility of fiscal imbalances leading to balance of payments crisis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount of internal debt and external debt, separately, as on July 31, 1995;

(d) the percentage of the Government's revenue deployed for meeting internal payments on the aforesaid debt;

(e) whether interest payments on internal debt is affecting the development expenditure; and

(f) if so, the extent thereof?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) The World Bank, in Country Economic Memorandum on India, has mentioned some of the conditions under which fiscal imbalance can spill over into the balance of payments. Its conclusion is based on the reasoning that when a high fiscal deficit is combined with a strong investment recovery, this can result in an increase in the current account deficit.

(c) The position can be given at the year-end and not at the mid-point of the year. The total amount of outstanding internal debt and other liabilities at the end of 1994-95 (RE) was Rs. 490700 crore. The total amount of outstanding external debt on Government account for 1994-95 (RE) at end — March, 1995 rates was Rs.141872 crore.

(d) to (f) The repayment of debt and other liabilities is

met from fresh borrowings. Interest payments are, however, met from revenue receipts. Interest payments by the Central Government constituted 49.6 per cent of its total revenue receipts during 1994-95 (RE). Interest payments, by pre-empting a major share of the revenue receipts, do affect the spending on other items of expenditure. But since there is no one to one relationship between the various items of receipt and expenditure, it is not possible to quantify the effect on any item(s) of expenditure.

EMIGRATION

***166. Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri :** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that some agencies engaged in taking people out of this country for works abroad are duping a large number of people of their savings;

(b) if so, the number of such cases which came to the notice of the Government during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken to nab all such agencies and to safeguard the interests of the people?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) and (b) During the year 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95, 242 complaints were received against the Recruiting Agents registered with the Ministry of Labour.

(c) Complaints against Registered Recruiting Agents are enquired into with the help of police authorities and the concerned Indian Mission abroad and action is taken, as appropriate, in each case in accordance with the provisions of the Emigration Act, 1983 and Rules framed thereunder. Complaints against un-registered recruiting agents are referred to the concerned police authorities for investigation. Complaints against foreign employers are taken up with the Indian Missions abroad. In addition, departmental action is taken against erring agents in terms of suspension and cancellation of licenses.

EXPORT OF TEA BANNED IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

***167. Shri Sarat Pattanayak :** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state :

(a) whether the tea export has suffered due to ban on import of Indian tea by European Countries for higher residue of pesticides; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to resolve the issue and to increase tea exports to those countries?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no ban on import of Indian teas by European countries on account of higher level of pesticide residue. The question of resolving the issue therefore does not arise. However, Tea industry has been advised to take steps to ensure that regulations with regard to maximum residue level of pesticides in tea as laid down by importing

countries including member countries of European Union, Japan etc. are scrupulously followed in respect of exports to those countries. Steps have also been taken to increase exports of Indian tea to European countries including, inter-alia, (i) participation in major trade fairs/exhibitions abroad; (ii) media campaigns to increase consumer awareness about speciality of Indian tea and (iii) campaigns to popularise the Tea Board marketing symbol which stands for pure Indian tea. Tea Board has also undertaken brand promotion schemes in a number of countries to promote specific classic Indian teas in those markets and has launched Darjeeling and Assam Logo Campaigns in U.K.

BANK BRANCHES FOR HOUSING FINANCE

***168. Prof. Susanta Chakraborty :** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the R.B.I. has advised the banks to designate one of their branches in each district for housing-finance exclusively;

(b) if, so the details thereof and the progress made in this regard so far; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken against the defaulting banks in this regard?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) to (c) As per extant guidelines of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the banks may designate one of their existing branches in each district for the purpose of housing finance, in addition to their normal banking functions. As this did not involve setting up of a new branch as such, no follow up action by RBI in this regard was envisaged. No action is proposed to be taken by RBI against banks which might not have designated any branch in a particular district for the purpose of housing finance due to factors such as lack of business, existence of branch of another banks/financial institution doing the business of housing finance and also taking into consideration the fact that most of their branches are doing housing finance business.

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG MALE WORKERS

***169. Shri Harin Pathak :** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a recent report of the International Labour Organisation 22 per cent of all male workers in India were under-employed or unemployed and that the figure is rising; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to curb this trend and generate employment and what are the details thereof ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) and (b) In the ILO Report titled 'World Employment 1995' (page 64), it is stated that in India 22 per cent of all male workers declared themselves available for additional work in the late 1980s, and this figure has been rising.

This report does not specifically point out the source of this information.

Specific steps taken by the Government to generate employment are the following :

- (i) Making massive investments in rural employment programmes—IRDP, TRYSEM, JRY, Nehru Rozgar Yojana, Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana, Employment Assurance Scheme. Eighth Plan Outlay for Rural Development is Rs. 35,997/- crores.
- (ii) Modernization and expansion of Vocational Training infrastructure in the country by acquisition of modern equipment, introduction of employment relevant vocational training courses, revision of teaching-learning materials etc. so that the employability of the job-seekers is improved.
- (iii) Promotion of training and retraining of workers to impart new skills so that they could get redeployed when industries modernise by taking recourse to new technologies.

EXPORT OF MANGOES TO EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

***170. Shri Sobhanadreesware Rao Vadde :** Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is a great demand of Indian mangoes in the European Countries;
- (b) if so, the reasons for not fulfilling the demands of these countries;
- (c) whether the Government have considered introducing air freight subsidy for the export of mangoes to make them price competitive;
- (d) if so, the likely date by which such incentives will come into force; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of mangoes from the country ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) There is demand for Indian mangoes in European Countries, particularly among the South Asian communities settled in U.K.

(b) Exports of mangoes to European countries have not achieved their full potential, *inter-alia* an account of inadequate pre-harvest/post harvest handling facilities, lack of requisite infrastructure for exports and high air freight cost, as well as preference in Europe for Caribbean and Latin American varieties of mangoes.

(c) to (e) Air Freight Subsidy Scheme was introduced on an experimental basis during 1993-94 in respect of export of specified fruits including mangoes (excluding Alphonse mangoes). Decision is yet to be taken in the matter of continuation of this Scheme. Some of the steps taken to boost the exports of mangoes *inter-alia* include the following :

- (i) Providing financial assistance for development of

infrastructure facilities such as purchase of specialised transport units, establishment of procooling/cold storage facilities, setting up of grading/processing centres, auction platforms, ripening/curing chambers and quality testing equipments, improved packaging and strengthening of quality controls.

- (ii) Establishment of Vapour Heat Treatment facilities for improved acceptability of the product.
- (iii) Establishment of walk-in-type cold storages at Airports.
- (iv) Arranging mango export promotion campaigns and participative in International Trade Fairs/Exhibitions.

SHOW-CAUSE NOTICE BY SEBI

***171. Shri Rajendra Agnihotri :** Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India has issued show-cause notices to UTI's registrar and several other registrars and share agents recently;
- (b) if so, the details of such registrars and agents who have been served notices; and
- (c) the action being taken by the Government in regard thereto ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohm Singh) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Securities and Exchange Board of India has issued show-cause notices to UTI's registrars as well as other registrars and share transfer agents recently.

(b) The following registrars and share transfer agents have been served show-cause notices :

1. Datamatics Ltd.—Bombay.
2. Datamatics Financial Services Ltd.—Bombay.
3. M. N. Dastur & Co. Ltd.—Calcutta.
4. Imod Financial & Management Services (P) Ltd.—New Delhi.
5. Navmee Capital Management Ltd.—New Delhi.
6. On Line Share Management Services Ltd.—Bombay.
7. Rams Financial Services (P) Ltd.—Hyderabad.
8. Epic Financial Consultancy Services Ltd.—Bombay.
9. Mac Consultants (P) Ltd.—Calcutta.
10. Super Corporate Services (P) Ltd.—Ahmedabad.
11. Vrusti Financial Services (P) Ltd.—Ahmedabad.
12. Amfin Holding (P) Ltd.—Bombay.
13. Unisoft Computers (P) Ltd.—Bombay.
14. Delta Services (India) (P) Ltd.—Bombay.
15. ABC Computer (P) Ltd.—Calcutta.
16. SPS International Ltd.—New Delhi.

(c) Registrars and share transfer agents, being market intermediaries, are wholly governed by SEBI Regulations and Rules for registrars and share transfer agents. Under these Regulations, SEBI has the powers to conduct inspections, hold enquiries and suspend or cancel the Certificate of registration. Based on the enquiry report, the SEBI Board takes appropriate action as it deems fit. By the recent amendments to the SEBI Act, SEBI has also been empowered to impose monetary penalties on the market inter-mediarities including Registrars to issue and share transfer agents.

[Translation]

PERFORMANCE OF FOREIGN/INDIAN BANKS

*172. **Dr. P. R. Gangwar** : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the performance and deposit growth rate in foreign banks are better as compared to public sector banks in India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the government to improve the performance of public sector banks?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) Owing to geographical spread, branch network, customer profile, level of computerisation being different the performance of public sector banks and foreign banks is not comparable. The position of performance and deposit growth of public sector banks and foreign banks as on 31st March, 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1995, as reported by reserve Bank of India (RBI), is given below:

I. Position of Deposits

(Rs.in crores)

Year	1992	1993	1994	1995*
Public Sector Banks	207807.60	237891.12	277110.05	320183.30
Foreign banks	17112.80	22168.71	24952.80	27640.50

* — (Data provisional).

II. Position of Performance

(Profits: Rs. in crores)

Year	1992	1993	1994	1995*
Public Sector banks	(+)804.30	(-)3368.87	(-)4449.96	(+)1115.80
Foreign banks	(+)320.81	(-)841.66	(+)573.81	(+)544.89

* —(Data provisional).

(c) Government and RBI have impressed upon the

banks the need to strengthen their credit appraisal machinery and exercise close supervision and control over advances. While allocating recapitalisation funds, nationalised banks were advised by RBI to prepare action plans on key areas of their working. Emphasis has also been given on reduction of expenses. The introduction of prudential norms has made the management of banks risk-sensitive. Debts Recovery Tribunals have been set up to speed up recovery of dues owed to banks.

RENEWAL OF AIRCRAFT FLEET

*173. **Shri Hari Singh Chavda** : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any Scheme for the renewal of aircraft fleets of both the national airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) to (c) Air India has drawn up a tentative medium term fleet plan which envisages increase of fleet strength from the existing 26 aircraft in 1994-95 to 54 aircraft by the year 2001/02. Air India has recently signed an agreement with Boeing Airplane Company for acquisition of two B747-400 aircraft to be delivered in July and August, 1996. A techno economic evaluation study for selection of a MCLR (medium Capacity long range) aircraft has been undertaken. These aircraft are likely to be inducted into the fleet during the period 1997-98 to 2001-2002 and Air India proposes to phase out its entire fleet of older B747s by that time. Indian Airlines has plans to phase out all Boeing 737 and Airbus 300 aircraft in its fleet by the Year 2000.

VIOLATION OF CHILD LABOUR ACT

*174. **Shri Ram Kripal Yadav** : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have started conducting State-wise surveys at large scale in regard to present position of exploitation of child labourers in various parts of the country;

(b) whether the State Governments have taken any step to monitor implementation of the provisions made under Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986; and

(c) if so, the number of cases filed against the employers for violation of this Act during each of the last three years and as on June 30, 1995?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P.A. Sangma) : (a) No Sir. States of Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, have been sanctioned with funds to conduct surveys in specific areas as requested by them. However, the National Authority for Elimination of Child Labour has identified 100 districts as per 1981 census data. These districts are located in 11 States namely, A.P., M.P., Maharashtra, U.P., Karnataka, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Orissa, Gujarat and West

Bengal which together account for over 90% of the child labour population in the country. It has been decided that projects to eliminate child labour in hazardous occupations will be started as per the National Child Labour Project Scheme in these districts. A Workshop of these 100 District Collectors is scheduled to take place in New Delhi on 13-14 September, 1995. The concerned collectors have been requested to prepare project proposals in their respective districts based on the National Child Labour Project Scheme. An allocation of Rs. 34.4 crores has been made for the current financial year to undertake projects for children withdrawn from work.

(b) All State Governments/UTs are enforcing the various provisions made under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. The enforcement of the Act is monitored by the Central Government.

(c) The number of cases filed against the employers for violation of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 during the last three years are as under :

Year	No. of Violations
1992-93	1884
1993-94	1814
1994-95*	2166

Compiled on the basis of information received from 20 States/UTs so far.

DUTY FREE SHOPS

*175. Prof. M. Kamson :
Kumari Frida Topno :

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state :

(a) whether the India Tourism Development Corporation had entered into a contract with a German firm for consultancy of duty free shops under it ;

(b) if so, the details of the contract in this regard ;

(c) whether the said German firm has offered to enhance the business upto Rs. 100 crores in coming years ;

(d) if so, whether the Government have disapproved the award of contract to the said German firm ;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(f) whether any scheme has been formulated to run these duty free shops; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In May, 1990 ITDC signed a consultancy contract with M/S Gebr Heinemann of Germany for providing technical services including training. ITDC was to be required to pay US \$ 30,000 per annum to the above firm for rendering these services. The contract was valid for a period of 5 years and expired in May, 1995.

(c) Yes, Sir. In response to an open advertisement issued by ITDC in September, 1994, the said German firm has offered to increase the business turnover of ITDC's Duty Free Shops as follows :-

1995-96	—	Rs. 100 crores
1996-97	—	Rs. 150 crores
1997-98	—	Rs. 201.50 crores

(d) and (e) The matter is under consideration.

(f) and (g) ITDC are already running their Duty Free Shops.

[Translation]

CONTRIBUTION OF AGRICULTURE SECTOR IN NATIONAL INCOME

*176. Shri Hari Kewal Prasad :
Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi :

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of contribution of agriculture sector in national income during the years 1993-94 and 1994-95; and

(b) the percentage of loan provided to agriculture sector out of National Income during the said years?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :

(a) Contribution of Agriculture Sector in the Gross Domestic Product of the country was estimated at 27.7% in 1993-94 and 26.9% in 1994-95.

(b) Loan is one of the several sources of finance for investment/capital formation in agriculture. Farm households also resources for investment from non-institutional sources such as their own savings as well as from their current income for capital formation in agriculture. Based on the available information, the flow of institutional credit to agriculture during 1993-94 was estimated at Rs. 17,337 crores and in 1994-95 at Rs. 20,551 crores.

GRANT TO RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS

*177. Shri Devi Bux Singh : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the religious institutions to which grant was released by the Union Government during the last two years;

(b) the year-wise amount of grant provided to each institution during the same period;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide grant to religious institutions organising visits to religious places situated in foreign countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) The Ministries/Departments of the Central Government and the Administrators of the UTs have been delegated full powers to sanction grants-in-aid to

organisations/institutions, in accordance with the guidelines prescribed in the General Financial Rules, 1963. No centralised data is, however, maintained relating to grants sanctioned to such institutions.

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

[English]

INSURANCE SCHEME FOR COVERAGE OF RISK IN FINANCIAL SECTOR

***178. Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar :** Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the General Insurance Corporation and its subsidiaries have recently introduced some schemes for proper risk coverage in financial sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) Recently the Oriental Insurance Company Ltd. have introduced 'Stock Brokers Indemnity Insurance Cover' for members of various stock exchanges to cover the following risks :-

1. Legal Liability due to the insured Broker's inability to complete transactions due to :
 - (a) Physical loss, destruction, theft or damage of securities and cash.
 - (b) Securities being counterfeit, fraudulently altered, forged or having been lost or stolen.
 - (c) Being deceived about the identity of any person for the purpose of buying or selling of securities.
2. Loss of securities and/or cash.
3. Loss due to counterfeit securities.
4. Infidelity of employees.
5. Computer crime indemnity.
6. Cover for errors and omissions.

The New India Assurance Co. Ltd. have agreed to issue a policy to cover following risks for Stock Holding Corporation Ltd :-

1. General Perils

- (a) Dishonesty and fraudulent act of the employees.
- (b) Loss of property by theft, burglary, robbery, hold-up within insured premises or recognised place of safe deposit.
- (c) Loss of property from any cause whatsoever during transit.
- (d) Forgery or alteration of cheques, bills of exchange, drafts, certificates of deposits, etc.

- (e) Loss resulting directly from counterfeit forged or fraudulently altered securities.
- (f) Counterfeit currency.
- (g) Loss of damage to Offices' contents.

2. Electronic & Computer Crimes :

- (a) Fraudulent input of electronic data.
- (b) Fraudulent instructions of electronic data.
- (c) Fraudulent modification of computer instructions.
- (d) Malicious destruction of electronic data.
- (e) Loss of electronic data processing media due to robbery, burglary, theft.
- (f) Computer virus etc.

3. Error & Omissions :

Negligent Acts, errors or omissions

The New India Assurance Co. Ltd. have reported that the policy document is yet to be designed and issued to the Stock Holding Corporation of India Ltd.

[Translation]

WAGE BOARDS FOR THE JOURNALISTS

***179. Shri Chandresh Patel :** Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of meetings of the Wage Boards for working journalists and non-working journalists held till date since its constitution;

(b) the points discussed and the decisions arrived at the meetings;

(c) whether some organisations have requested the Wage Boards for oral hearings;

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

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) (a) to (e) Three Meetings of the Wage Boards for Working Journalists and Non-Journalist Newspaper & News-Agency Employees have been held so far.

In the first meeting it was decided to issue Notices under Section 10(1) of the Working Journalists and Other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955. The meeting also decided, inter-alia, that a Questionnaire for circulation among newspaper establishments, working journalists and non-journalist employees etc. eliciting information required for fixation or revision of wages should be drafted.

The Second meeting decided among other things, to set up a Sub-Committee to scrutinise and recast the Questionnaire. The issue regarding payment of Interim Relief was also discussed and it was resolved that views

of employers' and employees' organisations on the payment of Interim Relief should be sought by 30th June 1995.

In the third meeting it was decided to fix Oral Hearings to hear the views of the employers & employees organisations etc. on the issue of Interim Relief. The Oral Hearings would be held from 22nd August 1995 to 25th August 1995. As many as 22 organisations have requested for oral hearing.

[English]

ASSETS OF PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS

*180. **Shri Chetan P.S. Chauhan :**
Shri Balraj Passi :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the public sector banks have excess Statutory Liquidity Ratio assets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to raise the Statutory Liquidity Ratio further;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken in that direction so far ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has intimated that public sector banks (excluding regional rural banks) had excess holding of Government and other approved securities over the prescribed Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) amounting to an estimated Rs. 22,000 crores in the fortnight ended 23rd June, 1995.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

PROPOSALS FOR F.P.I.

*181. **Dr. P. R. Gangwar :**

Shri Lakshman Singh :

Will the **Minister of Food Processing Industries** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals for Food Processing Industries awaiting clearance from the Union Government, State-wise;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to clear them at the earliest; and

(c) the scheme of the Government to promote food processing industries keeping in view the increasing production of vegetables and fruits in the country ?.

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Shri Tarun Gogoi) : (a) and (b) Under the Industrial Policy of July, 1991, all food processing industries except for distillation and brewing of

alcoholic beverages, sugar and those items reserved for small scale sector have been delicensed. However, approvals are accorded to the proposals for setting up of joint ventures, foreign collaborations, 100% EOU's, and industries requiring industrial licence on examination of the merit of the proposal and the policies in vogue on a continuing basis.

(c) Besides providing fiscal incentives, and incentives for export, the Government has formulated and is operating various Plan. schemes for assisting establishment/modernisation/upgradation of the fruits and vegetable processing industries, creation of facilities for training of rural entrepreneurs, establishment of postharvest infrastructure, generic publicity, establishment of quality control laboratories, research and development, establishment of backward linkages, etc.

[English]

FIRE IN HIGH RISE BUILDINGS

*182 **Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi :**
Dr. Chinta Mohan :

Will the **Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of incidents of fire that occurred in the skyscrapers in New Delhi during 1994-95 and 1995-96 till date;

(b) whether such incidents are on the increase;

(c) whether several high rise buildings in Delhi are not equipped with sufficient fire safety equipments;

(d) if so, the names of such buildings and the number of buildings among them which are Government or semi-Government;

(e) the reasons for lack of provisions for fire safety arrangements in these buildings;

(f) whether the Government propose to take any steps to provide adequate fire safety arrangements in all those buildings in the near future; and

(g) if so, the time by which such arrangements are likely to be made ?

The Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri Sheela Kaul) : (a) to (g) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

RECONSTRUCTION OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

*183 **Shri N. J. Rathva :**
Shri Phool Chand Verma :

Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) the total length of National Highways in various States of the country State-wise;

(b) the expenditure incurred on the re-construction of National Highways in each State particularly in Gujarat during 1993-94 and 1994-95; and

(c) the other details in this regard ?.

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) to (c) A statement indicating the length of National Highways and amount allocated to various States for maintenance of National Highways during 1993-94 and 1994-95 is Annexed.

Statement

S. No.	Name of States	Length of National Highways in Km.	Amount Allocated on maintenance of National Highways (Rs. in lakhs)	
			1993-94	1994-95
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2888	1716.42	2146.64
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	330	53.51	67.24
3.	Assam	2296	1355.22	1678.23
4.	Bihar	2117	1276.45	1472.53
5.	Chandigarh	24	14.00	21.00
6.	Delhi	72	208.21	143.25
7.	Goa	229	225.05	385.65
8.	Gujarat	1631	1033.95	1316.64
9.	Haryana	698	513.86	560.43
10.	Himachal Pradesh	854	881.70	894.80
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	648	94.54	75.60
12.	Karnataka	1996	1234.19	1506.78
13.	Kerala	940	726.15	924.10
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2946	1316.28	1696.01
15.	Maharashtra	2918	1815.54	2150.45
16.	Manipur	431	130.47	115.20
17.	Meghalaya	472	231.13	270.06
18.	Mizoram	551	NA	NA
19.	Nagaland	113	7.29	4.00
20.	Orissa	1649	1016.11	1186.50
21.	Pondicherry	23	16.02	14.73
22.	Punjab	892	661.30	736.97
23.	Rajasthan	2931	1339.97	1810.83
24.	Sikkim	62	NA	NA
25.	Tamil Nadu	1896	1643.67	1702.86
26.	Tripura	200	NA	NA
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2613	1710.52	2065.48
28.	West Bengal	1638	1760.45	1744.02

INDIAN SHIPYARDS

***184. Shri Rajendra Kumar Sharma :** Will the Minister of Surface Transport be please to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the deteriorating condition of Indian Shipyards;

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

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for renovation/modrenisation of Indian Shipyards; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the total allocations made for the purpose during last three years and proposed to be made during the current year ?.

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) to (d) There are 42 Shipyards in the country, the break-up of which is as under :

Under the Central Public Sector	Under the State Government	Shipyards in the Private Sector	Total
7	2	33	42

The break-up of 7 Shipyards in the Central Public Sector is as under :

Under the Administrative control of Ministry of Surface Transport	Under the Administrative control of Ministry of Defence	Total
4	3	7

The Ministry of Surface Transport has the administrative control in respect of 4 Public Sector Shipyards, namely, Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam, Cochin Shipyard Limited, Cochin, Rajabagan Dockyard of Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd., Calcutta and Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Ltd., Calcutta. In addition, this Ministry also has the nodal responsibility for the entire Shipbuilding and Shiprepair Industry including Fishing Vessels Industry and Floating Craft Industry. Two Public Sector Shipyards, namely, Hindustan Shipyard and Cochin Shipyard under the administrative control of this Ministry were at the verge of closing down in 1991-92. However, with the liberalisation policy of the Government and other measures taken, such as, revision of Pricing Policy of ships built in Indian Public Sector Shipyards and capital restructuring of Cochin Shipyard, etc., these two Shipyards have recently started making cash profit. The other two shipyards, namely, Rajabagan Dockyard of CIWTC and Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers are very old with limited infrastructural facilities. Government has sanctioned a scheme for modernisation of Shiprepair Facilities at Rajabagan Dockyard at a cost of Rs. 71.34 crores in December, 1992.

The modernisation and upgradation of production

facilities of the Shipyards is a continuous process and is being taken up through Plan Schemes meant for renewal, replacement and augmentation of such facilities. The details of allocations made during the last 3 years and proposed for the current financial year 1995-96 in respect of 4 Public Sector Shipyards under the administrative control of this Ministry are as follows:

Annual Plan Provision

(Rupees in crores)

	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.	3.40	4.76	7.50	15.00
Cochin Shipyard Ltd.	5.50	4.50	6.50	12.00
Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Ltd.	0.58	2.31	0.02	0.01
Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd. (Rajabagan Dockyard)	18.00	19.30	9.50	3.50

MULTINATIONALS IN MINING

***185. Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh :**
Shri Datta Meghe :

Will the **Minister of Mines** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the agreements signed with foreign and Indian private companies for mining in the country, after the announcement of the National Mineral Policy, 1993;

(b) whether the Government have sought foreign assistance for the exploration and processing of minerals during the last two years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and unit wise ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Mines (Shri Balram Singh Yadav) : (a) Central Government have not entered into any agreement, with any Private Company. However, State Governments grant mineral concessions to Private Companies as per the Provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 and the rules made thereunder.

(b) and (c) National Mineral Policy, 1993 states that induction of foreign technology and foreign participation in exploration and mining for high value and scarce minerals shall be pursued. Central Government does not keep records of proposals being considered by State Governments for grant of minerals concessions to Private Companies, both domestic and foreign.

POLICY ON DEEP SEA FISHING

***186 Shri Nitish Kumar :** Will the **Minister of Food Processing Industries** be pleased to state :

(a) whether any committee was constituted under the chairmanship of Shri P. Murari for reviewing the policy in regard to fishing in deep sea water;

(b) whether the Government had also decided to broadbase the constitution of this committee by including the M.Ps of coastal areas and representatives of fishermen engaged in traditional industry;

(c) if so, whether the committee has been expanded and the Government have received its report;

(d) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be submitted by the committee;

(e) whether the Government have fixed any tenure for this committee; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Shri Tarun Gogoi) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) the Committee has been expanded, but its report has not been received.

(d) to (f) The present tenure of the Committee is upto 30th September, 1995. It is expected that the report of the Review Committee would be submitted by this time.

FLEET STRENGTH OF DTC

***187. Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar :**
Shri Brijbhushan Sharan Singh :

Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of buses in DTC fleet as on date and the number out of them, which are/could be made road worthy;

(b) the average number of buses actually operating daily and specifically plying within Delhi as on date, separately;

(c) whether the number of buses plying within Delhi is inadequate;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to augment the fleet strength of DTC in view of the inconvenience being caused of the commuters; and

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

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) As on 7-8-1995 DTC fleet was 3481 and 1610 buses were road worthy and the remaining 1871 buses including 348 buses detained for various stages of general/preventive maintenance, break down repairs on day to day basis, preparation of MVI and other docking etc. can be made road-worthy subject to availability of funds.

(b) As on 7-8-1995, 1605 DTC buses were put on road and out of these, 952 buses were plying within Delhi and 653 buses were plying on Inter-state routes. Besides the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have already issued 3965 Stage Carriage Bus Permits under various schemes.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. So far as DTC is concerned, its fleet strength has been fixed at 3500. The rest of the requirement are being met by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi under various schemes. DTC has also been provided a sum of Rs. 10 crores during the current financial year for repair and maintenance of some of its buses detained for repair and maintenance.

SLUMS IN DELHI

***188. Shri Chandresh Patel :**
Shri B. L. Sharma Prem :

Will the **Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of slum clusters and the total area of land encroached by them in Delhi ;

(b) the total population of slum clusters in Delhi as on July 31, 1995;

(c) whether the slums in Delhi are increasing rapidly;

(d) if so, the action plan envisaged to check it; and

(e) the other short/long term measures to rehabilitate the slum dwellers ?

The Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shrimati Sheela Kaul) : (a) and (b) No comprehensive survey in this regard has been conducted. However, as per Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi there are about 1080 Jhuggi Clusters in Delhi containing about 4.8 lakhs Jhuggi households comprising about 20 lakhs Jhuggi dwellers.

(c) and (d) Besides, natural growth of population, in migration of people belonging to weaker sections of society in search of gainful employment and non-availability of shelter at affordable cost have contributed in the growth of squatter families encroaching up public land.

For curbing the growth of slums, and to protect Govt. land, the following instructions have been issued to the land owning agencies :

(i) Watch and ward should be strengthened and surveillance of vacant land tightened. The system of accountability should be devised to prevent instances of laxity/collusion/non-reporting immediately.

(ii) For each sector there should be one person responsible so that such things may not occur and responsibility could be pinpointed.

(iii) Vacant land around the existing Jhuggi Clusters should be protected either by wire fencing or by construction of boundary walls to check extension of such Jhuggi clusters on the adjoining vacant land; and

(iv) Prompt action should be taken to nip in the bud unauthorised construction, particularly in the form of unauthorised colonies.

To check the encroachment on public land immediately,

Special Vigilance Teams have been constituted by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi. Each Team is headed by an Additional District Magistrate and the Police, DDA, NDMC and MCD are represented therein. As and when any encroachment is noticed/reported action is taken under the provisions of relevant laws by the local agencies with the help of the police, wherever necessary.

(e) To improve the living conditions of the Slum/JJ dwellers, the following three pronged strategy is being implemented by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(i) Re-location/re-settlement of eligible JJ dwellers from the land urgently required for public projects;

(ii) Provisions of minimum basic amenities in the JJ Clusters which are situated on such public land as are earmarked for public projects but not immediately required for implementation; and

(iii) In-situ upgradation of identified JJ Clusters situated on public land which are not earmarked for any project and are not required in the foreseeable future after obtaining No-Objection-Certificate from the land owning agencies.

[English]

POWER GROWTH IN NORTH EASTERN REGION

***189. Shri George Fernandes :** Will the **Minister of Power** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the growth of power sector in the North-Eastern region is not commensurate with the existing potentials and the growing demands for electricity in the area;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the estimated hydro power potential of the region and the total power harnessed so far;

(d) whether private power developers had shown any interest in harnessing the hydro-power potential of the region;

(e) if so, whether the Union Government have extended any support to the region in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Power (Shri N. K. P. Salve) : (a) and (b) Even though the North Eastern Region is endowed with a tremendous power potential, a fuller utilisation of this potential has not been possible. The main reasons for this are the lack of demand in the North Eastern Region and the lack of adequate resources to develop this potential.

(c) As per the assessment of the Central Electricity Authority, the total hydro power potential of the North Eastern Region has been assessed at 31,857 MW at 60% load factor. Out of this, 315.50 MW at 60% load factor has been developed and another 309.88 MW at 60% load factor is under development.

(d) to (g) Memorandum of Understandings have been signed by the State Governments with private power developers for two hydel power projects viz. Kameng Hydroelectric Project (600 MW) in Arunachal Pradesh and Karbi Langpi Hydroelectric Project (100 MW) in Assam. Govt. of India is extending all necessary assistance required by the promoters and the State authorities of finalise the above proposals.

[Translation]

IMPORT OF METAL SCRAP BY MSTC

*190. **Shri Guman Mal Lodha :**
Shri Nawal Kishore Rai :

Will the **Minister of Steel** be pleased to state :

(a) the annual average of the total quantity of metal scrap imported by the Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Limited (MSTC) during the last three years; and

(b) the annual average of profit earned or the loss suffered by the Undertaking consequent upon this import during the above period?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel (Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev) : (a) the average import of metal scrap by MSTC during the last three years is 4.22 lakh tonnes.

(b) The annual average of profit earned by MSTC consequent upon this import is Rs. 3.73 crores.

ASSISTANCE TO NATIONAL THERMAL POWER CORPORATION

*191. **Shri Rameshwar Patidar :** Will the **Minister of Power** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation is facing resource constraints;

(b) if so, the estimated additional funds required by the National Thermal Power Corporation;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to provide financial assistance to the National Thermal Power Corporation in time;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Power (Shri N. K. P. Salve) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (c) Do not arise.

[English]

URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAMMES

*192. **Shri Shantaram Potdukhe :** Will the **Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Urban Poverty alleviation programmes going on in the country;

(b) the budgetary allocations made for these programmes

during the last three years; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to explore the possibilities of integrating all these programmes into a single cohesive developmental programme ?

* **The Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shrimati Sheela Kaul) :** (a) Two Centrally sponsored urban poverty alleviation programmes viz., Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP) are presently going on in the country :

(i) The Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) has been designed to provide employment to the underemployed and unemployed poor residing in urban areas. This employment is of two types : one relating to the setting up of self-employment ventures and another relating to wage employment through shelter upgradation works and creation of public assets in the low income neighbourhoods of urban local bodies.

(ii) The Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP) is a process which functions with the broad goal of creating a facilitating environment for a significant improvement in the quality of life of the urban poor. This is envisaged to be achieved through community organisation and mobilisation, empowerment of communities, especially of women, in order to equip them in the roles of decisions making and community management, and a process of convergence to enhance the reach and effectiveness of the existing sectoral programmes for the urban poor.

(b) The budgetary allocations made for these programmes during the last three years are as follow :

	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
	(Rs. in crores)		
(i) NRY	71.00	74.97	70.00
(ii) UBSP	12.75	18.00	16.00

(c) A new scheme, namely, Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme for implementation in all Class-II towns with population ranging between 50,000 and 1 lakh is under finalisation.

HYDEL POWER PLANTS

*193. **Dr. Asim Bala :** Will the **Minister of Power** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of hydel power plants in each State;

(b) the total power generated in those plants during Eighth Plan year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether some of those plants need renovation ;

(d) if so, the steps taken and proposed to be taken for the renovation and expansion of those plants ;

(e) whether any funds have been provided for the renovation of these plants; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Power (Shri N. K. P. Salve) : (a) The total installed capacity of hydel power projects as on 30-5-1995 is 20,830.54 MW. The capacity of the hydro power projects in each state is given in the attached statement-I.

(b) The power generated during the VIII Five Year Plan i.e. 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 (upto 30-6-95) is given below :

Year	Actual Hydro Power Generation in Million Units	
1992-93	—	69,833
1993-94	—	70,375
1994-95	—	82,511
1995-96 (Upto 30-6-1995)	—	17,768

The State-wise details of generation of hydel projects is given in the enclosed **Statement-II**

(c) to (f) A programme for renovation, modernisation and uprating of hydel power projects has been formulated by the Central Electricity Authority. The renovation, modernisation and uprating programme of hydel stations is expected to add an additional capacity of 521 MW on completion. The details of the schemes included under this programme and additional capacity expected to be added have been indicated in the attached **Statement-III**, for this purpose, a provision of Rs. 723.28 crores has been proposed in the VIII Five Year Plan.

The state-wise details of the approved outlay are shown in the enclosed **Statement-IV**.

Statement I

Generating Plants 'Installed Capacity' of Hydro Power Projects as on 30-6-1995 (Provisional) Abstract State-wise

Sl. No.	Region State/UT	Installed Capacity (MW)
1	2	3

I. Northern

1.	Haryana	883.90
2.	Himachal	275.07
3.	J&K	180.31
4.	Punjab	1798.94
5.	Rajasthan	967.58
6.	UP	1504.55
7.	Central Sec (NR)	1530.00

Total : (NR) 7140.35

1	2	3
II. Western		
1.	Goa	0.05
2.	Gujarat	427.00
3.	Madhya Pradesh	845.86
4.	Maharashtra	1740.22
Total : (WR)		3013.13

III. Southern

1.	Andhra Pradesh	2655.94
2.	Karnataka	2409.55
3.	Kerala	1491.50
4.	Tamil Nadu	1947.70
Total : (SR)		8504.69

IV Eastern

1.	Bihar	161.60
2.	Orissa	1271.92
3.	West Bengal	71.51
4.	Sikkim	30.89
5.	Central Sec. (ER)	144.00
Total : (ER)		1679.92

V. North-Eastern

1.	Arunachal Pradesh	23.55
2.	Assam	2.00
4.	Manipur	2.60
4.	Meghalaya	186.71
5.	Mizoram	3.37
6.	Nagaland	3.20
7.	Tripura	16.01
8.	Central Sec. (NER) Total	255.01
Total : (NER)		492.45

All India 20830.54

Statement-II

State-wise Actual Hydro Generation in the Country

Sl. No.	State/ Systems	Actual Power Generation during			
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	April-June '95
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	B.B.M.B.	12471	10657	12232	2938
2.	J&K	2869	2690	2749	823

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Himachal Pradesh	1899	1566	4257	1534
4.	Haryana	235	245	231	72
5.	Rajasthan	1111	1115	1473	168
6.	Punjab	2828	2556	3061	905
7.	Uttar Pradesh	4353	6587	6524	1569
8.	Gujarat	659	1211	1373	219
9.	Maharashtra	4983	5726	6287	996
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1293	1590	2279	395
11.	Andhra Pradesh	9117	10046	10114	939
12.	Karnataka	10025	10461	12654	3226
13.	Kerala	6195	5823	6573	1632
14.	Tamil Nadu	5637	4601	5845	954
15.	Bihar	138	204	419	23
16.	Orissa	3798	3685	4065	996
17.	West Bengal	96	108	85	19
18.	D.V.C.	217	212	417	22
19.	Sikkim	30	34	55	9
20.	NEEPCO	858	906	860	204
21.	Meghalaya	432	584	381	75
22.	Tripura	45	41	42	11
23.	Manipur	545	617	515	36
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	20	-3
All India		69833	70375	82511	17768

Statement-III

Details of Renovation, Modernisation and Uprating Scheme of Hydel Power Stations

Sl. No.	Organisation/ Name of the Project	Installed Capacity(MW)	Capacity addition Expected by way of Uprating
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh			
1.	Machkund Stage-I	3x17+	—
	Stage-II	3x21.25	—
2.	Nizam Sagar	3x5	—
3.	Lower Sileru	4x115	—
4.	Srisaillam	7x110	—

1	2	3	4
Bihar			
5.	Subemrekha	2x65	—
Gujarat			
6.	Ukai	4x75	—
Himachal Pradesh			
7.	Bassi	4x15	—
8.	Giri	2x30	6.0
Jammu & Kashmir			
9.	Chenani	5x4.66	—
10.	Lower Jhelum	3x35	—
11.	Sumbal Sindh	2x11.3	—
Karnataka			
12.	Mahatma Gandhi	4x12+	—
		4x18	—
13.	Nagjhari (Unit-2)	6x135	15.0
14.	Sharavathy	8x89.1	115.2
15.	Sharavathy	2x89.1	28.8
16.	Shivasamudram	6x3+	—
		4x6	—
Kerala			
17.	Neriamangalam	3x15	9.0
18.	Poringalkuthu	4x8	—
19.	Sabarigiri	6x50	—
20.	Sholayar	3x18	—
Maharashtra			
21.	Koyna - I & II	4x65+	20.0
		4x75	—
22.	Koyna-III	4x80	—
Meghalaya			
23.	Kyredemkulai	2x30	—
24.	Umiam-I & II	4x9	—
		2x9	—
Orissa			
25.	Hirakud-I (U1 & 2)	2x37.5	37.5
26.	Hirakud-I (U3 & 4)	2x24	16.0
27.	Hirakud-I (U-5 & 6)	2x37.5	21.0
28.	Hirakud-I (Switchyard equip.)	—	—
29.	Hirakud-II	3x24	—
Punjab			
30.	UBDC-I	3x15	—
Tamilnadu			
31.	Kadamparai	4x100	—

1	2	3	4
32.	Kundah-III	3x60	—
33.	Mettur Dam	4x10	—
34.	Moyar	3x12	—
35.	Papanasam	4x5.8	4.0
36.	Pykara	3x6.65+ 2x11+2x14	—
37.	Sholayar-I	2x35	—
Tripura			
38.	Gumti	3x5	—
Uttar Pradesh			
39.	Chilla	4x36	—
40.	Khatima	3x13.8	—
41.	Obra	3x33	—
42.	Pathri	3x6.8	—
43.	Ramganga	3x66	—
44.	Rihand	6x50	—
45.	Tiloth	3x30	9.0
West Bengal			
46.	Jaldhaka-I	3x9	—
Central Sector			
BBMB			
47.	Bhakra RB	5x132	185.0
48.	Dehar (U 2, 3 & 4)	6x165	—
49.	Ganguwal (U 2)	2x24.2+ 1x29.25	3.43
50.	Kotla (U 3)†	2x24.2+ 1x29.25	3.92
DVC			
51.	Maithon	3x20	—
52.	Panchet	1x40	—
NHPC			
53.	Baira Siul	3x60	30.0
54.	Loktak	3x35	17.0
NEEPCO			
55.	Khandong	2x25	—
Total :		9658	521.0

[Translation]

Statement-IV**Approved Outlays for renovation, modernisation and uprating of hydro stations for 8th Plan (1992-97)**

Sl. No.	State	Figures in Rs. crores
1	2	3
A.	Central Sector	16.00
B.	State Sector	
1.	Haryana	4.06
2.	Himachal Pradesh	2.00
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	24.60
4.	Punjab	53.00
5.	Uttar Pradesh	300.00
6.	Andhra Pradesh	100.00
7.	Karnataka	114.16
8.	Kerala	1.00
9.	Tamil Nadu	17.70
10.	Orissa	64.71
11.	Sikkim	6.97
12.	West Bengal	4.00
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.20
14.	Meghalaya	6.00
15.	Tripura	4.88
Total :		723.28

[Translation]

ISSUE OF PASSPORTS

***194. Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi :**
Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu :

Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to improve the functioning of various Passport Offices in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a time schedule has been formulated to issue passport to the applicants; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The **Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri R. L. Bhatia) :** (a) and (b) It is the endeavour of the Government to constantly improve the functioning of passport offices. Government have, in this regard, taken

several steps such as augmentation of staff strength, upgradation of office facilities including computerisation, review of systems and procedures in order to reduce delays, regular inspection of passport offices and follow-up action.

(c) and (d) For functional and practical reasons, it has not been found possible to fix a time limit for the issue of a fresh passport. The issue of a passport involves several steps including scrutiny of the application and required documentation; processing; police verification; and, preparation and issue of the passport. The number of applications received in a given office also has a bearing on the time taken for the issue of a passport; as also the availability of infrastructure including staff strength. Keeping in view MHA's concurrence that a passport may be issued if a police verification report is not received in three week's time, the endeavour of the passport offices is to issue a passport in a period of about one month.

[English]

KACHCHATIVU AGREEMENT

*195. **Shri S. S. R. Rajendra Kumar** : Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the fishermen of Tamil Nadu are facing difficulties in their traditional fishing activities in and around Kachchativu in the Palk-Straits; and

(b) if so, the progress made in regard to the steps being taken by the Union Government to restore the traditional rights of Indian fishermen for access to Kachchativu as guaranteed under the Maritime Boundary Agreements of 1974 and 1976 with Sri Lanka ?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) and (b) the Maritime Boundary Agreements of 1974 and 1976 safeguard the traditional rights of Indian fishermen for access to Kachchativu for resting, drying their nets and attending the annual St. Anthony's festival. Fulfillment of these traditional rights has been in abeyance since 1983 due to adverse security situation prevailing in the Palk Straits as a result of the conflict between the Sri Lanka government and the LTTE, causing difficulties to the fishermen of Tamil Nadu. These traditional rights however, do not include the right to fish in and around Kachchativu. The question of the restoration of traditional rights of Indian fishermen for access to Kachchativu area, as guaranteed under the Indo-Sri Lanka Maritime Agreements of 1974 and 1976, has been under discussion between the two Governments.

IRON ORE PRODUCTION AND EXPORT IN GOA

*196. **Shri Harish Naryan Prabhu Zantye** : Will the **Minister of Steel** be pleased to state :

(a) the total iron ore production in the country for the last three years, year-wise and State-wise by ore-grades in terms of quantity and value along with tentative targets for the current year particularly for Goa;

(b) the total quantity of iron-ore exported during the last three years, year-wise particularly, from Goa State and foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(c) the quantity of low grade ore converted into high grade by setting up upgradation plants in Goa and the quantity of such ore exported and foreign exchange earned; and

(d) the details of such projects proposed to be set up in Goa during the next three years and the impact thereof ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel (Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev) : (a) The information is at the enclosed **Statements I & II**. No targets are fixed by the Government for private sector.

(b) Details of iron ore exports from India (including Goa) and from Goa separately for the last three years are as under :

Year	India		Goa Only	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1992-93	27.86	1502.97	12.78	530.18
1993-94	31.94	1640.46	15.15	591.12
1994-95 (Prov.)	31.75	1561.49	14.75	531.95

(Quantity : in million tonnes)
(Value : in Rs./crores)

(c) As per information available from Goa Mineral Ore Exporters Association all the iron ore exported from Goa is processed iron ore and the low grade ore is upgraded by washing and beneficiation.

(d) As per present Industrial Policy no permission is required for setting up of plants for upgradation of low grade iron ore.

Statement-I

State-wise/Zone-wise Production of Iron Ore in India

(In Million Tonnes)

Sl. No.	Zone/State	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (Prov.)
1.	Zone A			
	(i) Bihar	9.90	10.43	12.00
	(ii) Orissa	7.85	6.71	7.04
	Sub Total Zone A	<u>17.75</u>	<u>17.14</u>	<u>19.04</u>
2.	Zone B			
	(i) Madhya Pradesh	14.18	15.10	15.87
	(ii) Maharashtra	0.04	0.04	0.12
	Sub Total Zone B	<u>14.22</u>	<u>15.14</u>	<u>15.99</u>
3.	Zone C			
	Karnataka	11.04	12.26	12.22
4.	Zone D			
	Goa	12.62	12.74	13.26
5.	Zone E			
	(i) Andhra Pradesh	0.15	0.17	0.17
	(ii) Rajasthan	0.03	0.02	0.02
	Sub Total Zone E	<u>0.18</u>	<u>0.19</u>	<u>0.19</u>
	Grand Total India	<u>55.81</u>	<u>57.47</u>	<u>60.70</u>

Statement-II
Grade-wise Production of Iron Ore in India

Qty. : Million Tonnes
Value : Rs. / crores

Year	Lumps			Fines XX					Concentrates			Total			
	+65%	62-65% —62%		62% & —62%		Total	Qty.	Value	+65%	62-65%		Total	Qty.	Value	
		3	4	5	6					7	8				9
1992-93	11.86	8.53	3.09	23.48	335.71	21.16	7.10	28.26	385.28	5.01	0.40	5.41	185.68	57.15	906.67
1993-94 (P)	12.05	8.56	3.24	23.85	350.38	21.16	7.10	28.26	383.97	6.20	0.03	6.23	162.80	58.34	897.15
1994-95 (P)	12.58	9.11	3.59	25.28	413.23	22.47	6.98	29.45	431.68	5.72	0.30	6.02	198.17	60.74	1043.08

(P)—Provisional

+ —Figures relate to despatches for internal consumption/export except in the case of Goa where the figures relate to output.

Source : IBM

INDO-UKRAINE TIES

*197. **Shri M. V. V. S. Murthy** : Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ukraine has expressed its desire for cooperation with India in various fields such as economic, trade and defence, etc. ;

(b) if so, whether India has welcomed this move and has taken steps to utilise the offer ;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any agreements/MOUs were signed by India and Ukraine;

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

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to strengthen further the bilateral relations with Ukraine?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Salman Khursheed) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) India and Ukraine enjoy excellent relations of friendship and cooperation which have been consolidated by exchanges of high level visits. The then President of Ukraine, Leonid Kravchuk, had visited India in March, 1992. President of India paid a State visit to Ukraine in July, 1993.

The then Ukrainian Foreign Minister, A.M. Zlenko, had visited India in April, 1994. A Protocol on regular consultations between the two Foreign Ministries and an Agreement establishing an Inter-governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological, Industrial and Cultural Cooperation had been signed during this visit. Subsequently, Foreign Ministry consultations as well as the first session of the Joint Commission were held in Kiev in December, 1994.

The then Defence Minister had visited Ukraine in October, 1992, and there have been subsequent contacts at the expert level.

The following Agreements/MOUs have been signed with Ukraine :

- (i) Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation. Basic political document setting out the principles of bilateral relations and the spheres and directions of cooperation between India and Ukraine.
- (ii) Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation. Provides for payments in freely convertible international currencies unless otherwise agreed upon between the two Contracting Parties.
- (iii) Agreement on Cooperation in the Fields of Science and Technology. Umbrella agreement providing for cooperation in the sphere of science and technology. Supplemented by a programme of cooperation for 1993-96.
- (iv) Agreement on Cooperation in the Spheres of Culture, Arts, Education, Tourism, Sports and Mass-Media. Umbrella agreement on cooperation

in these spheres, to be supplemented by a programme of cooperation, which is under discussion.

- (v) MOU on Trade and Economic Relations. Deals with the modalities of carrying out counter-trade through escrow accounts between India and Ukraine.
- (vi) Agreement on the Inter-governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological, Industrial and Cultural Cooperation. Provides for the setting up of Joint Commission to consider questions arising out of the implementation of bilateral agreements, and to review, study and make recommendations for the development of cooperation in the above mentioned fields.
- (vii) Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation. Provides for training of Ukrainian nationals in Indian institutions, deputation of Indian experts to Ukraine in mutually agreed fields and for placement of Indian students in Ukrainian higher educational institutions.
- (viii) Protocol on Consultations between MEA and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. Provides for regular consultations between the two Foreign Ministries to review the implementation of bilateral agreements, exchange views on international and bilateral issues and for interaction in the international arena.
- (ix) Agreement on Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space between ISRO and the Ukrainian National Space Agency. Provides for cooperation in space research in areas including remote sensing, communication, material processing, mutual use of ground facilities, etc.
- (x) MOU on Air Services. Since replaced by the Air Services Agreement.
- (xi) Air Services Agreement. Provides for the route schedule and other modalities of air services between the two countries.

Bilateral agreements in the fields of shipping, the avoidance of double taxation, and defence cooperation are under discussion. A proposal for negotiating an agreement on mutual protection and promotion of investments and an extradition treaty are under consideration. The next session of the Joint Commission is likely to be held in the latter part of 1995. There is an invitation from President to President Kuchma to visit India. The Ukrainian Defence Minister and the Deputy Minister of Industry have been invited to visit India. On our side, EAM and RRM have been invited to pay official visits to Ukraine.

CLEARANCE OF CARGO AT BOMBAY PORT TRUST

*198. **Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee** :
Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya :

Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the clearance of cargo at Bombay Port Trust (BPT) is plagued by excessive delays resulting in growing liability of demurrage to importers and exporters;

(b) the reasons for the blockade and slow clearance of cargo;

(c) the amount of demurrage collected by BPT during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(d) whether the All India Shippers Council has expressed anxiety about its repercussions on India's International Trade; and

(e) the steps the Government propose to take to ensure speedy clearance of cargo?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) and (b) Sometimes delays do occur in clearance of cargo on the part of consignees and sometimes due to disputes arising out of clarification on schemes such as DERC, MODVAT etc. Generally, 70% to 80% of the cargo discharged from the vessel is cleared by the consignee after it is out of custom charge from Port Trust custody before last free day. The remaining cargo lying in Port Trust premises attract demurrage.

(c) The amount of demurrage collected by BPT during 1993-94 and 1994-95 are Rs.103.76 crores and Rs. 126.35 crores respectively.

(d) This Ministry has not received any such reference from them.

(e) The Government has already taken up following steps for speedy clearance of cargo :

(i) Port Operations Groups established at various

ports to interact with the port users on day to day basis.

(ii) Documentation procedure has been streamlined.

(iii) Central Documentation Centres have been set up in all ports to provide single window clearance.

(iv) Customs procedures have also been simplified in case of containerised cargo.

(v) EDI is being introduced at the Major Ports for speedy exchange of data and documents.

[Translation]

REPAIR OF BRIDGES ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

*199. Shri Kashiram Rana :

Shri Mahesh Kanodia :

Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of bridges on national highways which collapsed during each of the last three years, State-wise;

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

(c) the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon, State-wise?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) to (c) List of bridges on National Highways which collapsed during last three years.

State	Number of Bridges that collapsed			Bridges repaired or Reconstructed	Cost Rs. Cr.	Remarks
	92-93	93-94	94-95			
West Bengal	—	7	—	1	13.10	1 completed, 4 sanctioned with target date 3/98. Estimate for two are awaited from State P.W.D.
Assam	1	—	1	1	1.13	Target for completion 3/96.
Tamilnadu	—	1	—	—	11.36	New Bridge sanctioned on 26-5-95. Traffic restored on 3-2-94 and repairs continuing on old bridges.

[English]

COMMERCIAL EXPLOITATION OF LAND

***200. Shri Ram Kapse :** Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have cleared the proposal of commercial exploitation of land belonging to Surface Transport Ministry;

(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) to (c) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

FUNCTIONING OF KVIC

***202. Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar :**
Shri Nawal Kishore Rai :

Will the **Minister of Industry** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee appointed by the Government under the Chairmanship of Shri K. C. Sodhiya to study the functioning of Khadi Gram-Udyog Commission has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations of the Committee and the action taken by the Government thereon;

(c) whether the Committee has also pointed out cases of gross financial irregularities in the above Commission during the last year; and

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

The Minister of Industry (Shri K. Karunakaran) : (a) The Government of India had constituted a High Power Committee in June, 1990 under the Chairmanship of Shri K. C. Sodhia to look into performance of Khadi institutions and the grievances of the employees working in these institutions for suggesting suitable measures.

(b) The major recommendations of the K. C. Sodhia committee are as follows :

1. It would not be possible to impose uniform service conditions and scales of pay and allowances for all the institutions.
2. The question of parity in emoluments with KVIC employees does not arise and the demand does not merit consideration.
3. Gandhi Ashrams should rationalise pay and allowances of their workers in line with the provisions of the Shops and Commercial Establishments Act.

4. The demand for nationalisation of Khadi institutions is not tenable.

5. The demand for prescription of service conditions of Khadi workers by the Government does not merit consideration.

6. The Khadi artisans should be exempted from various labour laws such as E.S.I., P.F., I.D. Act, Minimum Wages Act, etc.

7. Suitable stipulation may be incorporated in the bye laws of certified institutions to facilitate democratic functioning and internal democracy.

After ascertaining the views of all concerned, the Government had resolved in November, 1992 to implement the following decisions :

(i) The provisions of the Shops commercial Establishments Act of the area should be applied to Khadi institutions;

(ii) Service rules should be adopted in accordance with a 'Model Service Rules' to be prepared and circulated by the KVIC;

(iii) Effective participation of working in management should be ensured; and

(iv) KVIC should look into the individual cases of retrenchment/dismissal of workers.

Accordingly, Government of India has communicated to K.V.I.C. to implement these recommendations.

(c) and (d) While no specific cases of gross financial irregularities were pointed out, the committee had recommended several measures for improving the financial management of the Commission and the Khadi institutions. These have been communicated to the Commission.

MEDICAL COLLEGES

***204. Shri Lakshman Singh :** Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of the Government regarding setting up of new medical colleges in private sector; and

(b) the number of private individuals permitted to set up medical colleges alongwith their locations thereof ?

The Minister of Health and Family Welfare (Shri A. R. Antulay) : (a) As per provisions of Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Act, 1993 and the Scheme prescribed thereunder, only registered Societies and Public Trusts are eligible to set up medical colleges in private sector.

(b) No private individuals have been permitted to set up medical colleges. Two registered societies have so far been permitted to set up medical colleges in the private sector in Talegaon, Pune (Maharashtra) and Kannaur (Kerala) after the amendment was introduced in the IMC Act.

[English]

PILOTLESS AIRCRAFT ENGINES

***206. Shri Rajendra Agnihotri** : Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the achievement made so far with regard to manufacture of pilotless aircraft engines;
- (b) whether it is being produced indigenously; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : (a) The PTAE-7 engine, designed and developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL), has been successfully flown on 18 May 1995.

(b) and (c) The engine, on completion of type test and certification, is planned to be manufactured by HAL.

PAN MASALA

***208. Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan** : Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the tremendous increase in consumption of Pan Masala, with and without tobacco;
- (b) whether many of such preparations contain habit forming addictive drugs;
- (c) whether the Government propose to make FDA clearance mandatory and force printing of warning messages on these packets; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Health and Family Welfare (Shri A.R. Antulay) : (a) Such data are not compiled by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

(b) Analysis of samples of different brands of Pan Masala found those to be free from narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

(c) and (d) The Government have already laid down standards for Pan Masala under the provisions of prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955. The Rules also provide that the label and advertisement of Pan Masala shall carry a warning stating '**chewing of Pan Masala may be injurious to health**'. Advertisements promoting sale of Pan Masala through Radio and Television have already been discontinued. Moreover, from time to time, the Central Government have been advising the State/Union Territory Governments to educate the public about the adverse effects of the consumption of Pan Masala.

[Translation]

STERILISATIONS

***209. Dr. P. R. Gangwar** : Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) the state-wise number of men and women who underwent family planning operations during 1994-95;

(b) the reasons for failure in controlling population growth;

(c) whether there has been any difference in the number of cases of sterilisation having been actually performed and those shown on paper; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to rectify it?

The Minister of Health and Family Welfare (Shri A.R. Antulay) : (a) A **statement** is enclosed.

(b) A more rapid decline in the Death Rate as compared to the Birth Rate has led to a high rate of growth. However, the growth rate is now declining. It was 1.94% in 1993 as against 2.05% in 1990.

(c) and (d) Sample verification has revealed a wrong reporting of 3.3% in 1994-95. The States are asked to take remedial action in this regard.

Statement**State-wise Vasectomies & Tubectomies Done During 1994-95\$**

S. No.	State	Vasectomy	Tubectomy
1	2	3	4

I. Major States

1.	Andhra Pradesh	27417	547659
2.	Assam	376	22074
3.	Bihar	2127	120312
4.	Gujarat	8433	292865
5.	Haryana	1843	101801
6.	Karnataka	481	371180
7.	Kerala	474	121926
8.	Madhya Pr.	9883	391452
9.	Maharashtra	10694	569777
10.	Orissa	3701	156248
11.	Punjab	2490	123502
12.	Rajasthan	2061	201057
13.	Tamil Nadu	574	324644
14.	Uttar Pr.*	29378	336677
15.	West Bengal	2044	358451

II. Smaller States/UTs

1.	Himachal Pr.	4807	36147
2.	J & K	681	14788
3.	Manipur*	25	1630

1	2	3	4
4.	Meghalaya	1	848
5.	Nagaland	4	2999
6.	Sikkim	59	1443
7.	Tripura	49	13321
8.	A&N Islands	34	1761
9.	Arunachal Pr.	10	1717
10.	Chandigarh	110	2902
11.	D & N Haveli	80	522
12.	Delhi	2281	37374
13.	Goa	17	4308
14.	Daman & Diu	1	434
15.	Lakshadweep***	1	20
16.	Mizoram	00	3499
17.	Pondicherry	31	8796
III. Other Agencies			
1.	M/O Defence	4145	16380
2.	M/O Railways	3369	19221
All India		117678	4207741

\$ = Figures are provisional.

* = Figures upto Feb. 95.

*** = Figures upto Dec. 94.

[English]

CADRE REVIEW

*210. **Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar :**
Shrimati Saroj Dubey :

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the purpose and objective of cadre review;

(b) the number of reviews have taken place in different Group of Central Services alongwith Central Secretariat Service so far;

(c) whether any guidelines have been laid down therefor;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether this mechanism has been successful for removing stagnation in the above services;

(f) if so, the time period for getting promotions to various scales, scale-wise;

(g) the extent of disparity in promotion in different Central Services including the Central Secretariat Service; and

(h) the action taken to remove it?

The 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) : (a) Cadre Review is an important policy tool to manage efficiently a regularly constituted service. It is done on a periodic basis. It brings about congruence between functional needs and legitimate aspirations of the members of the Service. In order to achieve efficiency, morale and effectiveness of the cadre, Cadre Review aims at manpower projections and recruitment planning and also rationalisation of the existing cadre structure of the service.

(b) The number of cadre reviews which have taken place in Group 'A' Organised Central Services is given in the **Statement-I** enclosed. In Services other than Group 'A', cadre review is undertaken by the respective cadre controlling authorities. The Central Secretariat Service is not included in Group 'A' Services since the direct recruitment is made at levels lower than Group 'A' posts.

(c) and (d) The guidelines on the cadre review of Group 'A' Services were issued on 6th May, 1972. The guidelines have been slightly revised in April, 1995 on the subject of periodicity of cadre reviews.

(e) to (h) The management of a cadre is primarily the responsibility of the concerned cadre controlling authority. They are to keep a watch on the career prospects of their officers including the problem of stagnation. They have to also keep in view the functional needs of the service. A **Statement-II** showing the officers, batchwise, who have been promoted to Junior Administrative Grade, Junior Administrative Grade (Non-Functional Selection Grade), Senior Administrative Grade and Higher Administrative Grade (level of Additional Secretary) in different Group 'A' Services is given in the **Statement-II** enclosed. While the endeavour, during cadre review exercises is to maintain a balance between functional needs of the organisation and legitimate aspirations of the members of the service, it is not always feasible to maintain parity in the matter of promotion in different services. As stated in answer to part (b) of the question, Central Secretariat Services are not included in Group 'A' Service.

Statement - I

Central Group 'A' Services

(As on 1-7-1994)

Sl. No.	Name of Service	Total Number of Cadre Review done
1	2	3
1.	Indian Foreign Service	3
2.	Indian Revenue Service (IT)	3
3.	Indian Revenue Service (C&CE)	2
4.	Indian Audit and Accounts Service	3
5.	Indian Postal Service	3

1	2	3	1	2	3
6.	Indian Defence Accounts Service	2	32.	Central Water Engineering Service	3
7.	Indian P&T Accounts & Finance Service	Nil	33.	P & T Building Works Service	1
8.	Indian Defence Estates Service	2	34.	Central Architects Service (CPWD)	1
9.	Indian Railway Traffic Service	3	35.	Central Health Service	2
10.	Indian Railway Personnel Service	3	36.	Indian Railway Medical Service	3
11.	Indian Railway Accounts Service	3	37.	Indian Ordinance Factories Health Service (CDMO Cadre)	1
12.	Indian Trade Service	Nil	38.	Central Reserve Police Health Service	2
13.	Indian Information Service	2	39.	Border Security Force Health Service	2
14.	Indian Ordinance Factory Service	2	40.	I.T.B.P. Health Service	2
15.	Indian Civil Accounts Service	3	41.	Indian Economic Service	1
16.	Indian Telecommunication Service	2	42.	Indian Statistical Service	Nil
17.	Indian Railway Service of Signal Engineering	3	43.	Indian Cost Accounts Service	1
18.	Indian Railway Service of Electrical Engineering	3	44.	Defence Research and Development Service	Nil
19.	Indian Railway Service of Mechanical Engineering	3	45.	Defence Aeronautical Quality Assurance Service	2
20.	Indian Railway Service of Engineers	3	46.	Defence Quality Assurance Service	2
21.	Indian Railway Store Service	3	47.	Indian Legal Service	1
22.	Military Engineering Service	3	48.	Central Company Law Service	1
23.	Central Power Engineering Service	2	49.	Survey of India Group 'A' Service	1
24.	Indian Inspection Service	3	50.	Geological Survey of India	2
25.	Indian Supply Service	3	51.	Indian Meteorological Service	1
26.	Indian Naval Armament Service	1	52.	Central Reserve Police Force	2
27.	Central Elect. & Mech. Engineering Service (CPWD)	3	53.	Border Security Force	2
28.	Central Engg. Service (CPWD)	3	54.	Indian Tibetan Border Police	1
29.	Central Engg. Service (Roads)	3	55.	Central Industrial Security Force	1
30.	Border Roads Engg. Service	1	56.	Railway Protection Force	2
31.	Indian Broadcasting Service (Engineering)	1	57.	Central Labour Service	1
			58.	Indian Broadcasting (Programme) Service	1

Statement - II

Central Group 'A' Services

(As on 1-7-1994)

Sl. No.	Name of Service	Batch of Junior Most Promoted to			
		JAG (Rs. 3700-5000)	NFSG (Rs. 4500-5700)	SAG (Rs. 5900-6700)	Addl. Secy. Level (Rs. 7300-7600)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Indian Foreign Service	1980 (4900-5700)	NA	1975	1964 (7300-8000)

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Indian Revenue Service (IT)	1984	NA	1972	1963
3.	Indian Revenue Service (C&CE)	1982	1979	1971	1964
4.	Indian Audit and Accounts Service	1986	1981	1978	1965
5.	Indian Postal Service	1983	1979	1970	1962
6.	Indian Defence Accounts Service	1984	1979	1975	1961
7.	Indian P & T Accounts & Finance Service	1983	1981	1974	1966
8.	Indian Defence Estates Service	1984	1973	1969	1960
9.	Indian Railway Traffic Service	1985	NA	1974	1961
10.	Indian Railway Personnel Service	1986	NA	1975	1962
11.	Indian Railway Accounts Service	1986	NA	1976	1962
12.	Indian Trade Service	1979	NA	1979 (DR-STS)	NA
13.	Indian Information Service	1985	1975	1967	1964
14.	Indian Ordinance Factory Service	1983	1963	1972	1962
15.	Indian Civil Accounts Service	1983	1981	1974	1964
16.	Indian Telecommunication Service	1981	NA	1969	1960
17.	Indian Railway Service of Signal Engineering	1984	NA	1974	1962
18.	Indian Railway Service of Electrical Engineering	1984	NA	1975	1962
19.	Indian Railway Service of Mechanical Engineering	1985	NA	1975	1962
20.	Indian Railway Service of Engineers	1985	NA	1976	1962
21.	Indian Railway Store Service	1986	NA	1975	1962
22.	Military Engineering Service	1968	1956	1963	1958
23.	Central Power Engineering Service	1975	NA	1965	1972 (DR in STS)
24.	Indian Inspection Service	1968	1968	1962	NA

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	Indian Supply Service	1974	1967	1966	NA
26.	Indian Naval Armament	1980	1972	1966	NA
27.	Central Elect. & Mech. Engineering Service (CPWD)	1974	1967	1965	NA
28.	Central Engg. Service (CPWD)	1975	1968	1965	1960
29.	Central Engg. Service (Roads)	1966	1965	1964	1959
30.	Border Roads Engg. Service	1967	1966	1965	1963
31.	Indian Broadcasting Service (Engineering)	1975	NA	1970	1965
32.	Central Water Engineering Service	1972	1972	1969	1963
33.	P & T Building Works Service	1982	1976	1968	1964
34.	Central Architects Service (CPWD)	1975	1977	1964	NA
35.	Central Health Service				1964
	a) Teaching	1992	1985	1973	NA
	b) PH	1989	1984	1977	NA
	c) Non Teaching	1990	1986	1965	NA
36.	Indian Railway Medical	1983	NA	1973	1973 (DR in STS)
37.	Indian Ordinance Factories Health Service (CDMO)	1977	1970	1965	NA
38.	Central Reserve Police Health Service	NA	1972	NA	NA
39.	Border Security Force Health Service	1975	1970	1963	NA
40.	I.T.B.P. Health Service	NA	NA	NA	NA
41.	Indian Economic Service	1980	NA	1968	NA
42.	Indian Statistical	1976	1976	1973	1978 (DR Grade-I)
43.	Indian Cost Accounts Service	1983	1978	1977	1972 (DR in STS)
44.	Defence Research and Development Service	1986	1983	1978 (Rs. 5100-6300)	1974 (Rs. 5900-7300)

1	2	3	4	5	6
45	Defence Aeronautical Quality Assurance Service	1974	1967	NA	1984 (Rs.4500-5700)
46.	Defence Quality Assurance Service	1987	NA	1977	NA
47.	Indian Legal Service	1988 (DR in STS)	NA	1988 (DR in JAG)	1980 (DR in STS)
48.	Central Company Law Service	1976	NA	NA	NA
49.	Survey of India Group 'A' Service	1977	NA	1968	1962 (7300-8000)
50.	Geological Survey of India	1971	NA	1963	1966
51.	Indian Meterological Service	1986	1964	1963	1963 (Rs.7600/- Fixed)
52.	Central Reserve Police Force	NA	1972	1961	NA
53.	Border Security Force	NA	NA	NA	NA
54.	Indian Tibetan Border Police	NA	NA	NA	NA
55.	Central Industrial Security Force	1984	1979	1969	NA
56.	Railway Protection Force	1981	NA	1976	NA
57.	Central Labour Service	NA	NA	NA	NA
58.	Indian Broadcasting (Programme) Service	NA	NA	NA	NA

N.A. = Not available.

J.A.G. = Junior Administrative Grade .

N.F.S.G. = Non-Functional Selection Grade.

S.A.G. = Senior Administrative Grade.

S.T.S. = Senior Time Scale.

HARNESSING OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES

*211. Shrimati Dil Kumari Bhandari : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) the details of power projects set up with the help of private investors in order to tap Non-Conventional Energy Sources;

(b) whether the investors have shown preference in selection of areas and type of power generation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishan Kumar) : (a) to (c) A total of 402 wind power and 2 small hydro power projects with aggregate capacities of 320.24 MW and 2.95 MW respectively have been set up by the private investors to tap non-conventional energy sources. These projects have been set up in the States of Tamil Nadu (267.45 MW), Gujarat (48.86 MW), Andhra Pradesh (3.92 MW) and Karnataka (2.95 MW). The capacity of each project ranges between 200 KW and 8 MW.

Private investors have shown preference for setting up

of power projects in those areas where wind, small hydro, biomass, solar and other non-conventional energy resources are available and the concerned State Governments have announced attractive policies and incentives for private investors.

HIV TEST

*212. **Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique** : Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether flouting U.N. mandate against discrimination of persons testing positive for HIV, six countries in West Asia with their Bombay-based offices have announced measures to prevent the entry of such persons into their work force;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a few Bombay-based industries insist on pre-employment HIV tests, on workers in the organised and unorganised sectors; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

The Minister of Health and Family Welfare (Shri A. R. Antulay) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

(c) and (d) Based on the information supplied by the State Government of Maharashtra, no Bombay based industries insist on pre-employment HIV tests on workers in the organised and unorganised sectors.

WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS

*213. **Shri Harisinh Chavda** : Will the **Minister of Rural Areas and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of integrated rural water supply projects are under consideration for World Bank Assistance;

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

(c) the number of villages to be covered by the proposed projects, State-wise; and

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

The Minister of Rural Areas and Employment (Dr. Jagannath Mishra) : (a) 3 Projects.

(b) Statewise and projectwise details are as under :

(Rs. in crores)				
S.No.	State	Name of the Project	Number of districts to be taken up	Estimated Cost
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Punjab	Integrated Rural Water Supply & Sanitation (in 2 phases)	6	817.44

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Uttar Pradesh	Integrated Rural Water Supply & Sanitation (in 4 phases)	25	550.0
3.	Tamil Nadu	Integrated Rural Water Supply & Sanitation.	16	894.0

- (c) 1. Integrated Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project, Punjab.
- | | |
|----------|---------------|
| Phase I | 1594 villages |
| Phase II | 849 villages |
| Total : | 2443 villages |
2. Integrated Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project, U.P.
- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| Pilot Phase | 27 villages |
| Phase I | 712 villages |
| Phase II | 940 villages |
| Phase III | 821 villages |
| Total | 2500 villages |
3. Integrated Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project, Tamil Nadu :
- 4938 habitations and 40 rural towns.

(d) All projects are in pre-appraisal stage. Clearance of projects by World Bank is being pursued actively by the Government of India and the respective State Government.

BLOOD BANK

*214. **Shrimati Suseela Gopalan** :
Shri K. Muralee Dharan :

Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal for amendment to the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 in order to facilitate the State Government to issue licences for Blood Banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to bring amendment to the relevant rules empowering the Drugs Control Administration of the State to issue licences;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the number of applications from blood banks in Kerala pending with the Drugs Controller of India?

The Minister of Health and Family Welfare (Shri A. R. Antulay) : (a) to (d) No such proposal has been

received from Kerala State so far. Further no amendment of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940 and Rules thereunder is contemplated as the present system has been introduced by the concern for maintaining uniformity in the licensing of blood banks and blood products

throughout the country.

(e) Out of 17 applications for licence received from Kerala State, 14 have been approved and 3 returned for rectification of the deficiencies, as per **Statement** attached.

Names of Blood Banks Licences received from Kerala State for Approval

Sl. No.	Name of the Blood Bank	Date of receipt of application for licence	Date of approval of licence/ Remarks
1.	District Hospital Kanpur	11-1-95	30-1-95
2.	Shri Chitra Thirunal Hospital, Trivandrum	11-1-95	15-2-95
3.	Govt. Hospital Perunthamma	11-1-95	5-2-95
4.	Regional Cancer Centre, Trivandrum	11-1-95	21-2-95
5.	Trichur Heart Hosp., Trichur	11-1-95	30-1-95
6.	District Hospital, Pallakad	11-1-95	15-2-95
7.	District Hospital, Trichur	11-5-95	12-6-95
8.	Govt. General Hospital, Kozhikode	11-1-95	25-1-95
9.	Dr. Rao's Blood Bank, Trivandrum	29-5-95	9-8-95
10.	M/S. Laurdes Hospital, Kochi	28-7-95	9-8-95
11.	M/S. Bonziger Hospital, Kollam	28-7-95	9-8-95
12.	Dr. Nair Hospital, Kollam	28-7-95	9-8-95
13.	M/S. Upasana Hospital, Kollam	28-7-95	9-8-95
14.	M/S. Holly Cross Hospital, Adoor	28-7-95	9-8-95
15.	Medical College, Hospital, Trivandrum	11-2-95	Blood Bank Refrigerator not provided as required under Part XII-B, Schedule F to Drugs & Cosmetics Rules, 1945.
16.	West Fort Hospital, Trichur	28-7-95	-do-
17.	Women & Children Hospital, Trivandrum	11-1-95	Refrigerator under repair and Air conditioner not provided in one Testing Lab. as required under Part XII-B, Schedule to Drugs & Cosmetics Rules, 1945.

[Translation]

PHOTO IDENTITY CARDS

*215. **Shri Vijoy Kumar Yadav :**
Shri Chandresh Patel :

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of photo identity cards prepared and delivered so far by each State and Union-Territory;

(b) whether photo identity cards are likely to be made available for all Voters before the next general elections;

(c) if so, the concrete programme prepared in this regard;

(d) the total amount allocated by the Union Government to the State Governments for this purpose, State-wise;

(e) whether several mistakes have been found in the preparation of photo identify cards of voters; and

(f) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to remove such mistakes?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Shri H.R. Bhardwaj) : (a) The requisite information in respect of eight States and Union territory of Chandigarh is given in the **Statement-I** enclose. The information from the remaining States and Union territories is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the house.

(b) and (c) The Election Commission has informed that it has urged the State Governments to take steps to see that the Identity cards are issued before the next General Elections are due but has not made any concrete programme for the same. The Commission is however constantly reviewing the progress of work in each State and Union territory.

(d) The requisite information is given in the **Statement-II** enclosed.

(e) and (f) Some mistakes in some of the identity cards prepared so far have been reported and the Election Commission has directed the Chief Electrol Officers to rectify these mistakes and defects.

Statement-I

Statement Showing the Number of Photo Identity Cards Prepared and Delivered so far by each State and Union Territory

S.No.	Name of the State	No. of Photo Identity Cards Prepared Delivered Till 11-8-1995
1	2	3
1.	Assam	Nil
2.	Bihar	1,52,704
3.	Haryana	72,13,742

1	2	3
4.	Karnataka	Nil
5.	Punjab	70,15,988
6.	Tamil Nadu	Nil
7.	Uttar Pradesh	2,79,000
8.	West Bengal	11,36,125
Union Territories		
1.	Chandigarh	2,35,000

Statement - II

Statement showing the amount allocated to various State for issuance of Photo Identity Cards to the Voters, during the financial year 1994-95 by Govt. of India

Name of the State Government	Amount allocated (in Rs.)
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	17,71,37,000
Arunachal Pradesh	93,46,120
Assam	5,49,20,000
Bihar	22,76,00,000
Delhi	2,94,21,000
Goa	31,93,000
Gujarat	12,25,84,508
Haryana	5,13,34,000
Himachal Pradesh	2,15,61,000
Jammu & Kashmir	1,69,07,000
Karnataka	13,52,92,000
Kerala	7,50,00,000
Madhya Pradesh	16,08,14,000
Meghalaya	1,01,67,000
Mizoram	15,70,000
Manipur	1,40,72,244
Maharashtra	20,49,59,884
Nagaland	32,52,000
Orissa	8,44,78,244
Pondicherry	35,93,000
Punjab	5,53,07,000
Rajasthan	11,36,00,000
Sikkim	21,93,000

1	2
Tamil Nadu	16,17,05,000
Tripura	66,93,000
Uttar Pradesh	36,84,00,000
West Bengal	13,50,00,000
Total :	225,01,00,000

[English]

ESSENTIAL DRUGS

*216. **Shri Shankersinh Vaghela** : Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have published a list of essential drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total number of bulk drugs and formulations now existing in Indian market?

The Minister of Health and Family Welfare (Shri A.R. Antulay) : (a) and (b) Lists of essential drugs have been drawn up for use of various strata of health care services.

There are 75 drugs which are considered essential for mass consumption as per the Drug Price Control Order (DPCO), 1975.

(c) Bulk drugs and formulations are licensed by State Licensing Authorities. The latest edition of the Indian Pharmacopoeia under print contains monographs of 1152 bulk drugs and formulations.

SOLAR EMERGENCY PROJECTS IN RAJASTHAN

*217. **Shri Anand Ratna Maurya** :
Shri George Fernandes :

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received several proposals from National and International giants to establish solar energy projects in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to give some incentives/concessions to the projects being established in the region;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether some facilities are being given to Indian and foreign investors in the region; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) : (a) and (b) A proposal has been submitted by M/s. Amoco/

Enron Solar Power Development Corpn., and American company, for setting up solar photovoltaic power plants of an aggregate capacity of 150 MW in a phased manner on Build-Own Operate (B-O-O) basis in the desert region of Rajasthan. In a response to an advertisement, the Government of Rajasthan has also received in the establishment of a 35 MW solar thermal power project at Mathania in Jodhpur district.

(c) and (d) Incentives and concessions available from the Central Government for renewable energy projects will also be available to these projects. These include the facilities of 100% accelerated depreciation, tax holiday, soft loans, excise duty and customs duty concessions.

(e) and (f) The facilities for renewable energy projects are available to all eligible Indian and foreign investors.

[Translation]

CHILD SURVIVAL AND SAFE MATERNITY SCHEME

*218. **Dr. Amrit Lal Kalidas Patel** : Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the vaccines and quantity of medicines procured by the Union Government under the "child survival and safe maternity scheme" introduced with the World Bank assistance during the last two years; and

(b) the names of the States in which these vaccines and medicines have been distributed?

The Minister of Health and Family Welfare (Shri A.R. Antulay) : (a) Six vaccines, drug kits A & B, Iron and Folic acid tablets (large and small) and Oral Rehydration Salt packets were procured under the Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme. The quantities of medicines are given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) Details are in the **Statement-II** enclosed.

Statement-I

A. Quantities of Medicines Supplied to the States and Union Territories during the Last Two Years

Medicines	1993-94	1994-95
Drug Kit A	1,23,200 Kits	1,73,850 Kits
Drug Kit B	41,600	Not procured
Vitamin A	622.31 lakh doses	509.72 lakh doses
Iron and Folic acid tablets (large)	19954.20 lakh tablets	16569.78 lakh tablets
Iron and Folic acid tablets (small)	28983.72 lakh tablets	30631.28 lakh doses
Oral Rehydration Salt packets	1,93,88,000	220,54,500

Statement - II**B. Names of the States to which Vaccines and Medicines have been Distributed**

- (i) Vaccines, Iron & Folic Acid tablets (large and small) and Oral Rehydration Salt packets have been supplied to all States and UTs.

(ii)

Year	States and UTs which received Supply of Drugs Kits	Supply of
	Drug Kit A	Drug Kit B
1993-94	Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Delhi, Goa	Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal
1994-95	Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Delhi, Nagaland, Sikkim, Meghalaya.	Not procured

[English]

CEMENT PLANTS

***219. Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar :**
Shri Amar Pal Singh :

Will the **Minister of Industry** be pleased to state :

- (a) the annual rate of expansion of installed capacity of cement plants in the country since 1991;
- (b) whether the expansion has been as per the targets;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

The Minister of Industry (Shri K. Karunakaran) : (a) to (d) The details of year-wise installed capacity of cement industry and growth rate from 1990-91 to 1994-95 are given below :

Year	Installed Capacity (in million tonnes)	Growth Rate (Percentage)
1990-91	64	—
1991-92	66	3.13
1992-93	68	3.03
1993-94	73	7.58
1994-95	82	12.33

No specific target of installed capacity for cement has been fixed by the Government. The capacity expansion has been adequate to meet domestic demand and some cement is also being exported.

[Translation]

COMPENSATION LAND ACQUIRED

***220. Shri Prem Chand Ram :**
Shri Surya Narayan Yadav :

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state :

(a) whether payment of compensation has not been made to claimants so far for the land acquired by Air Force 15 years ago;

(b) if so, the names of places where this land has been acquired;

(c) whether land was also acquired in Kanpur District of Uttar Pradesh to construct a stadium;

(d) if so, the time by which payment of compensation is likely to be made to the claimants; and

(e) the details in this regard ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : (a) There is no such case where compensation has been withheld.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) While constructing the boundary wall for the Air Force Station, Kanpur, it was discovered that certain private lands had been erroneously occupied by the IAF. Based on a settlement reached with these land owners and on the recommendations of the Air Hqrs. a Govt. sanction was issued on 23rd May, 1984 for exchange of an equal extent of Air Force lands for the private lands erroneously occupied. Thus, no compensation is required to be paid in this case.

[English]

GULF TOURISM

1584. Shri Gopinath Gajapathi : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a vast scope for promoting gulf tourism to the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to increase the inflow of Gulf Tourists in the country and the outcome thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is good scope for promoting Gulf tourism to India for the following reasons :

- (i) Gulf tourists are traditionally fond of India. Both the countries have age-old cultural, trade and historical links.
- (ii) Gulf tourists travel mostly during summer months (April-June), which is India's off-season. This also helps us to increase our hotel occupancy in off-season and movement of summer traffic to various regions.
- (iii) Gulf tourists consider that India provides value for their money.
- (iv) The Gulf States are well connected by air from India and it needs only about four hours to reach most of the destinations in the Gulf Region.
- (v) The Gulf tourists are very fond of shopping and India offers an excellent opportunity for the same.

(c) The Department of Tourism has drawn up several plans to increase the inflow of Gulf tourists to India. These include aggressive advertising in print and electronic media, printing and distribution of publicity material in the local language, extending support to Tour Operators and Travel Agents, organising seminars and conferences, participation in travel and tourism fairs, food festivals, etc. The Department of Tourism has its Tourist Offices in Dubai and Bahrain. In view of the growing importance of the market, the office in Dubai has recently been upgraded to that of a Regional Director.

BELOW PERFORMANCE OF AIR-BUS A310-300

1585. Shri George Fernandes : Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General has given adverse remarks about Air India for below performance of its Air-bus A310-300 aircraft fleet and for the four of the six aircraft suffering corrosion on pressure panels incurring over Rs. 4 crore losses due to repair and extended grounding;

(b) if so, whether the Comptroller and Auditor General has also given adverse remarks against the airlines for below par utilisation of aircraft fleet as compared to industry utilisation World wide;

(c) if so, whether any follow-up action has been taken on observations made by C & AG; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) Report No. 12 (Commercial) of 1995 of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India contains remarks regarding loss of Rs. 3.98 crores (approx.) suffered by Air India due to corrosion of pressure panels of four A310-300 aircraft and lower utilisation of aircraft fleet compared to budgeted utilisation.

(c) and (d) Based on the legal advice obtained by Air India, the issue was taken up with Air-bus Industries and a credit of US\$ 240,000 was secured and an additional credit of US\$ 120,000 will be given at the time of purchase of additional aircraft.

With these credits, material cost of the pressure panel will stand fully recovered.

Lower fleet utilisation was caused by cancellation of flights owing to a variety of reasons. Air India is making efforts for improving the situation by induction to new aircraft and planned phasing out of older aircraft.

FLOW OF CREDIT TO SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

1586. Shri Paras Ram Bhardwaj : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Bank of India has been asked to review the progress of action plan announced by the Government in the budget regarding flow of credit to small scale industries; and

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

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) In my Budget Speech for 1995-96 it was inter alia, mentioned that the Government, in consultation with banks had formulated a 'Seven Point Action Plan' for improving flow of credit to small scale industries (SSIs). The Action Plan consists of the following points :

- (1) Time-bound action needs to be taken by banks for setting up of specialised SSI branches in 85 identified districts each with more than 2000 registered SSI units. These branches should have adequate infrastructure and be manned by officials having the necessary background and skills and possessing the right attitude.
- (2) The banks should review the existing delegation of powers at the branch and regional levels in order to facilitate timely sanction of adequate credit facilities to SSIs.
- (3) The banks should undertake sample surveys of their 'performing' SSI account with a view to find out whether they are getting adequate credit.
- (4) Steps to ensure that as far as possible composite loans are sanctioned to SSI entrepreneurs. In case of loans sanctioned by State Financial Corporations (SFCs), banks should appraise projects jointly of simultaneously with SFCs.
- (5) Banks should hold regular meetings with SSI

borrowers at the zonal and regional levels with a view to sort out their problems.

- (6) The banks should reorient their training programmes with a view to sensitise bank managers and increase their awareness regarding working of the SSI sector.
- (7) The banks should take steps to review procedural formalities working with a view to ensuring that procedures are simplified.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have already instructed public sector banks including State Bank of India (SBI) to take appropriate action for effective implementation of the points contained in the Action Plan.

ATTRACTION TOWARDS PRIVATE AIRLINES

1587. Dr. Vasant Niwruiti Pawar : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any decline in passengers traffic carried by public airlines during the last two years;
- (b) whether recurring strikes by Air India/Indian Airlines employees is driving air passengers to prefer private airlines; and
- (c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to attract passengers to national airlines ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) While the carriage of international traffic by Air India and Indian Airlines has not declined, the total number of passengers carried by Indian airlines has decreased to some extent. Details are as follows :

Year	Total Number of Passenger Carried by Indian Airlines
1992-93	7.821 Million
1993-94	7.891 Million
1994-95	7.635 million

(b) and (c) Private airlines have been able to attract passengers through various incentives, schemes and better quality of service etc. Air India and Indian Airlines are taking steps to improve their image, product and on-time performance.

RESERVE FUND OF BANKS

1588. Shri Syed Shahabuddin : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

- (a) the total amount in the reserve fund created under section 17(1) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 as on March 31, 1994 and March 31, 1995, bank-wise;
- (b) the reason for which this reserve fund has not been utilised to cover the losses arising from doubtful and bad debts since 1992-93; and
- (c) the total amount written-off as bad and doubtful debts

since April 1, 1992 upto March 31, 1995 by the public sector banks, bank-wise ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) As reported by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) information regarding bank-wise, amounts available in the reserve fund created under Section 17(1) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 for the year 1993-94 is given in the **Statement-I** enclosed.

(b) The information is being collected.

(c) The amounts of bad debts written off by public sector banks during the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 are given in the **Statement-II** enclosed.

Information for 1994-95 is being collected regarding parts (a) and (c).

Statement-I

Reserves of Public Sector Banks as on 31-3-94

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	Reserves
1.	State Bank of India	3637.79
2.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	47.66
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	116.78
4.	State Bank of Indore	29.32
5.	State Bank of Mysore	23.14
6.	State Bank of Patiala	236.02
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	46.76
8.	State Bank of Travancore	59.59
9.	Allahabad Bank	200.96
10.	Andhra Bank	55.20
11.	Bank of Baroda	601.65
12.	Bank of India	488.65
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	64.40
14.	Canara Bank	976.93
15.	Central Bank of India	421.79
16.	Corporation Bank	52.74
17.	Dena Bank	85.70
18.	Indian Bank	259.26
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	231.09
20.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	116.60
21.	Punjab National Bank	425.46
22.	Punjab & Sind Bank	68.66
23.	Syndicate Bank	175.69
24.	Union Bank of India	151.84
25.	United Bank of India	114.96
26.	UCO Bank	15.91
27.	Vijaya Bank	16.56

Statement-II**Amounts of Bad Dedts Actually Written Off**

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S1. Name of the Bank No.	31-3-92	31-3-93	31-3-94
1. Allahabad Bank	93.67	127.28	3584.00
2. Andhra Bank	47.11	80.51	1206.23
3. Bank of Baroda	14927.34	12027.43	20638.67
4. Bank of India	18882.12	17374.26	32846.78
5. Bank of Maharashtra	147.42	102.01	142.01
6. Canara Bank	3490.70	1492.37	3478.56
7. Central Bank of India	3627.56	197.70	7950.45
8. Corporation Bank	46.91	56.36	254.53
9. Dena Bank	622.78	1951.01	3707.01
10. Indian Bank	447.30	76.16	600.70
11. Indian Overseas Bank	89.88	419.25	461.09
12. Oriental Bank of Commerce	176.00	165.00	176.00
13. Punjab National Bank	111.61	258.24	367.00
14. Punjab & Sind Bank	1.10	0.09	Nil
15. Syndicate Bank	141.06	118.55	857.70
16. Union Bank of India	3531.30	4412.62	8236.90
17. United Bank of India	205.00	156.00	1182.00
18. UCO Bank	365.10	23.65	221.79
19. Vijaya Bank	213.70	304.23	451.26
20. State Bank of India	16570.00	69354.00	41559.00
21. State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	696.72	858.92	3241.67
22. State Bank of Hyderabad	19.00	356.00	503.00
23. State Bank of Mysore	65.04	221.59	5063.10
24. State Bank of Indore	388.88	86.15	636.00
25. State Bank of Patiala	12.00	60.00	1218.00
26. State Bank of Saurashtra	110.53	24.81	54.08
27. State Bank of Travancore	61.63	838.67	1564.47

*[Translation]***POLICY TO CHECK DRAIN OF MONEY BY MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES**

1589. Shri Surendra Pal Pathak : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are formulating any policy to monitor over functioning of multinational companies with a view to check the drain of money abroad;

(b) if so, the time by which decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) to (c) India has accepted the obligations of Article VIII of the IMF. Barring a few exceptions, the rupee is convertible on the current account. Therefore, restrictions on current account transactions cannot be imposed. Restrictions on capital account transactions continue to exist.

*[English]***FOREX MANAGEMENT REFORMS**

1590. Shri Manikrao Hodlya Gavit : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently decided that some public sector financial institutions should be given permission by the Reserve Bank of India to trade freely in foreign exchange as a part of the Reserve Bank of India's next phase of forex management reforms; and

(b) if so, the details regarding these financial institutions as well as the recommendations made by the experts in this regard ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) An Expert, Group on Forex Markets in India headed by Shri O.P. Sodhani, Executive Director, Reserve Bank of India, in its report submitted to RBI in June 1995, has recommended that the number of market participants in the forex market should be increased by permitting financial institutions like Industrial Development Bank of India, Industrial Finance Corporation of India, etc. to trade in the forex market. The recommendations made by the Group are under examination by Reserve Bank of India.

BANK BRANCHES IN KERALA

1591. Shri Mullappally Ramchandran : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether application for opening more branches of nationalised banks in Kerala are pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether any proposal for closure of certain branches of Nationalised Banks in Kerala is also under the consideration of the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :

(a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that no application for opening more branches of nationalised banks in Kerala is pending with RBI at present.

(c) and (d) There are no proposals with RBI from nationalised banks to close any of their branches in Kerala.

[Translation]

BANK LOAN TO SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES IN BIHAR

1592. Shri Lal Babu Rai : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of loan applications received by the nationalised banks in Bihar from the small scale industries during the last three years, the number of applications rejected therefrom and the amount of loan sanctioned in this regard;

(b) whether the banks had provided loan to the applicants/small scale industries in time to save them from turning sick;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :

(a) The data reporting system of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not generate information in the manner asked for. However, according to the latest available data furnished by RBI, loans disbursed by nationalised banks to small scale industrial (SST) units in the State of Bihar as at the end of June 1991, June 1992 and June 1993 were as under :

(Rs. in crores)

Year ending	No. of Accounts	Amount Disbursed
June 1991	19052	33.98
June 1992	22287	23.79
June 1993	13903	29.84

(b) to (d) RBI has issued instructions to all scheduled commercial banks that applications upto a credit limit of Rs. 25,000/- should be disposed of within a fortnight and those for over Rs. 25,000/- within 8-9 weeks from the date of receipt of application. Banks have also been advised that requests for increase in credit limits should be considered expeditiously and decision taken promptly and in any case within six weeks.

[English]

TAX HOLIDAY FOR BACKWARD AREAS

1593. Shri Harish Narayan Prabhu Zantye : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'Tax holiday for backward areas uncertainty forces firm to defer investments' appearing in the Indian Express on July 19, 1995;

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

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve the issues to ensure investment flow for industrial development ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :

(a) Yes, Sir.2

(b) and (c) The recommendations contained in the Report of the Study Group, submitted in October, 1994, are still under the consideration of the Government. Decision on the Report will be taken soon.

BASIC AMENITIES AT SAHAR AIRPORT

1594. Shri Ram Naik : Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the absence of basic/primary facilities like drinking water and clean toilets at the Sahar Airport, Mumbai;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) to (c) Adequate facilities of drinking water and clean toilets have been provided at Sahar airport, Bombay. It is the constant endeavour of the Airports Authority of India to improve the facilities at Sahar airport.

ACTION TAKEN ON JPC REPORT

1595. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal : Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 6427 dated 19th May, 1995 regarding Action Taken on Report of Joint Parliamentary Committee and state :

(a) whether the C.B.I. report has since been received by the Government;

(b) if so, the contents thereof; and

(c) the follow-up action being taken against those who are responsible for various irregularities ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) to (c) Investigation report from the Central Bureau of Investigation is awaited. Necessary

follow-up action will be taken after receipt of the investigation report.

[Translation]

BANK LOANS IN RAJASTHAN UNDER DRI

1596. Shri Kunjee Lal : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of loan provided by the nationalised banks in Rajasthan during 1993-94, scheme-wise; and

(b) the total amount earmarked for disbursement to the priority sector and the extent of amount of loan disbursed to the handloom weavers under Differential Rate of Interest scheme by each of the bank in Rajasthan during 1993-94 ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :

(a) The amount sanctioned and disbursed by the nationalised banks in the State of Rajasthan during 1993-94 under the various schemes, as reported by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), is as under :

	(Rs. In lakhs)	
	Sanctioned	Disbursed
Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana (PMRY)	375.70	179.37
Scheme for providing Self Employment to the Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY)	649.23	372.00
Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) (All Banks)	—	5710.59
Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME)	443.38	285.05
Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme	—	*159.00
		(*Data relate to 1992-93)
Scheme for Liberation & Rehabilitation of Scavengers (SLRS)	44.34	28.08

(b) As per the data collected by Bank of Baroda, Convenor, State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) for the State of Rajasthan, bank-wise position of priority sector advances and the advances under the Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme as on March, 1995 in Rajasthan is set out in the attached **Statement**. The existing data reporting system does not generate separate information in respect of the amount of loan granted to the handloom weavers under the DRI Scheme.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the Bank	Total priority Sector Advances	(Rs. in crores) Advances under the DRI Scheme
1	2	3	4
1.	State Bank of India	259.61	0.94

1	2	3	4
2.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	563.88	6.09
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	0.18	—
4.	State Bank of Indore	1.68	0.01
5.	State Bank Patiala**	3.63	0.02
6.	State Bank of Saurashtra**	0.96	—
7.	State Bank of Travancore*	1.82	—
8.	Allahabad Bank	18.98	0.10
9.	Andhra Bank	0.50	—
10.	Bank of Baroda	512.50	2.80
11.	Bank of India	50.40	0.18
12.	Bank of Maharashtra	2.74	0.05
13.	Canara Bank	23.92	0.23
14.	Corporation Bank*	0.36	—
15.	Central Bank of India	98.73	1.17
16.	Dene Bank*	12.40	0.01
17.	Indian Bank*	6.90	0.02
18.	Indian Overseas Bank*	9.53	0.02
19.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	59.64	0.42
20.	Punjab National Bank	301.66	4.19
21.	Punjab & Sind Bank	26.71	0.07
22.	Syndicate Bank*	7.32	0.02
23.	Union Bank of India	49.57	1.85
24.	United Bank of India	3.60	—
25.	UCO Bank*	90.05	1.25
26.	Vijaya Bank*	0.36	—
27.	Bank of Rajasthan Ltd.	168.63	0.11
28.	Vyasya Bank Ltd.	—	—
29.	Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.	1.54	—
30.	Federal Bank Ltd.	0.10	—
Total		2277.90	19.55

Note : * Figures as on December, 1994

** Figures as reported for September, 1994

[English]

HANDLOOM SECTOR

1597. Shri Sandipan Bhagwan Thorat : Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some

handloom units are not working for a long time but are receiving yarn from spinning mills under hank yarn obligations rule;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government against such handloom units ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) Spinning mills are required to fulfil their Hank Yarn Obligation and make available yarn in Hank form to the market through civil deliveries. The level of working of any handloom unit does not form basis for its receiving hank yarn from spinning mills.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

DEVELOPMENT OF JABALPUR AIRPORT

1598. Shri Sushil Chandra Varma : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to develop Jabalpur airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be completed ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) to (c) The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has plans to upgrade Jabalpur airport for Boeing-737/AB-320 operations. The project is held up due to resource constraints. However, necessary allocations would be made for the project is during the mid term review of Plan allocations of Airports Authority of India for 1995-96. The approximate expenditure for upgradation of the airport is Rs. 18 crores.

EXPORT OF MENTHOL AND MENTHOL OIL

1599. Major D.D. Khanoria : Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of menthol and menthol oil exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, country-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of menthol and menthol oil ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) The relevant figures as available are given below :

(Apr. '94—Feb. '95)

	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95	
	Q	V	Q	V	Q	V
Menthol	1126	29.08	1187	32.00	638	22.02
Menthol oil (Peppermint Oil)	1232	20.48	1132	19.81	1226	34.225

Country-wise details are available in the DGCT & S, Publication : "Foreign Trade Statistics of India" in the

Parliament Library.

(b) Export of menthol and menthol oil is promoted by the Government through the means of market development assistance, exchange of delegation, buyers sellers meet, participation in trade fairs and liberalisation in the policy and procedures.

EXPANSION OF RAJAHMUNDRY AIRPORT

1600. Dr. K.V.R. Chowdary : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for the expansion of Rajahmundry Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

PRICE OF COFFEE

1601. Shri Yellaiah Nandi : Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated July 22, 1995 under caption Coffee prices unlikely to come down;

(b) If so, the details of the facts thereof;

(c) whether there is any dispute between the Coffee Board and the coffee planters for providing remunerative price for their produce in comparison to the open market;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Coffee Board has reduced the price of coffee powder sold through its retail outlets. However, Coffee Board does not control the price of coffee sold through private retail outlets. Some coffee growers appear to have expressed disappointment about the initial payment made to coffee growers who pooled their coffee. However, this is only an initial payment and the final price for coffee which is pooled is based upon a well established formula.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

GODOWNS OF BANK OF BARODA

1602. Shri Ashok Anandrao Deshmukh : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of godowns in the possession of the Bank of Baroda in Delhi and the amount of money being spent as rent in each of the cases;

(b) whether most of these godowns are not in use by the bank presently;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether several representations/requests from MPs/individuals for getting such godowns vacated have been received by the bank and the Ministry during last about one year;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Bank Authority thereto; and

(f) the stage at which the matter of vacating each of the premises in Delhi stands at present and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken thereof ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) Bank of Baroda have reported that they have four premises in Delhi which are being used as godowns. The monthly rent payable are Rs. 600, Rs. 1040.60, Rs. 2750.00 and 220.00.

(b) The Bank has reported that these premises are being used for storing bank's records.

(c) Does not arise in view or reply to (b) above.

(d) to (f) Bank of Baroda have received representations/requests for vacation of premises at 1501, Bhagirath Place, Chandni Chowk, Delhi. At present, the bank has no proposal for vacating the above premises. However, bank is examining the landlady's request for increase in the rent.

UNAUTHORISED TEA GARDENS IN WEST BENGAL

1603. Shri Amar Roypradhan : Will the **Minister of commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are a number of unauthorised tea gardens in the districts of north Dinajpur, Coochbehar, Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons for treating these tea gardens as unauthorised by the Government of West Bengal;

(c) whether the shares by these tea gardens had been flouted in open market on the recommendation of Tea Board ; and

(d) if so, the details of such tea gardens who have flouted shares in the open market and by whom the permission to flout shares to these tea gardens have been granted ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected from the Govt. of West Bengal etc. and will be laid on the Table of the House.

BANK BRANCHES IN MAHARASHTRA

1604. Shri Anna Joshi : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bank branches of nationalised banks in Maharashtra, bank-wise;

(b) the amount deposited in these branches and the amount sanctioned and disbursed to the farmers during the last three years, bank-wise;

(c) whether the nationalised banks have achieved the target fixed in regard to sanctioning of loans;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps in this regard; and

(e) the amount realised from the farmers during the said period ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :

(a) As per information provided by Bank of Maharashtra (the convenor Bank for the State of Maharashtra) the bank-wise number of branches of nationalised banks in Maharashtra is given in the **Statement** enclosed.

(b) to (e) The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Bank-wise Number of Nationalised Banks in Maharashtra

(As on 31st December, 1994)

S. No.	Name of the Bank	No. of Branches
1.	Bank of Maharashtra	855
2.	Bank of Baroda	266
3.	Bank of India	529
4.	Punjab National Bank	140
5.	Canara Bank	155
6.	Central Bank of India	472
7.	Indian Bank	65
8.	UCO Bank	114
9.	Indian Overseas Bank	60
10.	Union Bank of India	304
11.	Syndicate Bank	133
12.	Allahabad Bank	76
13.	United Bank of India	28
14.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	30
15.	Andhra Bank	25
16.	Dena Bank	254
17.	Punjab & Sind Bank	22
18.	Vijaya Bank	54
19.	Corporation Bank	39

POWERLOOM SECTOR

1605. Shrimati Vasundhara Raje : Will the **Minister of Textiles** be pleased to state :

- whether the Government are aware of the problems of powerloom sector;
- whether proper attention is not being paid to resolve their problems;
- if so, the reasons therefor; and
- the steps taken for the development of the powerloom sector and export of powerloom products ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government of India have introduced few schemes for the upliftment and welfare of the powerloom workers. Powerloom Service Centres have been opened in areas of powerloom concentration to impart training to weavers, provide technical consultancy, develop designs, provide testing facilities etc. The Government has also introduced a Group Insurance Scheme for the Powerloom Weavers in association with the Life Insurance Corporation of India. Seven Computer Aided Design Centres have been sanctioned by Government which will help to upgrade the existing quality and design of cloth produced by the decentralised Powerloom Sector.

The Government has also new approved setting up of a Powerloom Development and Export Promotion Council for the Powerloom sector.

SCHEME FOR EDUCATION OF BEEDI WORKERS CHILDREN

1606. Shri R. Surender Reddy : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

- whether the Government has formulated an incentive innovative scheme for the girl children of beedi workers in the country;
- if so, the details thereof indicating the time by which the scheme is likely to be introduced and the expenditure likely to be involved in the scheme;
- the other welfare scheme presently operational for the education of the children of beedi workers in different beedi manufacturing States and the expenditure involved in these schemes; and
- the outcome of these schemes ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) The Labour Welfare Organisation are formulating a scheme for payment of Rs. 1/- for every day of attendance in school beyond primary stage by female child of Beedi Workers.

(b) The scheme is likely to be introduced during the current financial year. It is estimated that the scheme will cost approximately Rs. 70 lakhs per year to start with.

(c) and (d) A **Statement** is attached.

Statement

Details of scheme for extending financial assistance for education of children of Beedi Workers are given below :

- Scheme for Award of Scholarship under Beedi/Iron Ore, Manganese Ore, Chrome Ore Mines/ Limestone and Dolomi Mines/Cine Workers Welfare Fund.
- (a) Rates of scholarship are awarded at the following rates per student per year.
- | | | |
|-----------|---|-----------------|
| Group I | Class V & VI | Rs. 250/- p.a. |
| Group II | Class VII, VIII, IX & X | Rs. 450/- p.a. |
| Group III | Class XI, XII, I.A., I.Sc.
(All pre-graduation courses where admission is open for students who qualified in Xth Std.) | Rs. 700/- p.a. |
| Group IV | Graduation and Post Graduation, Degree courses in Arts, Science and Commerce. | Rs. 1000/- p.a. |
| Group V | M.B.B.S., B.E., B.Sc. (Agri.) and other Degree level Technical Courses, Research and Doctrate Studies. | Rs. 3000/- p.a. |

(ii) Eligibility :

- Either of the parents of the students should be Beedi Worker or a mine worker in Iron Ore/ Manganese Ore/Chrome Ore Mines, Limestone and Dolomite or Mica Mines or a Cine Workers for six months at least. This would also include contract labourers.
- Total income of both the parents of the students from all sources should not exceed Rs. 3500/- p.m. including all allowances.
- The applicant must have passed the last qualifying examination securing at least 45% of marks in aggregate. However, in case of children belonging to Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribes, the minimum marks to be obtained will be 35%.

(iii) Reservation

- For the students belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe there shall be a reservation on the basis of percentage of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes population in the district concerned, subject to the condition that it would not be less than 15% for Scheduled Caste and 7.5% for Scheduled Tribe. Coverage for female students should be enlarged and efforts should be made to ensure 50% coverage overall, for female students and to cover all children belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe who have passed the last qualifying examination.

2. Scheme of purchase à dress, Slates, Text Books for children of Beedi Workers, Mine Workers of Limestone and Dolomite Mines, Iron Ore/Manganese Ore/Chrome Ore Mines and Mica Mines.

A sum of Rs. 125/- is paid to each school going child of Mine/Beedi Workers studying in class Ist to IVth. Reservation for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe students on the basis of percentage of SC/ST population in the district concerned subject to the condition that in would not be less than 15% for Scheduled Caste and 7.5% for Scheduled Tribe. A 50% reservation overall has been accepted for female students.

3. Scheme to pay incentive to the wards of Beedi/Mine/Cine Workers on the basis of percentage of marks obtained by them on passing final examination conducted by the Board/University from class X onwards for implementation w.e.f. 1.04.1995.

Rates of incentives sanction from class X onwards

	Ist Division (60% above)	IInd Division (50% above)	Pass (Below 50%)
(a) High School	500/-	350/-	250/-
(b) Plus 2/Industrial Trade Certificate (ITI)	750/-	500/-	350/-
(c) Graduation/ 3-years Prof. Diploma	1000/-	750/-	500/-
(d) Prof. Degree (BE/MBBS/B. Arch. etc.)	2000/-	1500/-	1000/-

Expenditure and Beneficiaries benefitted during last three years in respect of Educational Schemes (Scholarship and financial assistance for Books, Slates and Dress)

Years	Beneficiaries	Expenditure (in lakhs)
1992-93	76580	179.31
1993-94	119904	389.00
1994-95	198468	663.84

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRIAL UNITS OF KERALA

1607. Shri Thayil John Anjalose : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of Industrial units lying closed for want of financial assistance in Kerala at Present;
- (b) whether the State Government has requested the

Union Government for Central assistance to review these units;

(c) if so, the amount of assistance sanctioned or proposed to be sanctioned by the Union Government for this purpose;

(d) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India and some other banks have also proposed to provide financial assistance to these units; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :

(a) to (e) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as at the end of March, 1994, 26 non-SSI sick/weak industrial units were lying closed in the State of Kerala involving credit outstanding of Rs. 90.12 crores by banks.

Detailed guidelines have been issued by RBI regarding formulation and implementation of rehabilitation packages in respect of sick/weak units found potentially viable for their revival. Rehabilitation packages inter alia, provide for funding of existing dues of banks and financial institutions with extended period for repayment (7 to 10 years) thereof in a phased manner, interest concessions, grant of fresh term loan as also fresh working capital facilities. As regards non-SSI sick industrial companies, the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), a quasi-judicial body set up under Sick Industrial Companies (Special provisions) Act, 1985 has been adequately empowered to take necessary action for determination to preventive, ameliorative remedial and other measures for the rehabilitation of sick units and expeditious enforcement of such measures where a scheme for rehabilitation of a company is sanctioned by the BIFR, banks/financial institutions provide facilities including reliefs/concessions in terms of the sanctioned scheme.

[Translation]

EXTERNALLY AIDED PROJECTS

1608. Shri Vilasrao Nagnathrao Gundewar :
Shri Phool Chand Verma :

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the projects being run under construction at present with the assistance of foreign countries alongwith the names of the countries extending assistance;

(b) whether the execution of these projects have been reviewed recently;

(c) if so, the details of the projects which are running behind schedule, project-wise;

(d) the reasons for delay in completion of those project; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the work on those projects to avoid further delay ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :

(a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

EXPORT OF CARPETS

1609. Shri Bhogendra Jha : Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the activities of some foreign organisations proving detrimental to the export of Indian carpets in the name of child labour;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to hold in depth enquiry to have facts based assessment against such organisation ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) :
(a) and (b) Certain Non-Government Organisations abroad have been focussing on an exaggerated picture of child labour in the carpet industry in India, this has not so far affected the increase in the value of carpet exports from the country.

(c) Question does not arise.

ALTERNATIVE ECONOMIC SURVEY

1610. Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether some leading Economists and other experts have called for building a consensus on the kind of globalisation suited to India's interests taking lessons from Mexico, China and India's own past;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of the alternative economic survey submitted by them; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :
(a) and (b) Public Interest Research Group has brought out an Alternative Economic Survey under the title "the State of India's Economy", 1994-95. As per the Report, stabilisation and adjustment programmes have led to a decline in the rate of economic growth associated with an increase in unemployment and worsening of poverty and continuing inflation. It claims that improvement in balance of payments is illusory. It also criticises foreign investment proposals in power, petroleum and telecommunications, the manner of public sector disinvestment, increase in procurement prices, adverse impact on environment etc.

(c) The Government does not agree with the observations made by the authors in the Report. On the contrary, significant improvements have taken place in all sectors of the economy in the post reform period. The overall economic growth in terms of real GDP has improved from 0.9 per cent in 1991-92 to 4.3 per cent in each of the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and is estimated to be about 5.5 per cent in 1994-95. Industrial production which virtually stagnated in 1991-92 has increased by 8.4 per cent in 1994-95. Foodgrain production which had

declined to 168 million tonnes in 1991-92 is estimated to be about 190 million tonnes in 1994-95. The additional employment generation has improved from 3 million in 1991-92 to 6 million on an average per year in 1992-93 and 1993-94 and more than 7 million in 1994-95. The annual increase in the stock of external debt declined from \$ 8.1 billion in 1990-91 to \$ 0.7 billion in 1993-94. The rate of inflation which peaked at almost 17% during August-September, 1991 has declined to 7.7% as on 22nd July, 1995. The Government has also introduced several structural reforms in the infrastructure sector to attract private investment including foreign investment. However, recognising that fruits of growth will take some time to reach some of the poorest and weakest sections of our society and to ensure that they too derive benefit in the short run, the Government has given the highest priority to strengthening programmes of rural development, employment generation, primary education, primary health and other key social sectors programmes.

VOCATIONAL COURSE BY GENERAL INSURANCE CORPORATION

1611. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that General Insurance Corporation has ruined the career prospects of Four Hundred students pursuing vocational courses as reported in "Indian Express" dated July 9, 1995;

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken of proposed to be taken in the matter; and

(c) the efforts being made to ensure that vocational courses are made actually job-oriented ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :
(a) and (b) The Government are aware of the allegations made in the newspaper report. The General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) have reported that the action to verify the relevant documents of eligible students of the V Batch, has already been initiated and after satisfactory completion of the interview, the candidates will be placed as 'Apprentice Assistants' in the general insurance industry.

(c) The GIC have reported that they found it difficult to absorb a large number of student passouts every year on a continuing basis indefinitely. Therefore, the job guarantee has been discontinued with effect from the academic year 1993-94. The successful students in the vocational course hereafter could compete with other eligible candidates under the recruitment procedure prescribed by the GIC, for the post of 'Assistant' in the general insurance industry.

[Translation]

EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

1612. Shri Khelan Ram Jangde : Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state :

(a) the export potential of agricultural products during the

remaining period of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the difficulties being faced in taking advantage of above export potential; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remove these difficulties ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) The export projection for agricultural commodities including coffee, tea, raw cotton and marine products during the remaining period of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) at 1991-92 prices are as follows :

Year	Export Projection (Rs. in Crore)
1995-96	— 11030
1996-97	— 12064

(b) The international market for basic agricultural foodstuffs viz. cereals, dairy products, meat and sugar is constrained by not only tariff and non-tariff barriers but also by the massive export subsidies granted by the USA, EEC, etc. Lack of infrastructural facilities (like air cargo facilities not keeping pace, inadequate shipping/cold storage facilities), high air freight rates and lack of vapour treatment facilities are the major constraints hampering export of agricultural commodities.

(c) The removal of non-tariff barriers and reduction of subsidies in the industrialised countries under the Uruguay Round Final Act are expected to open up new market opportunities for countries like India.

Under a Scheme for Development of Infrastructure, the Government is providing financial assistance to eligible exporters for (i) purchase of specialised transport units, (ii) establishment of pre-cooling facilities, (iii) setting up of mechanised post harvest handling facilities and sheds for grading, sorting, quality control and packaging, (iv) establishing vapour heat treatment/fumigation/screening machines for exports; and (v) establishing cold stores at airports/seaports for export purposes.

Other measures to increase exports include market development campaigns abroad and intensification of product development efforts in the country.

INVESTMENT IN HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

1613. Shri Amar Pal Singh :
Shri Dattatraya Bandaru :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether investment for human resource development is the key to sustained economic growth and sustainable development as well as balanced and sustainable population growth as per the United Nations Population Fund;

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

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

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

BANK FRAUD UNEARTHED BY C.B.I.

1614. Dr. R. Mallu : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "CBI unearths Rs. 90 lakh bank fraud" appearing in the "Pioneer" dated March 31, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The investigation conducted by Central Bank of India had revealed that certain lapses/irregularities were committed by the then Branch Manager, Nizamuddin Branch, New Delhi and Regional Manager, New Delhi region in sanction and conduct of borrowal accounts of M/s. Chabra Textile Mills and M/s. Anchal Silk and Sarees. These officials are reported to have shown undue favour to the firms by recommending adhoc/higher limits and by allowing certain other facilities despite existence of several adverse features in the conduct of the accounts. The bank had already filed suits for recovery of its dues. CBI have registered two cases against 5 officials of the bank and some private persons in the matter.

CONCESSION TO COFFEE GROWERS

1615. Shri Gurudas Kamat : Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the concessions granted to coffee growers have been withdrawn;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation from the coffee growers against the withdrawal of concessions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) No, Sir. No concessions have been withdrawn recently.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

**REVIVAL OF INDIAN IRON AND
STEEL COMPANY LIMITED**

1616. Shri D. Venkateswara Rao :
Shri Bolla Bulli Ramaiah :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has expressed its willingness to give Rs.1100 crore budgetary support for the revival of the sick Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the stage at which the revival plan stands at present ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited was registered as a sick company with it on 30-6-94 and declared sick under section 3(1)(0) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. No rehabilitation proposal in respect of the company has yet been approved by the BIFR.

[Translation]

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO STATES BY NABARD

1617. Dr. Mumtaz Ansari : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the financial assistance provided by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development during 1994-95, State-wise; and

(b) the details of the amount sanctioned by this bank for 1995-96, state-wise ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) The total refinance under schematic lending provided by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) in 1994-95 was Rs. 3010.77 crores. An allocation of Rs. 3050 crores has been made for the year 1995-96.

NABARD also provided limits under short term (Seasonal Agricultural Operations) to State Co-operative Banks and Regional Rural Banks to the extent of Rs. 4627 crores in the year 1994-95 (July-June).

State-wise details are being collected and to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

(English)

MEHTA COMMITTEE REPORT

1618. Sh. M.V.V.S. Murthy : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the recommendation submitted by the Mehta Committee to the Government;

(b) the reaction of the Government to each of these recommendations; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to implement these recommendations ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

BOARD OF ARBITRATION

1619. Shri Balraj Passi : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of cases are pending before the Board of Arbitration for adjudication since long;

(b) if so, the number of cases pending for adjudication for more than three years;

(c) whether any time frame is prescribed for the disposal of cases referred to the said Board;

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to prescribe or fix any time-schedule for their speedy disposal; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) and (b) Out of a total of 32 reference cases pending before the Board of Arbitration as on 1-8-1995, 10 are pending for more than 3 years.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) The JCM scheme does not prescribe any time limit for disposal of cases by the Board of Arbitration.

[English]

INSPECTION AND ACTION UNDERTAKEN BY SEBI

1620. Shrimati Girija Devi : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India has undertaken inspection of UTI and other mutual Funds to protect the investors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken on Limaye Panel report which went into the reasons for the M.S. shoes rebated default at the Bombay stock exchange in March, 1995; and

(d) the action taken against SBI capital Markets for its alleged role in this regard ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) SEBI has undertaken inspection of UTI and 5 Mutual Funds, namely SBI Mutual Fund, GIC Mutual Fund, BOI Mutual Fund, J.M. Mutual Fund and LIC Mutual Fund with effect from 28th June, 1995. These inspections are being carried out by audit firms selected from the panel of auditors approved by RBI.

(c) The Committee of Public Representatives (Limaye Committee), which went into the question of default by a Bombay Stock Exchange broker in connection with the M.S. Shoes East Ltd., case held that the Executive Director of the Stock Exchange was substantially

responsible for the default. As a consequence, the Executive Director has resigned and his resignation has been accepted.

(d) An inquiry has been undertaken by SEBI for alleged non-diligence by SBI Capital Markets in handling the composite issue of M.S. Shoes.

EXPORT POTENTIALITIES

1621. Shri S. S. R. Rajendra Kumar :
Shri Rampal Singh :

Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any study to find out the export potentialities particularly labour-intensive products to South Africa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) and (b) It is primarily for the trade and business organisations of India and South Africa to identify items for export and import from each other depending on their requirements and the competitiveness of the goods. However, it is expected that the probable items of export from India to South Africa including labour intensive products will include : Cotton Yarn, fabric made-ups, leather, readymade garments of cotton including accessories, manmade Yarn, fabrics, madeups, machinery & instruments, manufactures of metals, drugs, pharmaceuticals & fine chemicals, handicrafts (excluding handmade carpets), readymade garments of manmade fibres, inorganic, organic agro chemicals and readymade garments of wool.

REGIONAL OFFICE OF SBI IN BIHAR

1622. Shri Suraj Mandal : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to open regional office of State Bank of India in the Jharkhand area of Bihar; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to start functioning ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) State Bank of India has intimated that it already has a fully functional Zonal Office at Ranchi which controls five Regions falling within the Jharkhand Area.

[Translation]

NEW AIRPORTS IN BIHAR

1623. Shri Surya Narayan Yadav : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up new airports in Bihar keeping in view fewer airports there as compared to other States;

(b) if so, whether these airports are proposed to be set up in border districts of North Bihar also; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

MURDERS IN ITDC HOTELS

1624. Shri Janardan Misra :
Shri Phool Chand Verma :

Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incidents of murder are increasing in the hotels run by India Tourism Development Corporation particularly in Delhi;

(b) if so, the facts thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to take special measures to check such incidents in these hotels;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. During the last three calendar years (1992, 1993 and 1994), one murder has taken place in ITDC's hotels, when on 13-7-92 a guest was murdered in Lodi Hotel, New Delhi.

(c) to (e) The Security measures have been strengthened by ITDC in their hotels keeping in view the increase in crimes/terrorist activities in general.

[English]

REDUCTION IN THE POSTS OF JOINT SECRETARY AND ABOVE

1625. Shri S. M. Laljan Basha :
Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had conducted any survey earlier to reduce the number of posts of Joint Secretary and above in the Government of India; and

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

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) In pursuance of the decision announced by the Prime Minister to reduce posts by atleast 10 per cent, it has been decided that 246 posts at the level of Joint Secretary, 9 posts of the level of Additional Secretary and 11 posts of the level of Secretary should be surrendered. These posts are being abolished, or kept in abeyance, as and when they are falling vacant.

JUTE CORPORATION OF INDIA

1626. Shri Birsingh Mahato :
Shri Rabi Ray :
Shri Chitta Basu :

Will the **Minister of Textiles** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Jute Corporation of India has decided

to reduce its work force by 25 per cent by June;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) to (c) With a view to improving its functioning and streamlining its establishment, the JCI has decided of rationalisation of its workforce by 25% by June, 1996 through retirement/attrition in the normal course VRS etc.

FIFTH PAY COMMISSION

1627. Shri Anand Ratna Maurya : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the progress made by the Fifth Pay Commission in preparing its reports;

(b) whether any committee of all the Ministries has also been constituted to fix the salaries etc. and whether the Commission is getting suggestions from this Committee;

(c) if so, the details of the various Pay-Scales submitted by the Commission for approval;

(d) the time by which these new pay-scales are likely to be implemented; and

(e) the decisions taken in regard to the other allowances given to the Government employees ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) The Fifth Pay Commission have already processed 16932 memoranda out of 17930 memoranda received from individuals, employees' Unions and Associations. The remaining memoranda and replies received to a general Questionnaire issued to over 5500 persons are under process. The Commission has also started taking Oral Evidence of various staff Unions and Associations.

(b) The Commission has set up 20 Groups comprising representatives of various Ministries/Departments for examining pay and allowances and other service conditions, besides entrusting specific studies to 18 consultancy agencies.

(c) The Commission has not yet formulated any final recommendations on pay scales and allowances.

(d) and (e) The questions do not arise, at this stage.

[Translation]

VIOLATION OF CODE OF CONDUCT FOR REGULARISING WAGES

1628. Shri Ram Prasad Singh : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) the action which is taken by the Government in cases relating to violation of prescribed code of conduct for regularising wages under Industrial Relations and Exploitation of Labourers;

(b) the total number of cases in which the code of conduct for regularising wages have been detected during

the last three years in the country; and

(c) the action taken against such officials working against Labourers ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) to (c) Wages in the organised sector are fixed through bipartite wage negotiations and wage settlements, while wages in the un-organised sector are fixed/revised under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Central Government as well as the State Governments are the appropriate Governments for fixation/revision of minimum rates of wages for the scheduled employments falling under their respective jurisdictions. The Act also provide for the setting up of enforcement machinery to seek compliance with the provisions of the Act. The enforcement machinery conducts regular inspection and necessary action is taken whenever any violation of the provisions of the Act comes to their notice.

Under the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, industrial disputes relating to wages etc. are taken up for conciliation by the Industrial Relations Machinery and, if necessary, referred to the appropriate Industrial Tribunal/Labour Court for adjudication.

AIR LINK TO BUDDHIST PILGRIMAGE CENTRES

1629. Shri Rampal Singh :
Shri Vijoy Kumar Yadav :

Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to Airlink Buddhist Pilgrimage centres; and

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

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) Stations like Patna, Varanasi, Lucknow which are close to the Buddhist Pilgrim Centres are already air-linked by Indian Airlines. Private airlines are also permitted to operate services to any of the notified airports, which include the major Buddhist Centre, Gaya.

[English]

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON RURAL LABOUR

1630. Shri Prakash V. Patil : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Commission on Rural Labour has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of major observations/recommendations made therein;

(c) the action taken by the Government on various major recommendations involving action by Central/State authorities recommendation-wise;

(d) the reasons for delay in implementation of the

recommendations made by the Commission; and

(e) the specific steps taken by the Government during the last three years for improving the conditions of unorganised working force ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A **Statement** is annexed.

(d) The report submitted by the Commission contained a large number of recommendations having major implications and far-reaching consequences, which required

in-depth examination and extensive consultation with the concerned Ministries/Departments and the State Governments. As such it would not be correct to say that there has been delay in implementation of the recommendations of the Commission.

(e) Among the measures taken for improving the living and working conditions of unorganised labour include improvement of infra-structural facilities in the rural areas, intensified developmental programmes, substantial increase in outlays for Rural Development during the VIIIth Plan and stricter enforcement of labour legislation.

Statement

Recommendations of the NCRL	Action taken
1	2
(i) Free and compulsory education for all children upto the age of 14	So far 14 States and 4 Union Territories have enacted laws to make primary education compulsory. Several State Governments have also implemented incentive schemes for provision of free text books, uniform and mid-day meals.
(ii) Prohibition of child labour in all occupations and processes	The Government stands committed to total elimination of child labour in all occupations and processes eventually. Following up on the call given by the Prime Minister on 15th August, 1994 in his Independence Day speech that large number of children engaged in hazardous employments should be taken out of them in next 4-5 years, a major programme for total elimination of child labour from hazardous employments by the year 2000 A.D. with an outlay of Rs. 850 crores has been prepared.
(iii) A "National Credit Fund for Women" for poor women so that they could get credit without any collateral security upto a specified financial limit	'Rashtriya Mahila Kosh' has been set up in March, 1993 with a corpus of Rs. 31 crores to meet credit needs of poor women in the unorganised sector through short and medium term loans routed through NGOS.
(iv) Fixation of a National basic minimum wage of Rs. 20/- per day at December, 1990 prices and a provision for increase of wages automatically every six months on the basis of rise in the Consumer Price Index (CPI)	The recommendation was discussed in the Labour Ministers' Conference in 1992. Most of the State Governments have since implemented the recommendation.
(v) Self-employment programmes like IRDP by linking them to area development plans to be formulated by the elected institutions within the scheme of decentralisation.	Area development approach is being followed.
(vi) Ban of labour-displacing mechanisation in agriculture, like the use of combine harvesters	It has been opined that mechanisation improves productivity of land and labour, conserves inputs, removes drudgery of workers and opens more employment opportunities. Hence the ban on such machines is not considered desirable.
(vii) A more concerted policy to assist and provide relief to the migrant labour	A proposal to amend the Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act, 1979 to make the law more effective and worker friendly inter-alia incorporating the recommendations of NCRL is at an advanced stage of consideration. The concerned departments have already been advised for providing welfare amenities to the migrant labour.

1	2
(viii) Credit for consumption to rural labour families at lower rate of interest	Under RBI guidelines, banks are providing consumption loans for purposes like medical treatment, education, funerals, births and marriages. Under DRI scheme, finance is made available at concessional rate of interest to economically weaker sections and SC/ST borrowers.
(ix) Easier accessibility of institutional credit to rural labour households through Cooperative Banks	RBI guidelines contain liberalised margins and security norms for Priority Sector Lending (in the agricultural sector, to village artisans, IRDP, DRI beneficiaries and SC/STs) where collateral security is not insisted upon, 40% of total credit is required to be extended to priority sector out of which at least 18% is meant for direct finance to agriculture sector.
(x) Right to work as a Fundamental Right with certain qualifications and an Employment Guarantee Act to implement this	In view of economic constraints it has not been considered possible to provide Right to work as Fundamental Right. An Employment Assurance Scheme to provide for 100 days manual work has been launched w.e.f. 2nd October, 1993. Some State Governments like Maharashtra are implementing Employment Guarantee Scheme.
(xi) A comprehensive Central legislation for agricultural labour providing for their protection/welfare	In a meeting of State Labour Ministers and Secretaries taken by Union Labour Minister on 17th & 18th May, 1995 a general consensus on the need for Central legislation for agricultural workers emerged. It was opined that sufficient flexibility had to be provided to the State Governments to implement the legislation according to the prevalent local conditions. Follow up action is in hand.
(xii) A National Commission for Bonded Labour functioning as a quasi-judicial Authority to oversee and monitor the implementation of the Bonded Labour System. (Abolition) Act, 1976	In a meeting of State Labour Ministers and Secretaries taken by Union Labour Minister on 17th & 18th May, 1995, it was felt that in view of the prevailing system in respect of Bonded Labour, particularly in the context of setting up of the National Human Rights Commission, there was no need for a separate Commission on Bonded Labour.
(xiii) Land Tribunals at the local level for speedy disposal of land reforms cases.	While generally supporting the recommendation, it is felt that since land is a State subject, changes in the area have to be brought about by appropriate legislative measures by the respective State Government.
(xiv) Active involvement of the Panchayati Raj institutions in the implementation of various recommendations of the NCRL	The recommendation has been brought to the notice of concerned Ministries/Departments and State Governments.
(xv) A separate Department of rural labour at the Centre and in the States with an independent Directorate of rural labour in the States to deal with all aspects of rural labour	The Ministry of Rural Development at the Centre has been renamed Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment with broader field of activities. The recommendation has been brought to the notice of State Governments. Some State like Gujarat already have separate Department for rural labour.

[Translation]

PARTICIPATION IN FOREIGN TRADE FAIR

1631. Shri Brahmanand Mandal : Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of the Indian entrepreneurs participating in the foreign trade fair has increased during each of the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) and (b) The details of the Indian entrepreneurs who participated in Trade Fairs abroad, during the last three years, as furnished by the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO), the apex Public Sector body concerned with organisation of fairs abroad, are given below :

Year	Total No. of foreign fairs	Total No. of participants
1992-93	43	1304
1993-94	42	975
1994-95	34	1162

As seen from the above figures there was a decline in number of participants in foreign fairs during the year 1993-94 as compared to the figures for the year 1992-93. However, taking into account the number of fairs organised by ITPO during 1994-95, there was an increase in number of participants during this year as compared to the preceding two years. The increase or decrease in the number of participants in the fair is dependent on the scope of fairs/exhibitions in terms of geographical coverage, product, services and technology range etc.

[English]

T.B. AND CANCER AMONG BEEDI WORKERS

1632. Shri Harilal Nanji Patel : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of incidents of T.B. and Cancer among the Beedi workers of Gujarat State and how does it compare with All India average of percentage of incidence of such diseases; and

(b) the number of hospitals opened for the Beedi workers with the details of their locations and capacity in the State ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) No specific information is reported to be available on the incidence of T.B. and Cancer among Beedi Workers in Gujarat.

(b) No hospital has so far been set up for Beedi Workers in Gujarat. However, there are 6 dispensaries for Beedi Workers in Gujarat. A statement showing the places at which Beedi Workers dispensaries have been set up in Gujarat is annexed.

Statement

Bhilwara Region

State-Gujarat

1. Static-cum-Mobile Dispensary, Patan Distt. Patan.
2. Static-cum-Mobile Dispensary, Vadnagar Distt. Mehansana.
3. Static-cum-Mobile Dispensary, Sarsa Distt. Kheda.
4. Static-Dispensary, Ahmedabad, Distt. Ahmedabad.
5. Static-Dispensary, Borsad, Distt. Kaira.
6. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Palanpur, Distt. Mehansana.

STAMP PAPER

1633. Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad :
Shri Tara Singh :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the annual production of stamp papers in the country;

(b) whether there is shortage of stamp papers in the country;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures, the Government propose to take to meet the shortage of stamp papers ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) to (c) The present production capacity of Stamp Papers in India Security Press, Nasik and Security Printing Press, Hyderabad, together is only 10.6 crores as against a demand of 28.5 crores per year.

(d) Steps have been initiated to augment the production capacity.

IDLE WORKERS IN NTC MILLS

1634. Shri B. L. Sharma 'Prem' : Will the **Minister of Textiles** be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of idle workers as on date in the mills run by National Textile Corporation, State-wise;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) the expenses incurred on them; and

(d) the steps taken to reduce this idle labour ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) to (d) On account of obsolete machinery, excess manpower, high cost of raw materials and acute shortage of working capital, in some of the mills there is total/partial cessation of activities leading to payment of idle wages. A Statement is enclosed indicating the State-wise details of number of idle workers and the amount of idle wages paid for the month of June, 1995.

Government have approved a revised Turn Around Strategy for NTC mills involving modernisation of 79 mills at a cost of Rs. 2005.72 crores, restructuring of 36

unviable mills into 18 viable mills, rationalisation of surplus work force through VRS. The revised Turn Around Strategy has been placed before the IFR for its approval, since 8 out of 9 subsidiaries of NTC have been referred to and declared sick by the BIFR. The implementation of Turn Around Plan will make the mills viable by employing the workers gainfully.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the State	No. of idle workers	Idle wages paid (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Delhi	805	26.50
2.	Punjab	2214	64.00
3.	Rajasthan	1575	42.15
4.	Uttar Pradesh	9394	275.47
5.	Maharashtra	16728	646.75
6.	Madhya Pradesh	7435	240.57
7.	Andhra Pradesh	439	12.59
8.	Karnataka	1463	45.63
9.	West Bengal	4300	91.50
10.	Assam	350	12.50
11.	Bihar	750	21.00
12.	Orissa	490	10.00
13.	Gujarat	8271	245.00

GARMENT EXPORT

1635. Shri N. Dennis : Will the **Minister of Textiles** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the garments export to USA has increased under the new liberalised policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the other countries to which garments are being exported under the same liberalised policies ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) :
(a) and (b) Since 1991, garment exports to the U.S.A. have increased as per the details given below :

Year	Value (Million US dollars)
1991-92	657.50
1992-93	846.00
1993-94	930.20
1994-95	1257.90

(c) At present Indian garments are being exported to around 175 countries.

CESS ON SILK GERMENTS

1636. Shri K. Pradhani : Will the **Minister of Textiles** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government levy cess on export of readymade silk garments;

(b) if so, the amount collected through it during the last year; and

(c) the manner in which this fund is being utilised ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) :
(a) Section 5A of the Textiles Committee Act, 1963 provides for levy and collection of cess on all textiles, including silk textiles, but excluding textiles manufactured from out of the handloom and powerloom industry.

(b) The Textiles Committee has reported that during 1994-95, an amount of Rs. 15.82 lakhs has been collected as cess from readymade silk garments.

(c) As per provisions of the Textiles Committee Act, the proceeds of cess, reduced by the cost of collection as determined by the Central Government, are first credited to the Consolidated Fund of India. Out of such proceeds, after due appropriation made by the Parliament by law, Central Government releases funds to the Textiles Committee for carrying out, inter-alia, activities for implementation of quality systems in textile units, market research useful to textile trade and industry, testing textiles in its laboratories and undertaking export promotion measures.

SOILED NOTES IN CIRCULATION

1637. Shrimati Chandra Prabha Urs : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of soiled two rupees currency notes are in circulation in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that the nationalised banks are not accepting these soiled notes from the public;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to direct the nationalised banks to accept the same; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :
(a) to (d) While the average life of rupee one note is six months, that of rupees two and five is about one year. As against this, the life span of coins is about 15-20 years. The above denominations have been coined and the capacity so released have been diverted for printing of higher denomination notes. In view of this position, the quality of notes already in circulation might have deteriorated. However, under the RBI Note Refund Rules 1975, all branches of public sector banks maintaining currency chests have been authorised to exchange soiled

and mutilated currency/bank notes from the general public. All complaints regarding banks' failure to act according to the above rules, are promptly taken up by RBI with the concerned banks for remedial action. Besides the above, instructions are also reiterated to the Chairman of all the public sector banks from time to time by RBI in order to ensure that such powers are exercised by them in letter and spirit.

STUDY TEAM TO SERIOUS FRAUD OFFICE, ENGLAND

1638. Shrimati Pratibha Devisingh Patil :
Shri Govind Rao Nikam :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a study team of officials of the Reserve Bank of India, Central Bureau of Investigation and his Ministry visited England to study the functioning of the serious fraud office, its statutory backing and operational procedures;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this study group has submitted its report to the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken in this direction ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :
(a) to (e) A study team comprising representatives from Reserve Bank of India, Central Bureau of Investigation and Ministry of Finance visited U.K. to study the functioning of the Serious Fraud Office and other regulatory bodies. The report submitted by the study team contains suggestions for the establishment of a specialised organisation in India to deal with large and complex financial frauds. A proposal to set up a Special Bureau of Frauds is under consideration of Government.

[Translation]

AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIA AND QATAR

1639. Shri Prabhu Dayal Katheria : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Qatar propose to enter into any agreement to avoid double taxation;

(b) if so, the main features thereof ; and

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

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :
(a) to (c) Preliminary steps have been initiated with Qatar to enter into an agreement for the avoidance of double taxation. On completion of the requisite ground-work, negotiations with the Government of Qatar will be initiated.

It is, therefore, not possible to indicate any definite time limit in this regard.

NEW AIR STRIPS IN BIHAR

1640. Shri Prem Chand Ram :
Shri Chhedri Paswan :

Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to construct new air-strips and provide more facilities at the existing airports of Bihar in near future to attract more tourists in the state; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has no plan to construct a new airport in Bihar.

Upgradation of airports and other infrastructural facilities is a continuing process and is taken up in a phased manner depending upon projected requirements and availability of resources. The AAI have undertaken the work of extension and modification of Terminal Building, resurfacing of runway and Installation of Doppler Very High Frequency Omni Range/Distance Measuring Equipment at Patna airport and pavement and other works at Ranchi airport.

[English]

RBI'S OFFICE IN GUJARAT

1641. Dr. K. D. Jeswani : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India proposes to set up its new offices/branches at important commercial and industrial centres of the country, particularly in the State of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the land has been acquired therefor; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :
(a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it had purchased three plots of land at Gandhinagar for shifting some departments. However, this has been deferred for the time being.

[Translation]

FACILITIES TO EXPORT HOUSES

1642. Shri Kashiram Rana : Will the **Minister of Commerce** be please to state :

(a) the number of licences granted to Export Houses by the Government, category-wise;

(b) the total number of Export Houses given recognition under various categories, State-wise;

(c) the value of export made by the Export Houses during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding the misuse of facilities given to Export Houses;

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(f) the number of Export houses de-recognised as a result thereof, State-wise?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) and (b) Govt. does not maintain date on the details of licences, issued to Export Houses, category wise. As per the criteria fixed under paragraph 137 of the Export and Import Policy based on export performance, status certificates are granted to exporters designating them as Export Houses, Trading Houses, Star Trading Houses and Super Star Trading

Houses. The total number of Export Houses under different categories (State-wise) as on 31-7-1995 is given in the **Statement** enclosed.

(c) According to information furnished by the Federation of Indian Export Organisations, the total value of exports made by Export houses/Trading Houses/Star Trading Houses/Super Star Trading Houses during each of the last three years is as under :

1992-93	Rs. 34726 crores
1993-94	Rs. 45026 crores
1994-95	Rs. 59596 crores

(Estimated)

(d) to (f) Three cases where misused of benefits was made by Export Houses were reported, Two firms have been debarred as per provisions of the Imports Control Order, 1955.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the States/ Union Territories	Export House			Trading House			Star Trading House			Super Star Trading House		
		Public Sector Corpn.	Private Setcotr	Total	Public Sector Corpn.	Private Sector	Total	Public Sector Corpn.	Private Sector	Total	Public Sector Corpn.	Private Sector	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	35	36	—	3	3	2	—	2	—	—	—
2.	Assam	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Bihar	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Chandigarh	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Delhi	3	354	357	4	44	48	2	4	4	1	—	1
6.	Goa	—	8	8	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Gujarat	1	38	39	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
8.	Haryana	1	22	23	—	4	4	—	1	1	—	—	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	10	10	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
11.	Karnataka	1	40	41	2	4	6	—	1	1	—	—	—
12.	Kerala	2	58	60	—	11	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
13.	Maharashtra	3	524	527	1	68	69	3	9	12	—	1	1
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1	19	20	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
15.	Orissa	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
16.	Punjab	2	59	61	—	6	6	—	1	1	—	—	—
17.	Pondicherry	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18.	Rajasthan	1	23	24	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
19.	Meghalaya	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	Nagaland	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21.	Tamilnadu	2	165	167	1	11	12	—	—	—	—	—	—
22.	Uttar Pradesh	—	176	176	—	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
23.	West Bengal	2	131	133	—	21	21	—	3	3	—	2	2
24.	Tripura	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		29	1669	1698	9	187	196	8	17	25	1	4	5

[English]

NJMC MODERNISATION PLAN

1643. Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee : Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state :

(a) whether a package deal for survival and modernisation of NJMC was finalised by the Government in consultation with Trade Union of NJMC;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) whether the scheme has been cleared by the cabinet;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons for delay?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) :
(a) to (e) The National Jute Manufactures Corporation Ltd. (NJMC) had been incurring losses and its case was referred to BIFR on 11-8-1992. BIFR declared it as a sick industrial undertaking under SICA and appointed IRBI as the Operating Agency. A Turn Around Plan for revival of National Jute Manufactures Corporation (NJMC) is at present under the consideration of the Government. Trade Unions have been consulted by the NJMC management. Concurrence of the BIFR will also be required before any final decision is implemented.

FORMATION OF BIFR AT STATE LEVEL

1644. Shri Ajoy Mukhopadhyay : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of West Bengal seeking permission to constitute a body like the BIFR at the State Level for revival of sick and closed small scale units of the State; and

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

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :
(a) No such proposal seems to have been received from the Government of West Bengal.

(b) Does not arise.

CHANGE OF ORISSA FROM JURISDICTION OF CALCUTTA ZONE

1645. Shri Rabi Ray : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Bank of India propose to bring Orissa under the Jurisdiction of Hyderabad Zone from Calcutta zone;

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

(c) whether the Government have received memorandum from some M.Ps and the State Government requesting for retaining Orissa under Calcutta Zone; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :
(a) to (d) Central Bank of India has reported that as part of organisational restructuring of the bank, it was proposed to bring Bhubaneswar Region under the jurisdiction of Hyderabad Zone. However, it has since been decided to continue the Bhubaneswar Region under the administrative control of Calcutta Zone. The Bank has further stated that it had received a memorandum from some MPs and the State Government requesting for keeping Orissa under the Calcutta Zone.

IMPORT DUTY ON CAPITAL GOODS

1646. Dr. K. D. Jeswani : Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to review the existing EXIM policy and levy some import duty on import of capital goods which may be reimbursed after the importers export Indian goods worth seven times of the value of imported goods as per the present policy; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which export obligations will get enforced by the Government from the many export defaulter of Indian companies between 1985 to 1987?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) and (b) The review of the Export and Import Policy is an on-going process and

changes in it are made as and when considered necessary. Appropriate action is taken against the defaulters for enforcement of export obligation under the provisions of the Import & Export (Control) Act, 1947 and the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992 and the Orders made thereunder, as and when the default comes to notice, including cases under the Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme.

[Translation]

BUDDHIST PILGRIMAGE CENTRES

1647. Shri Ram Tahal Choudhary : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Buddhist pilgrimage centres in Bihar and other States;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any plan for the development of said centres; and

(c) if so, the funds earmarked for this purpose during the Eight Five Year Plan, State-wise?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) Some of the important places of Buddhist tourism interest in different States are :

Bihar : Bodhgaya, Nalanda, Rajgir, Vaishali

Orissa : Dhauli, Lalitgiri, Udaigiri, Ratnagiri, Khandagiri

Andhra Pradesh : Nagarjunakonda, Amravati

J and K : Ladakh region

Madhya Pradesh : Sanchi

Arunachal Pradesh : Tawang & Bomdilla

Himachal Pradesh : Dharamshala

Maharashtra : Ajanta-Ellora-Aurangabad, Karla-Bhaja & Kanheri Caves

Uttar Pradesh : Kushinagar, Samath, Piparwaha, Sravasti; the State of Sikkim etc.

(b) The Government of India alongwith the concerned State Govts. are endeavouring to improve and provide additional facilities at the place of Buddhist tourist interest in the country. On receipt of complete proposals from the State Governments, Central financial assistance has been released for construction of tourist complexes, meditation centres, wayside amenities, tourist reception centre etc. at the various Buddhist Centres. In addition, two projects with the Japanese Government DECF loan are underway for the development of infrastructure in U.P. & Bihar (Rs. 220.47 crores) and in Ajanta Ellora in Maharashtra at a cost of Rs. 83.11 crores.

(c) During the 8th Plan, Central financial assistance extended to develop facilities at centres of Buddhist interest are :

State	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
Andhra Pradesh	39.47
Bihar	40.62
J and K	24.23
Maharashtra	24.25
U.P.	120.85

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO POWERLOOM SECTOR BY NABARD

1648. Shri Rajveer Singh :
Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh :
Shri Rameshwar Patidar :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Financial assistance provided to the powerloom sector by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) under the refinancing Scheme during each of the last three years; and

(b) the details of the financial assistance proposed to be provided during the current financial year?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) provide short term credit limits to the State Cooperative Banks on behalf of Central Cooperative Banks for financing the production and marketing activities of cooperative weavers' societies both under the handloom and the powerloom sectors. The details of limits sanctioned to State Cooperative Banks by NABARD for financing the working capital requirements of cooperative weavers' societies (handloom and powerloom) during the last three years are given below :

Year	(Rs. in crores)	
	Limits Sanctioned	Maximum Utilisation
1992-93	492.37	382.28
1993-94	529.96	296.31
1994-95	609.70	494.38

Details regarding financial assistance made available to cooperative weavers' societies (powerloom) are not separately available with NABARD. In addition, NABARD also provided refinance under Non-Farm Sector for financing powerloom sector as indicated below :

1993-94	—	Rs.14.16 crores
1994-95	—	Rs. 23.23 crores

(b) For the year 1995-96, NABARD has estimated that short term credit limits aggregating Rs. 650 crores would be sanctioned by it to State Cooperative Banks for financing production and marketing activities of Cooperative weavers' societies both under handloom and powerloom sectors.

[English]

LOSSES TO NATIONALISED BANKS AND RURAL BANKS IN GUJARAT

1649. Shri Gabhaji Mangaji Thakore : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether several branches of nationalised banks and rural banks operating in the rural parts of Gujarat have been incurring losses continuously for the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps initiated to ensure easy availability of loans to farmers and village artisans in the State?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that its data reporting system does not yield State-wise and branch-wise information regarding profits and losses of nationalised banks. However, details of the nine Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) operating in Gujarat and incurring losses for the last three years, as reported by NABARD, are given in the enclosed **Statement**.

(c) RBI has issued detailed guidelines to commercial banks for simplifying the liberalising lending procedures to farmers. Some of the important ones are :

- (i) All loan applications upto a credit limit of Rs. 25,000/- should be disposed of within a fortnight and those over Rs. 25,000/- within 8 to 9 weeks;
- (ii) Branch Managers are required to be vested with discretionary powers to sanction proposals from weaker sections without reference to higher authorities;
- (iii) Credit proposals from weaker sections are to be cleared promptly;
- (iv) Relaxation of security and margin norms;
- (v) A register is required to be maintained at branches of the loan applications giving details such as date of receipt, sanction/rejection with reasons thereof, etc.; and
- (vi) The banks are also required to maintain machinery at Regional Offices level to look into complaints from borrowers and to verify that the guidelines issued by RBI for lending to priority sector are followed by branches. In October, 1994 RBI has directed banks to provide cash credit facility to farmers satisfying certain criteria for their composite credit requirements.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the RRB	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Kutch Gramin Bank	-72.32	-123.17	-138.86

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Jamnagar Gramin Bank	-68.19	-114.63	-116.69
3.	Banaskantha Mehsana Gramin Bank	-129.98	-241.23	-246.25
4.	Panchmahal Gramin Bank	-165.18	-157.52	-144.68
5.	Surendranagar Bhavnagar Gramin Bank	-63.66	-98.03	-99.82
6.	Valoard Danod Gramin Bank	-51.89	-98.11	-22.09
7.	Surat Bharuch Gramin Bank	-88.93	-70.48	-60.85
8.	Sabarkantha Gandhi-Nagar Gramin Bank	-54.00	-64.00	-64.75
9.	Junagadh Amreli Gramin Bank	-36.69	-59.22	-66.91
Total		-730.04	-966.39	-960.90

EXPORT OF POOR QUALITY OF TEA

1650. Shri Sriballav Panigrahi : Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of complaints have been received from some countries regarding export of poor quality of tea from the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total quantity of tea together with its market value rejected, country-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of best quality of tea from the country?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) to (c) No complaints have been received in the recent past regarding export of sub-standard tea from the country. However, complaints were received by Tea Board in 1993 against a few exporters of export of sub-standard and inferior quality of tea to Russia and other CIS countries. Action was taken by the Tea Board against such exporters under the provisions of the Tea (Distribution & Export) Control Order, 1957.

(d) Steps taken to boost exports of tea include promotional campaigns through Tea Board's Offices abroad. These consist of (i) participation in trade fairs/exhibitions; (ii) media campaign to increase consumer awareness towards various unique characteristics of Indian teas; (iii) media campaign to popularise Indian tea through the Tea Board marketing symbol; and (iv) support to various foreign brands containing Indian tea. A part of the expenditure incurred by importers for promotional campaigns is met from the Tea Board's budget. Tea Board has also

under-taken Darjeeling and Assam Logo campaign in U.K. alongwith brand promotion schemes abroad to popularise classic Indian teas.

NEW ECONOMIC POLICY

1651. Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are examining the areas in which the principles of the New Economy Policy are not applicable in the country;

(b) if so, the objectives thereof; and

(c) the areas where it is absolutely not applicable at present?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

MODERNISATION OF NTC

1652. Shri Ankushrao Raosaheb Tope :
Shri Jagatvir Singh Drona :
Shri Datta Meghe :
Shri Guman Mal Lodha :
Shri Nawal Kishore Rai :
Dr. Krupasinghu Bhoi :
Shri Gopi Nath Gajapathi :

Will the **Minister of Textiles** be pleased to refer to reply given to Starred Question No. 739 on May 26, 1995 and state :

(a) whether the modernisation plan for NTC mills has since been put up before BIFR;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) the time by which the plan is likely to be laid on the Table of the House for implementation?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) :
(a) to (d) The Revised Turn Around Plan for NTC Mills has been placed before the BIFR. This involves modernisation of 70 nationalised mills at a cost of Rs.1716 crores, restructuring of 23 unviable nationalised mills into 12 viable mills, holding in abeyance recovery of Government loans and interest thereon as on 31-3-94 and further grant of interest holiday from 1-4-94, provision of funds from NRF for VRS, disposal of surplus land and assets for raising funds for modernisation, etc.

As soon as the modernisation plan is approved by the BIFR, the plan will be laid on the Table of the House.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SICK INDUSTRIAL UNITS

1653. Shri Shankersinh Vaghela : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sick industrial units in Gujarat and

Maharashtra as on date;

(b) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India and other banks have proposed to provide financial assistance to these units;

(c) whether the State Government have also sought central assistance therefor;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the financial assistance proposed to be provided for this purpose; and

(e) the time by which these industrial units are likely to start work again?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :
(a) to (e) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as at the end of March, 1994, the number of sick units in the State of Gujarat and Maharashtra were as under :

	(Numbers)	
	Gujarat	Maharashtra
Non SSI sick	184	350
Non SSI weak	38	86
SSI sick	7812	21350
Total	8034	21786

Detailed guidelines have been issued by RBI regarding formulation and implementation of rehabilitation packages in respect of sick/weak units found potentially viable for their revival. Rehabilitation packages, inter alia, provide for funding of existing dues of banks and financial institutions with extended period for repayment (7 to 10 years) thereof in a phased manner, interest concessions, grant of fresh term loan as also fresh working capital facilities. As regards, non-SSI sick industrial companies, the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), a quasi judicial body set up under Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 has been adequately empowered to take necessary action for determination of preventive, ameliorative, remedial and other measures for the rehabilitation of sick units and expeditious enforcement of such measures. Where a scheme for rehabilitation of company is sanctioned by the BIFR, banks/financial institutions provide facilities including reliefs/concessions in terms of the sanctioned scheme.

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE

1654. Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that in spite of enrolling the name in the Employment Exchanges, the applicants are not given placement or interview for years together;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken for quick placement and improvement

in the functioning of Employment Exchanges?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The role of Employment Exchanges is limited only to sponsoring of candidates against notified vacancies. The rate of growth of notified vacancies is much less than the rate of growth of candidates registered with employment exchanges every year. The Employment Exchanges function under the administrative control of the respective State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The functioning of the Employment Exchanges is kept under review by them for improving efficiency. Many of the States/UT Governments are making efforts to computerise the information and processing of the data in the Employment Exchanges.

[Translation]

ARTIFICIAL SILK

1655. Shri Datta Meghe : Will the **Minister of Textiles** be pleased to state :

(a) whether artificial silk is also being manufactured in the country;

(b) if so, the quantum of artificial silk manufactured during the last year, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government for the promotion of artificial silk industry?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) **Statement** is attached.

(c) Government have taken various measures for the promotion of textile industry including artificial silk such as, Liberalisation of Industrial Policy for creation and expansion of capacity, reduction in fiscal duties, permitting import of textile machinery under OGL and other appropriate steps by policy interventions as and when required.

Statement

The State-wise details of artificial silk

(Qty. in tonnes)

Sl. No.	State	1994-95 (Provisional)		
		Visocose Filament Yarn (VFY)	Viscose Staple Fibre (VSF)	Acetate Filam Yarn
1.	Gujarat	17852	—	—
2.	Kerala	2521	—	—
3.	Madhya Pradesh	—	143344	—
4.	Maharashtra	26268	51	—
5.	Tamil Nadu	5519	29638	—
6.	West Bengal	6322	—	—
7.	Andhra	—	—	37

*This also includes the production of other 2 units located each in the State of Kerala and Kamataka.

Since the production of artsilk fabrics is largely in the decentralised sector, State-wise date is not available. However, the total production of artificial silk fabrics in the country during 1994-95 is estimated to be around 1584 million sq. meters.

[English]

FLYING/GLIDING CLUBS

1656. Dr. Amrit Lal Kalidas Patel : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the flying/gliding clubs functioning in each State at present and the locations thereof;

(b) the number of aeroplanes and gliders available with each club at present;

(c) the amount of annual subsidy/assistance provided to each of these clubs during the years 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up more such gliding/flying clubs; and

(e) if so, the details and locations thereof, State-wise?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Gulam Nabi Azad) : (a) to (c) The information is given in the attached Statement.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Name of Flying/Gliding Clubs & State to which belong	No. of Aircraft/ Gliders	Amount of subsidy (Rs. in lakhs) (approximately)	
		1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4
State Civil Aviation, U.P. Flying Training Centre (SCAUPFTC), Lucknow, (U.P.) Kanpur Branch of SCAUPFTS Faizabad Branch of SCAUPFTS Varanasi Branch of SCAUPFTC Bombay Flying Club (Maharashtra)	9	11.80	8.17
	8	4.58	4.27

1	2	3	4
Madras Flying Club (Tamil Nadu)	7	8.02	6.48
Govt. Flying Training Instt., Calcutta, (West Bengal)	4	1.17	8.25
Delhi Flying Club (Delhi)	13	11.40	9.26
Rajasthan State Flying School, Jaipur, (Rajasthan)	5	5.98	6.44
Madhya Pradesh Flying Club, (MPFC), Indore. Bhopal Branch of MPFC	7	12.96	19.90
Govt. Flying Training School, Bangalore, (Karnataka)	6	10.06	—
A.P. Flying Club, Hyderabad (A.P.)	7	11.21	5.79
Kerala Aviation Training Centre Trivendrum, (Kerala)	3	3.45	3.32
Gujarat Flying Club, Baroda, Gujarat	7	11.60	11.73
Coimbatore Flying Club Ltd. (Tamil Nadu)	6	0.20	—
Patiala Aviation Club, Patiala (Punjab)	5	8.89	7.35
Amritsar Aviation Club, Amritsar (Punjab)	4	4.13	4.92
Pinjore Aviation Club, Pinjore (Haryana)	2	4.17	1.50
Jamshedpur Co-operative Flying Club Ltd. Jamshedpur (Bihar)	3	2.73	1.09
Hissar Aviation Club, Hissar (Haryana)	5	5.05	5.17
Karnal Aviation Club, Karnal (Haryana)	6	6.13	3.37
Ludhiana Aviation Club (Punjab)	5	11.29	12.35
Bihar Flying Instt., Patna (Bihar)	7	—	—
Govt. Flying Training Institute, Bhubaneswar (Orissa)	3	—	—
Andaman & Nicobar Flying Training Instt., Port Blair	1	—	—
Banasthali Vidyapith Flying Club (Rajasthan)	1	—	—
Nagpur Flying Club (Maharashtra)	5	—	—

1	2	3	4
Ajanta Flying Club, Aurangabad (Maharashtra)	1	—	—
Northern India Flying Club, Jalandhar Cantt. (Punjab)	4	—	—
Assam Flying Club, Guwahati (Assam)	2	—	—
Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi Fursatganj, (U.P.)	11	—	100.00
Udan Research & Flying Instt., Indore (M.P.)	6	—	—
Bangalore Aeronautics and Technical Services (Karnataka)	3	—	—
Ahmedabad Aviation Akademi Gujarat	2	—	—
Orient Flight School, Pondicherry	6	—	—
Gliding Clubs			
Ahmedabad Gliding & Flying Club (Gujarat)	6	0.93	0.85
Birla Gliding Club, Pilani (Rajasthan)	3	1.02	1.03
Delhi Gliding Club	8	2.99	3.07
Gliding & Soaring Centre, IIT Kanpur (U.P.)	4	1.23	1.06
Deolali Gliding Club, Nasik (Maharashtra)	5	2.78	3.12
Pinjore Aviation Club (Haryana)	5	5.50	6.73
Hissar Aviation Club (Haryana)	5	6.63	6.10
Jamshedpur Gliding Club (Bihar)	2	0.74	1.88
Northern India Flying Club Jalandhar (Punjab)	2	—	—
Bihar Flying Instt., Ranchi	3	—	—
Govt. Gliding Centre, Pune (Maharashtra)	13	—	—
Ludhiana Aviation Club (Punjab)	4	2.15	1.04

BANK CREDIT FOR AGRICULTURE SECTOR

1657. Shri Prataprao B. Bhonsle : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether a fixed percentage of total bank advances has to be released to the agricultural sector as per instructions of R.B.I.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the actual percentage of bank credits being made available to the agricultural sector; and

(c) the reasons of shortfall and the remedial steps proposed to be taken in regard thereto ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :

(a) and (b) In terms of Reserve Bank of India's (RBI)'s guidelines, all Indian banks are required to extend at least 40 per cent of their net bank credit to priority sector of which at least 18 per cent should be to agriculture. The performance of public sector banks as on the last Friday of March 1995 (provisional) on lending to agriculture was as under :

	(Rs. in crores)
Public Sector Banks	
Agriculture advances (Direct)	20,812.47
Agriculture advances (Indirect)	2,700.46
Total advances	23,512.93
% to net bank credit	13.91%

(c) RBI have reported that the fall in the percentage of priority sector lending can be attributed to factors such as greater emphasis laid on the profitability of banks since 1988, prudential norms stipulated by RBI in regard to income recognition, provisioning and capital adequacy and high transaction and risk costs involved. RBI have advised all banks to make every effort to achieve the stipulated target for priority sector lendings including lending to agriculture. Banks have also advised that failure on their part to achieve the target could invite bank specific policy measures. RBI have also recently taken a number of steps such as introduction of Agricultural Credit Card to enable farmers with good track record to secure production credit instantly, cash credit facility, financing of innovative and high-tech agricultural projects and establishment of Rural Infrastructural Development Fund to ensure enhanced credit to agricultural sector.

OPERATION BY PRIVATE AIRLINES ON UNECONOMIC ROUTE

1658. Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state the number of new routes started by Indian Airlines and private airlines during the last three years ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri

Ghulam Nabi Azad) : Indian Airlines have introduced services on 17 new routes in the domestic sector and 10 new routes in the international sector during the last 3 years. Services on seven new routes were, however, subsequently withdrawn due to inadequate traffic and shortage of operating crew. Private airlines have commenced scheduled operations from November, 1994 and are presently operations from November, 1994 and are presently operating services on 104 routes.

[Translation]

DEPOSITS IN NATIONALISED BANKS

1659. Shri Bhubaneshwar Prasad Mehta : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of money deposited with nationalised banks in the country during 1991-92 to 1994-95, State-wise;

(b) the percentage of overall expenditure incurred by the banks out of this amount, State-wise;

(c) whether the criterion laid for spending the deposits is uniform in all the State; and

(d) if not, the justification thereof ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) State-wise deposits of nationalised banks as at the end of March 1991, March 1992, March 1993, March 1994 and March 1995 are given in the enclosed **Statement**.

(b) Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to State-wise percentage of credit advanced by banks vis-a-vis deposits. The percentage of gross bank credit to deposits of nationalised banks as at the end of March 1991, March 1992, March 1993, March 1994 and March 1995 is also furnished in the Annexure.

(c) and (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have advised the banks that they should achieve a Credit Deposit Ratio (CDR) of 60 per cent in respect of their rural and semi-urban branches separately on an all-India basis. Banks have also been advised that while it is not necessary that this ratio should be achieved separately branch-wise, District-wise or Region-wise the banks should nevertheless ensure that wide disparity in the ratios between different States/Regions is avoided in order to minimise imbalances in credit deployment. However, the CDR in a particular State or Region depends upon the credit absorption capacity of the State/Region which in turn is determined and influenced by factors such as development of infrastructural facilities like irrigation, power, rail, road, transport basic and technical education entrepreneurship and availability of required inputs and marketing outlets for agricultural, industrial production etc.

Statement
State-wise amounts of deposits in Nationalised Banks during the last five years
and the percentage of credit to deposits

Sl. No.	State	Deposits (Rs. in crores)					Percentage of credit to deposits				
		March 1991	March 1992	March 1993	March 1994	March 1995	March 1991	March 1992	March 1993	March 1994	March 1995
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Haryana	2769.89	2999.93	3483.13	4053.35	4915.39	54.83	51.58	51.58	46.20	42.81
2.	Himachal Pradesh	812.50	909.62	1060.96	1215.57	1472.10	36.33	34.53	32.36	27.34	25.33
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	493.56	514.01	589.71	660.57	745.43	30.68	29.96	29.63	26.17	24.88
4.	Punjab	7146.16	7921.45	9093.82	10567.83	12411.74	40.82	39.03	40.28	40.16	39.58
5.	Rajasthan	2601.23	2876.48	3557.80	3906.90	4616.41	58.82	59.00	56.95	52.17	48.03
6.	Chandigarh	996.51	1046.62	1282.76	1481.13	2031.95	52.18	51.30	49.27	45.22	41.90
7.	Delhi	12451.73	13629.29	15059.96	19689.71	24387.95	48.22	48.59	48.90	40.30	41.80
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	18.90	18.90	20.59	34.66	53.31	23.81	30.85	32.30	20.71	15.61
9.	Assam	1313.01	1456.56	1570.67	1798.79	2152.87	48.77	47.66	48.93	43.63	41.64
10.	Manipur	57.88	62.64	59.37	73.30	96.26	75.59	84.96	103.67	87.17	72.94
11.	Meghalaya	152.61	169.31	209.93	243.98	301.74	22.30	22.87	16.52	17.13	16.19
12.	Mizoram	15.87	16.31	18.16	21.56	22.73	19.91	21.76	19.88	17.72	18.48
13.	Nagaland	92.22	100.09	99.89	108.20	128.07	32.20	34.16	38.32	35.55	32.10
14.	Tripura	140.09	152.59	171.07	195.66	239.97	50.89	49.46	50.94	47.75	38.90
15.	Bihar	5386.47	5800.73	6446.04	7123.15	8528.89	35.31	35.72	34.99	32.64	29.72
16.	Orissa	1447.25	1571.66	1864.17	2101.21	2601.72	69.87	68.08	62.09	57.76	51.03
17.	Sikkim	54.17	37.77	45.53	50.03	62.54	12.05	22.87	19.68	17.53	19.15
18.	West Bengal	11316.48	11826.01	13640.99	15552.50	17275.04	49.49	50.34	51.41	46.10	47.36
19.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	25.16	28.69	34.68	41.91	53.90	32.39	30.08	30.91	18.32	20.33
20.	Madhya Pradesh	4246.20	4657.88	5023.44	5722.25	7105.92	57.84	55.99	55.67	49.50	46.62
21.	Uttar Pradesh	13020.39	14140.78	16052.83	18653.24	22279.09	43.44	42.00	40.33	35.65	33.14
22.	Goa	1087.44	1237.17	1457.33	1678.05	1986.31	31.91	29.05	28.17	40.47	29.39
23.	Gujarat	8763.12	10269.37	11872.47	13892.62	16366.25	50.76	45.93	44.52	41.35	43.65

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
24.	Maharashtra	22207.26	26737.11	33048.82	37015.66	41835.29	79.63	67.45	68.21	68.25	74.37
25.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	10.02	12.22	17.32	25.62	40.90	54.19	49.67	35.56	23.30	16.36
26.	Daman and Diu	22.06	25.01	29.53	31.87	40.31	17.72	14.99	13.14	12.74	9.48
27.	Andhra Pradesh	5900.05	6322.51	7088.89	8344.66	9712.78	76.25	75.80	74.50	66.13	71.20
28.	Karnataka	5919.73	6894.49	8102.74	8538.08	10821.65	79.69	69.73	64.33	65.23	61.20
29.	Kerala	3149.96	3771.63	4556.59	5493.85	6468.53	54.18	47.61	43.72	37.36	36.79
30.	Tamilnadu	8765.52	9621.91	11561.29	12856.43	14863.17	85.57	85.15	79.34	77.85	83.33
31.	Lakshadweep	8.84	11.52	13.61	15.30	20.23	16.97	12.76	9.92	9.35	9.89
32.	Pondicherry	219.30	253.94	295.64	352.50	412.766	55.62	48.35	46.16	43.45	45.73
	All India	120611.57	135094.38	157229.85	181540.28	214051.09	59.23	55.81	55.11	51.35	52.34

[English]

WOOLEN MILLS OF BIC

1660. Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona : Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had received a representation from Uttar Pradesh Textile Mazdoor Sangh, Kanpur in July, 1994 regarding problems in Lalimli (Kanpur) and Dhariwal (Punjab) woollen mills of British India Corporation Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the factors leading these mills to closure; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the position of these mills ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swami) :

(a) to (c) A representation dated 11-8-94 had received from the Uttar Pradesh Textile Mazdoor Sangh regarding corruption in BIC. This was forwarded to BIC for appropriate action and report. The BIC woollen mills, namely, the Cawnpore Woollen Mills Ltd. (Lal Imli) and the New Egerton Woollen Mills Co. Ltd. (Dhariwal) have not been closed and are incurring losses due to obsolete machinery, excess man-power, shortage of working capital, etc. The BIC was also referred to the BIFR which has declared it as a sick industrial company. The BIFR has passed orders winding up the company. The company has gone in appeal before the AAIIR where the appeal is under consideration. The Government is also considering steps to rehabilitate the BIC.

BANK BRANCHES CLOSED IN RURAL AREAS

1661. Shri V. S. Vijayaraghavan : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some 300 branches of nationalised banks have been closed down during 1994-95 in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :

(a) as per extant guidelines of Reserve Bank of India, closure of the loss making branches at rural centres having single commercial bank branch is not considered desirable. However, at centres served by two commercial bank branches, decision for closure of one of the branches may be taken by the concerned banks by mutual consultation.

(b) The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

LABOUR ACTS

1662. Shri Mahesh Kanodia : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made efforts for

creating awareness among the workers of unorganised sector regarding the provision under the various Labour Acts;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; and

(c) the success achieved by the Government in this regard ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) Yes Sir, The Government set up the Central Board for Workers Education as a tripartite body for creating awareness among the working class population about their rights and obligations. The Board organises training programmes, seminars & camps etc. for this purpose.

(b) and (c) The number of workers as trained during the last three years is as follows :

Year		Total Number of Workers Trained
1991-92	—	174900
1992-93	—	153563
1993-94	—	128264

The above number includes workers in the unorganised and small scale sector, rural sector, women and child labour, workers from SC/ST and other weaker sections of the society.

[English]

EXPORT OF RICE

1663. Shri Mohan Singh (Deoria) :
Shri Sarat Pattanayak :

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state :

(a) whether the price of the Indian Basmati rice was more in the international market as compared to the other countries due to which the Indian Exporters lagged behind in competitive market;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to take any measures to promote the export of Basmati rice;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the procurement of coarse rice exported from India has increased in the international market during 1995; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard, and the measures being contemplated by the Government to promote the export of non-basmati rice ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) It is a fact that Basmati rice produced in India fetches higher price on an average than such rice from other origins. However fluctuations in exports are not entirely attributable to international competition.

(b) and (c) Government has a policy to encourage export

of basmati rice. Some measures taken in this respect include the removal of price and quantity restrictions, in addition to assistance in organising overseas campaigns and participation in Trade Fairs and exhibitions abroad, etc.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Export of rice other than basmati during April-May 1995 and corresponding period in the previous year are as under :

Year (April-May)	Qty. in MTS. Value in Rs. Crores	
	Qty.	Value
1994-95	25904	26.8
1995-96	524374	345.7

Source : DGCI & S, Calcutta.

- (i) Some of the measures initiated to enhance export of rice include removal of prices and quantity restrictions;
- (ii) Permitting Food Corporation of India to export/sell for exports 2.0 million MTs of fine and superfine rice from the Central Pool during 1995-96;
- (iii) Providing financial assistance to exporters for improving quantity, packaging brand promotion of products, conducting market surveys etc.

[Translation]

SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES

1664. Shri Phool Chand Verma : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the smuggling activities have increased in various border states of the Country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the State-wise number of such cases detected by the Government during last year and during the current year till date;
- (d) the details of seizures made;
- (e) the action taken against the persons found guilty in this regard; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to check such activities ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) to (f) information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

PURCHASE OF SHARE BY IDBI

1665. Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu :
Dr. R. Mallu :
Shri M. G. Reddy :

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have issued any guidelines

to the financial institutions like IDBI and IFCI to buy shares of some multinational companies from the open market;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the companies whose equity shares bought from the open market by the financial institutions during 1994-95 and 1995 so far ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Do not arise.

(c) IDBI and IFCI have reported that they do not acquire shares in the secondary market.

[Translation]

EMPLOYMENT IN ORGANISED SECTOR IN UTTAR PRADESH

1666. Dr. Sakshiji : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of labourers working in organised sector in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) whether there have been decline in the opportunities of employment in Organised Sector in Uttar Pradesh; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) As per Employment Market Information Programme, the number of workers in the Organised Sector (i.e. covering all establishments in the public sector and those non agricultural establishments in the private sector employing 10 or more workers) in Uttar Pradesh was around 26.70 lakhs as on 31-3-93.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

TRAFFIC ON DOMESTIC TRUNK ROUTES

1667. Shri Amal Datta : Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state the details of the air traffic on the domestic trunk routes carried by the Indian Airlines and the various private airlines from March, 1995 to May, 1995 separately ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : Indian Airlines and the private scheduled operators carried 725890 and 477540 passengers respectively on the specified trunk routes (also called Category I routes) during the period March to May, 1995.

[Translation]

CAWNPORE SUGAR WORKS LIMITED

1668. Shri Ram Nagina Mishra : Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to sell out the Cawnpore Sugar Works Limited, Uttar Pradesh;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the outstanding dues of farmers against this company; and
- (d) the time by which it is likely to be paid ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) and (b) The Cawnpore Sugar Works Ltd. is not a Government Company or a nationalised undertaking. There is, therefore, no proposal of the Government regarding sale of this unit. Being a sick unit covered under provisions of SICA, the BIFR have worked out a revival package which involves disinvestment of the shares held by the British India Corporation Ltd. in the Company.

(c) and (d) As on 31-3-95 the outstanding cane dues to the farmers has been reported to be around Rs. 22 crores. The Company will clear these dues on availability of Funds.

TRADE OF ELECTRONICS AND SOFTWARE ITEMS WITH SINGAPORE

1669. Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan :
Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi :

Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the trade of electronics and software between India and Singapore during each of the last three years;
- (b) whether and target has been fixed by the Government for the export of these items during the current financial year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the step taken by the Government to boost the export of these items ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) the details of the trade of electronic goods and computer software between India and Singapore during each of the last three years is as under :

(Rs. crores)

Year	Import		Export	
	Electronic goods	Computer software	Electronic goods	Computer software*
1992-93	283.40	3.17	102.72	5.25
1993-94	370.12	13.53	168.23	6.72
1994-95(P)	473.65	41.36	255.16	10.76

Source : DGCI & S : *Development of software through satellite and offshore development of software not included.

(P) Provisional.

(b) & (c) Country-wise targets have not been fixed. However, overall export target fixed by the Government

for the current financial year is as under :

	(Rs. crores)	
Electronic goods	—	1575
Computer software	—	236

(d) The various steps taken to boost the export of these products include participation in exclusive Indian Shows/ international exhibitions, sponsoring of market surveys etc. Besides the general measures taken to boost exports includes introduction of Electronic Hardware Technology Park (EHTP) Scheme and Software Technology Park (STP) Scheme, reduction in interest rate on rupee credit, reduction in tariff level on import of machinery and other inputs etc.

[English]

CLOSURE OF CERTAIN BRANCHES OF REGIONAL RURAL BANKS

1670. Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of branches of the Regional Rural Banks functioning in the country as on March 31, 1995 and the corresponding figures thereof as on March 31, 1994, Statewise, with special reference to Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) whether certain reference to Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) The number of branches of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in the country as on 31-3-1994 and 31-3-1995 are 14547 and 14549 (Provisional) respectively. State-wise information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) As per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines in force during 1994-95, the RRBs were not permitted to close any branches. However they were permitted to relocate their loss making branches.

NATIONAL SAFETY ASSURANCE SCHEME

1671. Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to introduce a National Safety Assurance Scheme;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof;
- (c) the date from which the scheme is proposed to be made effective; and
- (d) the steps being taken in that direction, so far ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :
(a) No Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

ORGANISATION OF INDO-AMERICAN EXPO AT ATLANTA CITY

1672. Shri Hari Kishore Singh : Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian-American Expo-was organised by the Global Exhibitions Limited in collaboration with the Global Expositions INC, U.S.A. at the Atlanta city recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said Expo resulted into fiasco causing huge financial losses and other problems to Indian participants;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to prevent its recurrence ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) and (b) Indo-American Expo was held at Atlanta City, New Jersey, U.S.A. from 14th to 16th June, 1995. This Expo was organised by two private agencies viz. Global Exhibitions Limited, Hyderabad and Global Expositions Inc., New York, This exhibition was a wholly private initiative and no financial assistance was given by Government.

(c) and (d) The Consul General of India, New York has intimated that against an expected participation of about 500 Indian companies, only 120 companies were able to participate. The Expo is reported to have been partially successful as majority of the participants from India were able to contact a number of importers in New York and New Jersey areas of USA and were able to get a feel of the American market.

(e) With a view to ensuring that international trade fairs are organised in a professional manner and project a good image of the country, the Government have constituted a Standing Advisory Committee to evolve criteria for endorsements of organisers/participants and criteria for rating of organisers and participants.

[Translation]

ACCIDENTAL CLAIMS PENDING WITH GIC

1673. Shri Chhedi Paswan : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of accidental claims pending with the General Insurance Corporation as on date;

(b) the number of claims disposed off through normal process and the amount paid to the claimants as compensation during the last three years;

(c) the number of claims pending in the courts presently and the amount claimed as compensation therein;

(d) the number of cases settled by Lok Adalat during the last three years and the amount of compensation paid as a result thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to make amendment in General Insurance laws with a view to provide quick relief to the claimants; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) The total number of accidental claims pending with the General Insurance Corporation as 31-3-1994 was 4,17,205 (approx.).

(b) During the last three years period ending 31-3-1994, 6,38,838 claims (approx.) were disposed off through normal process and the amount paid to claimants as compensation was Rs. 1,100.77 crores (approx.).

(c) The number of claims pending in the courts as on 31-3-1994 was 2,81,619 (approx.) and the amount of compensation claimed is Rs. 1516.98 crores (approx.).

(d) The number of cases settled by Lok Adalat during the last three years period ending on 31-3-1994 was 87,029 (approx.) and the amount of compensation paid as a result thereof was Rs. 284.55 crores (approx.).

(e) and (f) Insurance companies have laid down the minimum procedure required for safeguarding the interests of the insurers and insureds. The procedures existing at present in respect of settlement of accident claims are comprehensive and no change is contemplated in the procedures by the insurance companies.

MEDICAL FACILITIES TO MINE WORKERS

1674. Shri Rajendra Kumar Sharma : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) whether the benefits of medical and other facilities are not reaching to labourers working in Mines;

(b) if so, whether the Government have prepared any scheme to provide medical and other facilities to the labourers for their welfare; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) to (c) A Statement indicating the welfare schemes formulated for the welfare of Iron Ore, Manganese Ore, Chrome Ore Mine Workers; Limestone and Dolomite Mines Workers; and Mica Mine Workers is annexed. Several steps have been taken since 1993-94 to increase the quantum of assistance available under different schemes and to improve the quality of implementation as well as to extend their coverage.

Statement

List of Welfare Schemes for Mine Workers

A. Health

1. Reservation of beds in T.B. Hospitals and financial assistance for domiciliary treatment to workers suffering from T.B.

2. Reimbursement of actual cost of treatment to mine workers suffering from Cancer.
3. Treatment of workers suffering from Mental diseases.
4. Grant of financial assistance for purchase of spectacles.
5. Scheme for mine workers suffering from Leprosy.
6. Domiciliary Treatment for T.B. patients.
7. Scheme for reimbursement of expenditure incurred by Mine Workers suffering from Heart Diseases.
8. Scheme for reimbursement of expenditure incurred by mine workers for Kidney Transplantation etc.
9. Scheme for provision of artificial limbs for mine workers.
10. Scheme for compensation in case of fatal and serious accident for mine workers.
11. Grant-in-aid to Iron Ore and Limestone & Dolomite Mines Management for purchase of Ambulance Vans.

B. Housing

1. Build Your Own House Scheme.
2. Group Housing Scheme.
3. Type-I Housing Scheme.
4. Type-II Housing Scheme.

C. Education

1. Grant of scholarship to School or College going children of mine workers.
2. Composite Scheme for financial assistance for purchase of a set of dress/slates/text books.
3. Grant for purchase of school bus.
4. Setting up Library-cum-Reading Rooms.
5. Grants to Libraries maintained by mine managements.
6. Grants for purchase of furniture and equipment to Schools.
7. Mid day meals for primary school going children of Iron Ore and Mica Mine Workers.
8. Hostel with Boarding facilities.

D. Recreation

1. Social/Cultural/Sports activities.
2. Buses for transportation of workers.
3. Provision of Audio Visual Sets/Cineme Vans/ Exhibition of Films.
4. Excursion cum Study Tours.

5. Supply of T.V. Sets.
6. Setting up Multipurpose Institutes.
7. Setting up of Welfare Centres.
8. Grants to M.P.Is./D.M.P.Is/Welfare Centres.
9. Sports Grounds.
10. Holiday Homes.

E. Water Supply

1. Sinking of Wells.
2. Assistance to Small Mine Owners.
3. Water Supply Schemes for big mines.

[English]

INDIAN ECONOMY

1675. Shri Manjay Lal : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Union Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in 'Jansatta' dated February 2, 1995 under the caption 'Aarthik Morche Par Ham Phisal Rahe hai';

(b) whether restrictions are imposed on expenditure in any business concern in case of incurring losses whereas the Government expenditure is constantly increasing and budget deficit is also increasing;

(c) if so, whether the Government are formulating any action plan, to tackle its ill-effects, ever increasing burden of debt on the country, price rise and unprecedented increase in inflation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) No news-item captioned 'Arthik Morche Par Ham Phisal Rahe hai' appeared in the daily edition of 'Jansatta' dated 2nd February, 1995.

(b) to (d) Government has initiated major economic reforms in public sector aimed at increasing efficiency of the public sector and reducing the draft which loss making public sector units imposed on the Government Budget. The Government has taken a number of steps to introduce reforms in PSUs along the following lines :

- Budgetary support in the form of non-plan loans to loss making PSUs is being phased out after 1994-95.
- Public Sector equity is being disinvested upto 49 per cent in selected public enterprises.
- Public Sector enterprises are being allowed to form joint ventures and also to raise fresh equity from the market to finance their expansion plans.
- Sick Industrial Companies Act (SICA) was amended to bring PSUs within the jurisdiction of the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR).

Greater flexibility is being introduced in pricing decisions, particularly those relating to Steel prices, petroleum product prices and coal prices.

INVESTMENTS BY NRIs

1676. Shri M. V. V. S. Murthy : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the reserve Bank of India has allowed Non-resident Indians, overseas corporate bodies and Financial Institutional Investors to invest on a repatriable basis in all activities except agriculture and plantation in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of proposals received in this regard;

(c) the reasons for not opening farm sector to foreign investors;

(d) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India has been finally cleared and is likely to be the first beneficiary after the Reserve Bank of India announcement;

(e) whether these RBI directives have encouraged Non-resident Indians and overseas corporate bodies in investing more India; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) Non-resident Indians (NRIs), Overseas Corporate Bodies (OCBs) and Foreign Institutional Investor (FIIs) registered with the Securities and exchange Board of India (SEBI) have been granted general permission to make secondary market investments through Store-exchanges, on a repatriable basis; without any sectoral restraints, and within an overall ceiling of 24% of the paidup equity capital of an Indian company. As per the reports filed with SEBI by the Custodians to the FIIs, as on 30-6-1995, the cumulative net investments by 323 FIIs registered with SEBI have been US \$ 3447.6 million.

(c) It is the policy of the Government not to allow foreign investors to own agricultural land in the country.

(d) Guidelines issued by SEBI in October, 1993 provides for reservation in Public Issue upto 24% in favour of NRIs/OCBs/FIIs. Any Indian company including IDBI is therefore permitted to make reservatic in their public issue subject to the SEBI Guidelines.

(e) and (f) Total inflow against various NRI schemes as reported by the Reserve Bank of India shows an increasing trend during the last four years :

Rs. Crores			
1992	1993	1994	Jan.-June 1995
149.69	559.59	1108.31	1063.65

[Translation]

GRANT FOR BEAUTIFICATION OF TOURIST PLACES

1677. Dr. Gunvant Rambhau Sarode : Will the **Minister**

of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to allocate grants for beautification of tourist places in the States to attract tourists; and

(b) if so, the amount allocated to each State for this purpose during 1995-96 ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) The Department of Tourism has formulated a scheme for refurbishment of monuments and improvement of their environs which includes landscaping and beautification of the area around the monuments/heritage buildings.

(b) Depending on the proposals received from the State Governments and Union Territories, amounts are sanctioned and released on the basis of interse priority and availability of funds.

SHARE OF ITDC

1678. Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) the share capital of India Tourism Development Corporation and the share sold along with the details of such shareholders who are having more than one per cent share;

(b) whether the ITDC propose to sell its share to financial institutions like UTI, LIC, Bank, Mutual Fund as well as to staff of ITDC;

(c) whether the Government propose to renovate its hotels with the amount so collected; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) The present share capital of ITDC is Rs. 67.5194 crores. As on date, the entire equity of ITDC is held by Government of India. In Jan., 1995, 67,51,000 shares of Rs. 10 each of ITDC were sold at a total price of Rs. 51,98,50,175. The procedure to transfer the shares certificates to the successful bidders is on hand.

(b) As regards selling of shares to financial institutions, if and when Government undertakes further disinvestment, an opportunity will be provided to all those who are eligible to hold shares in India, to apply for the shares. In so far as, the staff of ITDC is concerned, a decision has already been taken to offer a maximum of 200 shares of Rs. 10 each @ Rs. 65 per share to each eligible employee of ITDC, subject to the restriction that the total offer to the employees does not exceed 5% of the paid up capital.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The proceeds of disinvestment (if any), are credited to the Consolidated Fund of India.

[English]

EXPANSION OF INDORE AIRPORT

1679. Shri Surajbhanu Solanki : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Airport Authority of India has taken over the work of expansion of Indore Airport; and

(b) if so, by when the expansion work is likely to be completed ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India is developing Indore airport as a model airport with provision for customs and immigration facilities. The work as expected to be completed by December, 1996.

TAMBE COMMITTEE REPORT

1680. Shri Ram Kapse : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received the Report of the Tambe Committee appointed by the Reserve Bank of India to go into the causes of the deterioration financial condition of the Bank of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that recommendations made by the Committee on the various aspects of Bank of Maharashtra's functioning are in the following areas :

1. Financial restructuring
2. Leadership and direction
3. Organisational structure
4. Deposits, credit and other business operations
5. Human resources management
6. Key processes and systems.

RBI is examining the recommendations of the Committee.

FIRMS MISUSING VABAL SCHEME

1681. Shri Mohan Rawale : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 911 on July 29, 1994 regarding raids on firms misusing VABAL scheme and state;

(a) the action taken so far by the Director General of Foreign Trade against the firms for misusing VABAL scheme;

(b) the amount of tax recovered from each of these firms on the tax avaded income of Rs. 5.31 crores as disclosed by these firms;

(c) whether any arrests have been made in this case;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) The investigations against the firms misusing VABAL scheme have been initiated.

Penal action under the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act can be taken only after completion of the investigations.

(b) The relevant assessments have not been completed and therefore taxes on evaded income have not been realised. One of the firms, namely, Padmini Polymers Limited has, however, paid Rs. 25 lakhs.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) Investigations have not been concluded.

LEASE OF RESTAURANTS AND BARS BY ITDC HOTELS

1682. Shri Tarit Baran Topdar : Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state the revenue earned from the leasing of restaurants and bars attached to ITDC hotels to private operators during each of the last three years ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : The revenue earned by ITDC leasing out the Restaurants in various during each of the last three years is as under :

Year		Revenue Earned (Rs. in lakhs)
1992-93	—	86.33
1993-94	—	83.85
1994-95	—	121.46 (Prov.)

ITDC has not leased out any Bar in any of its Hotels.

HOARDING OF JUTE

1683. Shri Chitta Basu : Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been large scale hoarding of the raw jute in West Bengal causing abnormal rise of raw jute prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to stop this practice ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) to (c) There was an increase in prices of raw jute during the last quarter of the 1994-95 jute season primarily because of mismatch between supply and demand. This was accentuated by uncertain crop prospects for 1995-96 season due to adverse weather at showing time and consequently, the anticipated delayed arrival of the crop in the market. In order to curb the upward tendency in raw jute prices, at that time, several steps were taken by the Government; viz :

- (i) Mills holding inventory of 8 weeks consumption requirement and above were directed under the Jute (Licensing and Control) order 1961 to suspend further purchase;
- (ii) Raw Jute traders holding stocks in excess of 500 qncls. were asked to declare their stocks to Jute Commissioner's Office;
- (iii) Import of raw jute was freely allowed under OGL without payment of any import duty; and
- (iv) The State Governments were requested to mobilise their licencing/enforcement machinery.

The upswing in prices of raw jute has since been arrested and prices have begun showing a declining trend.

EXPORT OF SILK WASTE

1684. Shri Chhitubhai Gamit : Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state :

(a) the total export of silk waste during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) whether the Government propose to ban export of silk waste in view of the shortage of silk waste in the country;

(c) if so, details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have also received the request from the Government of Gujarat in this regard; and

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

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) The total exports of silk waste during 1993-94 and 1994-95 (upto December, 94) were 286 Metric Tonnes and 647 Metric Tonnes respectively.

(b) and (c) The Government had received representations from the Government of Karnataka, some spun silk mills and also from some reelers' associations, both for and against the existing policy of unrestricted export of silk waste. The Government had, therefore, constituted an Experts Committee to review the existing policy on silk waste exports. No decision has been taken to ban the export of silk waste.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

SCHEME FOR THE AGRICULTURAL LABOUR

1685. Dr. Asim Bala : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) the number of landless agricultural workers in the country State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to introduce any scheme for the welfare of the landless agricultural workers in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) A Statement is annexed.

(b) and (c) The Government are implementing a number of poverty alleviation and employment generation schemes like IRDP, JRY, EAS, IAY, TRYSEM, DWACRA etc., which are designed especially to benefit rural poor including landless agricultural labourers. During the VIIIth Plan, outlay for rural development is Rs. 30,000 crore as against Rs. 10,650 crore during the previous Plan period.

Statement

S. No.	State/U.T.	No. of Agricultural Labourers (1991 Census)
1	2	3
	India	74,597,744 (Excluding J & K)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11,625,159
2.	Assam	844,964
3.	Bihar	9,512,892
4.	Gujarat	3,230,547
5.	Haryana	896,782
6.	Himachal Pradesh	58,668
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	—
8.	Karnataka	4,999,959
9.	Kerala	2,120,452
10.	Madhya Pradesh	5,863,029
11.	Maharashtra	8,313,223
12.	Manipur	47,350
13.	Meghalaya	89,492
14.	Nagaland	7,233
15.	Orissa	2,976,750
16.	Punjab	1,452,828
17.	Rajasthan	1,391,670
18.	Sikkim	12,851
19.	Tamil Nadu	7,896,295
20.	Tripura	187,538
21.	Uttar Pradesh	7,833,258
22.	West Bengal	5,055,478
23.	A & N Islands	4,989
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	20,054
25.	Chandigarh	1,642

1	2	3
26.	D & N Haveli	6,233
27.	Delhi	25,195
28.	Goa	35,284
29.	Daman & Diu	1,199
30.	Lakshdweep	—
31.	Mizoram	9,527
32.	Pondicherry	77,203

MINIMUM WAGES FOR AGRICULTURAL LABOUR

1686. Dr. Sudhir Ray : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring forward a Bill guaranteeing minimum wages to agricultural labourers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

The Minister of Labour (Shri P.A. Sangma) : (a) to (c) The existing Act viz., The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 applies inter-alia to agricultural labourers.

INDIAN BUSINESSMEN DELEGATION TO USA

1687. Shri Udaysingrao Gaikwad : Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given permission to the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce and Industry to lead delegation of Indian Businessmen to U.S.A. in September, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any guidelines have been laid down for this delegation during their visit to USA;

(d) if so, the details thereof with its objectives;

(e) whether some criteria for selection of Indian businessmen has been prescribed;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the country will be benefited with such visit; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons, therefor?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) to (h) The Indo-American Chamber of Commerce have intimated that they are mounting a business delegation to US in September 1995. The composition of the delegation is decided by the Chamber as per criteria evolved by it and no formal Government permission or participation is involved. The Chamber has also intimated that the focus of the delegation will be Automobiles Components Sector, Private Sector delegations of this type help Indian Companies to explore the US market as well as explore possibilities of jointly exploring third country markets for manufacture and exports.

REPORTS BY COST ACCOUNTS BRANCH MINISTRY OF FINANCE

1688. Shri Upendra Nath Verma : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of reports sent by Cost Accounts Branch to the various Ministries during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the details of recommendation contained in each report; and

(c) the details of the recommendations of the Cost Accounts Branch which have not been accepted ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) Details of reports sent by Cost Accounts Branch to various Ministries/Departments during the last three years are given in the **Statement** enclosed.

(b) Recommendations, inter-alia, include price fixation of products/services, verification of escalation claims, wage structure, cost accounting systems, etc.

(c) It is for the user Ministry/Department to take a view on the Reports of the Cost Accounts Branch. They do not always keep the Cost Accounts Branch informed of the action taken by them.

Statement

Details of reports sent by Cost Accounts Branch to various Ministries during the last three years, i.e. 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95

Sl. No.	Subject	User Ministries
1	2	3

A. Studies Done During 1992-93

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. | Verification of Escalation Claim | Ministry of Defence |
| 2. | Verification of Escalation Claim | Ministry of Railways |

1	2	3
3.	Price Fixation of fabrics supplied by National Textiles Corporation (PSU)	Ministry of Textiles
4.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Railways
5.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
6.	Price Fixation of insecticides to NMEP supplied by Hindustan Insecticides Ltd. (PSU)	Ministry of Chemicals & Petro-chemicals
7.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
8.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
9.	Verification of Wage Escalation Claim	Ministry of Railways
10.	Determination of normative distribution cost of levy sugar	Ministry of Food
11.	Price Fixation of Traction Equipment supplied by Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (PSU) to Railways	Ministry of Railways
12.	Price fixation of woollen fabrics supplied by British India Corpn. (PSU)	Ministry of Textiles
13.	Price fixation of rates for Aerial photography	Ministry of Science & Technology
14.	Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
15.	Price fixation of textiles fabrics supplied by National Textiles Corporation Ltd. (PSU)	Ministry of Textiles
16.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
17.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
18.	Price fixation of insecticides to NMEP supplied by Hindustan Insecticides Ltd., (PSU)	Ministry of Chemicals & Petro-chemicals
19.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
20.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
21.	Cost verification of flats constructed by Lok Sabha Sectt. Group Housing Society	Lok Sabha Secretariat
22.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Railways
23.	Price fixation of handloom fabrics supplied by Association of Corporations & Apex Societies of Handloom to DGB&D	Ministry of Textiles
24.	Cost Accounting systems of Ordnance Factories, Avadi and Medak	Ministry of Defence
25.	Study of charges payable to State Governments for executing National Highway works	Ministry of Surface Transport
26.	Verification of Wage Escalation Claim	Ministry of Railways
27.	Price fixation of woollen fabrics supplied by National Textile Corporation Ltd. (PSU).	Ministry of Textiles
28.	Methodology for ascertainment of cost of postal services	Ministry of Communications
29.	Wages Escalation Claim	Ministry of Railways
30.	Fixation of prices of insecticides to NMEP supplied by Hindustan Insecticides Ltd. (PSU)	Ministry of Chemicals & Petro-chemicals
31.	Price fixation of Aerial Photography work	Ministry of Science & Technology
32.	Price fixation of Natural Rubber	Ministry of Commerce

1	2	3
33.	Price fixation of Insecticides to NMEP by Southern Pesticides Corporation Ltd. (PSU)	Ministry of Chemicals & Petro-chemical
34.	Verification of Wages Escalation Claim	Ministry of Railways
35.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
36.	Verification of subsidy to Northern Railways	Prime Minister's Office
B. Studies Done During 1993-94		
1.	Price fixation of woollen fabrics supplied by British India Corporation (PSU)	Ministry of Textiles
2.	Price fixation of fabrics supplied by Association of Corporations and Apex Societies of Handloom	Ministry of Textiles
3.	Verification of subsidy to Northern Railways	Lok Sabha Sectt.
4.	Price fixation of insecticides to NMEP supplied by Hindustan Insecticides Ltd. (PSU)	Ministry of Chemicals & Petro Chem.
5.	Price fixation of Handloom items supplied by association of Corporations and Apex Societies of Handloom	Ministry of Textiles
6.	Price fixation of fabrics supplied by National Textiles Corporation (PSU)	Ministry of Textiles
7.	Cost study of tear gas gun manufactured by Border Security Force	Ministry of Home Affairs
8.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
9.	Review of BICP Report on Tyre Industry	Ministry of Industry
10.	Cost study of overhead charges in the wagon industry	Ministry of Railways
11.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
12.	Price fixation of Aerial photography work	Ministry of Sc. & Tech.
13.	Price fixation of fabrics supplied by National Textiles Corporation (PSU)	Ministry of Textiles
14.	Cost study for revision of agency charges payable to Department of Posts	Ministry of Finance
15.	Price fixation of natural rubber	Ministry of Commerce
16.	Cost study of film processing rates	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
17.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
18.	Verification of Wages Escalation Claim	Ministry of Railways
19.	Determination of norms of Market Intervention Schemes	Ministry of Agriculture
20.	Verification of subsidy to Northern Railways	Prime Minister's Office
21.	Cost study of mono block sleepers	Ministry of Railways
22.	Price fixation of woollen fabrics British India Corporation (PSU)	Ministry of Textiles
23.	Price fixation of traction electrics supplied by BHEL	Ministry of Railways
C. Studies Done During 1994-95		
1.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
2.	Price fixation of Aerial photography	Ministry of Science & Technology
3.	Price fixation of Handloom by Association of Corporations and Apex Societies of Handloom	Ministry of Textiles

1	2	3
4.	Price fixation of durries by Association of Corporations and Apex Societies of Handloom	Ministry of Textiles
5.	Verification of Escalation Claims	Ministry of Railways
6.	Price fixation of insecticides to NMEP supplied by Hindustan Pesticides Corporation Ltd. (PSU)	Ministry of Chemicals & Petro Chemicals
7.	Price fixation of Insecticides to NMEP supplied by Southern Insecticides Ltd. (PSU)	Ministry of Chemicals & Petro Chemicals
8.	Fixation of rates for computer time on main frame system in computer centre	Ministry of Planning
9.	Price fixation of woollen fabrics by British India Corporation (PSU)	Ministry of Textiles
10.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
11.	Cost study of C.S. Bogies	Ministry of Railways
12.	Price fixation of fabrics supplied by National Textile Corporation (PSU)	Ministry of Textiles
13.	Cost study of Centre Buffer Couplers (HT)	Ministry of Railways
14.	Price fixation of Traction Electrics supplied by Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (PSU) to Railways	Ministry of Railways
15.	Verification of wage structure of Wagon Units	Ministry of Railways
16.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Railways
17.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
18.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
19.	Price fixation of handloom items by Association of Corporations and Apex Societies of Handloom	Ministry of Textiles
20.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Railways
21.	Price fixation of woollen fabrics by British India Corporation (PSU)	Ministry of Textiles
22.	Cost study of motor operated Forging Hammer	Ministry of Railways
23.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Railways
24.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Railways
25.	Study of proforma accounts in Indian Meteorological Department	Ministry of Science and Technology
26.	Price fixation of Tear Gas Gun by Boarder Security Force	Ministry of Home Affairs
27.	Verification of subsidy to Northern Railways	Prime Minister's Office
28.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
29.	Price fixation of Woollen Fabrics	Ministry of Textiles
30.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Railways
31.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
32.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence
33.	Verification of Escalation Claim	Ministry of Defence

HOTELS RUN BY ITDC AND LEASE THEREOF

1689. Shrimati Dilkumari Bhandari : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of hotels being run by India Tourism Development Corporation in the country Statewise;

(b) the number of such hotels leased out to private parties;

(c) the criteria for leasing out of such hotels and restaurants to the private parties; and

(d) the procedure followed by the Government for signing lease agreements with private parties ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) ITDC is presently running 26 hotels in different States as per details given below :

Name of the State	Number of ITDC hotels
Delhi	8
Karnataka	3
Bihar, Rajasthan, Tami Nadu, Uttar Pradesh	2 each
Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, West Bengal	1 each

(b) and (c) No ITDC hotel has been leased out to private parties. The criteria for allotment of restaurants are :

1. Technically valid bid;
2. Expertise and experience of the licensee in the required field;
3. Financial soundness of the licensee; and
4. Maximum lease money or % of turnover whichever is higher.

Apart from above, the licensee is also required to fulfil various terms and conditions as per tender documents/licence agreement.

(d) As per present procedure, restaurants are leased out by calling public tenders through press advertisement, inviting Technical and Financial bids separately, holding negotiations by the Tender Award Committee and seeking approval from the Competent Authority.

EXPORT OF SYNTHETIC YARNS

1690. Shri Lakshman Singh : Will the **Minister of Textiles** be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of synthetic fibres and yarns exported during the last three years;

(b) whether the export of synthetic fibres and yarns has increased after the budget;

(c) if so, the monthly figures of export for January-April, 1995;

(d) whether any target in respect of export during 1995-96 has been fixed; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to achieve these targets ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) :

(a) The exports of synthetic fibre and yarn from India during the past three years have been as follows :

Year	(Quantity in tonnes)	
	Synthetic Fibre	Synthetic Yarn
1992-93	15552	32561
1993-94	8862	26568
1994-95	11630	49254

(b) and (c) The month-wise exports of synthetic fibres and yarn during the period January-April, 1995 are given below :

Month	(Quantity in tonnes)	
	Synthetic Fibre	Synthetic Yarn
January	1245	5270
February	1873	5804
March	2845	9706
April	1156	5669

(d) and (e) An export target of US \$ 850 million has been fixed for the year 1995-96 in respect of synthetic textiles (Fabrics, made-ups, yarn and fibres). Government have been taking a number of steps to boost exports of textiles, including synthetic textiles, such as sponsoring Buyer-Seller Meets, participation in fairs in major markets, releasing advertisements in foreign trade magazines, product development and quality upgradation through appropriate training programmes.

NOTE PRINTING PRESSES

1691. Shri A. Venkatesh Naik :
Shri K.G. Shivappa :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) number of Government note printing presses in the country at present;

(b) whether some presses have become non-viable;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to make these presses viable ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :

(a) At present, there are two note printing presses in the country viz., Currency Note Press, Nashik and Bank Note Press, Dewas.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Question does not arise. Capacity has been outstripped by demand. Therefore, the govt. is augmenting the present capacity by installation of new machinery in existing govt. presses and construction of two new presses by the RBI.

[Translation]

IMPORT AND EXPORT OF CASTORS

1692. Dr. Lal Bahadur Rawal : Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of castor imported/exported and

foreign exchange spent thereon/earned therefrom during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(b) whether there is any restriction on import of castor; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Ministry of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) The quantity and value of import/export of castor oil/seeds, country-wise, during the last three years in given in and the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) Under the current Export-Import Policy, castor plants and castor seeds are covered under Negative List of imports. Castor Oil is allowed to be imported against Special Import Licence.

Statement Import and Export of Castor Oil

Import of Castor Oil	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95 (upto Feb'95)	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
A. Castor Oil Dehydrated	—	—	—	—	—	—
B. Medicinal Castor Oil	—	—	—	—	—	—
Import of Castor Oil Seeds (Nepal)	—	—	3	0.13	—	—
Castor Oil & Its Fractions (Italy)	—	—	—	—	1	0.68
USA	—	—	—	—	Neg.	0.04
Item/Country	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95 (upto Feb'95)	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Export of Castor Oil						
A. Castor Oil Dehydrated						
Australia	24	7.87	38	17.87	19	7.75
Belgium	—	—	40	13.58	51	15.73
Canada	—	—	—	—	62	18.84
Chinese Taipei	10	3.70	—	—	—	—
France	2030	345.17	—	—	—	—
German F. Republic	80	29.99	20	7.81	20	8.11
Italy	—	—	2	0.83	.2	8.63
Japan	60	26.62	30	14.94	376	319.61
Corea Rep.	—	—	6	1.23	.2	0.63
Kuwait	16	3.34	—	—	—	—
Malaysia	Neg.	0.11	—	—	—	—
Netherland	1839	283.43	19	4.89	2075	447.23
Newsealand	66	20.74	104	74.83	127	55.18

Item/Country	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95 (upto Feb'95)	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Nigeria	125	30.20	—	—	—	—
Russia	—	—	—	—	48	13.97
Saudi Arab	—	—	1	0.35	15	5.76
Singapore	15	4.19	17	7.33	—	—
Spain	93	28.91	47	17.05	32	12.44
Thailand	1495	234.27	496	138.74	—	—
UAE	46	11.56	—	—	—	—
UK	Neg.	0.01	—	—	—	—
USA	1278	368.29	1951	338.45	5884	1578.16
B. Medicinal Castor Oil						
Australia	—	0.78	—	—	—	—
Brazil	—	—	—	668.37	—	28.04
Egypt	—	14.25	—	—	—	—
France	—	871.40	—	461.56	—	999.28
Hongkong	—	—	—	484.75	—	—
Indonesia	—	2.90	—	—	—	—
Japan	—	—	—	80.25	—	83.98
Liberia	—	—	—	—	—	0.34
Mauritius	—	—	—	—	—	0.41
Nepal	—	—	—	—	—	0.34
Netherland	—	549.94	—	169.32	—	—
Newzealand	—	—	—	0.38	—	—
Russia	—	—	—	—	—	6.00
Singapore	—	4.16	—	—	—	—
Spain	—	45.80	—	278.44	—	—
Thailand	—	—	—	373.78	—	—
UAE	—	—	—	—	—	0.69
USA	—	25.71	—	1299.42	—	6.49

Surce : DGCI & S, Calcutta.

WORLD BANK AIDED PROJECTS

1693. Shri Sureshanand Swami : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of projects being implemented in Uttar Pradesh with assistance of the World Bank;

(b) whether the work on many projects out of them has come to a standstill due to non-availability of funds in time from the World Bank;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to hold talks with the authorities of the World Bank in this matter; and

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

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :
(a) The details of State/Multistate Projects being implemented in Uttar Pradesh, for which funds are routed through the State Budget, with assistance of the World Bank is as follows :

(in US \$ million)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Donor Agency	Amount
1.	U.P. Urban Development	IDA	130.00
2.	U.P. Basic Education	IDA	165.00
3.	U.P. Sodic Land Reclamation	DA	54.70
4.	Shrimp & Fish Culture (Multistate)	IDA	85.00
5.	State Roads Project (Multistate)	IBRD/IDA	200.275
6.	Population-VI (Multistate)	IBRD/IDA	124.6
7.	Technician Education-I (Multistate)	IBRD/IDA	124.6

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

INTRODUCTION OF RUPEE BASED DERIVATIVES

1694. Shri Manoranjan Bhakta : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether an expert group on foreign exchange has suggested for the introduction of rupee-based derivatives;

(b) if so, the details of suggestions made in this regard; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government thereon ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :
(a) and (b) An Export Group on Forex Markets in India, headed by Shri O. P. Sodhani, Executive Director, Reserve

Bank of India, in its report submitted to RBI in June, 1995, has suggested that the focus of reform in the long run should be introduction of Rupee-based derivatives in India, after reforms in the Money Market and investment/borrowing of short term funds overseas are put in place. The Group has suggested that RBI may invite detailed proposals from banks for offering rupee-based derivatives but has not gone into the details of such derivatives.

(c) The suggestions made by the Group are under examination by Reserve Bank of India.

CHILD LABOUR

1695. Dr. P. Vallal Peruman : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state the amount released by the Union Government to various States for Elimination Programmes of Child Labour for the year 1995-96, State-wise ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : So far, in 1995-96, an amount of Rs. 17,46,667/- has been released. The amount has gone to the Child Labour Welfare Society, Ferozabad, U.P. for opening 10 new special schools under the National Child Labour Project Scheme to cover 1000 children withdrawn from the Glass Industry.

[Translation]

CHILD LABOUR

1696. Shrimati Sheela Gautam :
Shri Rajveer Singh :
Shri Rajesh Kumar :

Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Governments are sending their reports regarding implementation of Child Labour Laws from time to time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the States which have not implemented Child Labour Laws, so far; and

(d) the reasons therefor and the remedial steps taken to implement the Child Labour laws in each State ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, State Governments/Union Territories send quarterly reports on the enforcement of the provisions of Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 and the Factories Act, 1948 relating to child labour. Enforcement figures state-wise for the year 1993-94 is given in the enclosed **Statement**.

(c) Child Labour Laws are in force in all the States/UTs.

(d) Does not arise in view of answer to (c) above.

Statement

1993-94

Sl. No.	State/UTs	No. of Inspections		No. of Violations		No. of prosecutions		No. of Convictions	
		C.L. Act	Fac. Act	C.L. Act	Fac. Act	C.L. Act.	Fac. Act.	C.L. Act	Fac. Act
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Gujarat	2440	7885	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Bihar	1321	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Himachal Pradesh	72	61	—	—	14	15	10	17
4.	Haryana	241	143	45	2	—	—	—	—
5.	Kerala	—	3823	—	—	—	3	—	—
6.	Madhya Pradesh	2588	1437	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Maharashtra	731	13415	29	37	21	37	—	—
8.	Manipur	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Meghalaya	290	191	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Orissa	95	45	69	2	—	2	—	—
11.	Punjab	726	277	1	3	1	219	—	204
12.	Rajasthan	181	836	—	—	1	—	—	—
13.	Tamilnadu	—	6612	—	75	—	37	1	5
14.	Tripura	—	40	—	—	—	—	—	—
15.	Uttar Pradesh	7986	263	1645	29	1271	11	254	8
16.	Daman & Diu	15	67	11	12	—	—	—	—
17.	Delhi	187	286	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		16861	35378	1814	160	1308	324	264	234

PERFORMANCE OF EXPORT PROCESSING ZONES

1697. Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar :
Shri Nawal Kisore Rai :

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to states :

- (a) whether seven export processing zones have been set up in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of those industrial units among them which were functioning during 1994-95;
- (c) the foreign exchange earned by these units during this period; and
- (d) the value of total export and import made by these

units during 1994-95 separately and the percentage it constitutes of the country's total exports and imports during the same period ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 1994-95, 498 Industrial Units were functioning in the Export Processing Zones.

(c) and (d) Exports and imports by industrial units in EPZs during 1994-95 were Rs. 2653.11 Crores and Rs. 1705.46 Crores respectively. While exports from EPZs constituted 3.22% of India's total exports, imports by EPZ units formed 1.92% of the country's imports.

[English]

BOGUS INSURANCE POLICIES

1698. Shrimati Saroj Dubey:
Shri Upendra Nath Verma:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Pramotes Mukherjee:
Shri Vilasrao Nagnathrao Gundewar:
Shri Vilas Muttemwar:
Shrimati Pratibha Devisingh Patil:

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Insurance Policies issued by the Life Insurance Corporation during each of the last three years and the cases out of them found fake so far ;

(b) the estimated loss suffered by Life Insurance Corporation as a result thereof ;

(c) whether any inquiry has since been conducted in the matter ;

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

(e) the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken to put a check on fake insurance business?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :
 (a) to (e) The Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India has informed that the number of life insurance policies issued by it during each of the last three years is as follows :

Year		No. of Policies
1992-93	—	99,57,848
1993-94	—	1,07,25,633
1994-95	—	1,08,74,682

Policies are issued by the LIC only on receipt of premium. However, some irregularities have been reported from a few branches of LIC where policies were issued on non-existent lives. These are under investigation by CBI.

LIC has further informed that it has a system of internal audit and inspection for every office every year as well as a special audit and inspection of each divisional office at the time of annual closing of books. These controls have been found to be effective.

BRANCH OFFICES OF GIC

1699. Shri Harchand Singh : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the General Insurance Corporation proposes to open some new Regional Offices; Divisional Offices and Branch Offices of its subsidiary companies during 1995-96; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, company-wise and region-wise?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :
 (a) and (b) At present, the emphasis of insurance companies is on consolidation of existing office. While the national Insurance Company Limited has opened two new Regional Offices, one each at Bombay and Delhi with the prior approval of General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC), as of now no decision has been taken by the other subsidiaries of the GIC to open new Regional Offices, Divisional Offices and Branch Offices during the Financial Year 1995-96.

EXPORT OF GANJA

1700. Shri Paras Ram Bhardwaj : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is a largest exporter of ganja;

(b) if so, the details regarding the quantity exported during each of the last three years, country-wise as well as the foreign exchange earned during the above period ;

(c) whether the Government have received any report regarding the destruction of ganja plants;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the quantity and the value thereof ; and

(e) the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :
 (a) No, Sir, The cultivation of cannabis plant (from which ganja is produced) except of medical and scientific purposes, is prohibited under the NDPS Act.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. As per the available information during 1994, 858 acres of illicit cultivation of cannabis plant were destroyed in the country. No precise valuation of ganja, which is often of indeterminate strength and composition and is liable for destruction can be made.

SALT WORKERS OF GUJARAT

1701. Shri N.J. Rathva : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the salt workers in Gujarat are leading a life of abject poverty;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any plan to ameliorate the conditions of these salt workers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the plan likely to be implemented ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P.A. Sangma) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) It has been reported by the Govt. of Gujarat that they are implementing a number of welfare schemes/ measures for the welfare of salt workers in Gujarat such as :

(i) Setting up of welfare centres,

(ii) Balwadi-cum-Creches for the children of salt workers,

- (iii) First aid centres for salt workers,
- (iv) Group insurance scheme for salt workers,
- (v) Scheme for residential quarters and other facilities for rest and recreation of the salt workers,
- (vi) Vocational training for the children of salt workers,
- (vii) Mobile fair price shop for salt workers,
- (viii) Water supply scheme for salt workers,
- (ix) Schemes for providing education to the children of salt workers, and
- (x) Scheme for Economic Development of the salt workers etc.

PROPOSAL TO CONSTRUCT/UPGRADE AIR-STRIPS

1702. **Dr. Vasant Niwruutti Pawar** : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct new Air-Strips and also to upgrade the present Air-strips in the country during the year 1995-96; and

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

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) During 1995-96, it is planned to set up new airports at Tura in Meghalaya, Lengpui in Mizoram, Kargil in Jammu & Kashmir and Androth in Lakshadweep with budgetary support from the Union Government. Upgradation/extension of runways is in progress/being undertaken at Aurangabad in Maharashtra, Udaipur and Jaipur in Rajasthan, Indore and Raipur in Madhya Pradesh, Calicut in Kerala, Bhubaneswar in Orissa. Shimla in Himachal Pradesh, Lilabari and Dibrugarh in Assam, Agartala in Tripura and Port Blair in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

OUTSTANDING OF ITDC HOTEL

1703. **Shri Syed Shahabuddin** : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 370 on April 28, 1995 regarding outstanding payments to ITDC and state :

(a) the break-up of the total outstanding payments due to India Tourism Development Corporation hotels as on March 31, 1994 by the Union Government, State Government, Central and State Public Sector Undertakings and private parties;

(b) the steps taken to stop build-up of outstanding payments due from the same parties;

(c) the number of cases in which legal action has been taken in respect of dues as on March 31, 1994, during the following financial year; and

(d) the corresponding figures of outstanding payment due as on March 31, 1995 ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri

Ghulam Nabi Azad : (a) The requisite information is given as under :

Name of the Party	Outstanding of ITDC Hotels (Rs. in lakhs) (As on 31-3-94)
Union Govt.	244.44
State Governments	181.28
Central Public Sector Undertakings	390.18
State Public Sector Undertakings	14.19
Private Parties	1498.57
Total	2328.57

(b) The steps taken to realise the outstanding dues include : Follow-up by way of reminders, personal contracts, periodical review both at Unit & Corporate level & legal action wherever necessary.

(c) Legal action has been initiated in 45 cases during 1994-95 in respect of outstanding dues as on 31 March, 1994.

(d) The outstanding dues of ITDC from Union Government, State Government, Central and State Public Sector Undertakings and private parties as on 31-3-1995 were Rs. 25.28 crores (prov. figures).

[Translation]

MODERNISATION OF SPINNING MILLS

1704. **SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK** : Will the **Minister of Textiles** be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal regarding the modernisation of cooperative spinning mills in Uttar Pradesh is pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) to (c) as per information made available for modernisation of cooperative spinning mills in Uttar Pradesh is pending with them.

DEVELOPMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION IN STATES

1705. **Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi** : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes for the development of Civil Aviation implemented in each State during the current Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount provided to each State by the Union Government for the development of Civil Aviation during the same period till date scheme-wise; and

(c) the details of the developmental works undertaken/ being undertaken in each State separately during the current Five Year Plan ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) to (c) Major projects of upgradation and construction of new airports envisaged during 8th Five Year Plan by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) are as follows :

- (i) Modernisation of air traffic control services at Bombay and Delhi Airports.
- (ii) Procurement of Airport Surveillance Radars and Monopulse Secondary Surveillance Radars.
- (iii) Development of Model airports.
- (iv) Construction of International Passenger Terminal Complex (Phase-III) at Bombay airport.
- (v) Construction of Domestic Terminal Complex (Phase-II) at Bombay airport.

It is planned to set up new airports at Tura in Meghalaya, Lengpui in Mizoram, Kargil in Jammu & Kashmir and Androth in Lakshadweep with budgetary support from the Union Government.

By and large no amount is allocated by the Union Government to the State Government for development of Civil Aviation.

[English]

FUNDS TO SICK UNITS BY IRBI

1706. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India plans to shed its assigned role of funding sick units for their revival ; and

(b) if so, the rationale behind this IRBI's concept and the broad operational parameters it proposes to adopt to fund the ailing companies in the new set up ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) No, Sir, Industrial Reconstruction bank of India (IRBI) has reported that it continues to extend financial assistance for the revival of sick and weak industrial units after satisfying itself regarding techno-economic and commercial viability of such units.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

BANK LOANS TO RURAL AREAS OF RAJASTHAN

1707. Shri Kunjee Lal : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of loans provided by various banks in the rural areas of Rajasthan during 1994-95; and

(b) the percentage of such loans in comparison to total deposits in these banks ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) The outstanding advances of rural branches of Scheduled Commercial Banks in Rajasthan as at the end of March 1995 were Rs.1232,95 crores constituting 51.96 per cent of the corresponding deposits and 11.87 per cent of the aggregate deposits of these banks in the State.

[English]

RETRENCHMENT OF WORKERS UNDER EXIT POLICY

1708. Shri Sushil Chandra Verma :
Shri M. Ramanna Rai :

Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) the number of workers retrenched under Exit Policy of the Union Government by the end of June, 1995;

(b) the industries in which they were working;

(c) the amount of compensation paid to the retrenched workers so far; and

(d) the number of workers being imparted training under the Union Government's new vocational scheme for workers and the industries to which they belong to ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P.A. Sangma) : (a) to (c) The policy regarding 'exit' or 'closure' of an industrial establishment or a part there of and retrenchment of workers is contained in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The Act provides for certain measures of protection to the workers in the event of lay off, retrenchment and closure. According to the Act, every retrenched workman is entitled to compensation equivalent to fifteen days average pay for every completed year of service or any part thereof in excess of six months. The workman proposed to be retrenched must also be given one month's/three month's notice in writing indicating the reasons for his retrenchment and in the absence of any notice he must be paid wages for the notice period.

Labour Bureau collects information relating to retrenchment as defined under the Industrial Disputes Act, A statement indicating the number of units effecting retrenchment and workers retrenched, industry-wise from 1991 to 1995 (January-May) is annexed.

(d) Five Employee Assistance Centres respectively at Bombay, Indore, Ahmdabad, Kanpur and Calcutta were sanctioned under the National Renewal Fund as pilot projects for job counselling, retraining, self-employment and redeployment/placement of workers affected by industrial restructuring. In addition to these a special Training Scheme has been sanction under the NRF for implementation through the Directorate General of Employment and Training under Ministry of Labour for workers rendered surplus or voluntarily retired. As on 31-3-95, 1290 workers were re-retrained in the above mentioned 5 centres. Additionally 585 workers are undergoing training under the Special Training Scheme of DGE&T.

Statement
Number of Units Effecting Retrenchment and Workers Retenched by
Selected Industry Groups During 1991-95 (Provisional)

Industry Group	1991		1992		1993		1994		1995 (Jan-May)	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Food Products	11	253	5	78	8	211	6	96	1	1
Beverages, Tobacco & Tob. Products	1	9	—	—	—	—	1	16	—	—
Cotton Textiles	7	55	2	15	1	6	7	121	—	—
Wool, Silk & Synthetic Textiles	9	123	6	46	4	83	—	—	—	—
Jute, Hemp and Mesta Textiles	—	—	2	33	—	—	1	5	—	—
Textiles Products	8	156	10	147	—	—	1	8	3	69
Engineering	58	1451	72	908	59	694	33	449	7	155
Chemical and Chemical Products	9	42	15	157	23	274	11	166	1	12
Non Metallic Minerals Products	5	117	7	134	5	122	9	114	—	—
Other Manufacturing Industries	15	115	19	295	6	97	3	96	—	—
Coal Mining	1	16	1	83	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non Coal Mining	2	39	1	2	3	176	—	—	—	—
Plantations	—	—	1	2	1	177	—	—	—	—
Rubber, Plast., Petro. & Coal Prod.	11	134	10	109	6	52	6	172	—	—
Bank & Similar Financial Inst.	3	8	3	7	1	4	—	—	—	—
Others	95	1878	68	1828	72	995	57	949	7	85
All India	235	4396	222	3836	189	2891	135	2192	19	322

A = Number of Units

B = Number of Workers Retrenched

— = Nil

Source : Labour Bureau, Shimla.

FOREIGN ACCOUNTS OF INDIAN CITIZENS

1709. Dr. K.V.R. Chowdary : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of Indian citizens are holding accounts in several banks in foreign countries;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any efforts to find out the amount deposited by Indians in foreign banks;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :

(a) to (d) Reserve Bank of India has granted general permission to Indian citizens to maintain and operate bank accounts abroad in certain case. Since there is no mechanism for monitoring transactions in such accounts it is not possible to indicate the amount held in these accounts.

PRIVATISATION OF BANKING SECTOR

1710. Shri Yellaiah Nandi : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for privatising the banking services in the country;

(b) if so, the details of Committees/Commissions set up

so far in this regard with full recommendations there of; and

(c) the details of proposals, suggestions entertained so far by the Government in this regard ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :

(a) There is no proposal for privatising the public sector banks.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

MODERNISATION OF AIRPORTS IN MAHARASHTRA

1711. Shri Anna Joshi : Will be **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

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

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

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government thereon;

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

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) to (e) The State Government of Maharashtra had sought technical advice from the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to upgrade Nanded, Jalgaon and Amravati airports and construction of new airports at Shirdi, Ahmednagar and Dhule. AAI had rendered the necessary technical advice to them.

Since these airports belong to the State Government of Maharashtra, necessary expenditure is to be incurred by them.

TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR CRAFTSMEN

1712. Shrimati Vasundhara Rajee : Will the **Minister of Textiles** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government provide any assistance to the State Government to assist the craftsmen to undergo training in the crafts such as carpet making, durri weaving, textile printing and hosiery knit wears etc.; and

(b) if so, the details of the central assistance provided to the Rajasthan during the last three years for the above purpose ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Financial assistance is also provided to State Corporation, Apex Co-operative Societies and non-government organisation for imparting training to craftmen in crafts such as carpet making, durri weaving, textile printing and hosiery knit etc. However, in Rajasthan financial assistance has been provided to various non-government organisations and individual mastercrafts-persons for training in various crafts, details of which

during the last three years are given as under :

Sl. No.	Year	Amount released (Rs. In lakhs)
1.	1992-93	19.53
2.	1993-94	9.40
3.	1994-95	12.93

DUTY ON PRODUCTS FROM SAARC COUNTRIES

1713. Shri R. Surender Reddy : Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have cut down duties substantially on several items from Bangladesh and other least developed countries of the SAARC;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Bangladesh has sought a bigger reduction on a wide range of its products under the South Asian Preferential Trade Agreement (SAPTA);

(d) if so, the details thereof and the items on which further reduction of duty has been sought; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) and (b) In the first round of negotiations under the SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA), India has offered concessions on 106 six-digit tariff lines, out of which 62 lines are exclusively for least developed countries including Bangladesh at margins ranging from 50% to 100% of the applied Most Favoured Nation rate. In addition, concessions granted to non-LDC members are multilateralised amongst all SAPTA members including Least Developed Countries.

(c) to (e) List of items for exchange of tariff concessions in the first round was finalised on the basis of request list received from Bangladesh and after negotiations with their delegation. Further concessions can be negotiated in subsequent rounds of negotiations.

[Translation]

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE

1714. Shri Vilasrao Nagnathrao Gundewar : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the level of consumer price index at present;

(b) whether an additional instalment of Dearness Allowance is due to the Government employees from July 1, 1995;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the next slab of Dearness Allowance will be declared and paid to the Government employees?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) :

(a) The All India Consumer Price Index for the month of June, 1995 is 1509 (1960=100) and the 12 monthly average for the period July, 1994 - June, 1995 is 1436.33.

(b) to (d) In accordance with the formula accepted by the Government on the basis of the recommendations of the 4th Central Pay Commission, Dearness Allowance to Central Government employees is revised twice a year from 1st January and 1st July, which normally becomes payable with the salary for the months of March and September respectively. Each such instalment is calculated on the basis of the percentage increase in 12 monthly average of All India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (General) (1960=100) over the base index of 608, to which the existing scales of pay effective from 1-1-1986 are related.

[English]

SCHEMES FOR WORKERS

1715. Shri George Fernandes : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) whether schemes involving workers' benefits and proposals like change in the Provident Fund rules for workers, plans protecting the rights of child and women workers in hazardous industries are lying pending with the Government;

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

(c) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken on these schemes?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P.A. Sangma) : (a) to (c) Government have only recently approved a number of schemes for benefits to workers through the medium of amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1927, the Maternity Benefit Act, the Bonus Act etc. The change in Provident Fund Rules for workers so as to enable the framing of a Pension Scheme is pending before the Parliament. Every effort is made to ensure that such proposals are processed speedily.

PAY SCALES IN INSURANCE SECTOR

1716. Dr. Mumtaz Ansari : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the pay scales of Insurance Industry are proposed to be revised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in that direction so far?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) The Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India and the General Insurance Corporation (GIC) of India have just commenced wage negotiations with the Employees' Unions. The details can be known only when this process is complete.

EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AIRPORTS

1717. Shri A. Indrakaran Reddy : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have signed agreements with the foreign agencies for financial assistance to

increase the facilities at airports and also to modernise them;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of such foreign agencies; and

(c) the names of airports which are likely to be modernised and facilities to be provided with foreign assistance?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) to (c) The Government has not signed any such agreement with any foreign agency.

[Translation]

MINIMUM WAGES TO AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS

1718. Dr. Chinta Mohan :
Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar :

Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) whether minimum wages are not given to the labourers engaged in agriculture sector;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to make some legal provision to provide minimum wages to them;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P.A. Sangma) : (a) to (d) Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central and State Governments are the appropriate Governments for the fixation/revision of minimum rates of wages for the scheduled employment in Agriculture. The Act also provide for the setting up of enforcement machinery to seek compliance with the provisions of the Act. All the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have set up enforcement machinery in accordance with the provisions of the Act. The enforcement machinery conducts regular inspection and necessary action is taken whenever any violation of the Act comes to their notice.

[English]

EXPORT OF TEXTILES

1719. Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya :
Mag. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri :
Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee :

Will the **Minister of Textiles** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a high-grade study has been made by the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India and the faculty of the Harvard Business School to formulate operational strategies to jack up exports of Indian textiles and apparel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have introduced any scheme for study/training abroad of textile technologists to cope with intensified international competition in textile trade under the new GATT agreement; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) :

(a) and (b) The Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Limited (ICICI), Bombay had a study conducted in collaboration with the Harvard Business School recently on the strategies required to be adopted by the apparel industry to face the challenges of the post Multi Fibre Arrangement (MFA) era. The main recommendations of the study on the apparel industry are as follows :

- (i) Government should lift restrictions on firm size, promote consolidation and make investments attractive.
- (ii) Import policies, procedures and customs should be reoriented to facilitate international trade.
- (iii) Strategic warehouses should be promoted to ensure easy availability of inputs and minimise vulnerability to price fluctuations.
- (iv) Large coordinating companies should be created to take advantage of the flexibility in manufacturing and product variety of small producers.
- (v) Strategic acquisition of distribution channels and brand names in Europe and Americas should be promoted.
- (vi) Centres/Institutes for service system reorientation should be created.
- (vii) Banking Sector needs to address the needs of the industry and trade by reorienting administrative policies and procedures towards quick response.
- (viii) Performance rating of exporters and suppliers should be introduced.
- (ix) Proper focus on export promotion activities should be given.
- (x) Quota allocation policy and procedures should be restructured, aiming at the creation of an efficient apparel manufacturing base.
- (xi) Indian ports need to cut down delays in material handling by upgrading systems and in order to attract major shipping lines.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

EMPLOYEES PROVIDENT FUND

1720. Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to the Government's directives, the subscriptions received in the provident fund of the employees has to be invested to earn interest;

(b) if so, the manner in which this money is to be invested and the Provident Fund money lying uninvested and unclaimed at present;

(c) whether several complaints have been received from the employees for not giving their provident fund on retirement or on demanding loan in time of need;

(d) if so, the number of cases which have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years; and

(e) the action taken by the Government of streamline the working of the Provident Fund Organisation?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P.A. Sangma) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Provident Fund money is being invested in Government securities, in Special Deposit Scheme of the Central Government, in Bonds/Securities of Public Financial Institutions etc. as per the pattern prescribed by the Ministry of Finance. The investible funds are continuously invested on day to day basis. As such the question of the Provident Fund money lying uninvested does not arise. As on 31-3-94 an amount of Rs. 72.49 crores was lying unclaimed.

(c) and (d) The claims of the employees for Provident Fund money are settled by various Sub-Regional/Regional Offices set up by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation in different parts of the country. There have been complaints about delay in payment of Provident Fund dues to the employees. However, the information relating to number of such cases is not centrally maintained.

(e) For providing prompt service to the EPF subscribers a massive computerisation programme has been launched in the EPF Organisation. A Central Action-Plan has also been formulated to monitor settlement of the claims of the subscribers.

IMPROVEMENT OF TOURISM IN ORISSA

1721. Shri Sarat Pattanayak : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has submitted to the Union Government an action plan for improvement to tourism sector in the State; and

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

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) The Government of Orissa has sent a Tourism Development Plan to the Department of Tourism for perusal.

EXTERNAL DEBTS

1722. Shri Harin Pathak : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of external debt against the country as on March 31, 1995 which is to be repaid alongwith interest and the countries from which it was obtained; and

(b) the amount of external financial assistance/grants received by the country during the said period which is

not to be repaid and the countries from which it was obtained?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO AQUA FARMERS

1723. Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has recently issued guidelines to the Commercial Banks and financial institutions regarding provision of financial assistance to the Aqua Farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the immediate steps to provide finance to the Aqua Farmers have been taken;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has been extending refinance support for aquaculture schemes. Based inter-alia, on the suggestions put forward at the Aquaculture Consultation Meet organised by NABARD in November 1994, suggestions for formulation/sanctions of brackish water aquaculture schemes have been communicated by NABARD to all the commercial banks/State Governments. The guidelines/safeguards for formulating/appraising Schemes are as under :

- (i) Need for thorough appraisal on the suitability of the project site and design;
- (ii) Semi-intensive farming for farms having water spread area of at least 15 hectares;
- (iii) More detailed appraisal of creek dependent farms having regard to occurrence of disease;
- (iv) Provision of additional loans for reservoirs and sedimentation tanks in aquaculture farm; and
- (v) Financing for aqua-hatchery scheme should be done after a master plan is prepared by the concerned State Governments.

(c) to (e) NABARD has reported that all aquaculture scheme proposals received for refinance support in respect of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Union Territory of Pondicherry have been kept in abeyance till the disposal of a public interest litigation filed in Supreme Court. Further, NABARD has decided not to support such scheme in certain creeks of Nellore, Vishakapatam and East Godavari districts of Andhra Pradesh on account of recurrence of diseases. However, proposals from other States are considered for sanction on strict compliance by the borrowing units/State Governments of the conditions stipulated in the environmental notification issued by Government of India.

POWERLOOM COMMISSIONER

1724. Shri Rajendra Agnihotri : Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to appoint a Commissioner for powerloom;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir, there is a proposal to appoint a Commissioner for powerlooms to address the problems of the decentralised sector on a full time basis. A decision on this would require concurrence of concerned Ministries.

GUNNY BAGS

1725. Dr. P. R. Gangwar : Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to impose ban on the use of synthetic fibre in manufacture of gunny bags; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) and (b) No Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

UNEMPLOYED IN GUJARAT

1726. Shri Harisinh Chavda : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) the number of job-less persons registered with various employment exchanges in the State of Gujarat so far;

(b) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide employment to these persons in the near future;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide special grants to the States to give unemployment allowance to the jobless youths of the States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) 8.98 lakh job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, are registered with various employment exchanges in the State of Gujarat as on 31st May, 1995.

(b) The Eighth Five Year Plan envisages a strategy for achieving the goal of near full employment situation in the country as a whole by the year 2002. This goal is sought to be achieved by accelerating growth of productive employment opportunities on the basis of faster growth of employment-intensive sectors, sub-sectors and activities. The action taken by the Government of Gujarat in creating

employment opportunities is as under :

- (i) Industrial 'BHARATI MELAS' are being organised in the industrial areas.
 - (ii) Minimum Employment Programme is launched in 34 talukas of 17 districts to provide the Employment, Training and Self-employment.
 - (iii) Prime Minister's new scheme of self-employment is receiving top priority in motivational Shibirs of unemployed youths.
- (c) and (d) No, Sir.

[Translation]

SLAVERY SYSTEM

1727. Shri Ram Kripal Yadav :

Shri Hari Kewal Prasad :

Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

- (a) whether slavery practice is still continuing in some parts of North-Eastern Region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to abolish this system completely?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P.A. Sangma) : (a) and (b) There are no reports of existence of bonded labour system from the North-Eastern States.

(c) The Government has enacted the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, under which the bonded labour system stands abolished and every bonded labourer stands freed and discharged from any obligation to render any bonded labour from the date of commencement of the Act. The implementation of the Act by the State Governments is closely monitored by the Government as part of the new 20 Point Programme which is indicative of the high priority attached to it. To supplement the efforts of the State Governments, the Ministry of Labour launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for rehabilitation of Bonded Labour w.e.f. 1978-79. The scheme provided rehabilitation assistance upto a ceiling of Rs. 6,250/- per bonded labourer, half of which is given as Central share. The State Governments have been advised to suitably dovetail this scheme with other poverty alleviation and employment generation schemes for the purpose of effective rehabilitation of identified bonded labourers.

[English]

STATUS OF INDUSTRY TO TOURISM

1728. Shri Janardan Misra : Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state:

- (a) whether most of the States and Union territories have declared tourism as an industry;
- (b) if so, the details of the facilities being provided to tourists on this account;
- (c) whether the Government propose to give more facilities to tourists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) Yes, Sir. 22 State Governments/ Union Territories have declared tourism as an industry.

(b) As a result of tourism declared as an industry, many States and Union territories have announced concessions and incentives to promote investment in tourism by the private sector. This has resulted in the increase in accommodation facilities for tourists as well as general improvement in infrastructure facilities.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Though the development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments, Central financial assistance is provided for further improvement of facilities. In addition, the Department of Tourism is taking steps to increase private sector investment in tourism sector in co-operation with the State Governments.

PROCUREMENT OF RUBBER BY STC

1729. Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar :
Shri Dattatraya Bandaru :

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state :

- (a) the total quantity of rubber procured by the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. during 1993-94 and 1994-95;
- (b) the price per kilogram paid to the rubber growers;
- (c) whether the S.T.C. proposes to procure more rubber from the open market;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) During 1993-94 and 1994-95, STC had not procured any quantity of rubber.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) to (e) STC is exploring the commercial viability of purchasing natural rubber during the peak arrival period in the market during October-January, 1995-96. Details of this Scheme are yet to be finalised.

PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF VIRGINIA TOBACCO

1730. Shri Dattatraya Bandaru :
Shri Mahesh Kanodia :

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any ceiling was fixed/has been fixed to grow virginia tobacco during each of the last three years including the current financial year, State-wise;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total quantity of virginia tobacco produced by the farmers of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and other States during the above period, State-wise;
- (d) the actual quantity marketed in each of those States

during the above period; and

(e) the total quantity of tobacco exported and the foreign exchanges earned therefrom during each of the last three years?

The Minister of State of the Minister of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) and (b) The quantity of FCV (Fuel Cured Virginia) tobacco authorised by the Tobacco Board during the last three years and for the current financial year State-wise are as follows:

(Quantity authorised in Million Kgs. green Wt.)

Year	Quantity of Tobacco Authorised			
	Andhra Pradesh	Maharashtra	Karnataka	Orissa
1992-93	102.57	0.33	21.12	0.04
1993-94	71.46	0.15	20.98	0.05
1994-95	66.08	0.12	20.03	0.04
1995-96	75.47	0.12	25.24	0.04

(c) and (d) The quantity of FCV tobacco marketed on Board's auction platforms and estimated production during the last three years and for the current financial year State-

wise are as follows :

(Quantity of Million Kgs. green Wt.)

Year	Andhra Pradesh		Maharashtra	
	Quantity Marketed	Quantity Produced	Quantity Marketed	Quantity Produced
1992-93	125.31	134.67	0.31	0.31
1993-94	76.51	91.86	0.12	0.12
1994-95	74.07	84.86	0.08	0.11
1995-96	*	*	*	*

Year	Karnataka		Orissa	
	Quantity Marketed	Quantity Produced	Quantity Marketed	Quantity Produced
1992-93	33.24	33.50	**	0.025
1993-94	32.23	33.50	**	0.025
1994-95	22.19	25.00	**	0.040
1995-96	*	*	**	*

* Crop is yet to produced and marketed during 1995-96.

** Nothing is marketed, as Research Division of ITC is procuring produce from growers.

(e) Quantity of tobacco exported and the foreign exchange earned during the last three years are follow :

(Quantity : Tons ; Value : Rupees Crores)

Item	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Unmanufactured Tobacco	70,607	35.57	90,493	368.25	45,811	174.82
Manufactured Tobacco	17,646	118.46	14,183	92.94	12,588	74.04
Total :	88,253	154.03	104,676	461.19	58,399	248.86

COMMISSION ON LABOUR STANDARDS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

1731. Shri Anand Ratna Maurya : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Commission on Labour Standards and International Trade has made certain recommendations regarding abolition of child labour in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to implement these recommendations;

(d) if so, the time frame fixed in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P.A. Sangma) : (a) to (e) A Commission has been set up by a Resolution of the

Government of India, Ministry of Commerce (Department of Commerce) under the Chairmanship of Dr. Subramanian Swamy for the study of issues concerning the protection of Labour Rights and Related Matters. As per information furnished by Ministry of Commerce, the Commission on Labour Standards has not made any final recommendations.

[Translation]

BOGUS INSURANCE BUSINESS

1732. Shri Ram Prasad Singh :
Shri Surendra Pal Pathak :
Dr. Mumtaz Ansari :
Shri Upendra Nath Verma :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the "Jansatta" dated

July 17, 1995 under the caption "Bogus Beema Kaand Se L.I.C. Mein Harkamp";

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the total amount involved in the bogus insurance scandal and the number of officers and agents, separately, found guilty in this regard;

(d) the remedial action being taken in the matter; and

(e) the target of insurance fixed and achieved by LIC during each of the last three years?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) Yes, Sir. A photocopy of the report is enclosed as **Statement.**

(b) to (d) Some irregularities have been reported from a few branches of LIC where policies were issued on non-existent lives. These are under investigation by CBI. Appropriate action against the guilty persons will be taken by LIC if the charges against them are proved.

(e) The target of insurance and achievement against the target during the last three years, as informed by LIC, was as follows :

Year	Sum Assured (Rs./Cr.)		No. of Policies (lakh)	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
92-93	35,000	35,957	100	99.58
93-94	40,000	41,814	107	107.26
94-95	46,000	55,228	113.7	108.75

Statement

Agitation in LIC for Bogus Insurance Scandal Atmadeep

—Jansatta Correspondent

The news item dated 16-7-95 is regarding bogus insurance scandal in Life Insurance Corporation. Due to this the Central Office of Corporation, Bombay as well as the Central Finance Ministry have come into action. Since fortnight, the teams of Officers of Corporation's Head Office and Regional Office, Delhi are intensely investigating the matter.

Due to this bogus Insurance Scandal the image and reputation of Corporation has blemished. The field staff of the Corporation is facing strong criticism and unnumbered questions of the policy-holders and the officials are unable to reply their questions. The Corporation Head-quarter has tried to gain favour of active labour unions in the Corporation Office here by sending one Executive Director from its Head-quarter. The Director appealed them to keep mum in this matter so that the Corporation may not be calumniated. The refute the said news of this scandal as suggested by labour organisations, the Director expressed his inability.

Apart from this, to overcome the situation the Corporation in the month of June-July gave advertisements of crores of rupees in News papers and tried to publicise its achievements. Whereas such sort of advertisements at such a large scale were never given earlier. The news of bogus insurance scandal has also awared those higher officers of the Corporation who are directly or indirectly indulged and giving protection this bogus insurance tendency, inspite of having real and documentary knowledge about it.

Head Office of the Corporation as well as Central Ministry of Finance has also come into action now. According to a high level source of the Corporation Dr. Manmohan Singh, Union Minister of Finance summoned Sh. J. S. Salunkhe, Chairman of the Corporation to Delhi recently and talked to him in the matter. Dr. Manmohan Singh, Sh. Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi, State Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Leader of BJP Parliamentary Committee, Union Finance Secretary Sh. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Sh. T. K. Banerjee, Insurance Secretary etc. have received the details of the Insurance scandal through different sources. Preparations are going on separately on the discussion of this scandal in the Monsoon session of Parliament.

Unaware and inactive Corporation's Management has awakened when this Bogus Insurance scandal has come into light. None it is looking busy in investigation and preventive activities. In the last week by sending Executive Director (Publicity and Public Relation) from the H.Q., the Corporation is trying to control the situation. Now the Executive Director (Vigilance) is expected to come. It is told that he will take a view of the situation, meet the CBI officers investigating the scandal and will give boost in the matter of investigation.

The Zonal Manager of Accounts Deptt. of the Corporation and the Secretary & Additional Secretary of this Deptt. reached here from Delhi and investigated minutely the matters relating to Bogus Insurance matters and other economic irregularities. After giving necessary instructions the Zonal Manager has returned to Delhi whereas Secretary & Additional Secretary are staying here and looking after the investigation process. These officers are having a vigil watch on that special cell which was constituted three years earlier to investigate the scandals of three big Insurance Branches here. At Jaipur in Branch No. 1 the matter relates to return of cheques of more than the value of Rs. 1 crore from the Bank and the disappearance of those dishonoured cheques.

Besides this, in Branch No. 2 here, the cell has been given the work to investigate the matter relating to paying commission of more than rupees one crore against the premium received by the Corporation.

One more investigation is going on regarding 1800 Bogus Insurance of Rs. 8 crores pertaining to year 1991-92. Near about all the files are found missing or stolen away of these Bogus Insurances.

In Branch No. 3 for doing Insurance of Crores of Rupees, the agents and Development Officers procured lakhs of Rupees from Insurable persons and instead of this cash amount they deposited forged cheques for depositing the said premium amount and thereafter cheques were dishonoured. When the complaint about it reached the Headquarter, the Vigilance Department made investigation of this matter at Secretary level and he submitted the Report to Headquarter in January 94, but without having any action the matter was again handed over for reinvestigation to Special Cell.

But this Special Cell could not make any decision during these three years. Meanswhile many more scandals came into light and CBI started investigation. Thereafter, the Zonal Office of the Corporation from Delhi sent the team of Officers (Ankekshekon). This team is staying here for the last ten days.

According to the sources of LIC, throughout the offices of the Corporation in the country that due to investigation activities which are going on through CBI and other agencies that at any time any investigating team can come here and start investigation. But so far no fruitful result has come out and no action has been taken against the culprits involved in Bogus Insurance scandal.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY

1733. **Shri Rampal Singh :**
Dr. P. Vallal Peruman :
Shri Rabi Ray :
Shri Pankaj Chowdhary :
Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy :
Shri V. S. Vijayaraghavan :
Shri Mahesh Kanodia :
Shri Manoranjan Bhakta :
Shri R. Surender Reddy :

Will the **Minister of Textiles** be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of foreign exchange earned from export of textiles during the year 1994-95;

(b) whether the Government have recently decided to open more branches of National Institute of Fashion Technology in the country to promote the export of textiles;

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

(d) the number of students proposed to be trained by this Institute every year; and

(e) the extent upto which the textile export of the country is likely to increase as a result thereof ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) US \$ 9980 Million.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has sanctioned opening of five more branches of National Institute of Fashion Technology from this academic year. The details are given below :

State	Location
1. Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad
2. Tamil Nadu	Madras
3. Gujarat	Gandhinagar
4. Maharashtra	Bombay
5. West Bengal	Calcutta

(d) Two courses namely Fashion Design (3-Year) and Garment Manufacturing Technology (2-Year) are introduced in all the five branches. In each course 30 students will be admitted.

(e) The professional training will prepare the industry skilled and competent managerial level persons who will improve quality, productivity and quantum of exports. Since, it is only one of the inputs to increase exports, exact prediction based on a single factor is not possible.

[English]

INCREASE IN FLIGHTS AND AIR POLLUTION

1734. **Shri Prakash V. Patil :** Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of international and domestic flights operating from different airports of the country have increased substantially during the last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the increase in air-flights is likely to lead to air pollution, discharge of noxious gases and congestion at airports of the country; and

(d) if so, the steps contemplated to meet the situation arising out of the increase in air flights?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The increase in International and domestic flights from different airports in the country during the last two years is indicated below :

	1993-94	1994-95
International flights	66820	70173
Domestic flights	120304	139417

(c) and (d) Environmental pollution due to increasing aircraft operations is not likely to reach alarming proportions in the immediate future. With the increase in air traffic, congestion at some airports is likely to increase. Airports Authority of India has drawn up plans for the upgradation of the airports and the infrastructural facilities in order to meet the short/long term requirements.

[Translation]

INFLATION RATE

1735. **Shri Brahmanand Mandal :**

Dr. Lal Bahadur Rawal :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for rising inflation in the country;

(b) the comparative details thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have taken any concrete steps to check the rising inflation rate; and

(d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) Higher inflation during the last financial year (1994-95) was the spill over effect of rise in the prices of primary articles consequent to higher minimum support prices given to farmers. Also, from February 1, 1994 the central issue prices were raised for rice (23 per cent), wheat (21.8 per cent) and sugar (9 per cent). Short term supply imbalances in 1994 due to production shortfall in sugar, cotton, jute and groundnut aided buoyancy to inflationary pressures which were further reinforced by the substantial acceleration in monetary aggregates due to strong build up of foreign exchange reserves.

Gradual deceleration in the growth of prices in the current financial year brought inflation down to 7.65% by July 22, 1995.

(b) Comparative detail of point to point inflationary rise measured by wholesale price index during the last three years, is shown below.

Year	Annual Inflation %		
	Primary	Manufacture	All commodity
1992-93	3.0	7.9	7.0
1993-94	11.5	9.9	10.8
1994-95	12.7	10.7	10.4
1995-96*	5.9	9.9	7.6

*as on 22 July.

(c) and (d) Government remains vigilant and has taken a number of steps to dampen inflationary pressures. These are :

- (i) continuation of FCI's open market sale of rice and wheat to check market price.
- (ii) allowing import of edible oils under OGL at a reduced duty of 30 per cent.
- (iii) importing 1.5 lakh tonnes of palmolein at concessional duty of 20 per cent for supply through PDS.
- (iv) continuing OGL imports policy for a sugar and allowing imports for augmenting PDS stocks.
- (v) increase by 5 per cent the levy sugar allocation for PDS.
- (vi) import of pulses under OGL with duty reduced to 5 per cent.
- (vii) stock limits for imported essential products waived.
- (viii) adjustment in trade and tariff policies in the current

financial year to ensure stability in the prices of industrial products. Substantial reduction in excise duties on a number of items expected to accelerate industrial growth.

(ix) aiming for reduced fiscal deficit to 5.5 per cent of GDP as against 6.7 per cent (Revised estimates) in the last financial year.

(x) moderating the growth of money supply (M3).

WAIVING OFF LOAN AGAINST SICK INDUSTRIES

1736. Shri Ram Pujan Patel : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loan waived off by Government during the last three years against sick industries;

(b) whether there is no provision of securing guarantee for the industries while sanctioning loans to them; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) No sick Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU) is at present repaying loans advanced by the Government. Therefore, in these cases the question of waiver of loan would arise only as a part of their restructuring plan. A number of capital restructuring proposals of sick CPSUs have been referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), which have been considered by the Government. Generally, outstanding plan and non-plan loans are not considered for waiver but they are either converted into equity of non-cumulative redeemable preference shares to increase the equity base so that the turn-around of the sick CPSU becomes possible. However, in respect of outstanding interest and penal interest waiver is considered by Government as a part of total turn-around plan of sick CPSUs.

(b) and (c) The general conditions subject to which loans are to be given by the Government have been specified under Rules 154-164 of the General Financial Rules and Government's decisions thereunder. Prescribed safeguards for protecting Government interests include seeking necessary guarantees/undertakings.

[English]

SEIZURE OF CONFISCATED GOODS

1737. Shri Gopi Nath Gajapathi : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) the confiscated goods seized at different International Airports between January 1 and June 30, 1995;

(b) whether the Government have sold those items;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the procedures being generally adopted while disposing of the confiscated goods ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a)

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

FOREIGN TIE-UP FOR PROMOTION OF TOURISM

1738. **Shri Ram Vilas Paswan :**

Shri Chhedi Paswan :

Dr. Vasant Niwruutti Pawar :

Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain Government propose to enter into foreign tie-up for the promotion to tourism;

(b) whether the Union States also propose to enter into foreign tie-up directly; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

PRIVATE AIRLINES

1739. **Shri N. Dennis :** Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the private sector airlines which have been allowed to operate in the country; and

(b) the number of planes being operated by each of them ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) The following private airlines with number of aircraft shown against each are operating scheduled domestic services :

Name of Airlines	No. and Type of Aircraft
01. Archana Airways	3 L-410 2 Dash-8
02. Damania Airways	4 B-737-200
03. East West Airlines	7 B-737-200 3 F-27-500
04. Jet Airways	4 B-737-300 2 B-737-400
05. Modiluft (M. G. Express)	4 B-737-200
06. NEPC	7 F-27-500 1 Beechking C-90

[Translation]

TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES TO RICE EXPORTERS

1740. **Shri Satya Deo Singh :**

Shri Amar Pal Singh :

Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received an

representation from the rice exporters for making alternative arrangement for transportation of rice for exporting it in more quantity;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to make adequate arrangements for transportation of rice to increase the exports ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir; Rice exporters have represented to the Government that Food Corporation of India should transport the rice by road to port towns. In this regard Government have constituted a task force in the Ministry of Food to identify operational problems regarding export of food grains from public stocks and to seek time bound solutions. Efforts in this direction include measures for greater co-ordination with railways for effecting maximum transport of rice and using ports other than Kandla for export of rice etc.

[English]

NEW TEA EXPORT POLICY

1741. **Shri D. Venkateswara Rao :**

Shri Bolla Bulli Ramaiah :

Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has decided to revive the working of the Indian Tea Industry and the Tea Board in order to evolve new export strategy;

(b) if so, the extent up to which the regulatory tea orders have been revived;

(c) whether the tea industry has been demanding for withdrawal of such orders;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard and the extent up to which both Tea Industry and Tea Board have shown their satisfaction ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) In view of decline in exports of tea, the Govt. have asked the Tea Board and Tea Industry to formulate market specific strategies for increasing exports of Indian tea.

(b) to (e) Regulatory orders governing the Tea Industry have not been revived. Rather, a number of liberalisation measures have been taken by the Government in recent years. During the past two months, the following steps have been taken in this direction :

(i) Provisions regarding issue of shipment licences have been reviewed by the Govt. and it has been decided that henceforth shipment licences will not be required by the exporters for each shipment.

(ii) The provision of yearly renewal of exporter's licence for tea exports was replaced sometime ago by a liberalised procedure whereby renewal of licence was

required only after 3 years. This provision has been further liberalised and now exporter's licence shall be issued by the Tea Board initially for 3 years and if there is no default on the part of the exporter it would be converted into a permanent licence. However, subsequently, if there is any default, the concerned exporter shall again be placed on a 3 year watch list or his licence may be revoked.

Steps taken by the Govt. have been welcomed by the Tea Industry. Further liberalisation of various regulations governing the Tea Industry will be taken up as and when considered necessary.

NTC SHOWROOMS

1742. Shrimati Chandra Prabha Urs : Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of NTC showrooms/retail outlets in Karnataka;
- (b) the number of showrooms/retail outlets incurred loss during 1994-95 in the State;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to close down some of the loss-making showrooms/outlets; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) and (b) None of the 23 showrooms located in Karnataka incurred losses in 1994-95.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

SOLAR ECLIPSE

1743. Shrimati Pratibha Devisingh Patil : Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there will be total solar eclipse on October 24, 1995;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to attract more and more tourists on this occasion;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government have any proposal to set up special viewing points at the tourist centres like Agra, Jaipur, Konark and ancient Indian astronomy centres; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In view of the unique opportunity to promote tourism through this event, Department of Tourism, Government of India in collaboration with State Govts. of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have drawn up special packages to attract tourists. Special promotional booklet has been brought out for wide publicity. Media numbers from overseas are being invited to visit India to cover this unique event.

(d) and (e) Department of Tourism, Government of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have also earmarked special viewing areas for facilitating tourists to see the total solar eclipse.

[Translation]

I.T. RAIDS IN GUJARAT

1744. Shri Kashiram Rana :
Shri Chhitubhai Gamit :

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of raids conducted by the Income-tax Department in Gujarat during the last two years;
- (b) the value to assets seized in these raids; and
- (c) the action being taken by the Government against the persons found responsible in this regard ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) :

Financial Year	No. of Warrants Executed	Value of Assets Seized (Rs. In lakh)
1993-94	648	4587.64
1994-95	531	3707.75

(c) Necessary follow-up action under the various provisions of the Direct Taxes Acts have been taken up on the basis of materials seized in the course of the searches..

[English]

TAXES CHARGED BY INDIAN COMPANIES

1745. Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee :
Shri Lokanath Choudhury :

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there are different sets of norms prescribed for Indian Companies and Foreign Companies in the country in the matter of interest rates, taxes etc.;
- (b) if so, the comparative features thereof; and
- (c) the reasons for following different norms in this regard ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) to (c) Under the provisions of Income Tax Act, 1961, domestic companies are taxed at the rate of 40 with a surcharge of 15% on companies having income exceeding Rs. 75,000 while foreign companies are taxed at the rate of 30% on income by way of royalties and fees for technical services and at the rate of 55% on the balance income. Foreign companies are taxed at a higher rate inter-alia because the dividends declared by them are not subject to tax in India. Commercial Banks do not discriminate against Indian companies vis-a-vis foreign companies with regard to interest rates on their advances.

VEGETABLE DYEING UNITS

1746. Shri Rabi Ray : Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state :

- whether the Government have decided to open a Vegetable Dyeing unit in Orissa;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- time by which the said unit is likely to be set up ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

FARES CHARGED BY PRIVATE AIRLINES

1747. Shri Ram Tahal Choudhary : Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state :

- whether Government are aware that private airlines are charging air-fares arbitrarily from passengers as they have monopoly in those places in the country where only they are operating;
- if so, whether the Government propose to put any check on such tendency of charging fares arbitrarily;
- if so, by when; and
- if not, the reasons thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) to (d) Fare structure of private airlines is not regulated by the Government. Private airlines are free to charge air fare on their own commercial judgement and the fare levels are expected to be determined by the market conditions.

[English]

VARIATION IN BUDGET AND REVISED ESTIMATE

1748. Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri : Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state :

- whether there has been a wide gap between the budget estimates and revised estimates of the Department of Civil Aviation;
- if so, the details of the budget estimates and revised estimates during each of the last three financial years;
- the reasons for such variations;
- whether the Standing Committee on Transport and Tourism has also pointed out the same in its last two reports; and
- if so, the corrective steps taken by the Government to overcome the situation ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of Budget Estimates and Revised Estimates during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 are given below :

	(Rs. in crores)		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Budget Estimates	85.68	75.53	68.15
Revised Estimates	76.07	183.75	136.85

(c) The reasons for major variations are as under :

- Savings due to lower requirement of budgetary support by National Airports Division of Airports Authority of India in connection with their plan schemes during 1992-93.
 - Excess expenditure during 1993-94 and 1994-95 due to additional payments to International Airports Division of Airports Authority of India towards its share of Foreign Travel Tax consequent on increased revenue collection from embarking international passengers and settlement of certain accumulated claims.
 - Revision of formula for payment of subsidy to Haj pilgrims resulting in excess expenditure during 1993-94.
 - Excess expenditure on reimbursement to State Governments in lieu of sales tax on Aviation Turbine Fuel sold to international airlines during 1993-94 and 1994-95. As a result of review, the scheme has been discontinued w.e.f. 1-12-1994.
 - Excess expenditure to settle the claims of the State Governments on security arrangements at various airports, as only token provisions had been made during 1993-94 and 1994-95 pending review of the scheme.
- (d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The budget provisions are made taking into account the anticipated requirement of funds on various schemes/activities at the time of formulation of budget. However, some variation in the provision becomes unavoidable due to unforeseen developments during the course of the year, which necessitate modifications at the Revised Estimate stage. Token provisions were made pending review of the schemes for payments to the State Governments (i) in lieu of sales tax on Aviation Turbine Fuel sold to international airlines, and (ii) towards security arrangements at airports; the provisions had to be augmented taking into account the actual incidence of expenditure on the schemes during the year.

CENTRAL ASSISTANCE FOR ECONOMIC REFORMS

1749. Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh :
Shrimati Sheela Gautam :

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

- whether several State Governments are facing heavy

revenue losses due to implementation of new economic reforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide additional financial assistance to the States facing such problem;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) The revenue receipts of the State Governments (including transfers from the Centre) for the last five years are as follows :

		(Rs. in crores)
1990-91 (Actuals)	—	66467
1991-92 (Actuals)	—	80536
1992-93 (Actuals)	—	91091
1993-94 (RE)	—	103104
1994-95 (BE)	—	114324

It will be seen from the above that the revenue receipts are not on the decline.

(c) to (e) Question does not arise in view of the reply to parts (a) and (b) of the Question.

TAX HOLIDAY TO UNITS

1750. Dr. Amrit Lal Kalidas Patel : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have considered the recommendations of the Report of the Study Group, which is lying pending for consideration of the Government since October 1, 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) The recommendation contained in the Report of the Study Group, submitted in October, 1994, are still under the consideration of the Government.

(c) Decision on the Report will be taken soon.

CHILD LABOUR

1751. Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state the steps Government have taken on the issues raised in the World Development Report to create greater social awareness, involvement of NGO's, better low cost education and more women joining the work force for phasing child labour out ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P.A. Sangma) : Government have taken a series of measures to tackle the problem of Child Labour. A comprehensive law, the Child

Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act was enacted in 1986. As per the National Child Labour Policy, 1987, child labour is being tackled through (a) legislation; (b) general development programmes for the benefit of child labour and (c) through implementation of National Child Labour Projects. Presently, 12 National Child Labour Projects are under implementation in 8 States covering a total of around 16,000. One of the important components of the project is the establishment of special schools, for children withdrawn from work, where they are provided with non-formal education, nutrition, stipends etc. The special schools established under the project are generally run by NGOs.

Government has adopted a holistic approach under which besides the child labour, the parents of the child labour would be covered under the various poverty elimination programmes. In this connection, a plan of action titled "Identification, Release and Rehabilitation of child labour" has been adopted by the Government. Briefly, it calls for a convergence of services and schemes of the Central and State Governments at the implementing level—the district—to effectively handle the identification and rehabilitation of child labour, the economic rehabilitation of the family with child labour and stricter enforcement of relevant laws. This plan of action has been sent to all States/UTs for adoption.

A massive awareness generation campaign has already been started to highlight the problem of child labour and the need for eradicating this social evil. The National Authority for Elimination of child labour has identified 100 districts as per 1981 census data. These districts are located in 11 States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Bihar, Tamilnadu, Rajasthan, Orissa, Gujarat and West Bengal, which together account for over 90% of the child labour population in the country. It has been decided that projects to eliminate child labour in hazardous occupations will be started as per the National Child Labour Project Scheme in these districts. A Workshop of these 100 District Collectors is scheduled to take place in New Delhi on 13-14th of September, 1995. The concerned Collectors have been requested to prepare project proposals for their respective districts based on the National Child Labour Project Scheme. An allocation of Rs. 34.4 crores has been made for the current financial year to under-take projects for children withdrawn from work. These measures are essentially similar to what have been recommended in the World Development Report, 1995.

[Translation]

MINIMUM WAGES FIXED BY THE N.C.R.L.

1752. Shri Lall Babu Rai : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the minimum wages fixed by the National Commission on Rural Labourers;

(b) whether the State Governments have not fixed the minimum wages for the agricultural labourers as per the recommendations of the above Commission;

(c) whether the Union Government are persuading the State Governments to accept the recommendations of the said Commission and to fix minimum wages accordingly;

(d) if so, the number of States which have not implemented the said recommendations so far; and

(e) the reasons explained by the States for not accepting these recommendations ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) to (e) The National Commission on Rural Labour in its report submitted in July, 1991 recommended that the minimum rate of wages for agricultural workers should not be fixed below Rs. 20/- per day.

A **Statement** indicating the minimum rates of wages for lowest paid unskilled category of agricultural workers in different States/Union Territory Administrations, as available with the Government, is annexed.

The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 provides that the appropriate Government shall revise the minimum rate of wages at such intervals as it thinks fit, such intervals not exceeding five years.

The Central Government had been advising State Governments from time to time to revise the minimum wages in accordance with the recommendations of the National Commission on Rural Labour. This has also been discussed in several for a including Indian Labour Conference, Labour Ministers' Conference and Regional Labour Ministers' Conference.

The reasons for non-implemetation of recommendations in respect of minimum wages by State Governments varies from State to State. This includes weak socio-economic conditions, existence of parallel schemes like Employment Assurance Scheme, pending litigations, etc.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Minimum wages for unskilled agricultural workers
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 16.80 to Rs. 23.40 p.d. (According to Zones) (8-4-91)
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Rs. 21.00 to Rs. 24.00 p.d. (According to Areas) (1-11-90)
3.	Assam	Rs. 1134.00 p.m. or Rs. 984.00 p.m. plus food, shelter and clothing (1-2-92)
4.	Bihar	Rs. 21.00 p.d. (19-7-93)
5.	Goa	Rs. 27.50 p.d. (5-2-92)
6.	Gujarat	Rs. 15.00 p.d. (1-8-90)
7.	Haryana	Rs. 48.00 p.d. with meals of Rs. 52.00 p.d. without meals (1-1-95)
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Rs. 24.00 p.d. to Rs. 26.00 p.d. (1-10-94)
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Rs. 15.00 p.d. (24-3-89)
10.	Karnataka	Rs. 12.00 to Rs. 17.65 p.d. (12-7-88)
11.	Kerala	Rs. 30.00 p.d. for women Rs. 40.20 p.d. for men (31-3-92).
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 30.76 p.d. (29-1-94)
13.	Maharashtra	Rs. 20.00 to Rs. 29.00 p.d. (According to Zones) (26-6-94)
14.	Manipur	Rs. 40.90 p.d. for Hill Areas & Rs. 37.90 p.d. for other than Hill Areas (23-12-88)
15.	Meghalaya	Rs. 35.00 p.d. (16-3-94)
16.	Mizoram	Rs. 28.00 p.d. (1-11-87)
17.	Nagaland	Rs. 25.00 p.d. (6-7-92)

1	2	3
18.	Orissa	Rs. 25.00 p.d. (1-7-90)
19.	Punjab	Rs. 1584.60. p.d. without meals or Rs. 1294.60 p.d. with meals (1-3-95)
20.	Rajasthan	Rs. 32.00 p.d. (January, 1995)
21.	Sikkim	The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is yet to be extended.
22.	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 20.00 p.d. (6-4-93)
23.	Tripura	Rs. 24.65 p.d. (20-12-93)
24.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 33.00 p.d. to Rs. 35.00 p.d. (7-1-92)
25.	West Bengal	Rs. 32.72 p.d. Rs. 29.52 p.d. plus two principal meals (1-7-94)
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Rs. 27.00 p.d. (Andaman) Rs. 28.00 p.d. (Nicobar) (13-8-92)
27.	Chandigarh	Rs. 39.42 p.d. with meals or Rs. 43.25 p.d. without meals (1-3-92)
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Rs. 23.00 p.d. (15-12-92)
29.	Delhi	Rs. 57.50 p.d. (1-8-94)
30.	Daman & Diu	Rs. 22.00 p.d. (19-3-93)
31.	Lakshadweep	Rs. 30.00 p.d. (1-1-93)
32.	Pondicherry	
	(i) Pondicherry Region	Rs. 14.00 p.d. (15-12-89)
	(ii) Mahe Region	Rs. 12.00 p.d. for light work Rs. 15.00 p.d. for hard work (18-2-87)
	(iii) Yanam Region	Rs. 11.00 p.d. (15-3-88)
	(iv) Karaikal	Rs. 14.00 p.d. or 7 litre paddy (31-1-90) Rs. 4.90 p.d.
33.	Central Sphere	Rs. 46.62 p.d. (1-4-95)

VACANT POSTS OF ASSISTANT EMPLOYMENT OFFICERS

1753. Shri Phool Chand Verma : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of the posts of Assistant Employment Officers and Sub-Regional Employment Officers for the members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are lying vacant in Education and Counselling Centres functioning under the Directorate General of Employment and Training;

(b) If so, the Centre-wise details of the vacant posts and since when these posts have been lying vacant indicating the reasons therefor;

(c) the efforts made by the Government to fill up these vacant posts during the last two years; and

(d) the time by which these vacant posts are likely to be filled ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P.A. Sangma) : (a) to (d) No, Sir, No posts meant for direct recruitment of Assistant Employment Officers (AEOs) and Sub-Regional Employment Officers (SREOs) for the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are lying vacant in the Coaching-cum-Guidance Centres functioning under the Directorate General of Employment and Training. However, the only posts that are lying vacant at present are those to be filled by transfer on deputation basis and as per existing recruitment rules, reservation roster is not applicable in case of the posts that are to be filled on the basis of transfer on deputation. The action to fill up these vacant posts has already been taken.

[English]

BOARD OF PRIVATE TRUST

1754. Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to nominate

independent public representatives in the Boards of Private Trusts which receive income-tax exempted donation on the lines of other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken to bring the needful changes in law and administrative practice in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) to (d) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

[Translation]

EXPORT OF HANDICRAFTS

1755. Shri N. K. Baliyan :
Shri Chinmayanand Swami :

Will the **Minister of Textiles** be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of registered units engaged in export of handicrafts in the country;

(b) the foreign exchange earned as a result of export of handicrafts during the last three years;

(c) the details of concessions and facilities being provided to the exporters by the Government for encouraging the export of handicrafts;

(d) whether the Government propose to introduce any other scheme for promotion of handicrafts; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) there are 8338 registered handicrafts export units in the country. 5989 are registered with Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts and 2349 are registered with Carpet Export Promotion Council.

(b) The export of handicrafts including hand-knotted carpets and the foreign exchange earned thereon during the last three years is as under :

(U.S. Million dollars shown in brackets)

Sl. No.	Year	Exports (Rs. in crores)		Total
		Handicrafts	Carpets	
1.	1992-93	1479.78 (518.31)	1043.19 (365.39)	2522.97 (883.70)
2.	1993-94	1970.20 (628.17)	1390.00 (443.18)	3360.20 (1071.35)
3.	1994-95	2635.90 (840.11)	1822.40 (580.84)	4458.30 (1420.95)

(c) The details of concessions and facilities being provided to the exporters by the Government for encouraging export of handicrafts include : duty draw back, pre and postshipment credit at concessional rate of interest, concessional import duty at the rate of 10% ad-valorem on carpet grade wool of 32 microns and above, triple weightage on net foreign exchange earning by handicrafts

exporters for the purpose of recognition of Export House/ Trading House/Star Trading House and Super-Star Trading House and participation of member exporters of the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts and the Carpet Export Promotion Council in various promotional activities organised from time to time.

(d) and (e) The export promotion schemes which include sponsoring of sales-cum-study teams abroad, participation in international fairs and exhibitions, organisation of buyer-seller meets, overseas publicity and publication of catalogues, conducting of seminars and workshops and organisation of the recently instituted International Handicrafts and Gifts fairs and the All India Carpet Trade Fair annually are being further strengthened.

Moreover for the development and promotion of handicrafts in the country, the Government implements various schemes such as training, exhibition and publicity, marketing development support, design development, survey and studies etc.

[English]

TAX COLLECTION IN GOA

1756. Shri Harish Narayan Prabhu Zantye : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of income tax, wealth tax and other central revenues collected in Goa for the past three years, year-wise and the share of the same released to the State Government;

(b) the arrears of the tax under the above categories and steps taken to realise the same;

(c) whether the tax payers in Goa have to go out of the State to Bangalore for appeals before the Commissioner causing in tremendous inconvenience apart from delay and wastage of time in settlement;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to establish an office of Commissioner of Income tax in Goa; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY SEBI

1757. Shri Balraj Passi : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Securities and Exchange Board of India is receiving a large number of complaints from the investors;

(b) if so, the total number of complaints received so far;

(c) whether the SEBI has been unable to redress the grievances of the complainants; and

(d) whether the Government propose to give more

powers to SEBI to enable it to effectively handle such complaints ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has received 17,31,807 complaints from investors upto 15th July, 1995.

(c) It is not correct to say that SEBI has been unable to redress the grievances of investors since it has been able to resolve 8,57,611 complaints out of the total number of complaints referred to in reply to (a) above.

(d) The regulatory powers of SEBI for, inter alia, redressal of investors grievances have been strengthened through the Securities Laws (Amendment) Act 1995. The Department of Company Affairs has also authorised certain officers of SEBI to file prosecutions in respect of offences punishable under sub-section (3) of section 56, sub-section (1) of section 59, sub-section (2) and (2B) of section 73, sub-section (2) of section 113 and section 207 of the Companies Act 1956.

WORLD BANK—INDIA DEVELOPMENT FORUM MEETING

1758. Shri Hari Kishore Singh : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank—India Development Forum meeting was held in Paris recently;

(b) if so, the details of the main points discussed at the meeting; and

(c) the stand taken by the Union Government on major issues raised at the meeting ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The India Development Forum Meeting was held on 29th and 30th June, 1995 in Paris to discuss aid requirements of the country. The meeting of bilateral and multilateral donors took place on 29th June, 1995 where India's development partners pledged \$ 6.9 billion. The delegates from bilateral and multilateral development agencies reviewed with the Indian delegation the continued progress in implementing India's economic reforms programme. The second day of the meeting was devoted to an interaction with potential investors on this year's theme "Private Sector Investment in infrastructure—an enabling environment". The meeting provided a forum for government to elaborate upon the recent initiatives taken to facilitate private sector entry in the area of infrastructure. The governments representatives updated participants on steps being taken to create an enabling environment for private investment. Overall the meeting confirmed keen private investor interest in responding to the improved enabling environment.

[Translation]

STEPS TO CHECK EXODUS PILOTS

1759. Shri Rajendra Kumar Sharma : Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been decline in the number of Indian Airlines flights due to the operation of flights by private airlines in various parts of the country and the pilots are getting attracted towards the private airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) Due to shortage of operating crew, Indian Airlines have withdrawn services from the following sectors with effect from 7-5-95 :

- (i) Guwahati/Dimapur
- (ii) Guwahati/Imphal
- (iii) Guwahati/Dibrugarh
- (iv) Madras/Mangalore
- (v) Bangalore/Mangalore
- (vi) Bangalore/Coimbatore
- (vii) Nagpur/Bangalore
- (viii) Chandigarh/Leh

(c) The following measures have been taken to meet the situation :

- (i) Additional incentives to pilots by way of increase in monthly allowances.
- (ii) Improvement in career advancement for commanders.
- (iii) Increase in the notice period for resignation from one to six months.
- (iv) Introduction of a requirement of No Objection Certificate from the Director General of Civil Aviation for employment of Indian Airlines pilots in private airlines; and
- (v) Increase in the value of bond from Rs. 7.50 lakhs to Rs. 10.00 lakhs.

REGULARISATION OF TEMPORARY WORKERS

1760. Shri Manjay Lal : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure the strict compliance of code of conduct for regularisation of temporary labourers;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to make the rule in regard to regularisation of temporary labourers more stringent; and

(c) the provisions laid down to take action against the persons violating the code of conduct ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) to (c) Denial of permanent status to eligible casual/temporary workmen is one of the unfair labour practices enumerated in the Industrial Disputers Act, 1947. The Act provides for

penalties for committing unfair labour practices. Industrial disputes concerning regularisation of temporary labourers are conciliated upon by the Industrial Relations Machinery and, where necessary, referred to the appropriate Industrial Tribunal/Labour Court for adjudication.

RAIDS BY CUSTOMS AND EXCISE COLLECTORATES

1761. **Shri Khelan Ram Jangde :**
Shri Arjun Singh Yadav :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of raids conducted by the Customs and Excise Departments and the amount of tax evasion detected during the last two years, collectorate-wise;

(b) the details of the seizures made and number of persons arrested during these raids; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government against the persons found responsible in this regard ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE

1762. **Shri M.V.V.S. Murthy :**
Shri Bolla Bulli Ramaiah :

Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) whether an International Labour Conference held in Geneva in June, 1995;

(b) if so, the main points discussed at the Conference particularly regarding introduction of safety measures for mine workers; and

(c) the decisions arrived at the Conference ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) to (c) The 82nd Session of the International Labour Conference was held at Geneva from 6th to 23rd June, 1995.

The Conference discussed the ILO Director General's report on Promoting employment, ILO's budget proposals for 1996-97 and application of ILO standards in various member-states. It had the first-discussion on Home Work and proposed the adoption of a Convention and a Recommendation on the subject at next year's Conference. It also adopted a Protocol to extend ILO Convention No. 81 concerning Labour Inspection to the non-commercial services sector.

The Conference adopted an ILO Convention supplemented by a Recommendation of safety and health in mines. The Convention applies to all mines and requires member States ratifying it to consult employers and workers to formulate, carry out and periodically review a policy on safety and health in mines and take steps for supervision

and inspection of mines and maintenance of procedures for reporting and investigating accidents and occupational diseases. Employers are required to take all necessary measures to eliminate or minimise the risks to safety and health in mines under their control and to ensure that where there is a serious danger, operations are stopped and workers evacuated to a safe location.

NATIONAL CHILD LABOUR AUTHORITY

1763. **Shri S.M. Laljan Basha :** Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the composition of the National Child Labour Authority;

(b) whether public workers and non-officials are likely to be included in this body; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P.A. Sangma) : (a) to (c) The National Authority for Elimination of Child Labour (NAECL) has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Union Labour Minister on 26-9-1994. A copy of the Resolution indicating the composition and functions of NAECL is enclosed as **Statement**.

Statement

(To be published in the Gazette of India, Part I
Section II)

No. Z-19011/5/94-CL
Government of India/Bharat Sarkar Ministry of
Labour/Shram Mantralaya

New Delhi, dated 26-9-94

Resolution

Keeping in view the provisions as laid down in the Constitution of India with regard to prohibition of employment of children in hazardous employments, the ILO Standards concerning employment of child labour and the need for systematic action to progressively eliminate child labour altogether, the Government of India was decided to constitute a National Authority for Elimination of Child Labour. Pending creation of an autonomous statutory body for the purpose, it has been decided to constitute the Authority as under :

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Ministry of State for Labour | : Chairman |
| 2. Secretary, Ministry of Labour | : Member |
| 3. Secretary, Expenditure, Ministry of Finance | : Member |
| 4. Secretary, Department of Women & Child Development, Ministry of Human Resource Development | : Member |
| 5. Secretary, Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development | : Member |

6. Secretary, Ministry of Textiles : Member
 7. Secretary, Ministry of Welfare : Member
 8. Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development : Member
 9. Secretary, Department of Health Ministry of Health : Member
 10. Secretary, Department of Family Welfare Ministry of Health and Family Welfare : Member
 11. Secretary, Ministry of I & B : Member
 12. Director Incharge of Child Labour, Ministry of Labour : Member-Secretary

The functions of the National Authority for Elimination of Child Labour will be :

- (i) to lay down the policies and programme for elimination of child labour particularly in hazardous employments.
 (ii) to monitor the progress of implementation of programmes, project and schemes for elimination of child labour.
 (iii) to co-ordinate implementation of child labour elimination related projects of the various sister Ministeries of the Government of India.

Order

Ordered that a copy of the Resolution be communicated to all the Members. Ordered also that the Resolution be published in the Gazette of India for general information.

Sd/- S. Gopalan
 Secretary to Government of India

To

The Manager,
 Government of India Press
 Ring Road, Mayapuri Industrial Area
 New Delhi

IMPLEMENTATION OF TOURISM SCHEMES IN M.P.

1764. Shri Surajbhanu Solanki : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the proposals approved and are being implemented for promotion of tourism in Madhya Pradesh during the year 1995-96 and the schemes likely to be implemented during the subsequent years of the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the amount sanctioned for each of the projects ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) As of now the State Government of Madhya Pradesh have not submitted any proposals seeking central assistance for promotion of

tourism in the State during the year 1995-96 and for subsequent years of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

ECONOMIC AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIA AND GERMANY

1765. Shri Ram Kapse :
Shri Shravan Kumar Patel :
Shri Manoranjan Bhakta :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Germany have signed three far reaching economic agreements in June 1995, including the Crucial Bilateral investments protection treaty for accelerating two way flow of investment between the two countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the likely immediate gain after this agreement;

(d) whether any agreement have also been signed regarding avoiding double taxation and financial protocol in 1995; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) to (e) In June, 1995 India and Germany have signed agreements for (i) Indo-FRG Financial Cooperation 1995. and (ii) the Agreement for Avoidance of Double Taxation, Besides, (iii) the agreement for Bilateral Investment Protection was also initialled in June, 1995 and subsequently signed on 10-7-95.

Under the Indo-FRG Financial Cooperation Agreement, signed on 19-6-95, Govt. of FRG have agreed to provide a financial assistance to the tune of DM 366.6 Million for the projects/programmes mutually agreed upon between the two sides. The agreement for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and capital, signed on 19-6-96 provides for reduced rates of taxation on income from dividends, interest, royalties and fees for technical services. The agreement also provides for exchange of information between the two countries and for mutual procedure for solving the tax problems. The Bilateral Investment Protection Agreement seeks to promote and protect investment from either country into the other. Under the agreement each country is required to accord treatment which is fair and equitable and to provide full protection and security to investments from the other country. The core of the Agreement lies in its positive assertion of principles of Most Favoured Nation (MFN) and National Treatment. It is perceived that the Agreement will serve as a major cata-lyst in stimulating German investment in India.

REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF POSTS

1766. Shri Mohan Rawale : Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Austerity Committee of the National Development Council had recommended in 1993 to reduce the number of posts in the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount saved on account of such reduction of post; and

(d) the steps taken by the Ministry to surrender more posts and reduce the size of the establishment following dismantling of many controls on economic activities and simplification of rules and procedures in all sectors ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) to (c) The recommendation of the Austerity Committee of NDC had underscored the need to made determined efforts by the Centre and the States to Mobilised resources and reduce expenditure. It had not specifically recommended Ministry-wise reduction of posts and their surrender.

(d) Since 92-93, 39, posts have been abolished in the Ministry of Commerce.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BY IDBI

1767. Dr. R. Mallu : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received by the Industrial Development Bank of India from the entrepreneurs of Andhra Pradesh during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of applications accepted/rejected during the said period and the reasons for rejection; and

(c) the details of financial assistance provided to industries in the State by IDBI during the said period, year-wise and unit-wise ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that the number of applications for grant of financial assistance received, sanctioned and rejected by them in respect of the State of Andhra Pradesh during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 under IDBI's Direct Finance Scheme are as under :

	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Applications received	165	152	170
Applications sanctioned	119	126	123
Applications rejected	1	2	1

IDBI has reported that the rejection of applications was on account of non-viability of the projects.

(c) The details of assistance sanctioned by IDBI to industries in Andhra Pradesh under its Direct Finance Schemes during the last three years are given below :

Year	Sanctions (Rs. cores)
1992-93	— 508.4
1993-94	— 699.1
1994-95	— 1034.7

However, in accordance with the practices and usages

customary amongst banks and in conformity with provisions of statutes governing public sector banks and financial institutions as also the provisions of Public Financial Institutions (Obligation as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983, the unit-wise details cannot be divulged.

FRAUD IN BANK OF BARODA

1768. Shri Shravan Kumar Patel :
Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee :
Shri Ajoy Mukhopadhyay :
Shri Basudeb Acharia :
Shri Amal Datta :
Shri George Fernandes :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to the newsitem captioned "RBI deputy Governor accused of BoB fraud" appearing in the Asian Age dated June 30, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether any probe has been conducted in the matter; and

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

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The news-item alleges that former Chairman & Managing Director, Bank of Baroda had failed to take action against erring officials of the bank involved in the fraud perpetrated on the London branch of Bank of Baroda. Reserve Bank of India has looked into the matter referred to in the news-item and has reported that the allegations are not substantiated.

SHORTAGE OF HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

1769. Dr. Sudhir Ray :
Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi :

Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether several large tour groups scheduled to visit India in May, 1995 abandoned their visit for want of hotel accommodation in India;

(b) if so, the reasons for not providing sufficient hotel accommodation to the foreign tourists;

(c) whether the Government propose to allow private hoteliers to set up more hotels and accommodate the rush of foreign tourists in India; and

(d) the other steps taken by the Union Government to meet the shortage of hotel accommodation ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Construction of hotels is mainly a private sector activity and the Department of Tourism has a scheme for approving 1 to 5-Star Hotel Projects from the point of view of their suitability for foreign tourists.

(d) Approved hotel projects are given a variety of incentives such as interest subsidy, import facilities, priority in obtaining construction materials and other inputs.

LOSS DUE TO POOR PACKAGING

1770. Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi : Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any loss of heavy foreign exchange every year due to rejection, spoilage and breakages arising from poor packaging;

(b) whether it has become imperative for export packaging units to protect the contents against multitransport and repeated handling hazards to preserve the contents and finally present the product in a more acceptable brand creditibility among consumers;

(c) whether any concrete programme has been undertaken to save the amount; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) No specific report has so far been received about loss of foreign exchange on this account.

(b) to (d) Recognising the importance of proper packaging of export products to safeguard contents from damages in transit, export promotion councils and other institutions encourage Indian exporters through training programmes, Seminars, workshops and exhibitions to improve the quality of packaging to be of international standards. The services of the Indian Institute of Packaging are also used to disseminate latest technologies concerning packaging to the exporters. APEDA has also developed standard packaging for a number of fresh fruits and vegetable products and gives financial assistance to any exporter who develops packaging for specific products as per buyers requirements.

[Translation]

INTEREST RATES

1771. Dr. Lal Bahadur Rawal : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rates of interest of fixed deposits varies in post offices and nationalised commercial banks;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the impacts thereof on the banks and the customers ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The scheme in post offices and banks are

not strictly comparable. Each saving instrument is designed to cater to the requirements of different category of savers. As such savers have a choice of instruments.

SURVEY REGARDING WORKERS

1772. Shri Hari Kewal Prasad : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted State-wise comprehensive survey from time to time in regard to Beedi workers, persons engaged in fire work industry, glass industry and the child labourers dominating carpet industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken so far by the Government of the basis of the conclusions of the said survey ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

DUMPING OF POLYESTER STAPLE FIBRE BY KOREAN FIRMS

1773. Shri Manoranjan Bhakta : Will the **Minister of Textiles** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some South Korean firms are likely to dump surplus polyester staple fibre into India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to prevent this situation ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA CREDIT

1774. Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the Reserve Bank of India's credit to Centre as on March 31, 1995;

(b) whether the Reserve Bank of India's credit to Centre is likely to be increased during the current financial year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) The net Reserve Bank credit to Central Government, (NRCCG) stood at Rs. 98913 crore as on March 31, 1995.

(b) and (c) The growth of NRCCG in a financial year depends inter alia upon the budgetary position of the Central Government and the open market operations of the Reserve Bank of India. NRCCG normally rises during a financial year.

EXPORT ORIENTED SPINNING MILLS

1775. Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona : Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up some export-oriented spinning mills in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the States where these new spinning mills are proposed to be set up;

(c) whether any such export-oriented spinning mill is proposed to be set up in Gujarat State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) to (d) 100% Export Oriented Units can be set up in locations of the choice of entrepreneurs, subject to the locational policy of the Government.

RE-PURCHASING OF MASTER GAIN, 1992

1776. Shri Udaysingrao Gaikwad : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether Unit Trust of India (UTI) has launched some repurchase scheme of mastergain shares of 1992 in recent past;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) whether some formalities and eligibilities have been prescribed for holders of Mastergain-92 to avail of repurchase scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the scheme has been launched through all the offices of UTI and Bankers of UTI;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether several abbreviations like CRs and CR Collection Centres have been used in the scheme without full denotation; and

(h) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) to (d) The Master Gain, 1992 scheme of the UTI provides for repurchase of units by UTI at the prevalent repurchase price during the 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th year from allotment. The first repurchase which began from August 1, 1995 is on a first come first serve basis and upto 25% of the original capital issued under the scheme. The scheme also permits a switch-over option to a few other selected schemes within the over all limit of 25% redemption. All registered holders of Master Gain, 1992 units and the transferees who lodged valid transfer documents for registration on or before 30th March, 1995 are eligible for repurchase switch over under the scheme. The relevant procedures have been made known to the investors through newspapers and agent bulletins.

(e) and (f) Applications for repurchase/switch over are collected through all UTI branch offices and specially

opened collection centres and the office of the Registrars for the scheme.

(g) and (h) No abbreviation like CRs have been used in the application form.

NORMS FOR DEALERS IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE

1777. Prof. M. Kamson : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has eased norms for dealers of foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, details of the scheme ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

RBI has permitted Authorised Dealers to allow foreign exchange facilities for :

(i) Business travel abroad including entertainment allowance;

(ii) Participation in overseas Conferences/Seminars of Scientific/technical/educational nature;

(iii) Specialised training/study tours/Apprenticeship training;

(iv) Medical treatment/check-up/consultation abroad; and

(v) Studies abroad.

In excess of the prescribed scales and/or the duration of the visit abroad without prior approval of RBI provided they are satisfied about the bonafides of the application and need for release of exchange in excess of the prescribed scales.

As already stated above, authorised dealers can release foreign exchange for various purposes without any ceiling. This has come into effect from 5th July, 1995. However, full fledged money changers (FFMCs) are not allowed to release foreign exchange in excess of the prescribed scales.

[Translation]

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO STATES FOR GARDEN TOURISM

1778. Shri N. J. Rathva : Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have given any financial assistance to State Governments to promote garden tourism during each of the last three years; and

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

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism does not extend financial assistance for promoting Garden Tourism. However, some State Governments

organise festivals, such as, Garden Festival in Delhi, Rose Festival in Chandigarh and Flower Festival in Sikkim. Financial assistance extended for organising these festivals in the last 3 years has been as under :

	(Rs. in lakhs)		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1. Garden Festival, Delhi	1.50	1.25	—
2. Rose Festival, Chandigarh	1.75	4.65	2.00
3. Garden Festival, Sikkim	—	3.85	4.98

[English]

MALEGAM PANEL

1779. Dr. Vasant Niwrutti Pawar :
Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the present Status of Malegam Panel constituted by the Securities and Exchange Board of India;

(b) whether any report has been submitted by the Panel to SEBI;

(c) if so, the suggestions made by the panel to keep a strict watch on disclosure of norms by companies; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government/SEBI to implement these recommendations ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) The Committee constituted by SEBI under the Chairmanship of Shri Y. H. Malegam to review the existing disclosure requirements in the offer documents and suggest improvements has recently submitted its report to SEBI.

(c) The main recommendations of the Committee are given in the **Statement** enclosed.

(d) The report has been made public with a view to inviting suggestions from different quarters on the recommendations made in the report.

Statement

The Main Recommendations of the Malegam Committee on Disclosure Requirements in Offer Document

- All significant accounting policies in the preparation of Financial statement should be indicated. Accounting ratios such as Earnings per share, Return on Net Worth and Net Asset Value per share should be indicated for each of the accounting periods for which profits and losses are indicated.
- The profit and loss statement should separately indicate turnover from the manufacturing and trading separately. Similarly, turnover from the main activity and other activities.
- Issuers should not be permitted to disclose the projections of future profits. Exceptions are permitted

in respect of new companies, new projects and expansions subject to the appraisal being done by a financial institution or a bank or a lead manager which has some stake in the project.

- The prospectus must disclose aggregate share holding of the promoter group, directors and the promoter(s). Information on the aggregate number of shares traded in by the promoter group and the directors in the six months preceding the date of filing the prospectus together with the traded prices must be given.
- Disclosure should not bifurcate the risk factors into management perceptions and internal/external factors.
- To justify the issue price, the prospectus should give the details of Earnings per share for the preceding three years. Price/Earnings ratio alongwith that of the industry, if possible, average return on net worth in the last three years. Net Asset Value based on last balance sheet and the post issue Net Asset Value.
- There should be an annual auditor certificate confirming that funds have been utilised only for the specified purposes.
- Information on stock market behaviour of the scrip should be disclosed. On receipt of draft prospectus SEBI should also inform the stock exchange so that they could monitor transactions in the share.

REGISTERED EMIGRATION AGENTS

1780. Shri Syed Shahabuddin : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of registered emigration agents as on April, 1993/April, 1994;

(b) the number of agents de-registered during 1993-94;

(c) the number of fresh agents registered during 1993-94;

(d) the number of emigrants who had to be repatriated at the cost of the agent during this period with break-up, country-wise; and

(e) the number of emigrants during 1993-94 country-wise ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) The number of registered Recruiting Agents as on 1st April, 1993 and 1st April, 1994 were 1942 and 2158 respectively.

(b) No Registration Certificate was cancelled during 1993-94.

(c) The number of Recruiting Agents registered during 1993-94 was 216.

(d) During 1993-94, no emigrant was repatriated at the cost of the recruiting agent.

(e) The number of workers who were granted Emigration Clearances/Emigration Check Not Required (ECNR)

endorsements, during 1993-94, counry-wise, are as under :

Country	1993-94
1. Bahrain	14,298
2. Oman	27,823
3. United Arrab Emirates	76,347
4. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	2,68,115
5. Kuwait	25,533
6. Others	20,182
Total :	4,32,298

DEVELOPMENT OF TEA PLANTATION IN DARJEELING

1781. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal : Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry had asked the Darjeeling Planters Association to undertake a Comprehensive development scheme for the tea industry in the region;

(b) if so, the broad features of this study, particularly the various problems faced by tea producers such as marketing of the crop; and

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

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) and (b) Tea Board was requested by the Ministry of Commerce to formulate a scheme for development of Tea Industry in Darjeeling. The matter was subsequently taken up by Tea Board with the Darjeeling Planters Association who have submitted their proposals in the matter to the Board.

Salient features of the study undertaken by the Darjeeling Planters Association indicate that the Tea Industry in Darjeeling, due to inadequate profits, has been facing problems of stagnant production which is mainly on account of inability of the Darjeeling Tea Industry to invest in developmental activities such as replanting, extension planting, infilling, water management and proper marketing. Industry has sought assistance from Tea Board/Government in these areas.

(c) Darjeeling Planters Association has submitted their proposals to Tea Board only on 31st July, 1995. Recommendations of Tea Board on these proposals are awaited.

[Translation]

CONCESSIONS FOR HANDLOOM SECTOR

1782. Shri Sushil Chandra Varma : Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state :

(a) the new concessions/relaxations announced for the handloom sector during 1995-96; and

(b) the expenditure likely to be incurred as a result thereof ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) and (b) The new concessions/relaxations announced by the Government during 1995-96 for the development of the handloom sector, inter alia, include the following :

(i) The hank yarn price subsidy scheme has not only been continued and its scope expanded but the rate of subsidy has also been increased from Rs. 15/- per Kg. to Rs. 20/- during 1995-96 with a view to ensure better availability of hank yarn to weavers. A target for supply of 20 million kgs. has been fixed under hank yarn subsidy Scheme involved an expenditure of Rs. 40.00 crores.

(ii) The scope of Mill Gate Price Scheme has also been enlarged to supply 20 million Kg. of hank yarn at the mill gate price. A provision of Rs. 3.12 crores has been made in B.E. for 1995-96.

(iii) The scope of Market Development Assistance (MDA) has been increased in respect of Primary Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies and the coverage of the Scheme has been enlarged. A provision for Rs. 67.00 crores has been made for 1995-96 towards MDA Scheme.

(iv) NABARD refinance has been extended for refinancing to Commercial Banks for extending credit to Handloom Cooperatives.

[English]

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AT PUNE

1783. Shri Anna Joshi : Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set-up an International Airport at Pune; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

RESTRUCTURING OF RRBs

1784. Shri R. Surender Reddy : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had undertaken restructuring of 49 Regional Rural Banks last year;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof indicating the number of employees and officers affected by the restructuring and the measures taken for gainful deployment of the staff and officers rendered surplus;

(c) whether the Government propose to continue the plan of restructuring of the remaining RRBs;

(d) if so, whether the RRBs to be restructured in 1995-96 have since been identified; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, location-wise ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of 49 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) selected for restructuring, 26 banks have improved their working results in 1994-95. Three out of these 26 banks have turned around. No staff has been rendered surplus and the question of their redeployment does not, therefore, arise.

(c) to (e) A Committee has been set up by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to identify another 50 RRBs to be taken up restructuring during 1995-96. The Committee is yet to submit its report.

EXPORT OF HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICINES

1785. Shri A. Indrakaran Reddy : Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Homoeopathic medicines are being exported from the country at present;

(b) if so, the total foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, country-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of these medicines ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Figure for total export of Homoeopathic medicines during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1993-95, as latest available are as under :

Year	Val. : Rs. Crores
1992-93	— 1.95
1993-94	— 25.17
1994-95	— 1.69

(April, 1994-Feb., 1995)

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

(c) Export of Homoeopathic medicines is promoted by the Government through the means of market development assistance, exchange of delegations, buyers-sellers meets, participation in trade etc. and liberalisation in the policy and procedures.

[Translation]

MERGER OF CERTAIN NATIONALISED BANKS

1786. Dr. Chinta Mohan :
Shri Guman Mal Lodha :
Shri Rajveer Singh :
Shrimati Sheela Gautam :

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the nationalised banks have been merged with the other banks or closed down during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, state-wise, together with the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to safeguard the interests of the affected persons ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) During the last three years only one nationalised bank, i.e. New Bank of India, has been merged with Punjab National Bank. The merger was necessitated owing to continuous deterioration in the financial position of the erstwhile New Bank of India. No nationalised bank has been closed down during the last three years.

(c) With the merger, the undertakings of the erstwhile New Bank of India, including all its assets and liabilities, have been vested in Punjab National Bank. The officers and other employees of the erstwhile New Bank of India became the employees of Punjab National Bank.

[English]

FRAUDULENT USE OF CREDIT CARDS

1787. Sr. Laxminarayan Pandeya :
Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri :
Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee :

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the incidents of frauds involving money transactions worth more than two crore of rupees during 1994-95 through the fraudulent use of credit cards as has been reported in the 'Indian Express' dated June 14, 1995;

(b) if so, whether the culprits involved therein have since been apprehended;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against them;

(d) whether the Government have devised or propose to devise any system to curb such while-collar crime; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) Certain cases of frauds in respect of credit cards have come to the notice of Government and Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

(b) and (c) According to RBI banks concerned have initiated civil/criminal action in such cases.

(d) and (e) Banks have taken various measures for prevention of frauds in credit cards. Banks issuing credit cards take necessary safeguards at the time of enrolling credit card holders. There are a number of security features in the credit cards themselves. Card issuing banks have a system of authorisation where-by a constant watch is maintained on whether card spending limits are being exceeded and warning bulletins are issued to provide

signals in case of any wrong doings. Some banks have also introduced photo credit/cards.

NON-FULFILMENT OF EXPORT OBLIGATION BY EOU/EPZs

1788. Shri H. arin Pathak : Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Export Oriented Units/Export Promotion Zones have not fulfilled their export obligations during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of such units against which the action has been taken during the above period;

(d) whether India is earning a bad name in the international market due to non-fulfilment of export obligation; and

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

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) and (b) Shortfalls have been reported against some Export Oriented Units in the matter of fulfilment of export obligation as a result of not achieving the stipulated value additions.

(c) Fulfilment of export obligation is being monitored on a regular basis. Action has been initiated during 1993-94 and 1994-95 against 15 and 5 cases respectively by the Enforcement Division of the Directorate General of Foreign Trade.

(d) and (e) No report has been received in regard to non-fulfilment of export contracts by EDU/EPZ units leading to adverse publicity in the international market.

EXPORT ORIENTED GRANITE UNITS

1789. Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde : Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether cent-percent export oriented granite units are facing several difficulties due to shortage of working capital; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Reserve Bank of India/Government to provide assistance to these units in this regard ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) and (b) The Confederation of Export Units has stated that 100% export oriented granite units in general are not facing any difficulties in raising working capital from banks. Funds requirements of individual units could vary depending on the competitive strategies each seeks to pursue relative to the other and in reply to suppliers from other countries. Export credit in Rupees at concessional rates is available for 190 days for export of all type of goods including granite. Similarly export finance in foreign currency is also available at internationally competitive rates. No separate instructions have been

issued by RBI on export credit for granite products. Individual complaints received from exporters or Export Promotion Councils regarding the delay on sanctioning of loans are looked into by RBI and State level Export Promotion Committees.

[Translation]

VISIT OF CHINESE LABOUR MINISTER

1790. Shri Rajendra Agnihotri : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Labour Minister of China had visited India recently;

(b) if so, the main purpose of this visit; and

(c) the areas in which agreements were concluded between the two countries ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) to (c) A Chinese Delegation led by Mr. Li Boyong, Minister for Labour visited India between the 28th May and 4th June, 1995 and held discussions with Union Minister of Labour and other officers of the Ministry. The discussions were in the nature of exchange of information and ideas based on the experience of the respective countries. The discussions mainly centred on new labour laws, adjustment of surplus labour, industrial sickness, social security for workers, labour productivity etc. Besides, it was also agreed to workout and conclude an agreement for bilateral cooperation in the areas of labour, employment and training.

[English]

DEBT RELIEF SCHEME IN GUJARAT

1791. Shri Harising Chavda :

Shri Ratilal Varma :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of farmers and rural artisans benefited by Debt Relief Scheme in Gujarat;

(b) the amount released to the state since April, 1994 thereunder;

(c) the total amount of loss incurred by cooperative banks in Gujarat by way of interest etc. owing to delay in releasing the above dues of the state; and

(d) the quantum of outstanding amount and the time by which it is likely to be released ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) The public sector banks have provided debt relief to 3,78,027 farmers and 81,198 rural artisans in the State of Gujarat under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990.

Cooperative Banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in the State of Gujarat have provided debt relief to 8,84,297 beneficiaries under ARDR Scheme, 1990. However, the break-up details of farmers and rural artisans benefited are not available.

(b) As far as Public Sector Banks are concerned, RBI has released the amount on the basis of claims filed by individual banks; and State-wise details are not available. As far as Co-operative Banks and RRBs are concerned, an amount of Rs. 7.22 crores and Rs. 18.48 crores has been released during the period 1st April 1994 to 30th June 1995 as grant and loan respectively.

(c) The actual amount of loss claimed to have been incurred by the banks by way of loss of interest due to delay in settlement of the claims that Cooperative Banks have incurred loss by way of interest owing to delay of Central Government in releasing funds is not well founded as it is mainly based on the application of interest to doubtful and chronic overdues.

(d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have reported that all the claims of public sector banks, cooperative banks and regional Rural Banks in the State of Gujarat have since been settled, as per policy guidelines.

EXPORT OF ADULTERATED TEA TO RUSSIA

1792. Shri Ram Kripal Yadav :
Shri Srikanta Jena :
Shri S. S. R. Rajendra Kumar :
Shri Chhedi Paswan :

Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the market for Indian tea in Russia has been coming down year after year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that adulterated tea is being exported to Russia by some exporting firms;

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

(e) the steps taken to boost export of quality tea to Russia ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) and (b) Prior to the disintegration of the erstwhile USSR, trade between the two countries was governed by Annual Trade Agreements which, inter-alia, specified quantities of Indian tea for export to the USSR. After the disintegration of the USSR, exports of tea to Russia and other CIS countries have shown a decline on account of lower imports by those countries, as well as stiff competition from other countries like Sri Lanka, Indonesia etc. which produce cheaper varieties of tea.

(c) Complaints were received by the Tea Board in 1993 against a few exporters of export of sub-standard and inferior quality teas to Russia & other CIS countries.

(d) These complaints were investigated by the Tea Board and suitable action has been taken under the provisions of the Tea (Distribution & Export) Control Order, 1957 against six exporters.

(e) In order to step up exports of Indian tea to Russia, an agreement has been signed with the Russian Government which, inter-alia provides for import of tea by Russia under the debt repayment mechanism. A new module of promotional strategies has been approved by the Government for Russia and other CIS markets which is being undertaken by the Tea Board in consultation with the tea industry. In order to enforce strict quality control in exports of tea to Russia, exporters have been advised to obtain quality certificates from SGS, India or any other agency recognised by the Russian importers.

Other steps taken to boost export of tea include promotional campaigns through Tea Board's office at Moscow. It consists of (i) participation in trade fairs/exhibitions; (ii) media campaign to increase consumer awareness towards various unique characteristics of Indian tea; (iii) media campaign to popularise Indian tea through the Tea Board marketing symbol.

[Translation]

PROJECTS/SCHEMES OF PRIVATE AIRLINES

1793. Shri Janardan Misra : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the projects/schemes submitted by the private airlines in response to its invitation by the Union Government;

(b) whether the Government have examined these schemes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the time by which these are likely to be examined ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) to (d) Private scheduled operators have been requested to submit perspective plan of their fleet expansion. The plans have not been received so far.

CANCELLATION OF SCHEDULED FLIGHTS TO CHANDIGARH

1794. Shri Anand Ratna Maurya : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to cancel all the scheduled flights to Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the decision of the Government has been protested strongly; and

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

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Although Indian Airlines have withdrawn services to/from Chandigarh due to poor load factor, scheduled services are being provided by Archana Airways.

(c) and (d) There have been some representations against the withdrawal of Indian Airlines services to/from Chandigarh. However, due to poor load factor and acute shortage of operating crew, Indian Airlines is presently not in a position to resume the service.

[English]

UPGRADING OF AIRSTRIP AT SURAT

1795. Shri Prakash V. Patil :
Shri Kashiram Rana :

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to upgrade the airstrip at Surat to make the airport capable of handling domestic flights;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the estimated cost thereof; and

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

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Gulam Nabi Azad) : (a) to (c) The airport at Surat belongs to State Government of Gujarat and is capable of handling Dornier/AVRO type of aircraft. The Airports Authority of India has no plan to upgrade this airport.

DEVELOPMENT OF SERICULTURE

1796. Shri Gope Nath Gajapathi :
Shri Brijbhushan Sharan Singh :
Dr. Ramkrishna Kusmaria :
Shri Dharmanna Mondayya Sadul :

Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have approved an action plan for development of sericulture in the country specially in North-Eastern and non-traditional States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds sanctioned for the purpose; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be implemented ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) to (d) The Government have approved an action plan for development of sericulture in all the seven non-traditional sericulture States of the North-Eastern Region. The total cost of implementation of various schemes/programmes envisaged under the action plan is estimated to be Rs. 12.95 crores over a period of three years. Of this, the Central share to be borne by the Central Silk Board (CSB) is Rs. 8.69 crores and the remaining Rs. 4.26 crores is required to be shared by the seven States of the Region.

DISINVESTMENT SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS

1797. Shri D. Venkateshwara Rao :
Shri Bolla Bulli Ramalah :

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether disinvestment schedule of public sector banks suffers from any legal loophole;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken in regard thereto ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

OPENING OF NEW ACCOUNTS IN BANKS

1798. Shrimati Chandra Prabha Urs : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is mandatory for the banks to get the signature and address of the Introducer (account holder) while opening a bank account;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that people have to face a great hardship due to the said condition; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to ease the situation by authorising the concerned managers to accept the application on production of proof of residence and of employment by applicants ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) Indian Banks' Association (IBA) have reported that as per established banking procedure, all deposit accounts are required to be properly introduced. Introduction is necessary to enable proper identification of the person opening an account. The introducer is to sign and give particulars regarding his name, address and the profession on the account opening form.

(c) There is no such proposal at present. However, IBA have reported that passport/postal identification card is also deemed to be adequate identification for the purpose of opening bank accounts.

[Translation]

FRAUD IN CREDIT CARDS

1799. Shrimati Pratibha Devisingh Patil : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons provided with credit cards by the banks during 1994-95 and 1995-96 so far and the amount involved therein;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the growing incidents of frauds in the use of credit cards issued by banks in the country;

(c) if so, the details of the frauds detected during the above period and the action taken in regard thereto;

(d) whether the Government propose to issue photo credit cards to customers so as to save them from such frauds; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) to (c) As per the information received from Reserve Bank of India (RBI) the details of number of persons provided with credit cards, total turnover, number of fraud cases detected and the amount involved there in during 1994-

95 and April, 1995 onwards are given in the enclosed **Statement**. The respective banks have initiated civil/criminal action wherever considered necessary. In suitable cases, the banks have lodged insurance claims against the losses.

(d) and (e) According to RBI only Citibank and Standard Chartered Bank have so far introduced photo credit cards. The main reasons for other banks not introducing photo cards are under :

- (i) the high costs and large investment involved.
- (ii) doubts to the effectiveness of this technique to prevent frauds.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the bank	No. of persons with cr. cards 1994-95	Provided during April 95 onwards	Total Turnover as on 31-3-95 (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of fraud cases detected during 1994-95	Amount involved Rs. in lakhs	No. of fraud cases detected (April 95 onwards)	Amount involved (Rs.in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Public Sector Banks								
1.	Vijaya Bank	2,328	844	2662.66	6	3.53	—	1.36
2.	Central Bank of India	4,269	394	5663.71	15	18.42	1	1.43
3.	Union Bank of India	1,281	185	469.51	1	1.25	—	—
4.	Dena Bank	1,330	112	360.00	1	.86	Nil	Nil
5.	Indian Overseas Bank	2,624	359	901.83	5	.86	1	.40
6.	Bank of Maharashtra	2,177	597	493.35	2	.34	—	—
7.	United Bank of India	702	305	108.00	3	.67	—	—
8.	Punjab and Sind Bank	6,140	320	82.54	1	1.34	—	—
9.	Allahabad Bank (Cumulative)	12,306	1086	602.00	—	.36	—	—
10.	Canara Bank	10,579	4077	1040.00	8	19.99	—	5.59
11.	Syndicate Bank	842	174	87.06	2	0.33	—	—
12.	Bank of Baroda	1,462	Nil	1508.00	1	11.84	—	2.40
13.	Corporation Bank	973	191	209.60	1	0.28	—	.08
14.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	1,125	—	Nil	—	—	—	—
Private Sector Banks								
1.	Vysya Bank	1,648	118	861.100	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.	United Western Bank	1,035	179	173.00	1	17.00	Nil	Nil
3.	The Lakshmi Vilas Bank	2,233	27	7.50	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	The South Indian Bank	778	367	137.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
5.	Karur Vysya Bank	379	65	103.00	—	—	—	—

[English]

TATA-SINGAPORE AIRLINES

1800. Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee :
Shri Vijay Naval Patil :

Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Singapore airlines has been allowed to start an airline in India with the Tatas on a domestic basis with a 40 per cent investment by Singapore airlines; and

(b) the expected outflow of foreign exchange in five years and its impact on the operations of Indian airlines?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) A proposal has been received from Tata Singapore Airlines to operate a domestic airline in India with 40% equity participation by Singapore Airlines. The project report envisages deployment of seven aircraft in the first year to be progressively increased to 20 aircraft subsequently. The proposal has not been approved by the Government.

EXPENDITURE ON THE COMMISSION OF RAILWAY SAFETY

1801. Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri :
Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Commission of Railway Safety functions under the Ministry of Civil Aviation & Tourism;

(b) if so, the details of the functions being carried out with regards to Civil Aviation;

(c) whether the expenditure incurred by and on the Commission is reimbursed by Ministry of Railways;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Standing Committee of Transport and Tourism had suggested in its report last year that the Railways should reimburse the expenditure; and

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

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Commission of Railway Safety deals with matters pertaining to safety in rail travel and operation and for this purpose performs certain statutory functions laid down in the Railways Act, 1989 and the Rules framed thereunder.

(c) to (f) No, Sir. Ministry of Railways, however, provides Rs. 3.5 lakhs per annum for the establishment costs of the Commission of Railway Safety against its current year's budgetted expenditure of Rs. 107 lakhs. The Standing Committee on Transport and Tourism has recommended in its reports that the Railways should reimburse the entire expenditure. The matter has been taken up with the Ministry of Railways.

[Translation]

CHILD LABOUR

1802. Shri Surendra Pal Pathak : Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the states where National Authority on Child Labour has accorded/approved to a multipurpose scheme for the welfare of the child labourers working in hazardous industries;

(b) whether some States have sent various proposals to the Union Government for the solution of child labour problem;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government in accordance with these suggestions?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P. A. Sangma) : (a) to (d) The National Authority for Elimination of Child Labour (NAECL) has identified 100 districts as per 1981 census data. These districts are located in 11 states, namely, A.P., M.P., Maharashtra, U.P., Karnataka, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Orissa, Gujarat and West Bengal, which together account for over 90% of the child labour population in the country. It has been decided that projects to eliminate child labour in hazardous occupations will be started as per the National Child Labour Project Scheme in these districts. A Workshop of these 100 Districts Collectors is scheduled to take place in New Delhi on 13-14th September, 1995. The concerned Collectors have been requested to prepare project proposals in their respective districts based on the National Child Labour Project Scheme. An allocation of Rs. 34.4 crores has been made for the current financial year to undertake projects for children withdrawn from work.

[English]

SHORTAGE OF SMALL COINS

1803. Shri Paras Ram Bhardwaj :
Shri Manikrao Hodlya Gavit :
Shri Dharmanna Mondayya Sadul :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the shortage of 5 and 10 paise coins through-out the country which adversely effect weaker sections of the society in rural and urban areas;

(b) if so, the details therefor; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to make available sufficient supply of small denomination coins?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) No shortage of coins of denominations of 5 paise and 10 paise has been reported.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

INVESTMENT BY IDBI

1804. Dr. K.V.R. Chowdary: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) the investments made by the Industrial Development Bank of India during each of the last three years, state-wise; and

(b) the amount of investment proposed to be made during

the forthcoming year, State-wise?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) The details of State-wise assistance sanctioned and disbursed by Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) IDBI does not make state-wise allocation of funds.

Statement
Assistance Sanctioned and Disbursed

April - March		(Rs. Crore)					
S. No.	State/Union Territory/Region	Sanctions			Disbursements		
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A. Eastern & North Eastern Region							
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Assam	11.73	28.66	31.18	50.76	16.02	26.63
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.40	0.00	2.25	0.66	0.18	1.66
4.	Bihar	136.70	82.67	59.59	225.14	62.80	76.18
5.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Meghalaya	0.23	0.00	3.40	0.18	0.00	2.40
7.	Mizoram	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.30	0.00	0.00
8.	Nagaland	0.09	0.00	0.10	2.69	0.00	3.12
9.	Orissa	149.48	202.91	389.06	145.20	344.86	143.22
10.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00
11.	Tripura	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.04	0.06	0.00
12.	West Bengal	585.99	394.65	951.12	225.40	282.46	415.83
		885.62	708.94	1436.71	650.39	706.38	666.08
B. Northern Region							
1.	Chandigarh	4.00	2.80	7.50	4.25	0.08	6.50
2.	Haryana	240.48	268.32	368.38	136.36	170.83	193.18
3.	Himachal Pradesh	71.78	33.04	479.73	172.48	44.18	331.60
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	3.60	2.70	6.95	4.03	0.00	8.25
5.	National Capital Territory of Delhi	174.22	407.90	1018.13	75.59	221.65	396.00
6.	Punjab	223.19	261.29	353.48	101.65	159.89	197.40
7.	Rajasthan	544.37	540.39	705.96	507.98	453.36	53.96

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	Uttar Pradesh	656.94	1129.62	783.81	432.08	509.16	756.35
		1918.58	2646.06	3723.94	1434.42	1659.15	2430.06
C. Southern Region							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	775.16	977.86	1403.39	612.71	495.39	944.91
2.	Karnataka	552.52	551.17	1379.51	343.70	478.10	583.00
3.	Kerala	170.19	188.78	163.06	113.53	152.01	87.40
4.	Tamil Nadu	704.41	847.51	1731.42	554.01	727.20	929.05
5.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Pondicherry	29.99	9.39	37.92	15.19	15.56	15.30
		2232.27	2574.71	4715.30	1639.14	1868.26	2559.66
D. Western Region							
1.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	20.20	37.66	148.64	13.91	14.17	56.18
2.	Daman & Diu	11.41	24.99	82.20	4.23	21.02	31.09
3.	Goa	40.69	88.10	29.58	27.66	46.19	38.15
4.	Gujarat	1428.44	2200.19	3773.45	1069.96	937.24	1630.53
5.	Madhya Pradesh	508.66	763.22	867.60	360.61	589.24	632.22
6.	Maharashtra	2092.44	3163.69	4911.24	1139.67	1919.49	2447.58
	Total	4101.84	6277.85	9812.71	2616.04	3527.35	4835.75
	Grand Total	9138.31	12207.56	19688.66	6339.99	7761.14	10491.55

[Translation]

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR BUDDHIST PILGRIMAGE CENTRES

1805. Shri Lall Babu Rai : Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state :

(a) the amount received from abroad for the development of Buddhist pilgrimage centres in the country during each of the last three years alongwith the names of the countries from which funds have been received;

(b) the amount spent for the development of Buddhist pilgrimage centres during each of the last three years centre-wise; and

(c) if no amount has been spent, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) to (c) Department of Tourism, Government of India had signed two soft term loan agreements with OECF, Japan for the development of infrastructure in the Buddhist circuit :

(i) 7.76 Billion Japanese Yen for infrastructural development along identified Buddhist circuits in U.P. & Bihar.

(ii) 3.75 Billion Jap. Yen for conservation and tourism development plan for Ajanta & Ellora in Maharashtra.

The OECF loan is not available in advance. The implementing agencies have to first incur expenditure from

their own resources and then claim reimbursement from OECF. Rs. 58.31 crores approx. has been reimbursed by OECF for work done on various components such as upgradation and strengthening of national and state highways landscaping around the monuments, setting-up of wayside amenities and augmentation of electricity and water supply in U.P. and Bihar.

As regards the project in Maharashtra, the Govt. of Maharashtra and ASI have spent Rs. 22.53 million and Rs.1.977 million for development and conservation work respectively. The National Airport Authority has also spent Rs. 56.70 million for the expansion of Aurangabad Airport under the Ajanta & Ellora Project.

In addition to the above, the Central financial assistance extended during 8th Plan for construction of tourist complexes, meditation centres, wayside amenities, tourist reception centre etc. at the various Buddhist Centres etc. is as follows :

State	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
Andhra Pradesh	39.47
Bihar	40.62
J & K	24.23
Maharashtra	24.25
U.P.	120.85

[English]

INSURANCE OF VALUABLE ANTIQUES

1806. Dr. Mumtaz Ansari : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government do not have any provision to insure the valuable antiques of the country as reported in Jansatta dated 17 July, 1995;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts being made to ensure that the valuable antiques of the country are insured ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) to (c) As per All India Fire Tariff, the four subsidiary companies of the General Insurance Corporation of India do provide insurance cover in respect of any Curios or Work of Art for an amount not exceeding Rs. 2,500/-. The companies are, however, free to devise Special Policies looking at the special nature of the objects and risks to be covered.

INCOME-TAX EXEMPTION TO PRIVATE TRUSTS

1807. Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Income-tax exemptions given during 1993-94 for donations to private trusts by businessmen and business-houses;

(b) whether the Government monitor the funds donated to private trusts for the purpose of Income-tax exemption;

(c) if so, the nature of monitoring being done; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) The donations made to private trusts are not eligible as deduction under section 80G of the Income-tax Act, 1961 against the income chargeable to tax. Only the donations made to certain Funds and/or Institutions established in India for charitable purposes are eligible for deduction subject to prescribed limits.;

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

TOURIST TRAFFIC TO GOA

1808. Shri Harish Narayan Prabhu Zantye : Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated number of domestic/foreign tourists visited by air to Goa during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the existing facilities are inadequate to harness the tourism growth potential of the State;

(c) if so, the details of the funds provided during each of the last three years for strengthening, expansion and modernisation of existing network of civil aviation and actual utilisation thereof and physical achievement reported alongwith projects proposed/under execution to meet future

requirement;

(d) the details of the projects received by the Union Government alongwith those projects which have been cleared; and

(e) the reasons for delay in deciding the pending projects ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) According to the statistics available from the State Government, the number of domestic and foreign tourists who visited Goa by air during each of the last 3 years were as given below :

Year	Number of Tourists (In Thousands)	
	Domestic	Foreign
1992	77	70
1993	80	100
1994	85	125

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The terminal building of Goa airport is being upgraded at a total cost of Rs. 9.22 crores. It is likely to be completed by March, 1996. In addition, a sum of Rs. 81 lakhs has been spent for the improvement of runway lights to facilitate night landing at Goa airport. It is also proposed to expand the Apron to accommodate more air crafts.

(d) A proposal has been received for the construction of an alternate airport at Goa but has been found not feasible due to non availability of adequate land.

(e) Does not arise.

TOURISM POTENTIAL IN UTTAR PRADESH

1809. Shri Balraj Passi : Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had made any study of tourism potential inflow in the eight hill districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether there is enough infrastructure such as hotels, motels, tourist vehicles in that region to cater the need to tourists;

(c) whether India Tourism Development Corporation or any other Union Government agency has opened its hotels in that region;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government propose to draw any action plan to attract higher tourist inflow in that region; and

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

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) A study conducted by the Government of Uttar Pradesh in 1989-90 covered the tourism potential of the 8 hill districts of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) there are 27 approved hotels with 917 rooms in the

region. Besides, there are tourist lodges run by State Government agencies and other supplementary accommodation units. However, the infrastructural facilities presently available in the region are not adequate to meet the requirement of tourist traffic during summer season and pilgrimage season.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) The preparation of action plan and development of tourism infrastructure in any particular region is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, financial assistance is provided by the Central Department of Tourism for the implementation of specific projects based on proposals received from them. Projects assisted in the region during the first 3 years of 8th Plan period include setting up of tented accommodation at Nandprayag and improvement of ghats at Rishikesh.

NRI RESOURCES

1810. Shri Hari Kishore Singh : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has devised ways and means of tapping NRI resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely impact on the financial system of the country ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Various investment schemes for Non-resident Indians (NRIs) are being operated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). These include investment with repatriation basis in the following schemes :

- (i) Investment upto 100% equity in high priority industries mentioned in Annexure-III to the Industrial Policy 1991;
- (ii) 100% Export Oriented Units;

(iii) Sick units under revival;

(iv) Housing and real estate development companies, etc.;

(v) 40% investment scheme for investment in new issues of existing/new manufacturing companies; and

(vi) Investments through Stock exchange under portfolio investment scheme with a collective ceiling upto 24% for all NRIs.

Total inflow against various NRI schemes as reported by RBI shows an increasing trend during the last four years :

(Rupees in Crores)			
1992	1993	1994	Jan.-June 1995
149.69	559.59	1108.31	1063.65

[Translation]

HEALTH SCHEME FOR HANDLOOM WEAVERS

1811. Shri Rajendra Kumar Sharma : Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the care of the health of handloom weavers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount allocated, for implementation of the scheme during 1994-95; and

(d) the number of weavers benefited therefrom ?

The Minister of Textiles (Shri G. Venkat Swamy) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Health Package Scheme for Handloom Weavers was introduced during the year 1992-93. Under the Scheme financial assistance is provided as under :

Item	Rate of Assistance
(i) Reimbursement of cost of medicines and treatment of diseases, namely; T.B., Asthama and inflammation of alimentary system.	Rs. 1500/- per weavers per annum.
(ii) Reimbursement of cost of testing of eyes and cost of spectacles.	Rs. 150/- for spectacles and Rs. 40/- for teating of eyes per weaver once in 5 years.
(iii) Supply of drinking water.	Rs. 35.000/- per bere-well for 50 weavers' households.
(iv) Maternity benefit for women weavers/women in a weavers' household.	Rs. 500/- per delivery twice in life time.
(v) Payment of additional monetary compensation for permanent measures of family planning.	Rs. 100/- per head over and above the incentives given by other agencies restricted to only once in life time of the beneficiary.
(vi) Infrastructure for primary health care.	Rs. 1.00 lakh per Centre per village having net loss then 150 weavers' households.

(c) A sum of Rs. 5,34,72,280/- was released under the Health Package Scheme during 1994-95 out of a combined allocation of Rs. 10 crores towards Health Package, Group Insurance and Thrift Fund Schemes.

(d) 1,71,281 weavers are estimated to have been benefited under the Health Package Scheme during the year, 1994-95.

[English]

SCHOOLS FOR CHILD LABOUR

1812. Shri Chhitubhai Gamit : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open schools for the education of child labours in the State of Gujarat during the current year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri P.A. Sangma) : (a) and (b) The Government of Gujarat has recently sent an 'Action Plan' to rehabilitate 5000 child workers in Gujarat State engaged in diamond cutting, polishing, manufacturing of metal products, engineering & plastics, manufacture of fire crackers, chemicals quarrying, mining and other hazardous processes. The Action Plan, inter alia, comprises construction of hostels, provision of stipends, food, compensation, education and other facilities. The Government of Gujarat has sought financial assistance from Government of India to implement the projects. For sanction of the project Government of Gujarat has been requested to modify the proposals to bring it in line with the National Child Labour Project Scheme currently under implementation.

BAN OF EXPORTS BY GERMANY

1813. Shri Gurudas Kamat : Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state :

(a) whether Germany has banned sensitive items exports to India;

(b) if so, the details of the banned items and the reasons therefor; and

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

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) and (b) Germany applies restrictions on exports of defence and defence related items including 'dual use items'. These items, whose export is subject to issue of a licence by the German authorities, are specified in five lists covering military goods; nuclear related goods; industrial dual-use goods; chemical dual-use goods and biological dual-use goods. Decision on export licences are taken by German authorities on a case-by-

case basis.

(c) On our side, all cases of imports requiring German export licences are monitored by the Indian Embassy at Bonn at the request of Indian exporting agencies and intervention is made with German authorities as and when necessary.

LIGNITE DEPOSITS

1814. Shri A. Indrakaran Reddy : Will the Minister of Mines be pleased to state :

(a) whether large quantity of lignite deposits have been found in South India as a result of promotional drilling;

(b) if so, the potential places where large scale drilling operations have been made; and

(c) the total expected quantity from these lignite deposits to be extracted area-wise ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Mines (Shri Balram Singh Yadava) : (a) Yes, Sir. Vast lignite reserves have been identified in South India particularly in Tamil Nadu.

(b) Large scale drilling operations by Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited have been carried out in Mannargudi, Veeranam Eri and Kudikadu areas in Tamil Nadu.

(c) Lignite resources of 17,940 million tonnes and 1164.26 million tonnes have been assessed in Mannargudi and Veeranam Eri area respectively.

[Translation]

DRINKING WATER SCHEMES SUBMITTED BY MADHYA PRADESH

1815. Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan : Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted a project to seek assistance from the World Bank and Japan to improve drinking water supply to various districts of the State ;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof alongwith the estimated cost;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to expand this project with the assistance of the World Bank and Japan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P.K. Thungon) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do no arise.

[English]

COMMUNITY CENTRES CONSTRUCTED IN CHANDIGRAH

1816. Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal : Will the **Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of community centres constructed by the Administration in Chandigarh including locations thereof;

(b) whether some of those are not being presently used for their original purposes;

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

(d) other areas earmarked for the purpose of construction of community centres and the reasons for delay in construction ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

POWER PROJECTS IN U.P.

1817. Shri Arjun Singh Yadav: Will the **Minister of Power** be pleased to state :

(a) the total requirement of power in Uttar Pradesh during 1994 to 1996 and the quantum of power likely to be generated by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of power projects under consideration and the names of the projects approved under public sector and private sector so far;

(c) the names of the projects whose cost has increased and the extent of this increase; and

(d) the locations decided for setting up of Hydro Power generation schemes and the estimated cost thereof alongwith the profit and loss position ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) to (d) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

INVESTMENT IN THE ICE-CREAM INDUSTRY

1818. Dr. Vasant Niwruutti Pawar : Will the **Minister of Food Processing Industries** be pleased of state :

(a) the total investment made in Ice-cream Industry in the country during 1994-95 and 1995-96 till date;

(b) the corresponding figures for 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the quantum of basic capital investment in Ice-cream manufacturing industries in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Shri Tarun Gogoi) : (a) and (b) Manufacture of ice-cream is reserved for the small scale sector. Since the last SSI Census of 1987-88, no fresh census has been conducted for small scale industries including that of ice-cream. Therefore, investments made in ice-cream industry since 1992-93 to 1995-96 are not available.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

MICA PRODUCTION

1819. Shri Paras Ram Bhardwaj : Will the **Minister of Mines** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an alarming drop in mica production;

(b) whether Government have taken steps to improve the mica production;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to improve the situation?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Mines (Shri Balram Singh Yadava) : (a) Production of mica has been shown a declining trend.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. Decline in production of mica is due to a decline in its demand in the international market. With a view to assess the future production capacity of the country and to reopen the closed mines, Geological Survey of India and Indian Bureau of Mines have taken up the detailed study in the mica belts of Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan. Government of India have also set up the Working Groups/Committees to investigate the problems of the mica industry. To promote the mica mining, Government have also offered a number of incentives to the exporters of mica such as withdrawal of duty on export of mica scrap and waste, and decanalisation of export of processed mica.

POWER SHORTAGE

1820. Shri P. C. Thomas : Will the **Minister of Power** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up power projects in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka to ensure adequate supply of power;

(b) if so, the details of the projects to be set up State-wise and location-wise;

(c) whether the aforesaid States are getting their due shares from National Power Grid without any hindrance from neighbouring States; and

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to ensure that States of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka receive their

due share from National Power Grid in future ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chmanbhai Patel) : (a) and (b) The following power projects have been received from State Government of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for accord of techno-economic clearance :

S. No.	Name of the Project	Location	Capacity (MW)
Kerala			
1.	Adirapally (Hydro)	Trichur	2 x 80
2.	Kasarkode DG plant (Thermal)	Kasarkode	70
3.	Kasargode TPS (Thermal)	Kasargode	3 x 500
4.	Kasargode CCGT	Cheemeni	500
Tamil Nadu			
1.	North Madras St.-II (Thermal)	Dist. Chingelcut	2 x 500
2.	Samayanallur D.G. (Thermal)	Dist. Madurai	100
3.	Basin Bridge D.G. (Thermal)	Madras	220
4.	Pillaiperu-Malnallur CCGT (Thermal)	Dist. Thanjavur	300
5.	Srimushnam (Thermal)	Dist. Valladar	2 x 250
Karnataka			
1.	Mangalors TPS (Thermal)	Dist. Dakshin Kannada	4 x 250
2.	Raichur Units 5 & 6 (Thermal)	Dist. Raichur	2 x 210
3.	Yelahanka D.G. Stn. Extn. (Thermal)	Bangalore	2 x 23.4
4.	Torangallu (Thermal)	Dist. Bellary	2 x 120
5.	Mangalore (Thermal)	Mangalore	2 x 500

(c) and (d) With a view to restrict over-drawal of power, instructions have been issued to the constituents of the Southern Grid to maintain grid discipline and not to overdraw. The Southern Regional Electricity Board (SREB) and Powergrid are regularly monitoring the power supply position.

[Translation]

GOODS UNIT AT DURGAPUR STEEL PLANT

1821. Shri Bhubaneshwar Prasad Mehta : Will the

Minister of Steel be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up finished goods unit at Durgapur Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel (Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev) : (a) to (c) At present there is no proposal with the Government to set up a new production unit to produce finished steel at Durgapur Steel Plant. SAIL is already implementing the Renovation and Technological upgradation (Modernisation) programme of Durgapur Steel Plant.

[English]

IRON ORE MINES TO PRIVATE STEEL PLANTS

1822. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal : Will the **Minister of Steel** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision has been taken by the Government to open the iron ore mines to the private sector plants; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel (Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev) : (a) and (b) Under the National Mineral Policy, 1993 the private sector can take up mining of iron ore.

REPAIRING OF ROADS IN KERALA

1823. Shri Mullappally Ramchandran : Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps have been taken and allocation made for the repair/maintenance of roads on the National Highways in Kerala in preparation for the onset of Monsoons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any work on the roads in Kerala have been undertaken since the onset of Monsoons; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) to (d) Maintenance and repair of National Highways is a continuous process. However, State P.W.D. has been advised to arrange required work before the onset of the monsoon. During 1995-96, a sum of Rs. 303.50 Lakh (upto June, 1995) has been released for maintenance and repairs.

CHINESE BASE FACILITIES IN BAY OF BENGAL

1824. Shrimati Bibhu Kumari Devi : Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Chinese have secured base facilities in Burmese ports of Haingyi, Coco Islands and Mergui;

(b) whether these ports are being upgraded in terms of facilities;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the threat posed to our security by the possibility of large-scale Chinese naval presence in the Bay of Bengal;

(d) whether the Government have taken up the matter with China; and

(e) if so, their response thereto ?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) and (b) Government have seen reports on Chinese assistance to Myanmar in the setting up and upgradation of naval bases in the Indian Ocean.

(c) Government keep under constant review all developments having a bearing on the country's security and take appropriate measures to safeguard the national interest.

(d) and (e) Government have raised the issue of Chinese activities in Myanmar with the Chinese Government. The Chinese Government has described the reports regarding their involvement in the setting up of bases in Myanmar as without basis.

GOVERNMENT PRESSES

1825. Dr. K. V. R. Chowdary : Will the **Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Government presses functioning in the country and the capacity and locations thereof;

(b) whether the capacity of Government presses in Andhra Pradesh is under utilised; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

WORKING GROUP FOR ROAD SECTOR

1826. Shri Basudeb Acharia : Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Working Group has been set up by the Union Government for the preparation of perspective plan for roads in North-Eastern Region;

(b) whether such a Plan has been prepared and submitted to the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Working Group has estimated requirement of funds of Rs. 11,087 crores (at 1993-94 price level) for the region for 1994-2002. However, based on likely availability of funds during for the period being of the order of Rs.

6,954 crores, a development plan for that amount has been recommended by the Working Group.

BORDER POSTS WITH CHINA

1827. Shri J. Chokka Rao : Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of border posts set up in the Indo-Tibetan border at present together with the value of trade that took place between China and India during the last three years;

(b) whether any new border posts are agreed to be set up in the Indo-Tibetan Region; and

(c) if so, the places agreed to between the two countries for setting up these posts ?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) At present, border trade between India and China is conducted at two places, namely, the Lipulekh Pass and the Shipki La Pass.

The figures for border trade for the last three years are as follows :

Year	Trade (lakhs of Rs.)
1992	22
1993	41
1994	28

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

PENSION SCHEME IN PORT TRUSTS

1828. Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri : Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry had asked the Port Trusts vide its order dated March 29, 1985 to extend the period to exercise option to come over to pension scheme from contributory provident fund by Class III and Class IV employees who had retired from service and the option was to be exercised upto July 31, 1985;

(b) whether the Calcutta Port Trust have invited such options from those employees who had retired between January 1, 1984 to July 31, 1984 and not from those who retired in 1983;

(c) if so, the reasons for issuing such orders by Calcutta Port Trusts; and

(d) the corrective steps the Government propose to take to extend the benefit to the employees who retired in 1983 ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Calcutta Port Trust issued orders on the basis of Ministry's order dated March 29, 1985 in pursuance to

Wage Settlement dated 11-4-1984 between the Government of India and the four Major Federations of Port and Dock Workers.

(d) Does not arise as employees retired in 1983 were not covered by the Wage Settlement dated 11-4-84.

STEAMER AGENTS' STRIKE AT CALCUTTA PORT

**1829. Shri R. Surender Reddy :
Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal :**

Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'Calcutta Port dispute set to hit operations' appearing in the Business Standard dated July 17, 1995;

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

(c) the reasons for strike by steamer agents and the details of their main demands/grievances;

(d) whether due to this agitation various services at Calcutta Port have been adversely affected;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to handle the situation and amicable settlement of steamer agents' demands/grievances ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

PORT BASED STEEL PLANT IN ORISSA

1830. Shri Gopi Nath Gajapathi : Will the **Minister of Steel** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a port-based steel plant in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the locations of the proposed plant and other details thereof including estimated cost ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel (Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev) : (a) The Union Government do not have any proposal to set up a port-based steel plant in Orissa. The State Government of Orissa have also informed that they have no proposal to set up a port-based steel plant in their State.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

JUSTICE KASLIWAL COMMITTEE

1831. Shri Sushil Varma : Will the **Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Committee pertaining to Union Carbide Gas Tragedy has been constituted in the Chairmanship of Justice Kasliwal;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of the Committee and the composition thereof;

(c) whether Kasliwal Committee has submitted any report; and

(d) if so, the main recommendations thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee was asked to look into and advise in the matter of expeditious disposal of pending cases. The Committee consisted of Justice Shri N. M. Kasliwal, Retd. Judge of the Supreme Court as Chairman and other members were the Commissioner for Welfare of the Bhopal Gas Victims, Secretaries to the Government of India in the Department of Law & Justice, Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Expenditure and Chief Secretary to the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, the Chairman has submitted his own report.

[English]

TRAINING CENTRES

**1832. Shri Syed Shahabuddin :
Shri George Fernandes :**

Will the **Minister of Food Processing Industries** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government propose to establish training centres for entrepreneurs interested in setting up small food processing units in rural areas;

(b) if so, the proposed locations for the centres;

(c) whether these centres shall be administered directly by the Union Government or by the State Government with Central support; and

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

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Shri Tarun Gogoi) : (a) to (d) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not directly establish the training centres for training entrepreneurs. But since the beginning of the 8th Plan, the Ministry is implementing a Plan scheme under which assistance is provided to organisations including voluntary organisations who are willing to set up and operate Food Processing and Training Centres for training entrepreneurs interested in setting up of small food processing units in the rural areas. The State-wise details of such centres proposed to be assisted during the 8th Plan and those already assisted during the first three years of the 8th Plan, are given in the enclosed Statement. These Centres are administered by the implementing agencies to whom the funds are released, but are monitored and guided by the State Nodal Agencies and this Ministry.

Statement

Details of Food Processing & Training Centres proposed to be assisted during 8th Plan period/ already assisted during the First three years of 8th Plan

Sr. No.	State	No. of FPTCs to be assisted	Number of FPTCs assisted
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	1
3.	Assam	10	16
4.	Bihar	15	16
5.	Goa	2	—
6.	Gujarat	6	3
7.	Haryana	10	8
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6	3
9.	J & K	5	5
10.	Karnataka	10	4
11.	Kerala	5	5
12.	Madhya Pradesh	20	2
13.	Maharashtra	15	5
14.	Manipur	8	—
15.	Meghalaya	6	—
16.	Mizoram	6	6
17.	Nagaland	3	2
18.	Orissa	30	30
19.	Punjab	10	—
20.	Rajasthan	10	3
21.	Sikkim	1	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	10	5
23.	Tripura	5	1
24.	Uttar Pradesh	25	25
25.	West Bengal	12	9
26.	A & N Is.	1	—
27.	Chandigarh	1	—
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	—
29.	Daman & Diu	1	—
30.	Delhi	1	—
31.	Lakshadweep	1	—
32.	Pondicherry	1	—
Total		250	150

ENCROACHMENT IN DELHI RIDGE

**1833. Shri Dharmanna Mondayya Sadul :
Shri Syed Shahabuddin :**

Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether the DDA has demolished all unauthorised structures on the Ridge in Delhi;

(b) whether the structures demolished include places of worship, with denomination-wise break-up;

(c) whether remaining unauthorised structures on the Ridge have been identified and marked for demolition;

(d) whether the occupants and residents are given adequate notice before demolition is carried out; and

(e) whether the NDMC and MCD have also been instructed to undertake similar demolition programme of all unauthorised structures in their jurisdiction ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) to (d) As per Supreme Court Directive of 5-5-1995 Delhi Development Authority conducted a survey of the ridge area and identified the following encroachments on its land. It issued press notices on 20-5-95 and 7-6-95 requesting all the encroachers to vacate the ridge area under its jurisdiction voluntarily. The following encroachments, which existed on Delhi Development Authority land in the ridge area, have, since been removed.

Nature of Encroachment	No. of encroachments existed	No. of encroachments removed
1. Residential		
(a) pucca	534	12
(b) semi-pucca	2924	81
(c) jhuggies	41	41
2. Commercial	40	40
3. Religious	20	9
4. Dairies	4	4
5. Govt. Agencies	4	1
6. Miscellaneous	3	3

(e) Municipal Corporation of Delhi and New Delhi Municipal Council have also received similar instructions for removal of unauthorised structures.

VISIT OF DIPLOMATIC TEAMS TO J. & K.

**1834. Shri Shravan Kumar Patel :
Shri Shiv Sharan Verma :
Shri Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri :
Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya :
Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee :**

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether the U.S. Ambassador visited the border areas in Jammu and Kashmir to see for himself the anti-insurgency arrangements and as to how Pakistani trained militants and foreign mercenaries infiltrate and perpetrate terrorism and militarism in the State;

(b) if so, their observations and reaction as conveyed to the Government;

(c) whether any other diplomatic teams also visited Jammu & Kashmir during 1995 so far;

(d) if so, their observations and reactions as conveyed to the Government, team-wise;

(e) whether the Government have any policy perspective in arranging such visits; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri R. L. Bhatia) : (a) US Ambassador Mr. Frank Wisner, accompanied by US Embassy officials visited Srinagar from June 24-26 and Jammu from June 26-27, 1995. During the visit, he held meeting with the Governor, J & K Government officials, mainstream political leaders, leaders of the All Party Hurriyat Conference, students, academics, media persons and representatives of the Srinagar Chambers of Commerce. He had individual meetings with Shabir Shah and Yasin Malik. At Jammu, he also visited Kashmiri migrant camps.

(b) Ambassador Wisner acknowledged a change in the mood of the people from confrontation to dialogue. He expressed US Government's support to elections being held in J & K, not as an objective in itself but as a means to involve the people in decision-making. He endorsed that the Simla Agreement between India and Pakistan offered the best way to resolve the J & K issue. He also clarified that the US was neither a mediator nor had it any formula for resolving the J & K issue. He expressed US opposition to the export of violence from across the border and said that this point had been made to Pakistan.

(c) A team of six European Ambassadors representing France, Germany, Spain, Greece, Belgium and the European Commission visited Jammu & Kashmir from April 27 to May 1, 1995. The observations of the team in regard to the situation in Jammu & Kashmir were : increased normalcy in the Valley vis-a-vis the situation prevailing in 1994. It was also the impression of the team that there seemed to be much less hostility between the opposition groups and security forces as compared to in 1994. Also, a much greater human rights consciousness amongst the security forces operating in the State. In regard to elections, the team had felt that if international observers were invited to be present during the elections, it would help participation by those who were reluctant. India must try to appreciate that the presence of observers would only add to its credibility as a sovereign self-confident State, rather than deter from it.

A three-member Iranian Embassy delegation headed by Agha Khushamadi, First Secretary at Iranian Embassy,

New Delhi visited Jammu & Kashmir in June 1995.

(d) In regard to the human rights situation in the State, the team of European Ambassadors had remarked that the militant groups fighting with each other were probably creating more human rights violations than the security forces. While there were human rights violations by the security forces, there seemed to be a much greater consciousness amongst the security forces about human rights.

(e) and (f) Government has maintained a policy of complete transparency in Jammu & Kashmir and State is open for visits by anyone, including foreigners and resident diplomats.

PAK NATIONALS IN PUNJAB JAILS

1835. Shri Mohan Rawle : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan has disowned Pakistani Nationals languishing in jails in Punjab for several years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) Pakistan has not conveyed to Government of India that it is disowning Pakistani Nationals lodged in Indian jails, including any such prisoners in jails in Punjab.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) India and Pakistan concluded a Protocol on Consular Access in 1982. This bilateral protocol provides for consular access to nationals of one country under detention in the other country to facilitate repatriation. Pakistan was last provided Consular Access in June, 1995, at the Jaipur Central Jail.

SEMINAR ON PRIVATISATION OF PORTS

1836. Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi : Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether a two day International Seminar on privatisation of ports has been held in India recently;

(b) if so, the main points discussed in the Seminar;

(c) the extent to which the discussions have helped the Government in privatisation of ports;

(d) whether any concrete decision in this regard has been reached; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) to (e) Yes Sir. A two day international seminar on 'Port Privatisation' was organised in Goa on 4th and 5th May 1995 by the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industries of India in collaboration with Mormugao Port Trust and the Institute of Indo-European Studies. In the seminar, various aspects such as importance of having efficient Ports to sub-serve

the Maritime Trade of the country, changes in the transport requirements, current scene of privatisation of Indian Ports, experience of the overseas countries in Europe and Asia on Port Privatisation and labours' point of view on Port Privatisation were discussed. The various points discussed will help the Government in its efforts towards privatisation.

PAK'S DEVELOPMENT OF FIGHTER AIRCRAFT

1837. Shri D. Venkateswara Rao :
Shri Tara Singh :
Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad :
Shri Shraavan Kumar Patel :

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item that appeared in 'The Tribune' dated June 20, 1995 regarding Pakistan's development of a modern fighter aircraft equivalent to US F-16 with the help of China;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

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

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government are aware of the joint efforts by Pakistan and China to develop the Super-7 aircraft.

Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on India's national security and take necessary measures to safeguard it.

UNDUE INCENTIVES TO PRIVATE SECTOR

1838. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether the new power policy indicates 'undue incentives' to the private sector resulting in high-cost projects;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to adopt a standard practice of specifying a single throughout the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to streamline the power rates throughout the country ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmileban Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The scrutiny by CEA at the stage of techno-economic clearance of the projects (costing more than Rs. 100 crores) ensures streamlining of power tariff for private power projects.

MISSING LINKS OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN ORISSA

1839. Dr. Kartikeswar Patra : Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the missing links of National Highways in Orissa;

(b) the details and progress of missing link projects under execution in the State;

(c) the projects for the construction of missing links in Orissa approved/rejected by the Union Government during the current Plan period;

(d) the details of such projects pending clearance;

(e) whether the Union Government have been considering new missing link projects of the State; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) There is only one stretch of missing link of about 39 kms. Length from chainage 15750 to 54580 between Patri and Kalanda on NH-23.

(b) Four Road works of missing link and 6 Bridge works sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 1.06 and Rs. 1.36 crores respectively are in different stages of progress.

(c) and (d) A sum of Rs. 12.5 crore has been provided in the Eighth Five Year Plan for construction of 33 kms. of missing links but due to resource constraints no work has been sanctioned so far.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) As there is only one missing link, question does not arise.

[Translation]

INCREASE IN PRICES OF SOFT DRINKS

1840. Shri Arvind Trivedi :
Shri R. Surender Reddy :

Will the Minister of Food Processing Industries be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has recently withdrawn the exemption given on soft drinks, ready-to-serve beverages and similar products sold in returnable bottles from declaring their sale price on the packages and that the manufacturers of these drinks will have to mention 'maximum retail price' on the bottles;

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

(c) whether the prices of the soft drinks 'PEPSI' and 'COKE' have been raised in the retail market by the respective multinational companies; and

(d) if so, the justification for raising the prices of these soft drinks ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Shri Tarun Gogol) : (a) and (b)
Government have recently issued a Notification for such declaration under the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977, copy of which is Annexed as a Statement. This has been on the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Packaged Commodities constituted by Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution under the Packaged Commodities Rules, 1977.

(c) and (d) Prices of various soft drinks manufactured by Franchisees/bottlers of M/s. Pepsi Food Ltd., and Ms. Coca Cola are reported to have increased. The industry has cited the reasons for increase in prices of the soft drinks to be due to the inflation and consequent rise in prices of raw-materials, reduction of available depreciation benefits on bottles, etc.

Statement

[To be Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i)]

Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution Department of Civil Supplies

Notification

New Delhi, the July, 13, 1995

G.S.R. 647 (E) : In exercise of the powers conferred by section 83 of the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1976 (60 of 1976); the Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977, namely :

1. (1) These rules may be called the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) (Fourth) Amendment Rules, 1995.

(2) They shall come into force after three months of the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977 (hereinafter referred to as the said rules), in rule 6, sub-rule (1), in proviso (C), in clause (ii) the words "soft drink, ready to serve fruit beverages of the like", shall be deleted.

3. In rule B of the said rules following sub-rule (6) shall be added, namely :

"(6) For Soft drinks, ready to serve fruit beverages on the like, the bottle which is returnable by the consumer for being refilled, the retail sale price may be indicated either on the crown cap, or on the bottle or on both. If the retail sale price is indicated on the crown cap, it is sufficient to indicate the retail sale price in the form "MRP R..."

Sd/-

(Rajiv Srivastava)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

[English]

CANCELLATION OF VISIT OF US UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ARMS CONTROL AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

1841. Shri Rabi Ray : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Under Secretary of State of arms control and international security's visit to India has recently been cancelled;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether his visit to India has been rescheduled; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) and (b) The visit of US Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security Affairs, Dr. Lynn Davis was postponed due to scheduling problems faced by the US side.

(c) and (d) The visit is expected to take place on mutually convenient dates in October 1995.

[Translation]

OIC'S CRITICISM OF KASHMIRI MILITANTS

**1842. Shri Pankaj Chowdhary :
 Shri Brijbhushan Sharan Singh :
 Shri Mahesh Kanodia :**

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Organisation of Islamic Conference has criticised the Kashmiri Militants for their role in Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) if so, whether the Government have drawn the attention of other countries including the U.S. towards it;

(c) if so, the reaction of these countries thereto country-wise;

(d) whether the Government have once again requested the U.S. to include Pakistan in the list of State sponsors of terrorism in view of the above fact; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the U.S. Government in this regard ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Salman Khursheed) : (a) No, Sir,

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[English]

CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

1843. Shri Rajendra Agnihotri : Will the Minister of Food Processing Industries be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute

has shown its serious concern to the fact that Indian seas are strained by overfishing;

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

(c) whether CMFRI has submitted any report to the Government thereon; and

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

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Shri Tarun Gogoi) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

132 KV SUB-STATION OF UP-SEB

1844. Shri Rampal Singh: Will the Minister of Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3942 on 23-8-1993 and state:

(a) the details of present position of 132 KV Sub-stations; and

(b) the names of the Sub-Stations sanctioned from 1993 till date and the locations thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

BID MONEY FOR IMPORT OF UREA

1845. Dr. Lal Bhadur Rawal: Will the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bid money for import of urea and other fertilizers and bid bonds are accepted only in dollars by National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) and PPCL;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to accept bid money from the bidders in Indian currency and against bank guarantees of Indian nationalised banks?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) to (c) The canalising agencies for import of urea decide as per their commercial judgement the currency in which bid money is to be offered by the suppliers. While National Fertilisers Limited (NFL) has accepted bid money only in US dollars, Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Limited (PPCL) has accepted bid money in US dollars or equivalent rupees.

INVOLVEMENT OF RURAL YOUTH IN ACQUACULTURE

1846. Shri Prakash V. Patil: Will the Minister of Food Processing Industries be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes and programmes being taken by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) to involve more educated rural youth in aquaculture; and

(b) the details thereof?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Shri Tarun Gogoi) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

PEPSI BHARAT CHHORRO

1847. Dr. Mumtaz Ansari : Will the Minister of Food Processing Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in 'Jansatta' on July 17, 1995 under the caption "Nau August Ko Gunjega Pepsi Bharat Chhorro";

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

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

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Shri Tarun Gogoi) : (a) Yes, Sir.

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

[English]

WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

1848. Shri S. M. Laljan Basha: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development held at Copenhagen in March, 1995; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to reorient its social policy, planning in the light of the decisions taken at the Summit?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) and (b) World Summit for Social Development was held in Copenhagen from March 10-12, 1995. It adopted the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action. The Declaration contains ten commitments, undertaken for the common pursuit of social development, aimed at social justice, solidarity, harmony and equality within and among countries. These pertain, inter alia, to creation of an enabling economic, political, social, cultural and legal environment; eradication of poverty; goal of full employment; promotion of social

intergration; education, health and culture; increasing resources allocated for social development; and improvement of international cooperation, to achieve these objectives. In the Programme of Action, detailed plans have been spelt out, both at the national and international levels, with a view to implementing the above commitments.

As a developing country devoted to social uplift, India was happy to see that most of the programmes and activities already being conducted in India, were reflected in the Declaration and Programme of Action. India continues with the policies of eradication of poverty, generation of employment, and increasingly devoting more resources for social development. The Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action are also important inputs in our social planning processes.

[Translation]

GSJ SURVEY IN U.P.

1849. Dr. Sakshiji:
Shri Surendra Pal Pathak:

Will the Minister of Mines be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has conducted any survey to assess the availability of iron-ore deposits in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to extract iron-ore from the selected sites, site-wise?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Mines (Shri Balram Singh Yadva) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

NEW POWER PROJECTS

1850. Kumari Frida Topno : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the new power projects, for which approval was accorded during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the progress made so far by these projects, State-wise and project-wise; and

(c) expected time-schedule for commissioning of these projects?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) to (c) The details of power generation projects in the State Sector accorded investment approval by the Planning Commission during 1993-94 and 1994-95 are given below :

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Type	State	Present Position	Expected time schedule
1.	Ramgarh GT(1x35.5 MW) (Ext.)	Thermal	Rajasthan	Work in Progress	8/95
2.	Bhatinda TPP (2x210 MW) Unit 5 & 6 (GNDTPP)	Thermal	Punjab	Work in Progress	3/97 & 12/97
3.	Shahpurkandi Dam Project (168 MW)	Hydel	Punjab	Work in Progress	1999- 2000
4.	Bakreshwar TPP (5x210 MW)	Thermal	W. Bengal	Work in Progress	6/99 & 12/99
5.	DG Sets at Brahampuram (Cochin) (5x20 MW)	Thermal	Kerala	Work in Progress	1996
6.	Rayalseema TPP St. II (2x210 MW)	Thermal	Andhra Pradesh	Work in Progress	-
7.	Purulia PSS (900 MW)	Thermal	W. Bengal	Work in Progress	2001- 2002
8.	Kotnagudem TPP St. V (2x250 MW)	Thermal	Andhra Pradesh	Work in Progress	3/97 & 9/97

[Translation]

PROMOTION OF INDIAN STUDIES ABROAD

1851. Dr. Ramkrishna Kusmaria :

Shri Rampal Singh :

Shri Mahesh Kanodia :

Shri Pankaj Chowdhary :

Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) whether his ministry has given directions to all Indian missions abroad to make special efforts for promotion of Indian studies in the Universities of the respective country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of Universities that have made arrangements for Indian studies;

(d) whether Chairs have been created in those Universities for this purpose; and

(e) if so, the details of such Chairs in foreign Universities wherein Indian professors are working at present?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Salman Khursheed) : (a) All Indian Missions abroad are fully aware of the Government of India's policies including the policy with regard to promotion of Indian studies abroad depending upon local needs. However, no specific directions have been issued to make special efforts for the promotion of Indian studies.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per the attached **Statement**.

(d) and (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Names of Universities where Professors deputed by ICCR are currently teaching Indian languages etc.

S. No.	Name of University	Country	Subject
1	2	3	4
1.	Ankara University, Ankara	Turkey	Hindi
2.	Beijing University, Beijing	China	Hindi
3.	State University of Ghent	Belgium	Hindi
4.	University of West Indies Port of Spain	Trinidad & Tobago	Anthropology
5.	Silpakorn University, Bangkok	Thailand	Sanskrit
6.	Ottavias Lorand University, Budapest	Hungary	Hindi

1	2	3	4
7.	Gadjah Mada University, Java	Indonesia	Indian Studies
8.	ICC, Paramaribo	Surinam	Hindi
9.	University of Warsaw	Poland	Hindi
10.	University of Warsaw	Poland	Tamil
11.	Helsinki University	Finland	Hindi
12.	JNCC, Moscow	Moscow	Hindi
13.	Sourbone Nouvelle University Paris	France	Sanskrit
14.	Hankook University, Seoul	Korea	Hindi
15.	Sofia University, Sofia	Bulgaria	Hindi
16.	Mahatama Gandhi Institute	Mauritius	Indian Philosophy Sanskrit
17.	University of West Indies Port of Spain	Trinidad & Tobago	Hindi
18.	National Institute of Higher Studies, Science & Technology Port of Spain	Trinidad & Tobago	Hindi

[English]

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

1852. Shri K. Pradhani : Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) the countries with whom diplomatic relations have been established during the year 1994; and

(b) the countries with whom the Government propose to establish diplomatic relations during 1995 ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri R.L. Bhatia) : (a) India established diplomatic relations with Andorra and Honduras in 1994.

(b) It is proposed to establish diplomatic relations with Haiti and Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) during 1995. Diplomatic relations have been established with former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in February 1995 and Republic of Palau in April 1995.

[Translation]

ELECTRIFICATION OF VILLAGES

1853. Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar : Will the **Minister of Power** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work of electrification of villages in the country is done according to the guidelines of Union Government;

(b) if so, the guidelines laid down by the Union Government;

(c) whether the suggestions have been received to make amendments therein; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) and (b) No detailed guidelines have been given by the Government of India for electrification of villages to the State Governments, as it is the responsibility of the State Government to carry out this activity as per their own requirements and availability of financial resources with them. Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) provides to the State Governments/State Electricity Boards/Cooperative Societies technical guidance & financial assistance for this purpose.

(c) and (d) In view of reply at (a) and (b) above, no amendments in this regard are envisaged. REC had sought views of State Governments regarding the definition of term "village electrification" with a view to exploring the need for amending the existing definition. In view of there not being unanimity amongst the States about the need for changing the existing definition, Central Electricity Authority has advised that no amendment be made.

[English]

INLAND WATERWAYS

1854. Shri Manoranjan Bhakta : Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the inland waterways identified as National Waterways;

(b) whether there is any proposal to declare some more inland waterways as National Waterways;

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

(d) whether inland waterways are being utilised properly;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for better utilisation of inland waterways ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) The 10 inland waterways, identified by the National Transport Policy Committee (NTPC) in 1980 for consideration for declaration as National Waterways, are : the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly; the Brahmaputra; the Narmada; the Tapi; the West Coast Canal in Kerala; the Godavari; the Krishna; the Mandovi & Zuari Rivers and the Cumberjua Canal in Goa; the Mahanadi, and the Sunderbans. Out of the above, the following three have since been declared as National Waterways :

(1) The Ganga-Bhagirathi-hooghly river system from Haldia to Allahabad (1620 kms.) as National Waterway No. 1.

(2) The Brahmaputra from Dhubri to Saliya (891 kms.) as National Waterway No. 2.

(3) The West Coast Canal from Kollam to Kottapuram (168 kms.) and Champakara Canal (14 kms.) and Udyogmandal Canal (23 kms.) as National Waterway No. 3.

(b) and (c) The following three waterways are proposed for declaration as National Waterways during the 8th Five Year Plan :

(1) The Sunderbans—the international steamer route between Sagar and Bangladesh Border (191 kms.).

(2) The river Godavari—from Cherla to Rajahmundry (208 kms.) alongwith its navigable delta canals.

(3) The Goa Waterways viz. river Mandovi (41 kms.), river Zuari (64 kms.) and Cumberjua Canal system (17 kms.).

(d) and (e) The three National Waterways are being further developed by the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) for their proper utilisation. The full utilisation of the National Waterways will be possible only on development of the entire waterways with all required infrastructural facilities, like fairways with adequate depth, terminals, night navigational facilities, and also cargo offerings.

(f) As the first step, the development of infrastructural facilities is being undertaken by the IWAI as a priority issue and actions have been initiated for conducting various studies and award of contracts, etc. In addition, to induct private operators in the inland water transport operations especially in National Waterway 1, two vessels have been given without any hire charges to Goa Barge Owners Association for trial, for one year. The Government is also providing Loan Interest Subsidy facility for procurement of vessels by private entrepreneurs, so that the interest burden on them could be reduced to the extent of 5.5%. A scheme for compensation @ 10 paise per tonne kilometer is also operated by the IWAI to encourage private operators to commence their operations, until the infrastructural facilities are fully developed in National Waterways 1 and 2.

[Translation]

FOREIGN COMPANIES IN HYDEL SECTOR

1855. Prof. Prem Dhupal: Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether power has been generated in the private sector between June, 1991 and June, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total quantum of power generated in M.W., State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) to (c) State-wise energy generation in Private Sector from June 1991 to June 1995 is given in the enclosed **Statement**. The quantum of power generated is measured in Kilo Watt Hours Units.

Statement

Energy Generation by Private Sector Period :
June 1991 to June 1995

Name of the State	Organisation	Type	Energy Generation (Million Units)
Gujarat	A.E. Co.	Thermal	11484
	GIPL	Thermal	1386
Maharashtra	Tata Electric Company	Thermal	26613
		Hydel	5710
	Bombay Suburban Electric Company (BSES)	Thermal	88
Karnataka	Bhoruka Power Corporation Ltd. (Shivpura)	Hydel	76
West Bengal	CESC	Thermal	14321

[English]

JOINT VENTURES BY STEEL COMPANIES

1856. Shri Laeta Umbrey :

Shri Ram Kapse :

Will the Minister of Steel be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State controlled steel companies will be required to go in for competitive bidding for picking up joint venture partners for diversification projects;

(b) whether the Government have issued orders to put a hold on all joint venture agreements reached; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel (Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

DEVELOPMENT AND WIDENING OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN TAMIL NADU

1857. Dr. (Shrimati) K.S. Soundaram : Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided for development and widening of National Highways in Tamil Nadu during the last two years and proposed to be provided during the next financial year;

(b) the number of National Highways in Tamil Nadu taken up so far, for development, maintenance and repairs and the progress made in this regard; and

(c) by when the remaining work is likely to be completed?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) The amounts provided for development of National Highways in Tamil Nadu during the last two years were Rs. 3064 lakh for 1993-94 and Rs. 2589.50 lakh for 1994-95. For 1995-96, Rs.1100 lakh are provided.

(b) and (c) Development and maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process. There are 9 National Highways passing through Tamil Nadu. In all, there are 174 development works under various stages of progress and out of them 107 works are likely to be completed by March, 1996 and remaining works by March, 1997.

[Translation]

POWER PROJECTS OF RAJASTHAN AND BIHAR

1858. Shri Kunjee Lal :

Shri Mohammad Ashraf Fatmi :

Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) the total requirement of power in Rajasthan and Bihar;

(b) the present power generation and the amount spent thereon;

(c) the names of power projects to be set up during Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the time by which these projects will be approved and the amount to be mobilised for this purpose ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) to (d) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

SMALL STEEL PLANTS

1859. Shri Chinmayanand Swamy : Will the Minister of Steel be pleased to state :

(a) the details of small steel plants functioning in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the production of these plants during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the problems being faced by these plants and the reasons for low production than the installed capacity ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel (Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev) : (a) to (c) Besides the integrated steel plants, steel is also produced by the relatively smaller capacity steel plants comprising of Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) & Induction Furnace units. Presently 95 Electric Arc Furnace units covering a capacity of about 6.16 million tonnes are functioning in the country. The State-wise details of these units are given in the enclosed Statement.

The production of the EAF sector during the last three years is as under :

Year	Production
1992-93	2.966 million tonnes
1993-94	2.800 million tonnes
1994-95	2.800 million tonnes

The performance of this sector has been affected due to various reasons such as increase in input costs (like power tariffs, scrap prices, graphite electrodes), uneconomic production capacity, outdated technology etc.

Statement

State-wise Details of Functioning Electric Arc Furnace Units in the Country

Sl. No.	State	No. of Units	Capacity of Functioning Units (in tonnes)
1. Northern Region			
	Delhi	—	—
	Haryana	5	3,32,500
	Himachal Pradesh	2	1,00,000
	Jammu & Kashmir	2	36,000
	Punjab	7	3,06,500
	Rajasthan	3	1,45,000
	Uttar Pradesh	11	4,22,00
	Chandigarh	1	40,000
		<u>31</u>	<u>13,82,000</u>
2. Eastern Region			
	Assam	1	18,000
	Bihar	4	2,48,000
	Orissa	2	53,000
	West Bengal	14	3,81,500
		<u>21</u>	<u>7,00,500</u>
3. Western Region			
	Goa	1	1,50,000
	Gujarat	2	66,000
	Madhya Pradesh	9	9,67,000
	Maharashtra	13	18,12,000
		<u>25</u>	<u>29,95,000</u>
4. Southern Region			
	Andhra Pradesh	3	1,43,000
	Karnataka	9	4,38,000
	Kerala	—	—
	Pondicherry	2	1,79,000
	Tamil Nadu	4	3,22,000
		<u>18</u>	<u>10,82,000</u>
	Total	95	61,59,500

or say 6.16 Million Tonnes

[English]

SAARC

1860. Shri Harin Pathak : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether objectives behind the establishment of the SAARC are being materialised;

(b) whether all the member countries are playing their active role to strengthen the association.

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by India to strengthen SAARC ?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Decisions at all levels in SAARC are taken on the basis of unanimity and some of the results listed below would indicate that all member States are cooperating towards the success of SAARC :

(i) The 8th SAARC Summit held in New Delhi in May this year has given a new impetus to regional cooperation. The Heads of State or Government of all SAARC countries decided to bring the SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA), on the basis of agreed mutual tariff reductions, into operation, preferably by 8th November or latest by the end of 1995. It was also agreed upon to explore the possibility of establishing a free trade area in the SAARC region.

(ii) SAARC Regional Convention on Suppression of Terrorism became effective in August 1988 after ratification by all Member States. SAARC Convention on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances came into force in September 1993 after ratification by all Member States.

(iii) The SAARC Visa Exemption Scheme was introduced in 1992 and has been expanded at the 8th Summit to cover more categories in order to enhance the scope of people to people contacts.

(iv) A permanent three-tier mechanism has been established for poverty eradication consisting of Secretaries to the Governments in the SAARC countries dealing with poverty eradication, Finance/Planning Secretaries and Finance/Planning Ministers.

(v) The Commerce Ministers of SAARC countries will be meeting in India in the beginning of 1996 to provide impetus to expand intra-SAARC trade.

(vi) It has been agreed that SAARC Trade Fairs will be held in Member States in order to strengthen contacts among businessmen and industrialists in the region.

(vii) An agreement was reached to establish a SAARC highway to expand intra-SAARC trade.

(d) Being a regional organisation, SAARC functions on the basis of consensus and collective efforts by all Member States. India attaches high importance to SAARC and has played an active and constructive role in it. As the current Chairman, it would continue to do so in mutual consultation and cooperation with other Member States.

[Translation]

LINKING OF PATNA TO NATIONAL HIGHWAY

1861. Shri Ram Tahal Choudhary : Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to improve the National Highways passing through Bihar during the current year;

(b) whether there is also a proposal to connect Patna with National Highway passing through Mujaffarnagar to Nepal; and

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

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) Yes, Sir, There is provision for Rs. 161 crores in Annual Plan 1995-96 for improvement of National Highways in Bihar.

(b) and (c) Presumably, Hon'ble Member of Parliament is referring to a proposal to have Patna-Muzaffarpur link to be declared as National Highway, Muzaffarpur to Nepal border already being connected through National Highways. On account of severe constraint of resources, there is no proposal to declare this link as National Highway, though the State Government of Bihar had made a request to this effect.

TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

1862. Shri Vilasrao Nagnathrao Gundewar :
Shri Sureshanand Swami :

Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise details of the projects pertaining to transport infrastructure lying pending with the Union Government,

(b) the time since when these are lying pending; and

(c) the time by which approval is likely to be accorded to ?

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 Lok Sabha.

BYPASS IN INDORE

1863. Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan : Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have started review of Bypass under construction in Indore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present position of the above construction work ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) to (c) Bypass around Indore has been sanctioned but the construction has not yet started because the design of the bypass is under review and requires the concurrence of the World Bank.

[English]

TRANSPORTATION OF FERTILIZERS

1864. Shri Sarat Pattanayak :

Shri Ram Naik :

Will the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the fertilizer industry is presently suffering from shortage of wagons for transportation;

(b) whether Government are also aware that due to this shortage the inventory with the industry has increased two and half times the normal level; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to ensure that sufficient number of wagons is made available to the industry ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) and (b) During the current Kharif season till the end of July, the loading of fertilizers by rail has been 6.99 million tonnes, as compared to 6.39 million tonnes in the corresponding period of last year, reflecting an increase of 9.4%. There have, however, been constraints in speedy evacuation of material from some plants/ports due to inadequate availability of wagons. Through effective inter-ministerial coordination and appropriate adjustments in the movement plans dictated by the pattern of traffic flows, the loading of fertilizers by rail has been augmented.

The availability of fertilizers in the country is, by and large, comfortable with reference to the current demand.

(c) The plan of wagon procurement for 1995-96 has been increased from 12,000 wagons to 19,000 wagons.

MYSORE CITY WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

1865. Shrimati Chandra Prabha Urs : Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sent any proposal for Central assistance to take up Mysore city water supply scheme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P.K. Thungon) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

TRANSIT FACILITIES THROUGH BANGLADESH

1866. Shri Chitta Basu :
Dr. Sudhir Ray :
Shrimati Bibhu Kumari Devi :
Shri Bir Singh Mahato :

Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any request to Bangladesh for providing transit facilities to the land-locked N-E States from West Bengal through Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the response of Bangladesh thereto;

(c) whether any proposal for establishing rail link between the two countries is under consideration; and

(d) if so, the progress made in this regard?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) to (d) The Government of India has raised the issue with the Government of Bangladesh, of various modes of transit arrangements such as road, railways, and using Chittagong harbour as a part of multi-modal transit facilities to the land-locked north eastern States from West Bengal through Bangladesh. The Government of Bangladesh, so far, has not reacted positively to our proposals.

[Translation]

PATENT ACT

1867. Shri Manjay Lal : Will the **Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Dava Udyog Ko Jabardast Jhatka Lagne Ka Andesha" in the Hindi Daily 'Jansatta', dated May 12, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a provision under Patents Act for providing prerogative to the Multinational Companies for marketing of medicines for five years by abolishing the facility available to the Indian drug Companies under 1970 Patent Act; and

(d) the way in which the Government propose to tackle this situation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) The news item has been persued.

(b) to (d) Being a signatory to the TRIPs Agreement, the Government is to give effect to its provisions which inter-alia provides that pending grant of Product Patent, exclusive marketing rights would be granted for a period of five years or until the patent is granted or rejected, whichever is earlier, for drugs patented after 1-1-1995, subject to the condition stipulated in the Agreement. The above provisions would apply after the Patent Act, 1970 is amended to this effect.

[English]

INA PERSONNEL IN MYANMAR

1868. Shri Ram Prasad Singh : Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the news-item captioned "150 INA personnel surviving in Burma are facing miserable plight in old age", that appeared in the 'Organiser' that July 22, 1990;

(b) whether the Government have taken/propose to take any steps to provide any relief/pension to them under special circumstances;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government has seen the news report that appeared in the 'Organiser' dated July 22, 1990. The facts in this matter are being ascertained through out Embassy in Myanmar. When the information is available it will be laid on the table of the house.

LIBRARY OF INDIAN COUNCIL FOR WORLD AFFAIRS

1869. Shri Anna Joshi : Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the condition of World re-knowned library of Indian Council for World Affairs is deteriorating day-by-day;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take any remedial steps to save the library; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri R.L. Bhatia) : (a) to (c) For quite some time, complaints have been received from Members of Parliament regarding deterioration in the condition of the library of Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), loss of precious books from the library, etc. The ICWA is an autonomous body registered under the Registration of Societies Act and as such the Ministry of External Affairs has no control over its functioning. However, with a view to improving the all round functioning of the ICWA, the Ministry has been proposing to the President of the ICWA to request the governing body of the Council to pass a resolution for the constitution of a high-powered committee.

The President of the ICWA was approached again recently and the Ministry is awaiting his response.

LIFTING OF THE UN SANCTION IMPOSED AGAINST IRAQ

1870. Shri Tara Singh :
Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad :

Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a special envoy of Iraqi President had recently met the Prime Minister and urged to use India's good offices in regard to lifting of UN sanctions imposed against Iraq; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri R.L. Bhatia) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The statements of the Special Envoy were noted, and he was assured that due consideration would be given to them.

SHIP BUILDING/REPAIRING INDUSTRY

1871. Shrimati Dipika H. Topiwala : Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to give incentives and concessions for private sector entry into ship building and ship repairing industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) and (b) According to the Industrial Policy announced by the Government in July, 1991, Shipbuilding Industry has been delicensed except for construction of war ships which has been reserved for the public sector. Further, mechanised sailing vessels upto 10,000 DWT have been allowed automatic approval for foreign technology and foreign equity participation upto 51% as per the laid down procedure. Entrepreneurs in the private sector can set up new shipyards in the country with foreign collaboration as necessary.

The Shiprepair Industry is also not a licensed industry and is open to the private sector. In order to attract the private entrepreneurs/NRIs to enter this field, a number of incentives, concessions and facilities as applicable to 100% Export-Oriented Units under the Import-Export Policy of the country from time to time, are provided to the Shiprepair Industry. These include duty free import of capital goods, components, raw materials and consumables. In addition, indigenously available components, raw materials and capital goods are also allowed exemption from Central Excise Duty. Automatic extension of any additional facilities that may be extended to the 100% Export Oriented Units under the Import-Export Policy of the country from time to time will also be applicable to the Shiprepair Industry. In order to promote Shiprepair facilities at various Major Ports,

the Ports have been advised by the Government to make available land and water front area to the private entrepreneurs who may be interested in setting up such facilities at various Ports.

EXPANSION PLAN OF PORT TRUSTS

1872. Shri Loknath Choudhury : Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the expansion plans of Paradip Port Trust and Bombay Port Trust have been cleared by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) to (c) Outlays of Rs. 413.00 crores in respect of Bombay Port Trust and Rs. 486.00 crores in respect of Paradip Port Trust have been made in the 8th Five Year Plan 1992-97 for modernisation and expansion of infrastructural facilities at these two Ports. A mega-project relating to creation of mechanical coal handling sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 587.41 crores at Paradip and a project for replacement of submarine pipelines at an estimated cost of Rs. 165.15 crores at Bombay Port are under implementation.

VISIT TO KAZAKISHTAN AND UZBEKISHTAN

1873. Shri Hari Kishore Singh :
Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal :

Will the **Minister of Mines** be pleased to state :

(a) whether he led a high level delegation to Kazakishstan and Uzbekishtan during July, 1995 in order to identify specific areas of cooperation in the minerals sector;

(b) if so, what joint ventures the Indian team was able to explore with Kazakh and Uzbek companies in the mineral sector and to what extent it was able to arrange for long term supply of copper concentrate/copper cathodes for utilisation by the Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL); and

(c) other achievements of this team?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Mines (Shri Balram Singh Yadava) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The delegation identified gold, copper and training by geological survey of India, joint geological surveys, exploration and data collection as areas for mutually beneficial cooperation. The Uzbek side agreed to make a beginning in the supply of copper cathodes to Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL) by offering 1000 MT this year and further agreed to supply additional quantities on long term basis. Joint geological surveys, exploration, data collection and exchange of information in the geological field were identified as areas of cooperation between the Indian and Kazakishstan sides. The Kazakh side assured that they would consider supply of copper concentrates to

HCL from next year since this years' supply had already been committed. The Kazakh side also suggested that India could consider setting up joint ventures in copper mining projects in Kazakistan with the assistance of foreign firms.

PASSPORT FEE

1874. Shri Chhedi Paswan :

Shri Kashiram Rana :

Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are increasing Passport fee regularly;

(b) whether the efficiency and the facilities to be provided to the public are connected with the revision of Passport fee;

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government propose to review the present Passport fee; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri R.L. Bhatia) : (a) to (c) The passport fee was revised after a period of 15 years in July, 1993 keeping in view the increased cost of production. The revision of passport fee is not directly connected to efficiency of passport offices and time taken to issue passports. However, Government have and shall continue to take steps for expeditious issue of passports such as augmentation of staff strength, upgradation of office facilities including computerisation of several passport offices; review of systems and procedures in order to reduce delays; and regular inspections of passport offices and follow-up action.

(d) and (e) Since the revised fee has been introduced two years ago, review of passport fee at present is not called for.

MOU WITH VARIOUS COMPANIES

1875. Shri Bolla Bulli Ramaiah : Will the **Minister of Power** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Governments which had entered into memorandum of understanding with various companies for setting up power projects have deferred the signing the power purchase agreements;

(b) if so, the main reasons for the same;

(c) the names of States which have deferred power purchases deeds;

(d) whether this would create great power shortages in the country; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanibhai Patel) : (a) The

Government of India has not received any information from the States about any state deferring the signing of Power Purchase Agreement for power projects in which the States has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

GOVERNMENT PRESS AT SANTRAGACHI WEST BENGAL

1876. Prof. Susanta Chakraborty : Will the **Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plan to modernise the Government of India Press at Santragachi in West Bengal;

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

(c) if not, the reasons for not undertaking such programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P.K. Thungon) : (a) No decision has been taken by Government for modernisation of the Presses in question.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Modernisation of various Presses is considered on the basis of job requirements, capacity utilisation and availability of funds.

LAND ACQUISITION FOR CALICUT BYPASS

1877. Shri K. Muralee Dharan : Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the land acquisition proceedings for the Kozhikode (Calicut) Main Bypass is still incomplete due to want of funds;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to provide additional funds for it; and

(c) the time schedule fixed for the completion of the project?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) and (b) The work of Calicut Bypass has been divided into 4 phases. Land acquisition for Phase-I has already been completed. Land acquisition for Phase II, III and IV is still incomplete due to certain court cases and not due to paucity of funds.

(c) By December, 1996 land acquisition work is likely to be completed.

WORLD BANK EXPERTS IN POWER SECTOR

1878. Shri Gurudas Kamat : Will the **Minister of Power** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a proposal of World Bank experts to go for a major overhaul of the power sector in the country;

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) to (b) The World Bank has been suggesting, from time to time, various measures to improve the working of the power sector, which inter-alia includes restructuring of the State Electricity Boards, commercialisation of operations of the Central Public Sector Undertakings, association of private sector in both generation and distribution and establishment of independent Central & State regulators.

(c) A few State Governments have taken steps towards initiation of the process of restructuring of their Electricity Boards. The Central Government has been concerned about these issues and has been encouraging measures in this regard.

DEEP SEA FISHING

1879. Shri Somjibhai Damor :
Shri Chitta Basu :

Will the **Minister of Food Processing Industries** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given licenses to Multinational Companies for fishing in the coastal areas of West Bengal, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Gujarat etc. so far;

(b) if so, the names of the Companies and other relevant details as on July 31, 1995 State-wise;

(c) whether review Committee appointed by the Government for indepth study of the situation arising out of Deep Sea Fishing Policy has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Shri Tarun Gogoi) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The tenure of the Committee has recently been extended upon 30th September, 1995 by which time it is expected to give its report.

STEEL YARD FOR SAIL

1880. Prof. K.v. Thomas : Will the **Minister of Steel** be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in the construction of the steel yard for the Steel Authority of India Ltd., at Cochin;

(b) when the construction was started;

(c) whether there is a delay in the construction of this yard;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) when this yard is likely to be operational?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel (Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev) : (a) to (e) The development work for the stockyard at Cochin was started in October, 1991. All the work except for some items like black topping, railway siding and finishing work has been already been completed. Some of the civil engineering work had to be suspended since September, 1993 on account of excessive settlement of the ground. However the necessary investigation has since been completed and the balance work of black topping and other finishing work is planned to be taken up after the monsoon. The stockyard is likely to be operational after commissioning of the railway siding. For this purpose SAIL has already made a proposal to Railways to provide a suitable railway siding to the yard.

[Translation]

TRANSPORTATION CHARGES

1881. Shri Surajbhanu Solanki : Will the **Minister of Chemicals and Fertilisers** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government provide transportation charges (secondary freight) for transportation of controlled fertilisers to the development block;

(b) if so, the date on which the transportation charges were approved;

(c) whether transportation charges are being paid at the rate of Rs. 52/- per tonne for transportation of controlled fertiliser particularly urea to Development Block at present;

(d) whether the said charges are being paid for several years and it has not since been increased; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The scheme of secondary freight subsidy for indigenous fertilizers was introduced by the Government with effect from 3-7-1980. The scheme was extended to imported fertilisers with effect from 28-8-1980. The secondary freight payable varies from State to State. At present, the minimum and maximum rates are Rs.12/- and Rs. 301/- per metric tonne, respectively. The rates applicable from 1-11-1985 were increased with effect from 1989-90 for the States of Himachal Pradesh and Tripura. The rates for Jammu & Kashmir were enhanced from 1987-88 and the rates for Assam, Manipur, Sikkim and Mizoram from 1990-91.

[English]

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO MALAYSIA

1882. Prof. M. Kamson :
Shri Ramchandra Ghangare :

Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Prime Minister visited Malaysia recently;
- (b) if so, the objectives of the visit;
- (c) the issues that were discussed during the visit and the outcome of the visit;
- (d) whether any agreements were signed during the visit; and
- (e) if so, the salient features of the agreements agreement-wise?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri R.L. Bhatia) : (a) Yes, Sir. Prime Minister visited Malaysia from August, 2-5, 1995.

(b) The visit was part of our policy of strengthening our traditional friendship and cooperation with Malaysia, and also in the larger framework of our interest in further developing our relations with the countries of South-East Asia.

(c) Matters of mutual interest relating to bilateral relations, as well as regional and international issues were discussed. The visit has led to a better understanding of each other perceptions and concerns. It is expected that it will also give stimulus to bilateral economic cooperation.

(d) Yes, Sir, Five Agreements/MOUs were signed in the presence of the two Prime Ministers.

- (e)(i) MOU on Cooperation in the development of Highways — to deal with the formulation of strategy for the planning, development and implementation of the Super National Highway Project in India.
- (ii) Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of investment — to create favourable conditions for investment in each other's country and to protect investments.
- (iii) Agreement for the Provision of Technical Training and Consultancy Services between Malaysian Space and Telecom Research Consortium (MAXSTAR) and Antrix Corporation Ltd. — to provide technical training and technical consultancy service to Malaysia in the field of space science, in particular satellite programmes, as well as assisting the overall development of Malaysia's Space Science Programme.
- (iv) MOU between Doordarshan and MEASAT Broadcast Network System for collaboration to jointly develop quality new programmes, produce a premium channel of Indian programmes and to market an encrypted Direct To User (DTU) satellite broadcasting service in India.
- (v) MOU between the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) and Malaysian Industrial Development Authority (MIDA), to assist in promotion and development of industrial cooperation and overseas investment between India and Malaysia.

REPAIR OF KOLVALE BRIDGE

1883. Shri Harish Narayan Prabhu Zantye : Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to reconstruct the Kolvale bridge in Pernem Taluka in Goa to facilitate the local people;

(b) if so, the details thereof and funds provided for the purpose during the current year alongwith the time schedule for its execution; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Fresh tenders for completion of balance work are being invited by the State Government. An amount of Rs. 50 lakh has been earmarked for this work during the current financial year 1995-96 and the work is likely to be completed in 2 years after its award.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

PASSPORT OFFICE IN WESTERN STATES

1884. Shri N.J. Rathva : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications lying pending in passport offices in western states particularly in Gujarat;

(b) whether any time limit has been fixed for disposal of passport applications;

(c) whether this time limit is being adhered to so as to avoid pendency; and

(d) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken for the early disposal of pending applications?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri R.L. Bhatia) : (a) The total number of applications pending in passport offices of Maharashtra and Gujarat as on August 4, 1995 is 38,463 and 15,193 respectively.

(b) and (c) For functional and practical reasons, it has not been found possible to fix a time limit for issue of a fresh passport.

(d) Various steps have been taken for disposal of pending applications such as augmentation of staff strength, upgradation of office facilities including computerisation, review of systems and procedures in order to reduce delays, regular inspections of passport offices and follow up action.

[English]

INDIAN WORKERS ABROAD

1885. Dr. Vasant Niwruuti Pawar : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian workers working abroad as on March 31, 1995, country-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that large number of Indian workers are stranded in Gulf countries as their passports are held up with their employers; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to help these stranded workers?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri R.L. Bhatia) : (a) There are approximately 3 million Indian citizens living abroad. No specific information is available with Indian Mission regarding the number of Indian workers working abroad as data is collected from a variety of sources like registration of Indian citizens with the Mission, figures given, by ethnic associations and data made available by foreign Governments, and the information is not always categorised by profession.

(b) and (c) Indian Missions receive from time to time complaints regarding withholding of travel documents of workers by the sponsor or employer. The Mission at first tries to resolve the difference between the aggrieved worker and the employer through a mutually acceptable solution. Wherever necessary, the cases are taken up with the concerned authorities of the foreign Government.

Where no alternative or solution is possible, all assistance is given to facilitate repatriation of the affected workers.

BYPASSES IN KERALA

**1886. Shri Mullappally Ramchandran :
Shri Thayil John Anjalose :**

Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) the names of bypass projects under construction in Kerala at present;

(b) the estimated cost and the funds released therefor during 1994-95 and 1995-96, project-wise;

(c) the progress made so far, project-wise;

(d) the schedule fixed for completion and the likely date of completion in each case; and

(e) the steps being taken to complete those projects expeditiously?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) to (d) A Statement is enclosed.

(e) Progress is regularly monitored and corrective action taken, wherever necessary.

Statement

Name of Bypass under construction	Estimated cost (Rs. in lacs)	Funds released during		Physical progress (upto March '95)	Likely date of completion
		1994-95	1995-96		
(i) Trivandrum Bypass (Phase-I)	1508.65			60%	3/97
(ii) Quilon Bypass (Phase-I)	425.65		Funds are released State-wise and not Project-wise.	75%	12/95
(iii) Alleppey Bypass (Phase-I)	99.80			50%	9/96
(iv) Calicut Bypass (Phase-I)	1135.96			Tender under scrutiny.	9/98

SATELLITE PORT

1887. Dr. R. V. R. Chowdary : Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state the progress made so far in the development of Satellite Port at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh?

The **Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) :** It is proposed to obtain first stage clearance of the Committee of Public Investment Board to the proposal of Visakhapatnam Port Trust for the preparation of a Detailed Feasibility Report for setting up of a Satellite Port at Gangavaram in Andhra Pradesh.

[Translation]

ACT PERTAINING TO BHOPAL GAS TRAGEDY

1888. Shri Sushil Chandra Varma : Will the **Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a provision in the Act pertaining to Bhopal Gas Tragedy that Claim Courts would invite new claims after its constitution;

(b) whether it is a fact that so far only old claims are being disposed of at present and new claims have not been invited so far as per the provisions made in the Act; and

(c) the time by which action pertaining to inviting new claims is likely to be taken?

The **Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Registration and Processing of Claims) Scheme, 1985 provides for issue of notification by the Welfare Commissioner inviting applications for claims. According to the Welfare Commissioner's office no decision has been taken in this regard, till now.

[English]

ADDITIONAL STAFF FOR HAJ SEASON

1889. Shri Syed Shahabuddin : Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that for the management of Haj services for Indian pilgrims, the Haj Section of the Consulate General of India in Jeddah was sanctioned additional staff for the Haj season to be recruited locally;

(b) if so, the particulars of the staff so recruited for Haj 1995, category-wise, with the period of employment and the terms of employment;

(c) the average expenditure per person per month, category-wise; and

(d) the total estimated budget on such additional staff during Haj 1995?

The **Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri R. L. Bhatia) :** (a) Yes, Sir. The Consulate General of India in Jeddah is sanctioned additional man-months for the staff to be recruited locally during the Haj season.

(b) The particulars of staff so far recruited during 1995-96 are as follows :

Sl. No.	Category	MEA sanction for Haj-1995-96	Number Employed	Man-months used upto July, 1995
1.	Clerks	390 man-months	143	235.51
2.	Drivers	60 man-months	11	24.25
3.	Messengers	159 man-months	44	75.09

The staff is employed for varying periods, subject to the condition that the man-months do not exceed the total man-months sanctioned for each category. The Consulate General of India in Jeddah has the option to stagger the appointments of local staff in an optimal manner so as to best meet the requirements during the Haj season. As regards the terms of employment, the local staff is recruited on a temporary basis and are paid a fixed salary. They are not entitled for any other benefit.

(c) The local staff are paid the following salaries per month :

Clerks	Saudi Riyals	2,250
Driver	Saudi Riyals	1,800
Messenger	Saudi Riyals	860

(Rupee 1 = Saudi Riyal 0.118)

(d) There is no separate budget for the additional staff for Haj. Expenditure on salaries for Haj staff is met from the overall approved budget for the entire Consulate, which includes salaries for India based officers and staff, local staff and other related expenditure. However, on the basis of the man-months sanctioned for Haj season 1995-96, it is estimated the total expenditure by March, 1996 can go upto Rs. 94,97,033.90.

UTILISATION OF EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE IN POWER SECTOR

1890. Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi : Will the **Minister of Power** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a huge sum of external aid is still lying unutilised with his Ministry;

(b) if so, the quantum of such funds as on March 31, 1995;

(c) the reasons for non-utilisation of the funds; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to utilise the funds in the implementation of power projects expeditiously?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) and (b) The total unutilised amount of external aid as on March 31, 1995 was Rs. 18775 crores.

(c) The reasons behind the slow utilisation of external assistance, inter-alia, are lack of counterpart funds with project-authorities particularly in the State sector, inadequate project preparation, organisational weaknesses of the implementing agencies, procurements delays, and other bottlenecks/constraints in regard to land acquisition, environmental and various clearances etc.

(d) Ministry of Power is closely monitoring and reviewing each externally assisted project with a view to removing the various impediments arising in implementation. Special teams are being sent from the Central Electricity Authority to the projects and the matter taken up with the State and the Central authorities, suppliers of equipment etc. The Planning Commission has now agreed to earmark the requisite funds for these projects while approving the Plan outlays for the States.

[Translation]

PERFORMANCE OF STATE ROADWAYS TRANSPORT CORPORATIONS

1891. Shri Phool Chand Verma : Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether the performance of the State Roadways Transport Corporations in different States has not been satisfactory for the last three years;

(b) if not, the State-wise and year-wise details thereof; and

(c) the assistance being given by the Union Government to States for improving the performance of State Roadways Transport Corporations and the steps being taken to assess/monitor the performance?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) Most of the State Road Transport Corporation (SRTC's) are incurring financial losses for the last three years.

(b) The State-wise and year-wise details showing the financial performance of various SRTC's is given in the enclosed **Statement**.

(c) As per the Section 23 of the Road Transport Corp'n. Act, 1950 capital contribution in the form of interest bearing loans has been provided to the SRTC's for an amount equal to one-half of the capital contribution made by the concerned State Governments. The criteria for providing capital contribution to the SRTC's are as under :

(i) For the year 1987-88, the release of capital loan assistance will be made only to such SRTC's which have either run on net profit basis during 1986-87 or which have brought down their net losses by 20% or more during the year as compared to the previous year i.e. 1985-86; and

(ii) Release of capital loan assistance to the SRTC's in respect of the year 1988-89 and onwards will be only to those SRTC's which do not incur any net loss or are run at break-even.

Further the funds were released to the SRTC's in the form of capital loan assistance on the basis of the allocation made by the Planning Commission. For the year 1993-94, no funds has been allotted by the Planning Commission in this regard.

Necessary instructions/guidelines have been issued from time to time to various SRTC's for improving their performances on the basis of review of the quarterly report received from them.

Statement

Financial Performance in Respect of Net Profit/ Commercial Profit in State Road Transport Corporations

		(Rs. in crores)		
Sl. No.	State Road Transport Corporation	1991-92 Actuals	1992-93 Actuals	1993-94 Actuals
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—31.13	—26.53	6.25
2.	Assam	—17.81	—23.15	—27.65
3.	Bihar	—19.81	—14.56	—29.76
4.	Gujarat	1.74	3.93	—28.75
5.	Himachal Pradesh	—27.11	—25.30	—28.84
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	—16.83	—24.68	—20.69
7.	Karnataka	—19.09	—61.29	—92.73
8.	Kerala	—29.53	—28.27	—27.70
9.	Madhya Pradesh	0.26	0.22	—22.53
10.	Maharashtra	—26.72	4.48	6.30
11.	Manipur	—1.70	—2.02	—2.20
12.	Meghalaya	—1.71	—2.35	—0.28
13.	Orissa	—11.77	—8.33	—7.10
14.	PEPSU (Punjab)	—18.15	—17.09	—0.82
15.	Rajasthan	12.72	5.88	22.67
16.	Tripura	—2.75	—3.59	—4.77
17.	Uttar Pradesh	—33.43	—22.51	—8.75
18.	Calcutta	—21.65	—22.05	—20.00
19.	North Bengal	—5.60	—10.46	—7.99
20.	South Bengal	—3.30	—4.68	—6.80
21.	Delhi Transport Corporation	—83.86	—53.93	—71.48

FINANCIAL CRUNCH AT INDIAN DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICAL LIMITED

1892. Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya : Will the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers be pleased to state :

(a) whether the IDPL a public sector pharmaceuticals company is engaged in manufacturing of life saving drugs in the country;

(b) whether the quality of products of the said Pharmaceuticals Company is superior and prices thereof are comparatively low;

(c) whether the said company is facing financial crunch; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The quality of the products of IDPL is good.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A revival package for IDPL was approved by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) on 10/2/1994. The revival period is for 10 years beginning from 1994-95. Financial assistance, as envisaged in the revival plan from the Government, was released. The company has now proposed modifications in the approved package. The modifications, inter alia, envisaged further financial assistance from the Government. A sum of Rs. 4 crores as Non-Plan loan and a sum of Rs. 1 crore as Plan loan have already been released to IDPL in the current year.

[English]

ARMS RACK

1893. Shri Paras Ram Bhardwaj : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conveyed India's stand of signing the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to various nuclear Powers;

(b) whether the Government have also explained to the nuclear powers that India has no intention to enter into an arms race unless forced to do so by excessive arming of Pakistan in the interest of national security, especially, when Islamabad is already in possession of Chinese made missiles with nuclear capability; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the nuclear powers in this regard country-wise ?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) India is opposed to the NPT, since it is a discriminatory treaty which creates a permanent division between the nuclear 'haves' and 'have-nots'. This principled

and well known position has been conveyed by Government in all bilateral discussions with nuclear weapons states as well as in relevant multilateral fora.

(b) and (c) Government is aware of the acquisition of M-11 ballistic missiles by Pakistan from China. Government is also concerned about acquisition of new military equipment by Pakistan from the US in the event of a relaxation of the Pressler Amendment, as well as from other sources. In bilateral discussions with friendly countries, including the nuclear weapons states, Government has shared our assessment that such arming of Pakistan will have an adverse impact on India's security and could trigger an arms race in the region. All the countries concerned have taken note of our concerns.

PLASTIC PROCESSING INDUSTRY

1894. Shri M. V. V. S. Murthy : Will the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers be pleased to state :

(a) whether plastic processing industry is facing problems in acquiring essential raw material;

(b) if so, whether the shortage of raw materials have affected the plastic woven sack industry;

(c) the main reasons for shortage of raw material; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to help the plastic industry in procurement of raw materials ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) and (b) To the extent information is available, essential raw materials are available for plastic processing industry. The Plastic processing industry including plastic woven sacks manufacturers should normally not, therefore, have any difficulties in acquiring the essential raw material.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) In view of the New Industrial Policy, the Government have delicensed manufacture of most of the raw materials and their import is also permissible under Open General Licence. The custom duty rates on these items have also been lowered in the budget for 1995-96.

MEETING OF INDO-SAUDI ARABIA JOINT COMMISSION

1895. Shri A. Indrakaran Reddy : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) the number of meetings of Indo-Saudi Arabia Joint Commission held so far;

(b) the details of the areas in which co-operation in trade has been agreed to between the two countries;

(c) whether the exports to Saudi Arabia have improved after these meetings; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri R. L. Bhatia) : (a) Four sessions of the Indo-Saudi Arabia Joint Commission have been held so far.

(b) The two countries have agreed to co-operate in trade in the areas of foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals, petroleum and petro chemicals.

(c) and (d) The Indo-Saudi trade has been seen a steady expansion in the last decade. The Indian exports which were to the tune of Rs. 659.85 crores in 1986, increased to Rs. 1311.40 crores in 1994.

FINANCE ASSISTANCE FOR MEGA CITY PROJECT

1896. Shri Birsingh Mahato : Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since agreed to render financial assistance to the State Government of West Bengal for the implementation of Mega City Project in Calcutta during the Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, the quantum of assistance to be provided during Eighth Plan; and

(c) the broad outline of the projects to be implemented during Eighth Plan, Plan-wise separately ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. N. Thungon) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central assistance released to the Government of West Bengal for the Calcutta Mega City Project during the 8th Plan is as under :

1993-94	—	Rs. 20.1 crores
1994-95	—	Rs. 16.1 crores

The release of funds for the Calcutta Mega City Project during the remaining period of 8th Plan will depend on utilisation of funds released so far, availability of budget provision and implementation of the project as per the Scheme guidelines.

(c) the broad categories of projects to be implemented under the Calcutta Mega City project include Water Supply, Sewerage, Drainage, Sanitation, City Transport Network, Land Development, Slum Improvement, Solid Waste Management, etc.

[Translation]

ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH YEMEN

1897. Shri Rampal Singh : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has been signed between India and Yemen for economic and technological cooperation;

(b) if so, the details of terms and conditions of the agreement;

(c) the value of trade being transacted between the two countries at present; and

(d) the value of trade likely to be increased between the two countries as a result of the above agreement ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri R. L. Bhatia) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Agreement envisages cooperation in the fields of Industry, Mining and Metallurgy, Petroleum & Gas, Transport including Civil Aviation, Telecommunications, Travel & Tour, Water & Electricity, Housing & Construction, Transfer of technology including exchange of Scientists and Specialists and deputation of Indian experts to Yemen and training of Yemeni nationals in India. For implementing and furthering cooperation, separate detailed agreements of protocols have been envisaged. The agreed programme of cooperation will be implemented as per the agreed terms detailed in the Agreement.

The two sides will review the implementation of cooperation through a Joint Committee established under an agreement signed on May 3, 1993.

Upon ratification, this Agreement shall remain valid for a period of 5 years and is renewable for similar periods.

(c) and (d) During 1994-95, the total bilateral trade between India and Yemen was Rs. 171.18 crores : Indian exports to Yemen were Rs. 129.65 crores and imports from Yemen were Rs. 49.3 crores.

The bilateral trade is expected to grow significantly after the Agreement comes into force.

[English]

SAIL'S PROPOSAL FOR HEC

1898. Shri Rajendra Agnihotri : Will the Minister of Steel be pleased to state :

(a) whether SAIL has submitted a proposal to the Government for taking over the Heavy Engineering Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have accepted the proposal;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel (Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

PRIVATE COMPANIES PARTICIPATION IN POWER SECTOR

1899. Shri Shruvan Kumar Patel : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have been working out a new comprehensive policy for private companies participation in the power sector; and

(b) if so, the broad features of the new policy and how

far and in what respects the new policy represents and improvement on the existing investment policy ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) and (b) The private power policy of Government of India was notified on 15-10-1991 which is still in operation.

PRIVATISATION OF POWER SECTOR

1900. Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received some representations from different organisations/unions against the privatisation of Power Sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) whether the Government propose to reconsider its earlier decision in the matter ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) to (c) The issue raised for and against the private power policy by various agencies in different fora are suitably addressed from time to time. The policy is modified from time to time, whenever necessary.

[Translation]

LOSSES BY MECL

1901. Shri Nitish Kumar :
Shri Nawal Kishore Rai :
Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar :
Shri Guman Mal Lodha :

Will the Minister of Mines be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) is running in loss since 1991;

(b) if so, the amount of loss suffered till March, 1995 and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this Corporation was one of the profit earning enterprises prior to 1991;

(d) if so, whether the Government had taken any measures to make it financially viable; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Mines (Shri Balram Singh Yadava) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The cumulative loss suffered by MECL till March, 1995 is Rs. 3727 lakhs. The main reason for the loss is reduction in availability of promotional as well as contractual exploration jobs.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The management of the Company has been asked to gear up its marketing strategy to improve the order Book position. The Ministry of Mines has also constituted

an Expert Committee in June, 1995 to formulate a Revival Plan for NECL.

INSPECTION REPORT OF L AND DO OF CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

1902. Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar : Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No, 1173 on March 2, 1994 and Unstarred Question No, 1098 on December, 14, 1994 and state :

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected;

(b) if so, whether the report of inspection carried out by L & D.O. of the Cultural institutions has been received; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) to (c) The information collected by L & DO is being analysed and charges worked out as per guidelines.

MINERAL BASED PROJECTS IN GUJARAT

1903. Shri Chandresh Patel : Will the Minister of Mines be pleased to state :

(a) the names of areas in Saurashtra and Kutch regions of Gujarat, where mineral based projects have been set up from 1-1-91 to 31-7-95;

(b) the names of projects set up and the details of their expansion;

(c) the names of companies, which have set up these projects and the status thereof;

(d) the capacity of each of these projects, the area of land in acres, where these projects have been set up;

(e) the details of rules under which agreements were signed with each of them and the criteria and procedure followed in this regard; and

(f) the production capacity and the year-wise production of each of these projects and the efforts and programme proposed to increase their production ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Mines (Shri Balram Singh Yadava) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

MINISTER'S VISIT TO US

1904. Shri George Fernandes : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether during his recent visit to US, he had briefed the Clinton Administration and the U.S. Congress on the latest situation in Kashmir;

(b) if so, the reaction of the U.S. thereto;

(c) whether he had discussed the recent indefinite extension of the NPT in the context of overall disarmament and also the total elimination of weapons of mass destruction; and

(d) if so, details thereof and the reaction of U.S. thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Salman Khursheed) : (a) Yes, Sir. During his recent visit to the US, EAM briefed senior officials of the Clinton Administration and members of the US Congress regarding recent developments related to the situation in Kashmir, including, inter alia, steps taken by Government of India leading to resumption of the electoral process, Pakistan's continuing sponsorship of terrorism in J & K, etc.

(b) Senior officials of the US Government and members of the Congress took note of the circumstances of the Char-e-Sharief outrage and acknowledged that such incidents were not conducive to the resumption of the electoral process.

(c) and (d) During discussions with senior US Government officials and US Congressmen, EAM reiterated our position that the indefinite extension of the NPT perpetuates the discriminatory aspects of the Treaty and legitimizes the nuclear arsenals of the five nuclear weapon States. India's stand on the NPT reflects national consensus. It was emphasized that India is committed to achieving global nuclear disarmament, through multilaterally negotiated measures that are universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory. The US Government took note of India's position and reiterated their official position on these issues.

[Translation]

DAMAGE TO NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

1905. Dr. Sakshiji :
Shri Phool Chand Verma :

Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the National Highways affected by natural calamities and heavy traffic in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh separately during the last three years;

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to protect the National Highways from natural calamities; and

(c) the expenditure incurred during the period, till date on the repair work of those National Highways in each State separately ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) all the 11 National Highways, viz. NH-2, 3, 7, 11, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 56 in the State of Uttar Pradesh and 9 National Highways viz. NH-3, 6, 7, 12, 16, 25, 26, 27 and 43 in the State of Madhya Pradesh were affected by heavy rains/floods during the last three years, though no hold up or major interruption in traffic flow occurred.

(b) The maintenance and repairs of National Highways is a continuous process. In addition to normal maintenance, flood damage repairs and special repairs are approved depending upon requirement and subject to availability of funds so that the roads are kept in traffic worthy condition.

(c) The details of expenditure incurred on maintenance and repairs of National Highways in States of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are as under :

(Rs. lakhs)			
Name of State	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Uttar Pradesh	1462.38	1889.38	2352.56
Madhya Pradesh	1534.03	1718.06	2137.00

EXCHANGE OF ENCLAVES WITH BANGLADESH

1906. Shri Guman Mal Lodha :
Shri Nawal Kishore Rai :

Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian enclaves situated inside Bangladesh and the number of Bangladesh enclaves situated inside India;

(b) whether any talks were held between the two countries for the exchange of these enclaves during the last three years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof including the level of talks ?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) According to the information available with Government, there are 130 Indian enclaves in Bangladesh and 95 Bangladeshi enclaves in India.

(b) and (c) This issue has been discussed with the Government of Bangladesh at various levels over the past three years. Government remains committed to the early and full implementation of the Indo-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement of 1974.

CALCUTTA PORT

1907. Dr. Asim Bala : Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) whether navigational channel at the Calcutta Port is in poor shape;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether navigational infrastructure is unsafe for the pilots;

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether there is any proposal to modernise the Calcutta Port; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface

Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) and (b) The navigational channel at Calcutta Port is in reasonably good condition.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Apart from intensive maintenance dredging, the Calcutta Port Trust has taken steps for improvement and updating of navigational aids through procurement and installation of more sophisticated buoys and light vessels for ensuring safer navigation.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Calcutta Port Trust has initiated action for modernisation of navigational aids, including introduction of differential global positioning system alongwith solar powered Hi-focal channel buoy, speed launches etc. Action has also been taken for the introduction of modern Vessel Traffic Management System (VTMS).

POWER PLANTS TURNED OUT BY BHEL

1908. Shri K. Pradhani : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that power plants turned out of BHEL can produce power at a per unit cost which is less than that in case of foreign companies run power plants; and

(b) whether Government propose to provide the same guarantees and counter guarantees to BHEL as in case of multinational corporations, for payment of behalf of State Electricity Boards ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) The cost of generation of a power plant depends on the cost of the plant which in turn varies from plant to plant depending on the type of the plant, size of units, number of units, type of fuel parameters of major plant and equipment, infrastructure, source of equipment, source of funding, civil works involved etc. Hence it is difficulty to compare cost of generation of plants run by BHEL equipment vis-a-vis imported equipment unless all other parameters are specified.

(b) The policy to encourage private sector participation in power sector is equally applicable to power projects set up both in public and private sector after 30-3-1992.

[Translation]

ANPARA—C

1909. Shri Brijbhushan Sharan Singh :
Shri Balraj Passi :
Shri Amar Pal Singh :
Shri Pankaj Chowdhary :

Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals from the foreign companies regarding

'ANPARA—C' power project of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

DDA FLATS CANCELLED DUE TO ILLEGAL CONSTRUCTION

1910. Shri Balraj Passi :
Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya :

Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether DDA has cancelled allotment of any flats during the period from 29-7-1994 to 1-7-1995 due to the unauthorised/illegal construction put up by the allottees;

(b) if so, the number of such flats and the names of localities in which such flats are situated;

(c) whether the defaulters have submitted applications for restoration of the cancelled flats; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) and (b) Delhi Development Authority has reported that allotment of 33 flats was cancelled during the period from 29-7-94 to 1-7-95 on account of unauthorised/illegal construction. The details of these flats are as under :

Name of Locality	No. of Flats
Ashok Vihar	1
Lawrance Road	1
Kalkaji	2
Dilshad Garden	1
Mayur Vihar	3
Vikaspuri	6
Hill View Apartments	16
Saket	1
East of Kailash	1
Usha Niketan	1
Total	33

(c) and (d) Request for restoration have been received in 4 cases after removal of unauthorised/illegal construction. Allotment in all the 4 cases, as per details given below, has been restored :

Name of Locality	No. of Flats
East of Kailash	1
Mayur Vihar	1
Ashok Vihar	1
Usha Niketan	1
Total	4

DISTRIBUTION OF POWER IN DELHI

1911. **Shri Mohan Rawale** : Will the **Minister of Power** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have since approved the proposal of the Ministry of Power for privatisation of distribution of electricity in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when this proposal is likely to be implemented ?

The Ministry of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) to (c) The decision to privatise distribution of power in Delhi is based on the recommendations of the Task Force set up under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Delhi. Presently, the matter is with the Government of Delhi.

PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN CARGO VESSELS

1912. **Shri Manoranjan Bhakta** :
Shri Bolla Bulli Ramaiah :

Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have identified any proposals from private investors in the field of construction of cargo vessels, maintenance of terminals, cargo handling facilities, dredging, navigational aids etc. in various ports of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of ports where such investment is likely to be made;

(c) whether the Government have given approval to the proposals;

(d) if so, the amount likely to be attracted; and

(e) the time by which the proposals are likely to be implemented and the waterways in the East likely to be made fully navigable ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) Container berth and Port equipments at Jawaharlal Nehru Port.

(ii) Cargo handling berth and container equipment handling at Kandla Port.

(iii) Maintenance and operation of berths at Bombay Port.

(iv) Shiprepair facilities at Calcutta, Madras and Mormugao Ports.

(v) Maintenance and operation of berths at Haldia Port.

(vi) Container transshipment terminal at Cochin Port.

(vii) Captive power plants for all major ports.

(viii) Oil jetty at New Mangalore Port etc.

(c) Some of the important port projects approved by Government include setting up of shiprepair facilities at Madras and Calcutta Ports, floating dry dock and shiprepair facilities at Mormugao Port, port facilities for handling crude and POL products at New Mangalore Port, maintenance and operation of berths at Haldia Dock Complex, private operation of a berth at Bombay Port, storage and despatch facilities for LPG at Tuticorin Port etc.

(d) and (e) The amount of investment to be attracted by these projects will depend on the bids to be received from private investors. It is not possible to indicate the date of completion at this stage. The National Waterway No. 2 in the eastern part of country is being developed by Inland Water Authority of India and Dhubri-Dibrugarh stretch is proposed to be made fully navigable with two metre depth. The development of the Dibrugarh-Sadiya stretch will be considered in the 9th Five Year Plan depending on cargo load.

INVESTMENT IN ROAD PROJECTS

1913. **Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu** :
Shri Jagatvir Singh Drona :
Shri D. Venkateswara Rao :
Shri Anand Ratna Maurya :
Shri Mohan Singh (Deoria) :
Shri S. S. R. Rajendra Kumar :

Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) the name of multinational/private companies that have offered to invest in construction/repair works on roads, by-passes, bridges and express roads;

(b) the quantum on investments made so far and proposed to be made in this regard;

(c) the names of the projects identified for such investment, State-wise; and

(d) the present status of the on-going projects ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) No formal offers for any project except those listed in the enclosed **Statement-I** have been received by the Government at present.

(b) No investment has been made so far.

(c) The names of the projects identified by the Government for investment by private sector State-wise, is given enclosed **Statement-II**.

(d) The projects are yet to commence.

Statement-I

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Name of Company
1.	Panvel Bypass (Maharashtra)	Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Ltd.
2.	Thane-Bhiwandi Bypass (Maharashtra)	M/s. Ideal Road Builders
3.	Chalthan Rail Over Bridge (Gujarat)	Ashvika Constraction Pvt. Ltd.

Statement-II

Name of Project	State
A. Bypasses :	
1. Moradabad	Uttar Pradesh
2. Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
3. Akola	Maharashtra
4. Amravati	Maharashtra
5. Hubli-Dharwad	Karnataka
6. Udaipur	Rajasthan
7. Nellore	Andhra Pradesh
B. Bridges :	
1. Bridges across Talpona & Galgibagh	Goa
2. Sheonath bridge on Durg bypass	Madhya Pradesh
3. Second Vivekananda bridge	West Bengal
4. Jiabhareli bridge	Assam
5. Sharavathi bridge	Karnataka
6. Second Narmada bridge at Zadeshwar	Gujarat
C. Road Over Bridge (ROBs)—being identifiide in a phased manner.	

[Translation]

PROFIT AND LOSSES OF SEBs

1914. **Shri Kashiram Rana** : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) the details of profit and made by each State Electricity Board, State-wise;

(b) the cases of misuse and pilferage of power registered in each state during last three years, year-wise; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) The details of the profit/loss made by each State Electricity Board during 1993-94, after taking into account subsidy, as provided in the accounts, are given in the enclosed **Statement**.

(b) Matters relating to misuse and pilferage of power are dealt with by each SEB/State Government under the law applicable to the State.

(c) Theft of electricity has been made a cognizable offence. Besides, the union Government have been advising SEBs/State Governments to take various measures such as installation of Tamper Proof Meters, disconnection of illegal connections, etc. Power Finance Corporation has also been organising workshops and seminars to promote innovative measures for curbing misuse and pilferage of power.

Statement**Details of the profit/loss made by State Electricity Boards during 1993-94 after taking into account subsidy as provided in the accounts**

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the SEB	1993-94
1.	Andhra Pradesh A	86.90
2.	Bihar U	442.65
3.	Gujarat U	92.26
4.	Haryana A	—410.90
5.	Himachal Pradesh A	14.61
6.	Karnataka A	33.87
7.	Kerala U	24.12
8.	Madhya Pradesh U	118.24
9.	Maharashtra A	288.90
10.	Orissa A	29.98
11.	Punjab A	—117.90
12.	Rajasthan A	70.12
13.	Tamil Nadu A	225.54
14.	Uttar Pradesh U	71.87
15.	West Bengal U	17.81
16.	Assam P	—264.60
17.	Meghalaya P	—5.97
Total :		717.59

A—Audited.

U—Unaudited.

P—Provisional.

[English]

POTATO AND TOMATO BASED UNITS

1915. Dr. Shrimati K. S. Soundaram : Will the **Minister of Food Processing Industries** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that potato and tomato are produced in Ooty in Tamil Nadu in large quantity;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to set up potato and tomato based units in Ooty;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Shri Tarun Gogoi) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up any food processing unit directly in any State. However, assistance is provided under Plan schemes for setting up/upgrading/modernisation of viable units for processing of fruits and vegetables.

[Translation]

EXPENDITURE OF INDIAN MISSIONS

1916. Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan : Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure incurred on Indian Missions abroad during 1995-96;

(b) the percentage of the above expenditure as against the total budget outlay of the Ministry in this regard;

(c) the names of the mission incurring maximum expenditure as well as the name of the mission incurring minimum expenditure; and

(d) the reasons for the difference in expenditure?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) The total expenditure incurred on the various Indian Missions abroad during 1995-96 would be available only after the end of current financial year. However, the budget estimates for the year 1995-96 for our missions abroad are Rs. 403.03 crores.

(b) As per these estimates, percentage of expenditure to be incurred on Indian Missions abroad as against total budget estimates of the Ministry, is 40.39%.

(c) As per budget estimates prepared for 1995-96, the mission with maximum estimates is LONDON and with minimum is PHUNTSHOLING (Bhutan).

(d) The difference in the estimates is on account of the size of the mission/post, the cost of living in that station and any special requirements such as publicity and economic/commercial activity.

MANUFACTURING DATE ON BREADS

1917. Shri Dharmanna Mondayya Sadul : Will the **Minister of Food Processing Industries** be pleased to state :

(a) whether customers have to purchase stale bread as the manufacturing date is not given on the packets of bread being sold in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make it mandatory for bread manufacturers to mark date of manufacturing thereon;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Shri Tarun Gogoi) : (a) Bread has a shelf life of 3-4 days. Retailers are expected to ensure that unsold bread is replaced after this period by the manufacturer/supplier.

(b) Bread is a very fast moving perishable food product having a short life of 3-4 days. To mark/print the date of manufacture on the pack of bread is operationally difficult.

(c) and (d) Bread Industry is reserved for Small Scale Sector and many Small Scale Units are operating in the country. It will be difficult for the Small Scale Units to acquire, instal and operate the marking of date equipment. The marking/printing of manufacturing date has also not been prescribed under the "Prevention of Food Adulteration Act".

PITHEAD SUPER THERMAL POWER STATION IN A.P.

1918. Shri Vadde Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde : Will the **Minister of Power** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation has proposed to take up construction of a pithead Super Thermal Power Station at Manuguru in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent of land handed over to NTPC by Government of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the reasons for delay in sanction of this proposal?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) to (d) The Feasibility Report for the Manuguru Super Thermal Power Project Stage-I (2x500 MW), proposed to be implemented by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), was submitted to the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in December, 1987. The proposal could not be processed by the Central Electricity Authority for techno-economic clearance because of non-availability of coal. Further, the site for the project has also not been accorded environmental clearance owing to its proximity to reserve forests.

[Translation]

**ASSISTANCE FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT
PROJECTS IN MAHARASHTRA**

1919. Shri Datta Meghe : Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) the names of small & medium cities in Maharashtra selected for development;

(b) the total Central assistance provided for the urban development projects in Maharashtra during the last two years;

(c) whether the Government of Maharashtra have utilised the entire amount provided as assistance;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Development (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) The list of towns selected for development under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of IDSMT during the 8th Plan is annexed as **Statement**.

(b) The total amount of Central assistance under IDSMT scheme released for urban development projects in Maharashtra during the last two years is Rs.749.75 lakhs.

Besides, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Infrastructure development of Mega Cities, Central assistance of Rs. 36.2 crore was released to the Govt. of Maharashtra for Bombay Mega City Project during the last two years.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) In the case of IDSMT, the Scheme guidelines stipulate institutional finance component to the extent of 40-70% of the project costs depending on the population of the Town. The project municipalities are finding difficulty to tap loans from Banks/HUDCO due to their weak financial position.

In case of the Mega City Scheme, the nodal agency has started some works. For others, efforts are being made to mobilise institutional finance.

Statement

List of Towns in Maharashtra State covered under the IDSMT Scheme during the 8th Plan (as on 9-8-95).

S.N.	Town	S.N.	Town
1.	Jalgaon	7.	Kopergaon
2.	Srirampur	8.	Latur
3.	Shirpur (Warwade)	9.	Paltan
4.	Vani	10.	Sangamner
5.	Ambad	11.	Sangli
6.	Ahmadnagar	12.	Dhule

1	2	3	4
13.	Mukhed	25.	Musa
14.	Pachora	26.	Dondicha Wardade
15.	Warora	27.	Georat
16.	Bhusawal	28.	Swantwadi
17.	Deglur	29.	Murtizapur
18.	Gandhiglanj	30.	Shegaon
19.	Parthur	31.	Parola
20.	Basmat	32.	Tumsar
21.	Vita	33.	Alibagh
22.	Manvat	34.	Pulgaon
23.	Mahad	35.	Umred
24.	Kagal	36.	Vijapur

**SHORTAGE OF WATER IN SMALL AND MEDIUM
TOWNS IN STATES**

1920. Shri N.K. Ballan :
Dr. Gunvant Rambhau Sarode :

Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether this Ministry have identified small and medium towns in various States facing acute shortage of water;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of such towns;

(c) whether the State Governments have submitted schemes in this regard and sought funds to ensure supply of clean drinking water in these towns; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P.K. Thungon) : (a) and (b) The State Governments have so far identified 1184 small towns with a population of less than 20,000 and facing shortage of drinking water for possible assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme. State-wise details of these towns are enclosed as **Statement**.

(c) and (d) the State Governments have submitted Detailed Project Reports in respect of 191 towns against which 135 proposals have already been approved. During 1993-94 an amount of Rs.11.76 crores was provided to 147 towns in 17 States. During the year 1994-95 an amount of Rs.16.99 crores has been provided to these very States to whom the first instalment was released.

Statement**List of Towns Identified by the State Governments with Population Less Than 20,000 Facing Water Shortage.**

Sl. No.	State	No. of Towns
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	8
2.	Assam	30
3.	Goa	12
4.	Gujarat	84
5.	Haryana	41
6.	Himāchal Pradesh	43
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	19
8.	Karnataka	21
9.	Kerala	9
10.	Madhya Pradesh	39
11.	Maharashtra	30
12.	Manipur	26
13.	Meghalaya	2
14.	Mizoram	19
15.	Nagaland	2
16.	Orissa	76
17.	Punjab	61
18.	Rajasthan	105
19.	Sikkim	5
20.	Tamil Nadu	76
21.	Tripura	6
22.	Uttar Pradesh	467
23.	West Bengal	3
Total		1184

[English]

SEAFARER'S WELFARE FUND SOCIETY

1921. Shri Ram Kapse : Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.1 on June 13, 1994 and state :

(a) whether the balance amount of the Seafarer's Welfare Fund Society due to be recovered from the five defaulting Cooperative Banks has since been recovered; and

(b) if not, the action taken by the Government to help the society in recovering the dues?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Seafarer's Welfare Fund Society has already filed suits in Bombay High Court against seven defaulting Co-operative Banks to recover the principal amount alongwith interest.

ENCROACHMENTS OF DELHI RIDGES

1922. Shri B. L. Sharma Prem :
Shri Anand Ratna Maurya :

Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) the total area in Delhi ridges which was under encroachment and required to be cleared as per the Supreme Court's orders;

(b) the total area which has since been cleared;

(c) the organisations and institutions which are still occupying the land in Delhi Ridges; and

(d) the steps taken to clear them of the encroachments?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P.K. Thungon) : (a), (b) and (d) The position as reported by Delhi Development Authority and Central Public Works Department is as under :

(Fig. in acre)
D.D.A. C.P.W.D.

(i) The area under encroachment required to be cleared.	78.50	30.05
(ii) Area from which encroachment has since been removed.	9.51	20.07

Similar information in respect of Municipal Corporation of Delhi is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) Delhi Development Authority and Central Public Works Department have reported as under :

D.D.A.

1. C.R.P.F.
2. I.T.B.P.
3. 11 Structures of religious nature.

C.P.W.D.

1. Bal Bharti School, Pusa Road.
2. Springdales School, Pusa Road.
3. Har Court Butlear School, Mandir Marg.
4. N.P. School at Mandir Marg.
5. Raisina School at Mandir Marg.
6. D.T.R.A. School at Mandir Marg.
7. C.R.P.F.

CLOSED THERMAL POWER STATION IN UTTAR PRADESH

1923. Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

- (a) whether nine units of Thermal Power Stations are lying closed in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details of these units and the reasons for their closure; and
- (c) the steps are being proposed to re-start those plants?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) and (b) No Units of Thermal Power Stations are under closure in Uttar Pradesh. However, at present twelve thermal units of Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board (UPSEB) are under long duration outage. Details of these units are given in the enclosed **Statement**.

(c) For retrieval of the units concerned, the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is in regular contact with UPSEB, and is rendering guidance and assistance for early retrieval of these units.

Statement

Details of Thermal Units of Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board under long duration outage.

Sl. No.	Name of TPS/ Capacity (MW)	Date of outage	Expected date of return		Reason for outage and present status
			Org.	Rev.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Obra-2(40)	14-12-94	3-3-95	Dec. 95	1. Balancing done but vibrations are still high. Rotor which is to be replaced, is being replaced by new one being imported for Obra Unit-3
2.	Obra-3(40)	28-1-94	1-9-95	Indefinite	Turbine Report failure. Rotor ordered under insurance pool to be procured after approval from UPSEB.
3.	Obra-8(94)	20-5-94	Sept. 94	15-9-95	Generator rotor despatched by M/S BHEL Haridwar expected to reach Obra shortly.
4.	Obra-11(200)	6-10-94	Dec. 94	Dec. 95	Supplies from M/S BHEL, Trichi expected to start shortly. New Gen. Transformer received from M/S BHEL Bhopal against Unit-12 to be installed at Unit-11 which was shifted from this unit to unit-12. Damaged transformer has been sent to BHEL Bhopal.. Order is under process.
5.	Panki-4(105)	30-6-94	June 95	30-9-95	Condenser tubes procured for this units have since been utilised in Unit No. 3. Fresh condenser tubes for this unit are being procured and this activity has been delayed. Work on both passes of ESP in progress by M/S BHEL. Modified ESP outlet ducting support insulation & rapping motors are still to be supplied by M/S. BHEL Ranipet.

1	2	3	4	5	6
					Capital overhauling is in progress. Expected to be completed by 31-8-95 by BHEL. Some urgent Boiler and TG spares are required from BHEL Trichy & Hyderabad for which delivery has been quoted as end of Aug. 95.
					C&I works under R&M scheme being carried out by M/S IL Kota & is expected to be completed by 31-8-95.
6.	Harduaganj (40)	21-4-93	—	7-8-95	Imported rotor fitted, overhauling of Boilders & turbine completed. Unit is delayed for prolonged oil flushing. Oil sample taken & tested. Further activities of steam blowing started.
7.	Harduaganj (55)	15-3-95	30-5-95	Uncertain due to shortage of funds	Orders for turbine overhauling already placed on M/s BHEL for which an advance of 50% amounting to Rs. 18.75 lakhs has been asked for by BHEL. Following spares for Turbine are reaquired for which orders have already been placed and 50% advance released : (i) 13th stage diaphragm (ii) Conrol Valves, spindles & bushes. regarding Boilers BHEL having submitted inspection report. UPSEB placed orders for spares for which 50% advance is to be paid.
8.	Harduaganj-6 (60MW)	21-11-94	15-2-95	Uncertain.	Basdjust impected & despatched by M/S Best & Crompton Ltd. BHEL had given indiccative after of Rs.13 Crores for rehabilitation of boiler & turbine. M/S BHEL's offer for boiler components excluding units and mills circuits for Rs. 9.4 crores received. Order not yet placed due to non-availability of 50% advance for fund.
9.	Parichha-1	19-11-94	31.1.95	30-9-95 but depends	Water well panels/bendxhs have been received from M/S BHEL Trichy & are being replaced by

1	2	3	4	5	6
				upon availability of Genrotor & MP rotor.	BHEL. Almost Entire condenser tubes (rerolled) have been procured though M/s BHEL, Bhopal are being fitted by M/S BHEL.
10.	Tanda-1(110)	2-1-95	March,95	31-8-95	M.P. rotor on checking by M/S BHEL found damaged. Rotor got back from parichha, M/s BHEL working on turbine. Damaged MP rotor is being packed for sending to M/s BHEL, Hyderabad for repairs.
11.	Obra-1(40)	20-6-91	Uncertain		Turbine rotor damaged.
12.	Harduaganj-2 (40)	26-9-89	Uncertain		Turbine rotor/Generator stator damaged.

CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES WITH IRAQ

Shri S. M. Laljan Basha : Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to increase cultural and educational exchanges with Iraq;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Iraq has made many overtures in this regard; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri R. L. Bhatia) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The exchanges cover visits of artists, scholars, scientists, sports teams, grant of scholarships etc.

(c) and (d) Pursuant to the joint desire expressed by the two sides, a cultural exchange programme for the years 1995-97 is under the active consideration of the two governments.

[Translation]

SHIP BUILDING WITH MODERN TECHNIQUES

1925. Shri Arjun Singh Yadav : Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are manufacturing ships with Ultra-modern techniques in place of existing old/very old ships; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the success achieved by the Government in this regard so far?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface

Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) and (b) Some of the Government owned Public Sector Shipyards are manufacturing ships with modern techniques such as Modular Construction, Advanced Outfitting, Computer Aided Design and Manufacturing Methods (CAD/CAM), Computerised Numerically Control (CNC) Plasma Cutting Machine, one side Welding Machine, etc. These techniques have been used by these Shipyards to build modern ships such as drill ship, off-shore platforms, oil tankers, fast patrol vessels, survey vessels, etc.

[English]

TRANSIT FACILITY TO MYANMAR

1926. Shri Manjay Lal :

Shri Ram Prasad Singh :

Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 847 dated March 20, 1995 and to state :

(a) the progress made in regard to the travel facility by land route to the repatriated Indians from Myanmar;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to start visa procedure for transit facilities to Myanmar by land route;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) Land border route is being currently used only to facilitate border trade. The issue of extending travel facilities by land route to repatriated Indians is under the consideration of the concerned authorities.

(b) and (c) A travel pass facility for use by legitimate

Indian businessmen has been initiated in January 1995.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

ENVIRONMENT ISSUES IN POWER SECTOR

1927. Shri Chetan P. S. Chauhan :
Shrimati Dipika H. Topiwala :

Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has launched a study of environmental issues in power sector in the country;

(b) whether his ministry has also represented in the study team; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government have approved a study of environmental issues in power sector to be carried out by the World Bank with Indian Officials and experts playing an integral part in the work. The study is to be conducted in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Bihar. The objectives of the study are to identify the main environmental effects related to the expansion of electricity generation. In particular the study will examine the impact of power sector expansion on air, land and water. On the basis of environmental effects identified the study will suggest various options to mitigate these effects.

EXTRADITION TREATY WITH US

1928. Shri D. Venkateshwara Rao : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new extradition treaty is proposed to be signed with the US; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two rounds of talks on the conclusion of a new Extradition Treaty between India and the US have been held, from 28 September — 1 October, 1993 in New Delhi and from 19—21 October, 1994 in Washington. While most of the outstanding issues have been resolved, certain suggestions made by Government of India are presently under examination by the US Government.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION CORPORATION

1929. Shri Rabi Ray : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rural Electrification Corporation had received a line of credit from the overseas economic credit fund of Japan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all State electricity boards have been asked to prepare scheme in advance for proper utilisation of these funds; and

(d) the state electricity boards which have prepared these schemes?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), Japan have sanctioned a loan for implementing a Power System Improvement & Small Hydel Project scheme in India.

(c) and (d) The State Electricity Board of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have submitted schemes for availing of the above assistance.

NEW PESTICIDES

1930. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal : Will the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been invited to the news-item captioned "Ministries Lock horns over new pesticides" appeared in "The Economic Times", dated July 18, 1995;

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

(c) whether Government propose to introduce new pesticides in the National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP); and

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the final decision taken in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) Yes Sir.

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

BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD

1931. Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether the UT Chandigarh is entitled to membership of Bhakra Beas Management Board by virtue of being a successor State to the erstwhile Punjab like the present States of Punjab & Haryana; and

(b) the reasons for not according such status to it?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) and (b) The Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966 (No. 31 of 1966), as amended from time to time, includes the Union Territory of Chandigarh as successor State in relation to erstwhile State of Punjab. The Act further provides that the membership of the Bhakra Beas Management Board

(BBMB) is limited to (i) a whole-time Chairman and two whole-time members to be appointed by the Central Government; (ii) a representative each of the States of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh and (iii) two representatives of the Central Government. There is no proposal under consideration of the Central Government to give representation to the Union Territory of Chandigarh on the Bhakra Beas Management Board.

[Translation]

PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF POWER

1932. Dr. Lal Bahadur Rawal : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) the per capita consumption of power in the country as compared to per capita consumption in developed countries;

(b) whether efforts are being made to bring per capita consumption of power at par with corresponding demand for power within the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhal Patel) : (a) The per capita consumption of power in the country during 1993-94 was 299 kwh. The per capita consumption of power in some developed countries during 1992 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) The per capita consumption of electricity depends upon the extent of electrification of villages, energisation of pump sets, extent of industrialisation of state and per capita income increase. Various measures being taken to improve the availability of power in the country include expediting the commissioning of new generating capacity, implementation of short gestation projects, improving the performance of existing power stations, reduction of Transmission and Distribution losses, implementation of better demand management and energy conservation measures, arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas and promotion of private sector investment in power sector.

Statement

Annual Per Capita Consumption in Developed Countries During 1992

Name of the Country	Per Capita Consumption (in kwh)
1	2
Canada	18117
Switzerland	8015
Italy	4525
Australia	9043
Russia	6659
Britain	5933
America	12160
Japan	7192

1	2
Germany	6627
France	7140
Sweden	16655

Source : 1992 Energy Statics.

U.N. Publications.

[English]

COGENTRIX POWER PROJECT

1933. Prof. M. Kamson : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority has approved some 1000 megawatts Cogentrix power projects for States and Union Territories during the last three years; and

(b) if so, State-wise and Territory-wise details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhal Patel) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

HYDEL POWER POTENTIAL

1934. Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of hydel power capacity/potential being utilised on national level and the details thereof;

(b) the extent of rain water flowing back into the sea utilised; and

(c) the extent of loss being suffered by the country therefrom and the action being taken in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhal Patel) : (a) to (c) As per the studies carried out by the Central Electricity Authority the total hydro-electric potential of the country is 84,044 MW at 60% load factor. This hydro-electric potential was assessed on the basis of the hydrological data available, for river basins/systems in the country. Out of this the potential which has been developed is 12,439.63 MW at 60% load factor. Another 5914.13 MW at 60% load factor is under development. Thus, 21.84% of the hydro-electric potential has been developed and 78.16% is yet to be utilised.

For a fuller utilisation of hydro-electric potential Government of India has created the National Hydro Power Corporations in the Central Sector. Besides, some State Governments have also set up Corporations for the exclusive purpose of setting up of power stations. In order to bring additionality of resources for the capacity in the power sector Government of India have formulated a scheme to encourage greater private sector participation in the power projects.

LINKING OF ROADS TO NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

1935. Shri N. J. Rathva : Will the Minister of Surface

Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has sent any proposal for allocation of special fund for linking some roads to National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount proposed to be allocated to the State for the purpose?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) and (b) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member has in view the Centrally-aided Scheme of State roads of Inter-State and Economic Importance. The State Government of Gujarat have submitted 76 road/bridge Schemes costing about Rs. 56.57 Crores under this Scheme in the 8th Plan.

(c) Due to limited allocation of funds under the Central Sector roads programme, it would be possible to approve only selected projects in a few States subject to certain priority considerations. It is, therefore, not possible to indicate the details at this state.

COURTS FOR BHOPAL GAS TRAGEDY

1936. Shri Sushil Chandra Varma : Will the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers be pleased to state :

(a) the number of courts related to Union Carbide Gas Tragedy set up at present in Bhopal for disposal of the claims;

(b) whether it is a fact that one court for each municipal ward of Bhopal could not be set up so far;

(c) if so, the reasons for the said failure;

(d) the time by which claim courts are likely to be set up in each ward of Bhopal;

(e) the number of cases pertaining to the claims disposed of so far by the Claim Courts;

(f) the amount of compensation paid to the affected families; and

(g) the time by which the remaining cases pertaining to claims are likely to be disposed of?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) to (d) Government has sanctioned 56 posts of Deputy Commissioners, one for each claim Court, for the 56 wards of Bhopal. At present 44 Courts of Deputy Commissioners have been set up alongwith 5 Appellate Courts of Additional Commissioners and one revisional Court of Welfare Commissioner.

The remaining Courts will be set up as soon as judicial officers to preside over these courts are made available by the High Court of Madhya Pradesh.

(e) to (g) A total number of 2,18,238 compensation claim cases involving a payment of Rs. 475 Crores, have been disposed of since October, 1992, upto the middle of July,

1995. Of these, 88,150 cases have been disposed of since January, 1995. Efforts are being made by the Welfare Commissioner's Organisation to dispose of the remaining claim cases as early as possible.

[English]

ERRONEOUS MAP OF INDIA

1937. Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi :
Shri D. Venkateswara Rao :
Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh :
Shri Chitta Basu :

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the publication of an erroneous map of India by M/s Cornhill Publication, London, which showed "Parts of Jammu and Kashmir" and "Arunachal Pradesh" as parts of China;

(b) whether this publication was brought out by them in association with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on the occasion of its centenary this year;

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

(d) whether the Government have taken any action against those responsible for this error;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the steps taken to correct the error; and

(g) the steps being considered not to allow such errors/omissions in the future?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Salman Khurshid) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The maps of India in the publication are not drawn to scale and are thus disproportionate/disjoined leading to numerous discrepancies in depiction of the international boundaries particularly in Northern portions. Besides, Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands are not depicted.

(d) to (f) The matter was taken up with the CII which, in turn, took it up with M/s Cornhill Publications Ltd. They have clarified that the inaccuracies are entirely unintentional and that these maps are not created with any conscious intent whatsoever. They have also sent letters of regret to all the recipients of the book. Since the letters of regret are not specific with reference to the inaccuracies in the maps, the CII have been directed to ask the publishers to issue further letters of regret. They have met this requirement. CII have been directed to stamp the legend "The external boundaries of India as depicted in the Maps in this document are neither correct nor authentic" in each copy of the publication. They have confirmed having done so. They have also stopped further distribution of the book.

(g) The publishers have confirmed that they have now taken measures to ensure that such errors are not repeated in future.

**TRANSFER OF US HIGH-TECH MILITARY
EQUIPMENT TO PAK**

1938. Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh :
Shri George Fernandes :
Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri :
Dr. Ramkrishna Kusmaria :
Shri Mohan Rawle :
Shri Hari Kishore Singh :
Shri V. S. Vijayaraghavan :

Will the **Minister of external affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Pak may get high-tech weapons from US' that appeared in 'Indian Express' dated July 15, 1995 and also to another news-item captioned 'Clinton Government seeks congressional nod' that appeared in 'Indian Express' dated July 16, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government have taken-up the matter with the US;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the US thereto; and

(e) the other steps being taken by the Government to meet the threat ?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The US Administration is seeking US Congressional approval for a relaxation of the Pressler Amendment to permit supply to Pakistan of US \$ 368 million worth of military equipment other than F-16 aircraft, which had been withheld in since October 1990 under the Pressler Amendment. This package would include P-3C Orion aircraft, Harpoon and other missiles, engines and parts for F-16 aircraft, Cobra helicopters etc. The US Administration proposes to sell the F-16 aircraft to a third country and reimburse the proceeds to Pakistan.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The matter has been taken up with US Officials, Congressmen, Senators, leading opinion-makers etc. Government have emphasized that the direct and adverse impact of this military package on India's security is likely to trigger an arms race in the region.

The US Administration position is that their intention is not to start an arms race in South Asia or to resume a new arms supply relationship with Pakistan. The US Government is projecting its proposal in this regard as intended to address outstanding irritants from the past so as to improve US-Pakistan relations.

(e) Government of India are monitoring developments in

this regard and remain committed to taking all steps necessary to meet India's security requirements.

ACTIVITIES OF MULTI-NATIONAL COMPANIES

1939. Shri George Fernandes : Will the **Minister of Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in 'Hindustan Times' dated July 1, 1995 regarding recommendations made by ninety-eight womens organisations from the country for setting up of a monitoring body by the UN with Judicial powers to check the activities of multi-national companies in relation to exploitation of women and environment; and

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

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) and (b) The Government's attention has, been drawn to the report of July 1, 1995 appearing in the Hindustan Times. In the United Nations, a Commission on Trans-National Corporations (TNC) was established by ECOSOC Resolution 1913 (LVII) of December 5, 1974. The Commission acts as a forum within the UN System for comprehensive and in-depth considerations of issues relating to trans-national corporations. Its functions include promoting the exchange of views among governments, inter-governmental organisations, trade unions, business, consumer and other relevant groups, conducting inquiries on the activities of the trans-national corporations and guiding the work of the Information and Research Centre on Trans-National Corporations.

There is no formal proposal before the U.N. for establishing a monitoring body of the type suggested in the news item. No discussions have taken place in the UN on this proposal.

[Translation]

FERTILIZER PROJECT IN UTTAR PRADESH

1940. Dr. Sakshiji : Will the **Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a fertilizer project in Uttar Pradesh during the Eighth Plan period; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) and (b) Details of the fertilizer projects being set up in Uttar Pradesh during the Eighth Plan period are given below :

S. No.	Name of the company setting up the project	Location of the project	Sector in which the project is being set up	Expected date of commissioning
I	Bindal Agro Chemicals Ltd. (BACL)	Shahjahanpur	Private	Second half of 1995-96
II	Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO)	Aonla, Distt. Bareilly	Cooperative	1-1-1997
III	IFFCO	Phulpur, Distt. Allahabad	Cooperative	20-1-1998

ALLOTMENT OF GOVERNMENT ACCOMMODATION

1941. Shri Guman Mal Lodha : Will the Minister of Urban and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government accommodation have been allotted in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the number of accommodation allotted to Ist, IInd, IIIrd and IVth class Government employees during the year 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95, respectively; and

(c) the number of Ist, IInd, IIIrd and IVth class Government employees in the waiting list for Government accommodation as on March 1990-91 and by the end of March 1994-95 ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Allotment of quarter is made based on the eligibility of the Type of accommodation, as per salary drawn by official on the prescribed out off date. Records of allotment is kept Type-wise and not as per class of employees. The details of allotment made in Delhi during 1992, 1993, 1994 and upto March, 1995 is enclosed as **Statement-I**.

The information in respect of Stations/out side Delhi is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) The number of Government employees in the waiting list at Delhi is shown is **Statement-II**.

Statement-I

Number of Govt. Accommodation Allotted at Delhi				
Type	1992	1993	1994	March, 1995
1	2	3	4	5
I	1117	748	939	167
II	2086	1868	1565	325
III	1786	1159	1748	341
IV	1072	1132	1259	248

1	2	3	4	5
IV (Spl)	327	114	77	5
VA	269	202	204	24
VB	140	70	88	13
VIA (CII)	111	99	69	15

Statement-II

Typewise Waiting List for 1990-91 & 1994-95

Type	Waiting as on December 1990	Waiting as on 1-3-1995
I	3327	4587
II	10526	9664
III	8044	9437
IV	2026	1975
V	468	1239
VI	1013	235
VII	149	305

[English]

PASSPORT OFFICE, BOMBAY AND GOA

1942. Shri Harish Narayan Prabhu Zantye : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of passports issued per year during the last three years against the total number of applications received and number of applications for passport pending as on March 31, 1995 at Bombay and Goa separately and the average time taken for the issue of passports;

(b) the number of cases cleared after 3-6 months and after a year during 1994-95;

(c) the specific steps taken/proposed to be taken for the issue of passport within a stipulated time schedule during the last three years and the results achieved thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed for computerisation and streamlining of the working of passport offices in Bombay and Goa respectively ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri R. L. Bhatia) : (a) The total number of passports issued per year during the last three years against the total number of applications received by Regional Passport Office, Bombay and Passport Office, Goa is as follows :

Year		1992	1993	1994
Applications received	Bombay	259374	211059	202643
	Goa	20137	16065	14051
Passports issued	Bombay	280822	209480	208282
	Goa	20821	16015	13681

The Average time taken to issue fresh passport by both RPO, Bombay and PO, Goa is five weeks. The total number of passport applications pending as on March 31, 1995 at RPO, Bombay and Passport Office, Goa was 23,531 and 1,881 respectively.

(b) Statistics of such nature are not maintained in the passport offices. However, delay in issue of passports in such cases is due to incomplete passport application forms and negative of incomplete police reports.

(c) and (d) Government have and continue to take steps to streamline the working of passport offices and issue passports expeditiously, like augmentation of staff strength, upgradation of office facilities including computerisation, review of systems and procedures in order to reduce delays, regular inspection of passport offices and follow-up action. As a result, both, Regional Passport Office, Bombay and Passport Office, Goa are issuing passports within a period of five weeks.

POWER CO-GENERATION PLANT IN NELLORE

1943. Shri M. V. V. S. Murthy : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether International Group Inc. of U.S.A. propose to set up a power co-generation plant in Nellore in Andhra Pradesh;

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

(c) if so, the total power generation capacity of the plant and the estimated cost thereof; and

(d) the time by which the work on the plant is likely to be started ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimambhai Patel) : (a) to (c) A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between Government of Andhra Pradesh and M/s GSX International Group Inc., Houston, U.S.A. for setting up of 530 MW co-

generation plant at Nellore or Kakinada. The project would be considered for techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) as soon as all necessary clearances/inputs are tied-up. The estimated cost of the project could be indicated after the project received techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority.

(d) Construction work on the plant could commence after the project had obtained all necessary clearances and achieved financial closure.

CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES

**1944. Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu :
Dr. Jayanta Rongpi :**

Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the bridges being constructed or likely to be constructed across National Waterways in the country, Statewise;

(b) the progress made so far in this regard;

(c) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from State Governments in regard to construction of more bridges during the current Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action to be taken by the Union Government on each of those proposals?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) and (b) The union government is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways and Nation waterways only. The information is as under :

(i) A 880 m long bridge on NH-2 across national waterway-1 is proposed to be constructed across river Hooghly in Calcutta. The feasibility studies for the project have been carried out.

(ii) A 2285 m long rail-cum-road bridge across National Waterway No. 2 i.e. river Brahmaputra at Jogighopa in Assam connecting N + 31 B and N + 37 is under construction. Its cost as worked out in 1992 is Rs. 482 crores. The physical progress of the bridge is 90%.

(iii) A 1270 m long Bridge across Ganga on Varanasi-Ramnagar-Mughal Sarai bypass on NH2 in Uttar Pradesh was sanctioned for Rs. 47.72 crores in 1986. Physical progress of the bridge is 81%.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

DEMAND AND AVILABILITY OF POWER IN TAMIL NADU

1945. Dr. (Shrimati) K. S. Soundaram : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a wide gap between demand and

availability of power in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the steps taken to bridge the gap;

(c) the details of total installed capacity and actual generation of power from Central Power Projects;

(d) the details of the new Power Projects being set up/proposed to be set up during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(e) the details of financial assistance being provided by the Union Government for these Power Projects ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) and (b) During the period April-June 1995, the energy requirement in Tamil Nadu was 8240 Million Units against which the availability was 7398 Million Units which represents a shortage of 10.2%. Various measures being taken to improve the availability in Tamil Nadu include—maximising the generation from existing capacity, implementation of Renovation & Modernisation programme, reduction in Transmission & Distribution losses, effective load management and energy conservation measures and assistance from neighbouring states/system etc.

(c) During the year 1994-95, the total installed capacity and actual energy generation of power from Central Sector was 24766 MW and 126237 Million Units respectively.

(d) The likely capacity addition during the Eighth Five Year Plan is 20729.7 MW comprising of 3796.7 MW Hydro,

16053 MW Thermal and 880 MW Nuclear capacity.

(e) The total approved outlay for power sector (Centre and State) for the Eighth Five Year Plan is Rs. 79589.32 Crores.

SCHMES UNDER NEHRU ROZGAR YOJNA

1946. Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan :

Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde :

Will the **Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the three schemes under Nehru Rozgar Yojana are not being run smoothly and the pace of this implementation is very slow;

(b) the targets fixed in this regard during the last three years and the extent to which these have been achieved; and

(c) the action taken by the government for proper implementation on these schemes ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) The schemes under Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY), excepting the Scheme of Housing & Shelter Upgradation (SHASU), are being implemented effectively, and the pace of implementation has been satisfactory.

(b) Year-wise targets and achievements for the last three years are as follows :

Year	S.U.M.E.		S.U.W.E.		S.H.A.S.U.	
	No. of beneficiaries assisted		Mandays of work generated		Dwelling Units upgraded	
	T	A	T	A	T	A
1992-93	0.92	2.36	63.74	76.27	1.77	2.27
1993-94	1.25	1.52	50.84	72.17	1.77	0.55
1994-95	1.02	1.24	41.12	50.85	1.60	0.62

T = Targets

A = Achievements

(c) The Government have taken several steps to make all the schemes under the Yojana more successful. The details of the steps taken are given below :

(i) Constitution of a High Powered Committee on Institutional Finance to overcome bottlenecks in implementation of Scheme of Urban Micro enterprises (SUME). The Committee meets periodically.

(ii) Periodic Review Meetings at the level of Secretaries.

(iii) Periodic Review Meetings with representatives of States/Union Territories.

(iv) Strengthening of organisational structure at State/U.T. Level by setting up State Urban Development Agency (SUDU) and District Urban Development

Agency (DUDU) for speedy and effective implementation.

(v) Constitution of Task Force for each town consisting of various authorities, including banks, for identification of beneficiaries.

(vi) The scheme of Housing & Shelter Upgradation (SHASU) has now been made applicable to all towns/cities with population below 20 lakhs.

(vii) Deversion of funds from poor performing States to better performing States has also been resorted to.

(viii) Involving Management Information System (MIS) for proper monitoring.

PAK MINISTER'S STATEMENT ON PAK OCCUPIED KASHMIR

1947. Shri Dharmanna Mondayya Sadul : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the reported statement of Pakistani Minister for Special Education and Social Welfare to the effect that Pakistan Occupied Kashmir is not a part of Pakistan; and

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

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) and (b) Government have seen media reports to the effect that Pakistan Minister for Special Education and Social Welfare, Sher Afghan Niazi, while responding to an adjournment motion in the Pakistan Senate of July 9, 1995, reportedly stated that the so-called 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' was not a part of Pakistan.

Government are of the view that the entire state of Jammu and Kashmir is legally, judicially and constitutionally an integral part of India. Pakistan has illegally and forcibly, through aggression, occupied a part of the territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

[Translation]

INTEGRATED AGENCY FOR CARGO HANDLING

1948. Shri Rajendra Agnihotri : Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any integrated agency to set up liaison between the Union Government and the State Government for loading and unloading of cargo at the major, medium and small ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which such agencies are likely to be set up ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface

Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

1949. Shri Phool Chand Verma : Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) the grants provided by the Union Government to the States for starting the construction of new National Highways and repairing works during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the year-wise amount sought by the States during the said period and the amount allocated to them, State-wise;

(c) the names of the States facing problems to ensure the proper maintenance of National Highways due to the insufficient grants provided by the Union Government; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to remedy the situation ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) and (b) There was only one new National Highway, viz. Kurnool-Chittoor Road declared during the last three years. Allocation for development are not made National Highway-wise but state-wise. A statement indicating amounts allocated to various States for development and maintenance and repairs of National Highways during the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement. The State Governments send proposals for additional allotment of funds from time to time, but allocation is made subject to availability of funds.

(c) and (d) Maintenance of National Highways is a continuous activity undertaken on a year to year basis. Though allocations are less than the requirements, National Highways are generally kept in traffic worthy condition. Steps have been taken to introduce modern methods to assess maintenance needs and mechanised maintenance techniques.

Statement

Construction and Repair of National Highways

S. No.	Name of State	Original Works			Maintenance & Repairs		
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2500.00	4524.00	5194.50	1249.44	1716.42	2146.64
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	80.00	100.00	130.00	35.41	53.51	67.24
3.	Assam	11275.00	1400.00	1485.00	1039.62	1355.22	1678.23
4.	Bihar	1385.00	1920.00	2221.00	1072.56	1276.45	1472.53
5.	Chandigarh	25.00	25.00	25.00	15.48	14.00	21.00
6.	Delhi	700.00	550.00	150.00	171.80	208.21	143.25

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	Goa	850.00	570.00	454.00	208.30	225.05	385.65
8.	Gujarat	4650.00	6200.00	7098.00	881.37	1033.95	1316.64
9.	Haryana	1870.00	3200.00	5160.00	380.83	513.86	560.43
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1150.00	1200.00	1350.00	529.55	881.70	894.80
11.	J & K	50.00	40.00	45.00	143.39	94.54	75.60
12.	Karnatka	1880.00	2709.00	3189.00	1105.87	1234.19	1506.78
13.	Kerala	1400.00	3087.00	3124.95	587.82	726.15	924.10
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1915.00	1678.00	2347.39	1213.25	1316.28	1696.01
15.	Maharashtra	3280.00	2831.00	3262.92	1506.67	1815.54	2150.45
16.	Manipur	250.00	300.00	331.93	73.32	130.47	115.20
17.	Meghalaya	387.00	470.00	500.00	170.27	231.13	270.06
18.	Nagaland	50.00	45.00	40.00	3.50	7.29	4.00
19.	Orissa	1375.00	1221.00	3557.55	738.52	1016.11	1186.50
20.	Pondicherry	44.64	50.00	50.00	5.78	16.02	14.73
21.	Punjab	2800.00	2200.00	3559.80	638.97	661.30	736.97
22.	Rajasthan	3095.00	4028.00	4720.88	1141.02	1339.97	1810.83
23.	Tamil Nadu	1600.00	3064.00	2539.50	1134.69	1643.67	1702.86
24.	Uttar Pradesh	4995.00	4579.00	8455.68	1394.96	1710.52	2065.48
25.	West Bengal	2230.00	3500.00	3987.00	1071.51	1760.45	1744.02

[English]

INTERGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF TOWNS

1950. Shri S. M. Laljan Basha : Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have broadened the scheme of Integrated Development of Intermediate sized towns;

(b) if so, the details of the new and revised scheme; and

(c) the criteria laid down for receiving direct Central financial assistance by towns ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The salient features of the Revised IDSMT Scheme are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) As per IDSMT Scheme guidelines, Central Assistance for towns will be routed through the State Government of a special agency to be designated by it to ensure accountability and proper maintenance of accounts.

Statement

Salient Features of the Revised IDSMT Scheme

(i) IDSMT will be extended to towns with population upto 5 lakhs.

(ii) Institutional Finance Component under the Scheme will be limited to between 20% to 40% of the project cost depending upon the population of the town.

(iii) IDSMT will be linked to Town Development Plan and State Urban Development Strategy.

(iv) Projects will be taken in a judicious mix-remunerative, cost recovery and non-ramunerative projects.

(v) Each town will be required to create a Revolving fund and 75% of the grants released under the Scheme should flow back from projects to the fund.

(vi) Sanctioning of the IDSMT projects will be done by a committee at the State level.

(vii) Project cost as per the new guidelines will vary between Rs. 100 lakhs and Rs. 750 lakhs, maximum Central assistance between Rs. 48 lakhs and Rs. 270 lakhs and State share between Rs. 32 lakhs and Rs. 180 lakhs depending upon the category of town. Central and State share will be in the form of grants.

- (viii) In order to enable the municipalities (of towns proposed for inclusion under IDSMT) to prepare Town Development (Investment) Plans and IDSMT project reports, advance central grant-in-aid will be available to State Governments/Municipalities (through the State nodal agencies) on a 60 (Central grant) : 40 (State grant) basis with total cost restricted to Rs. 3, 4, 5 & 6 lakhs in the case of towns with population upto 50,000, between 50,000 to 1 lakh, 1 to 3 lakhs and 3 to 5 lakhs respectively.
- (ix) Towns having population between 50,000 to 1 lakh which are covered under the Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (IUPEP) will not be separately covered under the IDSMT Scheme. However, for these towns, projects will be taken up, following both IDSMT and IUPEP guidelines.

THERMAL POWER PROJECT OF U.P.

1951. Dr. Lal Bahadur Rawal : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Uttar Pradesh has submitted the revised plan for Belthera Road (Ballia) Thermal Power Project to the Central Electricity Authority for its approval;

(b) if so, the time by which approval to the plan is likely to be given; and

(c) the reasons for delay in the clearance of the plan ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimambhai Patel) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

LEVY CESS ON POWER

1952. Shri Manoranjan Bhakta : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to levy cess on power;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal;

(c) the recommendations of working group set up in 1994 in this regard;

(d) whether the Government have accepted all the recommendations;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimambhai Patel) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (f) The Ministry of Power had set up a Working

Group on Selective Legislation for Energy Conservation to go into various aspects of legislative measures required for promoting Energy Conservation in different sectors of the economy. The Working Group, inter alia, recommended setting up of Energy Conservation Fund to be financed through a levy/cess on power. The working group also drafted an Energy Conservation Bill which has been accepted in principle by the Government.

DEEP SEA FISHING

1953. Shri N. J. Rathva: Will the Minister of Food Processing Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals for setting up deep sea fishing industries in various States of the country is pending with the Union Government ;

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

(c) the time by which such proposals are likely to be approved ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Shri Tarun Gogoi) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Information is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The Government has constituted a Review Committee to make recommendation for review of the Deep Sea Fishing Policy. Government has decided not to process any more applications till the whole matter is reviewed.

Statement

List of Pending Applications for Setting up of Deep Sea Fishing Projects

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Proposed main base Port
1	2	3

Lease

1.	Shanmugha Fisheries, Madras	Madras
2.	Kakdweep United Fisheries, Madras	Madras
3.	Greenland Fisheries Pvt. Ltd., Madras	Kakinada
4.	Swan Sea Foods, New Delhi	Madras
5.	Siri Fisheries, Madras	Madras
6.	N. G. Marine Pvt. Ltd., Vizag	Madras
7.	Priyansh Sea Foods Pvt. Ltd. Vizag	Madras
8.	Indamar Aquatic Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	Cochin
9.	Thermofab Agencies Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	Goa

1	2	3
10.	Sri Pancha-Janya Marine Products Pvt. Ltd., Kakinada	Madras
11.	Pelican Fisheries, Gurgaon	Madras
12.	Chandana Fisheries Pvt. Ltd., Vizag	Madras
13.	Swathi Marine Products Pvt. Ltd., Vizag	Madras
14.	Seavision International, New Delhi	Madras
15.	Kumar Fisheries Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	Madras
16.	Sai Enterprises, New Delhi	Madras
17.	Motro Sea Foods, New Delhi	Madras
Joint Venture		
1.	High Sea Foods Ltd., New Delhi	Goa
2.	Vijeta Marines Pvt. Ltd., Vizag	Madras
3.	Oceanic Trawlers Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	Goa
4.	Ting Sheen India Ltd., Madras	Madras
5.	Bengal High Tech Manasagar Fisheries, New Delhi	Goa
6.	Fishing Falcon Ltd., Hyderabad	Visakhapatnam
7.	Savi Java Sea Foods Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	Goa
100 % Export Oriented Unit		
	Coastal Trawlers Limited, Vizag	Goa

[English]

PAK'S NUCLEAR BOMBS

1954. Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi :
Shri Bolla Bulli Ramaiah :
Shri Mohan Rawale :
Dr. Vasant Niwruutti Pawar :

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Pak has 12 nuclear bombs : US report" appeared in 'Indian Express' dated July 12, 1995;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken-up the matter with the US and other countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and their response thereto, country-wise ?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab

Mukherjee) : (a) yes, Sir.

(b) The American research report "Risk Report", published by the Wisconsin Project on Nuclear Arms Control, in its July-August 1995 issue, states that 'Pakistan could have produced enough material for a dozen nuclear bombs', with each bomb using approximately 15 kilograms of highly-enriched uranium.

Government is aware of Pakistan's clandestine weapons oriented nuclear programme. Government has also taken note of statements of Pakistani leaders confirming Pakistan's nuclear weapon capability.

(c) and (d) In bilateral discussions with friendly countries, including the US, Government have shared our concerns regarding Pakistan's clandestine weapons oriented nuclear programme. These countries have taken note of our concerns.

[Translation]

STEEL QUOTA FOR UTTAR PRADESH

1955. Dr. Sakshiji :

Shri Surendra Pal Pathak :

Will the Minister of Steel be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received request from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for increasing allotment of steel quota for the use of people of Uttar Pradesh;

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

(c) the quantum of steel quota allotted to the State during the last two years; and

(d) whether this quota is exclusively for the use of the Government or for the public in general too ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel (Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Development Commissioner for Iron and Steel (DCI&S) Makes allocation of steel to Small Scale Industries Corporations (SSICs) of the States to meet the requirements of Small Scale Industries keeping in view the demand registered by the SSICs and their past offtake. Allocation of Steel to the Uttar Pradesh Small Industries Corporation by the DCI&S and the offtake by Uttar Pradesh SSIC during the last two years were as under :

(in tonnes)		
Year	Allocation	Offtake
1993-94	50650	32886
1994-95	39480	28207

[English]

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES IN GOA

1956. Shri Harish Naryan Prabhu Zantye : Will the

Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) the growth of light and heavy vehicles plying on National highways in Goa during the last three years both in terms of number and percentage of growth, year-wise;

(b) whether in view of the increased load on National Highways sufficient funds have been made available for strengthening / repairs / broadening of National Highways and construction of bridges thereon;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide augmented financial assistance to improve the conditions of roads in view of the heavy ply load on National Highways in Goa and details thereof for the current year; and

(d) whether World Bank assistance/privatisation of National Highways in sought to improve the road conditions in Goa ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) Funds available for allocation to all States including Goa are much less than the requirement.

(c) For the current year 1995-96, keeping in view the over all availability of funds, an amount of Rs. 500 lakhs has been allotted for development works and Rs. 127 lakhs for maintenance and repairs of National Highways including bridges thereon in Goa.

(d) There is no proposal on hand pertaining to Goa for World Bank assistance. Private sector participation is still at a preliminary stage.

Statement

Traffic in Terms of Average Number of Vehicles as well as Percentage Growth in the State of Goa in the Last Three Years

NH Nos.	Light Vehicles (Nos.)					Heavy Vehicles (Nos.)				
	1992	1993	%age increase over previous year	1994	%age increase over Previous year	1992	1993	%age increase over Previous year	1994	%age increase over Previous year
NH 4A	2048	3836	87	2870	-33.6	1187	1975	66.4	2870	45
NH 17	5194	7466	43.7	10361	38.7	1452	2238	541.1	3072	37
NH 17A	4482	4184	7	—	—	935	1054	12.7	—	—

FUNDS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ROADS / BRIDGES IN A.P.

1957. Shri M.V.V.S. Murthy : Will the **Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment** be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds likely to be provided by the Union Government to Andhra Pradesh Government for the development of roads and bridges during 1995-96;

(b) whether the funds allocated to Andhra Pradesh Government during the last three years for development of roads and bridges have been fully utilized;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) The Central Government is primarily concerned with the development and maintenance of National Highways only. An amount of Rs. 5700.00 lakhs has been allocated to Andhra Pradesh for the development of National Highways during 1995-96.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. The details of allocations made and expenditure incurred on development of National highways in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years are as under :

Year	Allocation	Expenditure
1992-93	2600.00	3050.97
1993-94	4524.00	5216.37
1994-95	5194.50	5374.93

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

1958. Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu : Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated for National Highway Authority of India during 1994-95; and

(b) the duties performed by it during the above period ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) During the Financial

year 1994-95 Rs. 3 crores was allocated to National Highways Authority of India.

(b) The Authority became operational in February, 1995 and started the work relating to the implementation of Third National Highway Project being funded by the Asian Development Bank.

[Translation]

SOFT DRINKS AND MINERAL WATER

1959. Shri Dharmanna Mondayya Sadul : Will the Minister of Food Processing Industries be pleased to state :

(a) whether neither the soft drinks nor the mineral water bears dates of manufacturing and expiry ; and

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

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Shri Tarun Gogol) : (a) and (b) there is no requirement under the law for mentioning dates of manufacture and expiry on bottles of soft drinks and mineral water.

[English]

TALCHER THERMAL POWER STATION

1960. Shri Rajendra Agnihotri : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to take over the Talcher Thermal Power Station; and

(b) if so, the time by which the decision is likely to be implemented by the Government in this regard ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) and (b) The Talcher Thermal Power station with a capacity of 460 MW of the Orissa State Electricity Board has been taken over by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) on 3rd June, 1995.

MODERN FOOD INDUSTRIES

1961. Shri Phool Chand Verma: Will the Minister of Food Processing Industries be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide wheat at subsidised rate to all the bakers;

(b) whether the Modern Food Industries have reduced the selling price of bread on account of subsidy ;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the reduced sale price of bread is proportionate to the subsidy given by the Government ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (Shri Tarun Gogol) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Details are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The reduced sale price of bread is within the guidelines prescribed for this purpose. These guidelines were formulated by taking into consideration the general cost of manufacture, the time frame of the scheme, the cost of other raw materials etc.

Statement

Consumer Prices Before & After Allotment of Subsidised Wheat

Sl. No.	Station	Variety	Consumer Price Before	Reduced Consumer Price	
			Wheat Allotment	1st Phase (Oct. '94)	2nd. Phase (Dec. '94)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Ahmedabad	100 gm Special	1.75	1.70	1.65
		200 gm -do-	3.00	2.90	2.80
		400 gm -do-	5.00	4.75	4.50
		400 gm White	5.00	4.75	4.50
		400 gm Sweet	5.00	4.75	4.50
2.	Bangalore	400 gm White	5.50	5.25	5.00
		800 gm -do-	10.50	10.00	9.50
		400 gm Special	5.75	5.50	5.25
		400 gm Milk	6.00	5.75	5.50
		400 gm Sweet	6.00	5.75	5.50
		200 gm Sweet	3.25	3.10	3.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
		200 gm Fruity	4.50	4.25	4.00
		4x50 gm Buns	3.50	3.40	3.30
3.	Bombay	400 gm W/S	4.25	4.00	
		800 gm White	8.25	7.75	
		400 gm Sweet	4.50	4.25	
		400 gm Brown	5.00	4.75	
		200 gm Fruity	3.50	3.40	
		200 gm Bun	2.50	2.30	
4.	Calcutta	400 gm Sliced Bread	4.50	4.25	4.00
		400 gm Plain	4.40	4.15	3.90
		200 gm Sliced	2.25	2.15	2.00
		400 gm Long Loaf	4.75	4.50	4.25
		200 gm Fruity	4.30	4.20	4.10
		200 gm Milky	3.25	3.15	3.00
5.	Chandigarh	400 gm W/S	4.50	4.25	4.00
		800 gm -do-	8.50	8.00	7.50
		400 gm Special	5.00	4.75	4.50
6.	Cochin	400 gm White	4.75	4.50	4.25
		800 gm -do-	8.50	8.00	7.50
		400 gm Kailali	5.00	4.75	4.50
		600 gm Family Pack	7.60	7.20	6.80
		400 gm Sweet	5.25	5.00	4.75
		400 gm Milk	5.50	5.25	5.00
		200 gm Fruity	3.75	3.60	3.50
		200 gm Bun	3.50	3.40	3.25
7.	Delhi	400 gm White	4.00	3.75	
		800 gm -do-	7.00	6.50	
		800 gm Ganga	6.00	5.50	
		400 gm Brown	5.00	4.75	
		200 gm Fruity	4.00	3.90	
8.	Hyderabad	400 gm White	5.00	4.75	4.50
		500 gm Special	5.00	4.75	4.50
		200 gm Milky	3.00	2.90	2.80
		400 gm Milky	6.00	5.75	5.50
		200 gm Fruity	4.50	4.40	4.30
		100 gm Fruity	2.25	2.20	2.15
		800 gm Special	10.00	9.50	9.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Indore	200 gm White	2.15	2.00	1.90
		400 gm White	4.15	3.90	3.65
		800 gm White	7.95	7.45	6.95
		400 gm Sweet	4.95	4.70	4.45
		200 gm Fruity	3.50	3.40	3.25
10.	Jaipur	200 gm White	2.25	2.10	2.00
		350 gm White	4.50	4.00	3.50
		700 gm White	8.00	7.50	7.00
		800 gm White	9.00	8.00	7.00
		400 gm Sweet	4.80	4.50	4.00
		200 gm Fruity	4.00	3.75	3.50
11.	Kanpur	200 gm White	2.50	2.25	2.00
		400 gm -do-	4.40	4.00	3.75
		800 gm -do-	8.00	7.50	7.00
12.	Madras	400 gm W/S	4.50	4.25	4.00
		400 gm Sweet	5.30	5.00	4.75
		400 gm Special	4.80	4.50	4.25
		200 gm Fruity	4.00	3.85	3.75
		200 gm Bun	2.00	1.80	1.75
13.	Ranchi	200 gm White	2.40	2.25	2.20
		400 gm White	4.60	4.35	4.10
		800 gm White	8.95	8.45	8.00
		200 gm Special	2.65	2.50	2.40
		400 gm Special	5.20	4.95	4.75
		800 gm Special	9.75	9.25	8.75
		200 gm Fruity	4.00	3.90	3.75

SUBSIDY FOR VESSEL BUILDING ENTREPRENEURS

1962. Shri S. M. Laljan Basha : Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether Inland Waterways Authority of India encourages operators and entrepreneurs to build river-going vessels;

(b) the total subsidy provided by the Government to such operators/entrepreneurs during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95, year-wise;

(c) whether any steps have been taken to encourage small boat-yards in Dowlaiswaram on the river Godavari in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) whether no subsidy has been given for any entrepreneur in 1993-94 for building and operating vessels

on the river Godavari in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details and reasons therefor ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of Subsidy provided by the Government through the Inland Waterways Authority of India, are as follows :

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1992-93	58.51
1993-94	69.49
1994-95	35.95

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. There was a claim for operation of a vessel on River Godavari for a sum of Rs. 5.4 lakhs, in addition to various other claims amounting to Rs. 4.5 crores. The same could not be admitted in 1993-94 due to inadequacy of funds.

EXPORT OF HIGH GRADE IRON ORE TO JAPAN

1963. Shri Manoranjan Bhakta : Will the Minister of Steel be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to reduce the export of high grade iron ore from Bailadila to Japan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether negotiations with the Japanese firm have been completed in this regard; and

(d) if not, by when the negotiation are proposed to be held?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel (Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev) : (a) to (d) Japanese Steel Mills (JSMs) have desired to have a new Long-term Agreement on export of iron ore from India on the expiry of the existing agreement in March, 1996. A decision is yet to be taken in this regard.

SECOND N-PLANT OF PAK

1964. Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Second Pak N-Plant to be on trial by 98" that appeared in "Hindustan Times" dated July 9, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

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

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government are aware of the fact that Pakistan is constructing a 300 MW power plant at Chashma (CHASNUPP) with Chinese assistance. According to the statements made, this power plant, which is expected to become operational in end 1998, will be placed under IAEA safeguards.

At the same time, Government are aware of Pakistan's efforts to obtain nuclear know-how and components from various sources for its clandestine nuclear programme. The clandestine and weapons oriented nature of the Pakistani nuclear programme is a cause for serious concern for Government of India. Government constantly monitors all developments having a bearing on India's security and will take all necessary measures to safeguard it.

[Translation]

CONSTRUCTION OF CPWD FLATS IN GUJARAT

1965. Shri N. J. Rathva : Will the Minister of Urban

Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Government flats constructed by the Central Public Works Department (C.P.W.D.) in the country particularly in Gujarat during the last three years, till date, year-wise and category-wise;

(b) the state-wise total expenditure incurred on this work during the above period;

(c) whether CPWD has constructed lesser number of flats particularly in Gujarat;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether there is any proposal to reserve some of the flats out of them for the employees of the State Government; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

SUBSIDY TO D.T.C.

1966. Shri Chandresh Patel : Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether on directions from Union Government, subsidy worth rupees forty three crores per year has not been released to Delhi Transport Corporation since, 1992 in lieu of social obligations towards the citizens of Delhi;

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

(c) whether the amount due against the employees could not be paid on account of this;

(d) whether the employees of the Delhi Transport Corporation have submitted a charter of demands on July 19, 1995 in this regard; and

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

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) No such directions have been issued by the Union Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The charter of demands among other things includes :

(a) Non payment of regular salary.

(b) Non payment of D.A. and bonus.

(c) Non deposition of employee's share of CPF with the appropriate authority by DTC.

(d) Financial assistance to DTC.

(e) Implementation of Pension scheme etc. etc.

The charter of demands is being examined.

[English]

POOYAMBUTHY POWER PROJECT

1967. Shri Mullappally Ramchandran : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) the present position of construction work of the Pooyambuthy Power Project in Kerala;

(b) the total allocation and expenditure incurred on the project; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) to (c) The Puyankutty Hydro-electric project in Kerala — 240 MW (2x120 MW) was accorded techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority in 1984 at an estimated cost of Rs. 250 crores. The project was accorded investment approval by the Planning Commission in August, 1986 subject to the State Government's obtaining the forest clearance. The project has not received clearance of the Ministry of Environment & Forests from the forest angle and therefore active construction work on the project has not started. The commissioning of the project would depend upon the forest clearance for the project.

NEW NTPC POWER PROJECTS IN SOUTHERN REGION

1968. Shri R. Surender Reddy : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) have any proposal to set up a number of new power projects in near future in the southern regions;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating inter-alia the number and location the quantum of power to be generated, the expenditure involved, the mode of financing, the fuel to be used, etc. in each of the proposed projects;

(c) whether topographical and survey of all the projects have been completed and infrastructural facilities made available;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the private sector is also proposed to be involved in the construction of the new projects;

(f) if so, the extent of their participation; and

(g) the time by which the proposed power projects are likely to take off and become operational?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of the proposals of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for setting up of new projects/ expansion of existing projects in the southern region are enclosed as **Statement**.

(c) and (d) As regard, Kayamkulam Combined Cycle Power Project, the topographical survey work has been completed and major portion of land has been acquired. Construction activities are being taken up. Topographical survey for Hyderabad Metro CCPP is completed and that for Simhadri TPP is in progress. In so far as Ramagundam STPP State-III is concerned, no additional survey is required as the project is proposed to be located within the premises of existing Ramagundam STPP. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has initiated action for acquisition of land required for the plant and associated facilities for both Simhadri TPP and Hyderabad Metro CCPP.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

(g) As regards Kayamkulam CCPP, the work is being initiated at site and the schedule for commissioning of various units, from the date of investment approval conveyed by Government, is as follows:

Gas Turbine-1	30 months
Gas Turbine-2	32 months
Gas Turbine-3	34 months
Steam Turbine-1	42 months

Work on other projects will be taken up after investment approval is accorded to them.

Statement

Sl. No.	Project	State in which located	Type of the Fuel	Generating Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost Rs. Crs (Basis)	Mode of financing proposed	Status of approval
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Kayamkulam CCPP	Kerala	Naptha	400	1310.58 III Qtr. 94	Internal resources/ Domestic/ external. Borrowings	Approved by Government on 31-7-1995

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2.	Simhadri TPP	Andhra Pradesh	Coal	1000	3496.79 III Qtr. 95	Internal resources/ Domestic external borrowings.	FR submitted for techno-economic clearance.
3.	Ramagundam STPP Stage-III	Andhra Pradesh	Coal	500	1435.45 I Qtr. 95	— do —	— do —
4.	Hyderabad Metro CCPP	Andhra Pradesh	Naptha/ Gas	650	2021.35 III Qtr. 95	— do —	ER is being submitted

Note : CCPP : Combined Cycle Power Project.
TPP : Thermal Power Project.
STPP : Super Thermal Power Project.
FR : Feasibility Report.

RING RAILWAY

1969. Shri K. G. Shivappa : Will the **Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a ring railway in the city of Bangalore; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. However, instead of construction of a circular railway, the Government of Karnataka is considering the construction of an elevated LRT system of 90 kms length covering all parts of Bangalore City on BOOT basis.

[Translation]

BHOPAL GAS TRAGEDY

1970. Shri Surajbhanu Solanki : Will the **Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a central medical team has conducted any survey regarding the victims of Bhopal gas tragedy during the last two years;

(b) if so, the common disease diagnosed generally in all the gas victims;

(c) whether some incurable disease have also been diagnosed;

(d) the nature of assistance provided by the Union Government for the proper treatment of the victims of Bhopal gas tragedy; and

(e) the number of such victims who died for want of proper treatment?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean

Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME

1971. Shri Bhogendra Jha : Will the **Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) the amount already spent in Prime Minister's Employment Guarantee Scheme, State-wise in the urban areas since its beginning;

(b) whether the assets claimed to have been procured through this scheme have been or are being enquired into and found as claimed;

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

(d) if not, Governments' reaction thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) No scheme by the name "Prime Minister's Employment Guarantee Scheme" is being implemented by this Ministry.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

SOCIAL HOUSING SCHEME

1972. Shrimati Vasundhara Raje : Will the **Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) whether some social housing schemes are being implemented in different States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have been granting Central assistance for implementing those State sector housing schemes which are meant for the poor and weaker section of the society; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs

and Employment (Shri P.K. Thungon) : (a) and (b) Housing being a State subject, various social housing schemes for different target groups i.e. EWS, LIG, MIG are being implemented by various State Governments out of their State plan funds. The income eligibility in respect of these schemes is as follows :

EWS	—	upto Rs. 1250 per months.
LIG	—	Rs. 1251 to Rs. 2650/- per month.
MIG	—	Rs. 2651 to Rs. 4450/- per month.

Various H.F.Is. are providing loans assistance for these schemes on concessional terms.

(c) and (d) No Central assistance is released for the State sector urban housing scheme. However, LIC/CIC are providing loan assistance to the States for the implementation of these schemes. During 1994-95, LIC and GIC provided loan assistance to the extent of Rs. 218.34 crores and Rs. 76.67 crores respectively for these schemes. HUDCO also provided loan assistance for social housing schemes at varying rates of interest. During 1994-95 HUDCO sanctioned loan assistances amounting to Rs. 595 crores for these schemes.

[Translation]

NATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL PRICING AUTHORITY

1973. Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya : Will the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers be pleased to state :

(a) the number of members of the National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority meant for fixation of prices of medicines and pharmaceuticals and to ensure their availability;

(b) the interval after which the said authority undertake review in regard to fixation of prices;

(c) whether there is any procedure to maintain balance between the prices of imported and indigenously Produced medicines; and

(d) if so, the details in regard to working of the said authority?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) and (b) In the "Modification in Drug Policy, 1986" announced in September, 1994, there is a provision to set up an independent body of experts called the National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) to do the work of price fixation. The time-frame for granting price approvals will be 2 months for formulations and 4 months for bulk drugs from the date of receipt of the complete prescribed information.

(c) and (d) The modalities of the functioning of the NPPA will be finalised by the Authority itself.

[English]

URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ASSISTED BY WORLD BANK

1974. Dr. (Shrimati) K.S. Soundaram :
Dr. P. Vallal Peruman :

Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has provided financial assistance for taking up Urban Development Projects in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The World Bank has extended loan assistance for implementation of Tamil Nadu Under Development Project at a total estimated cost of Rs. 633 crores, since 1988. The main components include sites & services; Guided Urban Development; Water Supply Schemes; Bus Depots; augmentation of Fleet, etc. The Project closing date is September, 1995.

NEW FERTILIZERS PLANTS

1975. Shri G. Devaraya Naik :
Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad :

Will the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers be pleased to state :

(a) the plans drawn up by the Government for setting up the new fertilizer plants in various parts of the country;

(b) whether the revival of sick fertilizer plants has also been taken into account;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the allocations made for the purpose; and

(d) the extent to which the production of fertilizers are likely to increase as a result thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) As per the Industrial Policy Statement issued by the Government on 24th July, 1991, no industrial licence is required for setting up a fertilizer plant. The Public Sector/Cooperative units under the administrative control of the Department of Fertilizers have adopted the following strategy to reduce the gap between demand and supply of fertilizers:

(i) Expansion/retrofitting/revamping of existing fertilizer plants. By better utilisation of existing infrastructure and offsites, the capital investment per tonne of product is reduced;

(ii) With constraints in the availability of natural gas, the preferred feedstock for nitrogenous fertilizers,

naphtha-based plants, particularly with dual feedstock facilities, are being set up; and

(iii) Setting up of joint venture projects in countries having abundant and cheap resources of raw material.

(b) and (c) The Government has recently approved, in principle, the revival packages for HFC and FCI which envisage revamp of Barauni, Durgapur and Namrup units of HFC; and Talcher, Ramagundam and Sindri units of FCI. The revival packages entail a fresh investment of Rs. 2201.13 crores (Rs. 464.93 crores for HFC and Rs. 1736.20 crores for FCI), apart from capital restructuring and other financial reliefs to the undertakings concerned. The funds for revival of these companies have not been tied up so far.

(d) The grassroots/expansion/ravamping projects under implementation envisage creation of additional capacity for manufacturing 38.06 lakh metric tonnes per annum of urea and 1.84 lakh metric tonnes of NPK respectively. The implementation of the revival packages would enable sustenance of indigenous urea production capacity of 14 lakh MT per annum (FCI) and 9.12 lakh MT (HFC) per annum.

PRICES OF LIFE SAVING DRUGS

1976. **Shri Harin Pathak** : Will the **Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of basic life saving drugs have shoot up by as much as about 400 to 1000 per cent in the country due to stipulations of the GATT agreement which has come into force since January, 1975;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to control the prices?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) No, Sir. There will be no impact of the TRIPS Agreement on the prices of the existing drugs in the market whether patented or non-patented.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

PHARMACEUTICAL FACTORIES

1977. **Shri Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri** : Will the **Minister of Chemicals and Fertilisers** be pleased to state the number of licences issued for setting up of Pharmaceutical factories during the last two months, State-wise?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, 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) : As per the 'Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986' announced in

September, 1994, industrial licence is not required except for (i) drugs produced through recombinant — DNA technology; (ii) a few selected drugs reserved for Public Sector; and (iii) those drugs which are revised for Small Scale Sector. No licence has been issued for setting up of pharmaceutical factories during the last two months.

KRISHAK BHARTI CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED

1978. **Shri Rampal Singh** :
Shri Prabhu Dayal Katheria :
Shri Mahesh Kanodia :

Will the **Minister of Chemical and Fertilizers** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Krishak Bharti Co-operative Limited has formulated any scheme to take over two fertilizers plants in Russia;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether all types of fertilizers would be available to the Indian farmers after taking over of these fertilizer plants and the supply of fertilizers is likely to be helpful in controlling the price of fertilizers?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) and (b) Government has approved KRIBHCO's proposal for initiating the 'Due Diligence Process' (preparation of the Detailed Feasibility Report) for acquiring equity stakes in phosphatic fertilizer plant(s) in USA/Russia. One plant in USA and two plants in Russia have been shortlisted for this exercise.

(c) The quantity of phosphatic fertilizers that would be available to India from these plants and their impact on domestic prices would be known only after an investment decision is taken on the basis of the Detailed Feasibility Report.

IMPORTED FERTILIZERS

1979. **Shri Vijay Kumar Yadav** : Will the **Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state :

(a) the number persons issued permits to import fertilizers during 1994-95 alongwith the quantity to be imported, separately;

(b) whether any directions have been issued for distribution of such imported fertilizers among the farmers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the prices of the above fertilizers have been fixed; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the

Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) At present urea is the only fertilizer under price, distribution and movements control and its import is canalised. During 1994-95, the entire arrivals of imported urea were on account of MMTC Ltd. and the two public sector fertilizer companies, namely, National Fertilizers Limited and Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Ltd., which were authorised to import 2 lakh tonnes and 1 lakh tonnes of urea, respectively in order to supplement the efforts of MMTC Ltd., were unable to import any urea.

(b) and (c) Imports of urea made on Govt. account have been utilised to meet the gap between the indigenous availability and demand in accordance with the allocations made under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

(d) and (e) The statutory maximum price of urea, excluding local taxes, is Rs. 3320 per tonne. Following decontrol of phosphatic and potassic fertilizers on 25-8-92, the consumer prices of these fertilizers are determined by market forces and vary from State to State and time to time.

[English]

KOEL-KARO PROJECT

1980. Shri Manjay Lal :
Shri Ram Prasad Singh :

Will the **Minister of Power** be pleased to state :

(a) whether any target has been fixed by the Government for completion of Koel Karo Project in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether necessary provisions have been made to mobilize funds for this project;

(d) if so, the total expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

(e) the time when the same will be completed?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) and (b) Due to paucity of funds, it has not been possible for the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) to start work on Koel-Karo Hydro-electric Project in Bihar or to fix a target for its completion.

(c) and (d) Funds for implementation of the project have not been mobilized/tied-up so far. NHPC will have to rely on market borrowing and/or external assistance to meet a substantial portion of the project cost which is presently estimated to be around Rs. 2400 crores.

(e) Normally such Hydel projects are expected to take 7 to 8 years for completion from the date of commencement of work, if there are not stopages.

[Translation]

MAITHAN THERMAL POWER STATION

1981. Shri Manjay Lal :
Shri Ram Prasad Singh :

Will the **Minister of Power** be pleased to state :

(a) whether an agreement to bear 85% of the loss of Maithan Thermal Power Project was signed between India and Japan;

(b) whether the Central Electricity Authority is taking steps to wind up this project or transfer it to the private sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to complete this target?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

(d) Following discussions between Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan and Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), DVC has agreed to upgrade the unit configuration of the project from four units of 210 MW each to four units of 250 MW each. It has been decided to recommend the project to the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) for inclusion in the shelf of proposals for seeking assistance from OECF of Japan for the year 1996-97.

[English]

MODERNISATION OF SICK FERTILIZER UNITS

1982. Shri Shraavan Kumar Patel : Will the **Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a comprehensive plan has been finalised for rehabilitation and modernisation of sick fertilizer units in the country; and

(b) if so, the broad details thereof, indicating details of costs and phasewise schedule thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) and (b) The Government has recently approved, in principle, the revival packages for two sick fertilizer producing public undertakings, namely Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) and Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) which envisage revamp of Barauni, Durgapur and Namrup units of HFC; and Talcher, Ramagundam and Sindri units of FCI. The revival packages would entail a fresh investment of Rs. 2201.13 crores (Rs. 464.93 crores of HFC and Rs. 1736.20 crores for FCI), apart from capital restructuring and other financial reliefs to the undertakings concerned.

The funds for revival of these companies including funding through participation of Financial Institutions have not been tied up so far. The schedule of implementation of the revival packages is contingent on tying up of the funding arrangements and approval of the same by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.

MITTAL GROUP OF BAILADILA

1983. Shri Indrajit Gupta : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have handed over a 1000 megawatt power project at Bhadrawati (Maharashtra) to Mittal Group of Bailadila;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have violated the rules and without the approval of PIPB, CCEA and CEA, the power project was given to Mittals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps Government now propose to take in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

SURATGARH THERMAL POWER PLANT

1984. Shri Manphool Singh : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction work of Suratgarh Thermal Power Plant is going on;

(b) whether construction is being taken up by State Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether State Government has requested for financial assistance; and

(e) if so, whether first unit of the plant is likely to start functioning within one year?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The construction work of Suratgarh Thermal Power Station, Stage-I (2x250 MW), being executed by the Rajasthan State Electricity Board, is in progress.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No, Sir. The first Unit of the project is likely to be commissioned in March, 1997.

[English]

FOURTH UNIT OF RAICHUR THERMAL POWER PLANT

1985. Shri A. Venkatesh Naik : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up Fourth Unit of Raichur Thermal Power plant during 1995-96; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power

(Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) and (b) The fourth Unit of Raichur Thermal Power Plant (210 MW) has been commissioned on 29-9-1994.

SUBSIDY TO FERTILIZER PRODUCERS

1986. Shri Upendra Nath Verma : Will the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers be pleased to state :

(a) whether excess subsidy is being paid to the fertilizer products by the FICC;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this is causing heavy drain on the exchequer; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to investigate the matter and to take corrective measures in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

RULES FOR RELAXATION OF ALLOTMENT OF GOVERNMENT HOUSES

1987. Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri : Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rules SR 317-B-25 provides for relaxation of allotment of government houses but reasons for doing so have to be recorded;

(b) if so, were the reasons recorded while O.T.A. and if so, the details of main reasons which prompted the sanction of O.T.A. (out of turn allotment);

(c) whether out of turn allotment clause, in rule SR 317-B-9 had been omitted long time back; and

(d) if so, when and the reasons for making O.T. As between 1990 to 1995 in large number?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Out of turn allotments have been sanctioned by the competent authority on the basis of the reasons advanced by the applicants in their applications. The main reasons cited are illness in the family, exigency of work, exorbitant rents etc.

Under SR-317 B-9, Director of Estate was delegated the power of giving out-of-turn allotment to an officer on ground of serious illness of self or a member of his family in consultation, if considered necessary, with the prescribed medical authority. Since out-of-turn allotment for reasons other than serious illness/medical reasons was being given under SR-317-B-25 and even allotment made under SR-317-B-9 were actually being given after taking approval of the concerned Minister, in the year 1972, Government

decided that all out-of-turn allotments may be made under the provision of SR-317-B-25.

FORMER ARMY CHIEF OF PAKISTAN'S STATEMENT ON M-11 MISSILES

1988. Shri Udaysingrao Galkwad : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to certain reports indicating that former Army Chief of Pakistan during his address to academic and Clinton Administration officials in Washington has confirmed that Pakistan has received M-11 missiles and technology from China;

(b) whether such reports have also confirmed that such deal of M-11 Missiles was ratified by said former Chief of Pakistan Army;

(c) if so, the full facts of these reports;

(d) whether the Government have taken up the issue with China and Pakistan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) to (c) Government have seen press reports where in it has been reported that Pakistan's former Chief of Army Staff, Gen. (Retd.) Mirza Aslam Beg, during a presentation at Henry L. Stimson Centre in Washington stated, inter alia, that it was he who had signed the contract for the supply of M-11 missile technology to Pakistan.

(d) and (e) Government have in their discussions with the Chinese Government emphasised that the supply of sophisticated arms and technology including missiles to Pakistan poses a threat to India's security. The Chinese authorities have taken note of our concerns.

[Translation]

SHORTAGE OF FERTILIZERS

1989. Shri Rampal Singh : Will the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are importing fertilizers to meet its shortage in the country at present;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to formulate a scheme to meet its recruitment in the country itself;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which country would become self-reliant in the field of Chemical fertilizers under the present scheme?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Within the constraints of the availability of raw materials and feedstocks required for production of

fertilizers in the country, concerted efforts have been made to build up new capacities and expand the existing capacities. Fertiliser companies have also been encouraged to set up joint venture in other countries richly endowed with the required raw materials and feed stocks.

[English]

QUALITY OF FERTILISERS

1990. Shri M. Ramanna Rai : Will the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers be pleased to state :

(a) whether the fertilizers produced in the country is of the international standard;

(b) the machinery available in India to check the quality and worthiness of the fertiliser supplied to farmers; and

(c) the ways to check adulteration of fertilisers produced domestically?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) The fertilisers produced and sold to the farmers in the country are required to conform to the standards laid down in schedule-I to the Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1985 (FCO) issued under Essential Commodities Act., 1995.

(b) and (c) The sale of fertilisers to the farmers is subject to the quality regulations under the FCO which empowers the State Government to take action on the complaints regarding sale of spurious, non-standard and adulterated fertilisers. To monitor the quality of fertilisers sold to the farmers, 55 Fertiliser Quality Control Laboratories including a Central Quality Control & Training Institute at Faridabad and its 3 Regional Laboratories one each at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras—have been set up in different parts of the country. Those laboratories analyse the samples of fertilisers drawn by Fertiliser Inspectors notified by the State Governments. In case of deviations from the prescribed norms, legal action is taken by the State Governments against the agencies found responsible.

NEYVELI PROJECT

1991. Shri Anand Ratna Maurya : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether any power purchase agreement has been finalised for Neyveli project in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Counter guarantee has also been granted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the other steps being taken by the Government to start the work of this project quickly?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Government of India is extending necessary assistance for the Power Purchase Agreement to be finalised by Tamil Nadu Electricity Board and the company.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY - 49

1992. Shri P. C. Thomas : Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) the details of works proposed to be carried out on National highway - 49 during 1995-96 alongwith the cost of each such work;

(b) the details of works carried out on National Highway-49 during the last three years; and

(c) the details and progress of ongoing works on National Highway-49 alongwith the expenditure involved therein?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) On NH 49, 2 Road works costing Rs. 400 lakhs in Kerala and one road work and 4 bridge works costing Rs. 300 lakhs and Rs. 80 lakhs respectively in Tamil Nadu are proposed to be sanctioned during 1995-96.

(b) There are 10 Road works costing Rs. 251.56 lakhs in Kerala and 2 Road works and 6 Bridge works costing Rs. 181.35 lakhs and Rs. 315.23 lakhs respectively in Tamil Nadu in progress during the last 3 years on NH-49.

(c) In Kerala on NH-49, there are 13 Road works in various stages of progress and expenditure thereon upto March '95 is Rs. 83.54 lakhs. In Tamil Nadu, there are 4 Road works and 6 Bridge works in various stages of progress on NH-49, and the expenditure incurred thereon upto March '95 is Rs. 15.67 lakhs and Rs. 0.99 lakhs respectively.

WIDENING OF NHs IN MAHARASHTRA

1993. Shri Dharamanna Mondayya Sadul : Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to carry out some major works like widening and expansion of National Highways in the country particularly in Maharashtra during 1995-96;

(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) to (c) Yes, Sir. Various widening/developmental projects of National Highways costing Rs. 2192.00 crores are proposed to be taken up during 1995-96 in the country. In the case of Maharashtra, there is a provision for widening to four lanes, widening/reconstruction of C.D. works, strengthening two lane pavement costing Rs.18.50 crores. Apart from it, seven major/minor bridges at an estimated cost of Rs. 9.40 crores including certain other miscellaneous works totalling to Rs. 7.00 crores are also proposed to be undertaken

during the aforesaid period.

HBA FACILITY TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

1994. Dr. P. Vallal Peruman : Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted for allowing Housing building Advance to Government employees;

(b) whether the Union Government have changed the criteria for granting house building advance to Central Government employees recently; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) The amount of House Building Advance admissible at present is 50 months Basic pay of the Government servant or actual cost of construction/acquisition or repaying capacity or Rs. 2.5 lakhs whichever is the least. House Building Advance is admissible to all permanent Central Government employees as well as to temporary government servants who have rendered at least 10 years continuous service.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

ASSOCIATION OF INDIAN OCEAN RIM COUNTRIES

1995. Shri Hari Kishore Singh : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether the idea of an Association of Indian Ocean Rim States has been advanced by South Africa and Australia; and

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

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee) : (a) and (b) Proposals for cooperation among Indian Ocean Rim Countries have been advanced by several countries, including South Africa and Australia. Government is positively inclined to consider such suggestions and it has initiated exploratory contacts with the interested countries to determine the possibility and scope of such cooperation.

Indian participated in the first International Meeting of Experts from seven Indian Ocean Rim Countries (viz. Australia, India, Kenya, Mauritius, Oman, Singapore and South Africa) convened by Mauritius at Port Louis from March 29-31, 1995. The meeting agreed on the principles, objectives and direction of the future action programme of an Indian Ocean Rim Initiative beginning with these seven countries to promote cooperation in trade, investment, science and technology, tourism and human resource development.

[Translation]

OUT OF TURN ALLOTMENTS BY DDA

1996. Shri Khelan Ram Jangde : Will the Minister of

Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has made out of turn allotment of houses inspite of the fact that there is no such provision;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) the guidelines approved by the Government provide for allotment of houses on out of turn basis by DDA.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

THERMAL PLANT AT BARSINGSAR LIGNITE BASE

1997. Shri Manphool Singh : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have granted permission for construction of Lignite based Thermal Plant at Barsingsar;

(b) whether the land of farmers has been acquired;

(c) whether the price has been paid to the farmers and land in lieu thereof was allotted to them near Indira Gandhi Canal;

(d) the expenditure already incurred prior to starting this scheme; and

(e) the time by which the construction work is likely to be started?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

REQUIREMENT OF DRINKING WATER IN CITIES

1998. Shri Vijay Naval Patil : Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated plans for meeting the growing requirement of drinking water in major cities having population over 20 lacs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the allocation made during the last three years to each of the State Government;

(d) whether World Bank/International agencies are also involved in providing funds for drinking water; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) No Central Sector Scheme has been formulated for meeting the growing requirement of water in cities with population of 20 lacs and above.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) The World Bank and the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan are also involved in providing funds for drinking water in urban areas. The details of ongoing externally aided projects are in the enclosed proforma.

World Bank

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Project Cost (Rs. Crores)	Amount of Assistance (in US \$ million)	Date of commencement	Credit closing
1.	III Bombay W. S&S	915.00	165	12-5-87	30-6-96
2.	Madras W.S.	255.95	69	1-4-86	30-12-95
3.	Hyderabad W. S&S	257.06	89.9	1-10-90	31-3-98

O.E.C.F. (Japan)

(in Japanese Yen million)

1.	Madras Water & Sewerage System Project	323.10	17,098	Jan.1995	—
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SETTING UP OF NIRMAN KENDRA

1999. Dr. Krupasinthu Bhoi : Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up some Nirman Kendras;

(b) if so, the main objectives of setting up of these Nirman Kendras;

(c) the places where these Nirman Kendras are proposed to be set up; and

(d) the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) and (b) A Central sector scheme to set up a National Network of Building Centres is under implementation since 1988-89. The main objectives of this scheme are as follows :

(a) technology transfer by disseminating information on cost-effective technologies in urban and rural areas;

(b) skill upgradation and training of masons, artisans, carpenters, other building related work force, including professionals and entrepreneurs, in production and practice of various cost-effective building materials, techniques and systems.

(c) manufacturing/production of cost effective building materials/components based on local natural or waste based resources and providing distribution outlets for the various user groups.

(d) creating a pool of trained rural and urban construction workforce to meet the diverse needs of housing and building construction and other developmental activities undertaken by individual households or public housing/development agencies utilising appropriate and cost effective building technologies.

(e) housing and building guidance, information and counseling.

(c) and (d) The scheme aims at setting up of atleast one building centre in each district of the country. As on 1-5-95, 422 Centres have been identified, out of which 204 centres have reportedly become functional in various States/UTs.

MODERNISATION AND EXPANSION PLANS OF NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LIMITED UNITS

2000. Shri R. Surender Reddy : Will the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the capacity utilisation, turnover and profits of the various units of the National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) during the last three years;

(b) whether NFL has any ambitious plans for modernisation, expansion and increasing the existing capacity utilisation of most of its units;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the expenditure to be involved therein;

(e) whether NFL has any proposal of entering the Indian market and is also considering the possibility of Euron issue for mopping up the capital required for the proposed expansion and modernisation of units;

(f) if so, the details thereof.

(g) whether the NFL has also received offers for setting up urea plants in foreign countries; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) The details of the capacity utilisation of fertilizer plants, turnover and profits of the units of N.F.L. for the last three years are as under :

Unit/Year	%age capacity utilisation	Turnover (Rs./Crore)	Profit before Tax (Rs./Crore)
1	2	3	4
Nangal			
1992-93	95.3	289.38	(—) 13.63
1993-94	98.3	362.99	64.16 *
1994-95	96.7	372.28	21.55 *

1	2	3	4
Panipat			
1992-93	85.1	213.03	3.37
1993-94	101.1	274.17	83.57 *
1994-95	89.1	257.20	(—) 6.63 *
Bhatinda			
1992-93	95.9	257.26	12.34
1993-94	100.1	275.15	81.24 *
1994-95	103.8	372.69	65.24 *
Vijaipur			
1992-93	116.0	449.14	109.39
1993-94	121.0	419.60	210.14 *
1994-95	112.9	441.30	123.77 *

*Inclusive of the impact on account of writing back of depreciation consequential to change of rates under the Companies Act, 1956 and receipt of arrears under the retention price scheme for the sixth pricing period.

(b) and (c) The company is implementing the following projects for expansion and revamping of itsd operating plants.

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Zero date	Project Schedule (months)	Existing Capacity* per Annum (Lakh MT)	Expanded Capacity per Annum (Lakh MT)
1.	Vijaipur Expansion	30-9-93	39	7.26	14.52
2.	Nangal Urea Plant Revamping	1-5-95	22	3.30	5.11

NFL also proposes to expand the capacity of its Panipat plant to produce an additional 7.26 lakh tonnes of urea.

(d) The estimated expenditure involved on the above expansion and revamping projects and the mode of their financing is as under : -

Vijaipur Expansion : The estimated capital expenditure for the Vijaipur Expansion Project is Rs. 987.3 crore. This is to be funded with a debt equity ratio of 2:1.

Nangal Urea Plant Revamping : The estimated expenditure for Nangal Urea Plant Revamping is Rs. 40 crores which is proposed to be met fully from the internal resources of the company.

Panipat Expansion Project : The estimated expenditure for Panipat Expansion Project is around Rs.1100 crore and would be met from the external borrowings and equity issue/internal resources of the company in the ratio of 2:1 respectively.

(e) and (f) No final decision has been taken so far on the alternatives for raising funds from Indian/External markets including Euro issue for financing Vijaipur and Panipat Expansion Projects of NFL.

(g) and (h) National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) has formulated a techno-economic feasibility report (TEFR) for a joint venture ammonia/urea project in Syria.

TEHRI DAM PROJECT

2001. Shri Surendra Pal Pathak :
Shri Indrajit Gupta :
Shri Chitta Basu :

Will the **Minister of Power** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the eminent environmentalists Shri Sunder Lal Bahuguna was on fast for several days demanding to review Tehri Dam Project;

(b) whether the Government had given any assurance to Shri Bahuguna to persuade him to end his fast;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have decided to review this project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) Yes, Sir. (b) to (e) The Government has shown its readiness to examine any new and substantive issue that may be raised. It is in this spirit that Shri Bahuguna was requested to give up his fast which he did in the presence of the Governor of Uttar Pradesh.

OUT OF TURN ALLOTMENT OF GOVERNMENT ACCOMMODATION

2002. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee :
Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee :
Shrimati Pratibha Devisingh Patil :
Shri Govindrao Nikam :

Will the **Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) the action taken by the Government in terms of the orders of the Supreme Court clamping a bar on out-of-turn allotment of Government houses;

(b) the number of unauthorised occupants who have been evicted from Government houses since the decision of the Supreme Court;

(c) the number of Government houses still in unauthorised occupation with category-wise details as on July, 31, 1995 and the names of the occupants; and

(d) the steps being taken to get the same vacated at the earliest and to recover the balance of payment?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) No out of turn allotment of houses is being made at present except

on Medical Grounds such as Government employees suffering from T.B. or Cancer.

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

HOUSING SCHEMES SUBMITTED BY MAHARASHTRA GOVERNMENT

2003. Shri Vilasrao Nagnathrao Gundewar : Will the **Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has forwarded a few Housing Schemes for approval to the Union Government and has sought financial help for the same;

(b) if so, whether the Union government have accorded approval to all Schemes; and

(c) if so, the amount of the financial assistance proposed to be provided to each of these schemes by the Government?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) Union Government do not provide financial assistance directly to the State Governments for urban housing. Further, no urban housing scheme seeking assistance of Union Government has been received from the Government of Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

EXPRESSWAY BETWEEN MANGALORE AND BANGALORE

2004. Shrimati Chandra Prabha Urs : Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received a proposal from the Government of Karnataka to lay a four lane expressway between Mangalore and Bangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have given its approval to the proposal;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) The question does not arise.

REGIONAL PASSPORT OFFICE, NEW DELHI

2005. Shri Shivlal Nagjibhai Vekaria : Will the **Minister of External Affairs** be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the Passports/papers received by post (DAK) in Regional Passport Office, Delhi are not traceable;

(b) if so, the details thereof during 1995; and the action taken/proposed to be taken against those found responsible therefor;

(c) the procedure followed in such cases to provide a fresh passport to the concerned person without delay; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check the recurrence of such incidents?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri R. L. Bhatia) : (a) and (b) Some passports and papers received by post in Regional Passport Office, Delhi stand misplaced. However, action is being taken for revocation of such missing passports in order to avoid its misuse. The matter is under investigation and based on its findings, appropriate action shall be taken against erring officials.

(c) Passports in such cases are revoked and the individuals concerned are issued fresh passports at the earliest.

(d) Measures have been introduced to ensure that the movement of passports at various stages including the despatch stage, is against proper accountability of the concerned passport officials.

WRONG DEPICTION OF INDIA'S MAP BY BBC

2006. Shri D. Venkateswara Rao : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "BBC map confuses Indian boundary" appeared in Indian Express dated July 17, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action against those who are indulging in such activities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Salman Khurshid) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The BBC World Service "Programme highlights for the new season" pertaining to programmes in English for South Asia from April 1, 1995, to September 30, 1995, carries a colour coded time chart for South Asia, in which POK is depicted in the same colour as Pakistan. The Government took-up the matter of this wrong depiction of India's boundaries relating to Jammu and Kashmir with the BBC World Service. BBC World Service in their reply have clarified that the map in question is in fact a time chart relative to GMT and was not intended to mark national boundaries. Nevertheless, they have informed us that they are taking this map out from their future publications.

IMPLEMENTATION OF NCR

2007. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal : Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated expenditure incurred on the implementation of the National Capital Region Plan as on August 1, 1995;

(b) the results achieved thereby;

(c) to what extent his Ministry has succeeded in shifting some of the Central Government Offices and those of the various Public Sector Undertakings from the capital to the ring towns;

(d) the extent to which it has helped in reducing the congestion in the capital in the various spheres; and

(e) the future action plan prepared in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) The expenditure incurred by NCR Planning Board upto the end of July, 1995 has been estimated at Rs. 227.33 crores.

(b) 73 schemes comprising land acquisition and development of residential, commercial, industrial and institutional areas in various towns of NCR and counter-magnet areas outside NCR have been taken up. 40 schemes have been completed and the remaining 33 schemes are on going and in various stages.

(c) Three Central Government Offices and four Public Sector Undertakings have been shifted out of Delhi.

(d) The Regional Plan-2001 for NCR is long term in nature and it is too early to assess the progress in this regards. However, the overall population growth of Delhi registered a marginal decline as per the figures available in 1991.

(e) The Regional Plan-2001 proposes the development of the entire National Capital Region in a balanced and harmonised manner through the following measures :

1. Development of local urban infrastructure in the shape of 10 integrated new townships alongside existing priority/DMA towns;
2. Large scale employment generation by making developed land available for industries, wholesale trade and location of shops and office complexes in these 10 townships;
3. Development of Regional level infrastructure in the transport sector (covering both rail and road systems) and also in the spheres of power generation and telecommunications;
4. Development of regional road grid and power transmission and distribution networks covering the sub-regions of Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh; and
5. Decentralisation of economics activity and dispersal of manufacturing and trading units from Delhi through a separate sub-component plan coupled with a time-bound implementation programme to be drawn up by GNCTD.

MULTI PURPOSE MAPS FOR URBAN AREAS

2008. Shri Ram Prasad Singh :
Dr. P. Vallal Peruman :
Shri R. Surender Reddy :

Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether her Ministry has any proposal to prepare multi-purpose maps of urban areas using the modern techniques of aerial survey and remote sensing;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the utility and the objectives to be achieved thereby;

(c) whether the State Governments and other agencies are proposed to be involved in the preparation and execution of such projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the financial involvement in the projects in phases and whether the State Governments are proposed to be involved in cost sharing;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the nodal agency that would be responsible for preparation, execution and co-ordination of the project;

(h) the particulars of the towns that are likely to be covered in the first phase; and

(i) the time by which the multi-purpose maps of the urban area in the first phase are likely to be available?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to develop aerial photography and photo mosaics for selected priority cities on a scale of 1:2,500. These are to be multi-purpose maps and could be used by several agencies, local bodies, public works departments, Services and Utilities Agencies, Taxation Departments, Directorate of Survey and Land Records etc., for Planning, development, management and monitoring of schemes at local levels.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Central Town & Country Planning Organisation (TCPO), the State Town Planning Departments, the Survey of India, the National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA), the National Informatics Centre (NIC), the Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO), the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS) — Anna University, etc., are involved.

(e) and (f) The Central Government has provided Rs. 6.08 crores for this scheme. State share is not envisaged at the moment.

(g) The TCPO in collaboration with NRSA is responsible for the project implementation.

(h) The list of towns selected for the first phase is annexed as **Statement**.

(i) These are likely to be available within three years.

Statement**Town covered Under Urban Mapping Scheme****(First Phase)**

Maharashtra	Tamil Nadu
1. Kalyan	7. Nagapattinam
2. Ulhasnagar	8. Tiruchendur
3. Akola	9. Karaikudi
4. Nagpur	10. Rajapalayam
5. Naded	11. Tndivanar
6. Ratnagiri	
Andhra Pradesh	Orissa
12. Khammam	16. Bhubaneswar
13. Nandyal	17. Puri
14. Gudivada	
15. Bhimavaram	
Uttar Pradesh	Gujarat
18. Agra	21. Bharuch
19. Faizabad	22. Porbandar
20. Nainital	23. Surindernagar
	24. Valsad
	25. Varaval

[Translation]

EXPORT OF IRON-ORE

2009. Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya : Will the Minister of Steel be pleased to state :

(a) whether the contract with Japan in regard to Export of Iron-ore produced in Bailadila Iron-ore mines in Madhya Pradesh is expiring in 1996;

(b) if so, the quantum of Iron-ore exported to Japan from the said mines and the value thereof;

(c) whether any similar contract has been concluded or being concluded with any other country or foreign company;

(d) the estimated reserve of Iron-ore in the said mines and the quality thereof; and

(e) whether the Iron-ore produced from the said mines is likely to be processed through the indigenous techniques?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel (Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per MMTC, Quantum of iron ore of Bailadila origin exported to Japan during last three years is given below :

(Qty. : In lakh MT)
(Value : in Rs. crores)

Year	Lumps		Fines	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1994-95 (Provisional)	26.58	176.83	10.82	52.43
1993-94	27.96	196.50	8.86	46.98
1992-93	31.10	223.21	8.45	46.99

(c) MMTC has reported that there is a long term contract with POSCO of South Korea which covers export of only fines of Bailadila mines and there is no other similar long term contract at present with any other country or foreign company nor is such a contract being concluded.

(d) As per information available from Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) total recoverable reserves of iron ore in Bailadila area are 954.36 million tonnes. Bailadila Mines have reserves of high grade iron-ore, low grade iron-ore, unclassified iron-ore and also blue dust.

(e) Iron-ore produced from Bailadila mines is being processed through both indigenous* and imported equipments.

HOUSING PROBLEM IN URBAN AREAS

2010. Shri Ram Tahal Choudhary : Will the **Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a scheme to solve accommodation problem in urban areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government/DDA are facing the problems of non-availability of land and related infrastructure for construction of flats for registered persons; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to allot flats to rest of the registered persons by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) The National Housing Policy endorsed by both Houses of Parliament lays down a broad frame work of strategies to tackle the housing problem in urban and rural areas. The basic objective of the policy is to assist all people and, in particular, the houseless, the inadequately housed and the vulnerable sections, to secure for themselves affordable shelter through access to developed land, building materials, finance and technology. All the State Governments have been requested to draw up time bound Action Plans to implement the policy.

(b) to (d) Developed land at affordable prices is a critical input in an, housing programme. The policy lays down broad guidelines to State agencies to increase the supply of serviced land for various income groups and essential public purpose with a preponderant proportion for the poorer sections. The Policy also lays down steps towards

removal of legal and other constraints with a view to promoting housing activity.

In so far as DDA is concerned. It has reported that, as on 31-3-95, it had a backlog of 45057 registrants under MIG/LIG housing schemes and allotted flats to 40409 registrants out of 80422 under SFS/HIG category. DDA plans to provide flats to all the waiting registrants by the end of 8th Plan period subject to availability of land and infrastructural facilities. DDA also plans to acquire more land in its new project areas, which will be used for housing for LIG/MIG categories.

[English]

BRIDGES AND CULVERTS ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN GOA

2011. Shri Harish Narayan Prabhu Zantye : Will the **Minister of Surface Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Highway connecting Mormagaon Port is fit for container traffic;

(b) if so, whether there is any scheme during the Eighth Five Year Plan period for repair and construction of bridges and culverts on National Highways leading to Mormagon Port; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) The road is in traffic worthy condition for container service except a minor bridge at Km 0/0 of NH-17A which is weak.

(b) and (c) A new minor bridge at the place mentioned under (a) above has been sanctioned and is under construction.

PRIVATE INVESTORS IN POWER SECTOR

2012. Shri M. V. V. S. Murthy : Will the **Minister of Power** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been reported that World Bank has offered to give guarantee in the investment made by any private investors in India in Power sector;

(b) whether Government have agreed to their proposal;

(c) whether State Governments have also agreed the conditions laid down by the World Bank by providing guarantee to the Private sector in power project; and

(d) if so, whether this decision has quicken the process of power projects in the country by private investors?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The scheme has not been finalised so far.

IRON ORE EXPORT TO JAPAN STEEL MILLS

2013. Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu : Will the **Minister of Steel** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Japanese Steel Mills have expressed a

desire for extension of the existing iron ore export contract from India;

(b) whether the Government have proposed to seek a premium price from Japan for Indian iron ore;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel (Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev) : (a) to (d) The Japanese Steel Mills have expressed a desire for extension of the existing iron ore export contract from India. A decision is yet to be taken in this regard.

TRANSPORTATION OF OIL THROUGH INLAND WATERWAYS

2014. Shri S. M. Laljan Basha : Will the Minister of Surface Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any comprehensive plan for transportation of oil through Inland waterways operations on the Ganga for various oil refineries;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the reaction of oil companies thereto?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : (a) to (c) Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas have been requested to use the Inland Waterway facilities on the Ganga for transportation of crude oil from Haldia to Brauni for the Brauni Oil Refinery. The Environment Management Plan, etc. for this purpose will be implemented, in consultation with the Ministry of Environment.

SHORTAGE OF DRINKING WATER

2015. Prof. Prem Dhumal : Will the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the Himachal Pradesh Government to give more funds for drinking water;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhal Harjibhai Patel) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Himachal Pradesh has requested for an additional assistance to the tune of Rs. 5.52 crore for restoration of damages caused to various rural water supply schemes due to excessive and unprecedented rains during monsoon of 1994.

(c) The matter is under technical scrutiny.

HOLDING COMPANIES OF MULTINATIONALS

2016. Dr. Vasant Niwruutti Pawar : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

(a) the number of holding companies of multinationals who have sought Government's approval for further investment as on 31 March, 1995;

(b) whether the Government are having any mechanism to monitor these multinational companies investment pattern;

(c) the action the Government propose to take in case of violation of rules; and

(d) the details in this regard?

The 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) : (a) Separate information regarding proposed investment in respect of holding companies of Indian subsidiaries are not centrally maintained.

(b) to (d) Raising of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) by foreign companies is subject to either automatic approval by Reserve Bank of India or other Government approval. Inflow of Foreign Direct Investment is monitored by RBI.

[Translation]

AIDS CONTROL

2017. Shri N. J. Rathva : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) the number of AIDS patients identified in Gujarat so far;

(b) the hospitals in Gujarat where AIDS testing facilities are available; and

(c) the amount provided by the Government to the Gujarat Government for controlling AIDS during current year ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) The period ending 31st July, 1995, 18 AIDS cases have been reported in the State of Gujarat.

(b) AIDS testing facilities are available in the following six Zonal Blood Testing Centres located at :

1. Blood Bank, Surat Medical College, Surat.
2. Blood Bank, Govt. Medical College, Vadodare.
3. Blood Bank, B. J. Medical College, Ahmedabad.
4. Blood Bank, M. P. Shah Hospital, Jamnagar.
5. Blood Bank, District Hospital, Junagarh.
6. Blood Bank, Civil Hospital, Amreli.

Besides, Rapid HIV testing facilities for screening of blood for the purpose of transfusion are made available in District Level Hospitals. AIDS testing facilities have also been provided in Surveillance centre located in the Department of Microbiology in B.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad.

(c) Rs. 322.617 lakhs are allocated, during the current year to the State of Government of Gujarat. No amount has been released so far as an unspent balance of Rs. 135.49 lakhs during the last year is available with the State Government.

[English]

REJECTION OF DRDO SCHOLARSHIPS

2018. Shri Ram Naik : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether some aerospace engineering students of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras have rejected scholarships offered by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to make these scholarships attractive ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : (a) No Sir. However Aeronautical Research & Development Board (AR & DB), a National Body instituted for promoting aeronautical education and research, introduced in 1993, a scholarship scheme for attracting undergraduate aeronautical students for induction as scientists in the scientific departments of the Government of India. This scheme was followed by many IITS and 2 other institutions, which have aeronautical education. This scheme is fully subscribed in three of these institutions including IIT, Kharagpur.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The scholarships are proposed to be made more attractive through propagating availability of good opportunities and challenges as designers and researchers of state-of-the-art and futuristic aero-space systems to students after completion of the course.

IAS ON DEPUTATION TO NON-CENTRAL GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS

2019. Shri Anadi Charan Das : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that many IAS officers who were sent on deputation to the Non-Central Government organisations are working on the posts other than those for which their deputations were approved by the Appointment Committee of Cabinet;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is permissible under the rules; and

(d) if not, the action taken of proposed to be taken against those officers ?

The 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) : (a) to (d) Deputation of IAS officers to Non-Central Government Organisations such as NGOs, International Organisations (excluding captive posts) and State to State inter-cadre deputation do not require approval of ACC. However, since July 1995 it has been decided that inter cadre deputation would require the approval of ACC. In view of this position, the question of violation of orders of ACC does not arise.

SAND SEPARATION COMPLEX

2020. Shri Gopi Nath Gajapathi : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a sand separation complex in Orissa in collaboration with an Australian company;

(b) if so, the site selected for the establishment of that complex; and

(c) the steps taken in that regard ?

The 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) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

BENCH OF HIGH COURT IN BHOPAL

2021. Shri Sushil Chandra Varma : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) the name of the places where additional benches of High Courts are functioning at present;

(b) whether the State Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted any proposal to the Union Government for setting up of a bench of Madhya Pradesh High Court in Bhopal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the bench is likely to be set up in Bhopal ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Shri H. R. Bhardwaj) : (a) A Statement showing the names of High Courts and the places of its Benches is attached.

(b) No specific proposal for the setting up of a Bench of the Madhya Pradesh High Court in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court, in terms of Section 51(2) of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956 has been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Statement
Benches of Certain High Courts Exist at the
Following Places

Name of the State/ Union Territory	Name of the High Court	Name of the Bench
1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad	Locknow
Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh	Indore Gwalior
Maharashtra	Bombay	Nagpur
	Bombay	Aurangabad
Bihar	Patna	Ranchi
Rajasthan	Rajasthan	Jaipur
Goa	Bombay	Panji
Nagaland	Gauhati	Kohima
Mizoram	Gauhati	Aizawl
Manipur	Gauhati	Imphal
Tripura	Gauhati	Agartala
Meghalaya	Gauhati	Shillong

[English]

ASHOK PAPER MILLS

2022. Shri Bhogendra Jha : Will the **Minister of Industry** be pleased to state :

(a) the latest position with regard to the functioning of the Jogiagopha and Rameshwar Nagar units of the Ashok Paper Mills Ltd. and the steps being taken to ensure their full capacity production at the earliest;

(b) whether any rehabilitation plan has been presented by the Government of Bihar for the Rameshwar Nagar Unit;

(c) if so, the action taken thereon;

(d) whether the Union Government are initiating steps for reviving the previous rehabilitation plan of the Government of Bihar with ragulp and captive power unit for rehabilitating the Rameshwar Nagar Unit;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken to revive the ailing units ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : (a) A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed on 1-3-1995 between Ashok Paper Mill, Jogiaghopa, Assam Unit and M/s Sanghi Textile Processors Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad, a company belonging to the Sanghi Group of Industries for the revival of the Jogiaghopa Unit of Ashok Paper Mill. Government of Assam has agreed to handover this mill at zero liability and M/s Sanghi Textile Processors shall have total control over the management of APM and the Associate properties.

Ashok Paper Mill Kamgar Union had submitted a revival package in the Supreme Court of India for reopening of Ashok Paper Mills, Bihar Unit. At present the matter regarding revival of the mill is being processed in accordance with the directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The original application for substantial expansion in the capacity of rag pulp and installation of a captive power unit of Ashok Paper Mill was rejected in the year 1982.

(f) as mentioned in (a) above.

**EXPERT COMMITTEE ON TOBACCO
CONSUMPTION**

2023. Shri R. Surender Reddy : Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently constituted an expert committee to conduct a comparative study on the economics of tobacco production, consumption, revenue etc. in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the composition, and terms of reference of the Committee; and

(c) the time by which the report of the Committee is likely to be received by the Government ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is attached.

(c) The Committee has been asked to submit its report within four months.

Statement

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has set up an Expert Committee on 26-7-1995 to undertake a comparative study on the economics of tobacco use with the following

membership and terms of reference :

- Chairman :** 1. Prof. K. N. Kobra, Indian Institute of Public Administration, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi.
- Members :** 2. Dr. A. K. Kundu, Deputy Director General (P), Dte. General of Health Services.
3. Director, V. P. Chest Institute, University of Delhi.
4. Dr. Prakash C. Gupta, Senior Research Scientist Tata Memorial Instt. for Fundamental Research, **Bombay**
5. Dr. K. S. Reddy, Professor of Cardiology, All India Instt. of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.
6. Dr. N. Anantha, Director, Kidwai Memorial Instt. of Oncology, **Bangalore**.
7. Dr. Sukhdev Thorat, Additional Professor of Economics, School of Social Science, Jawahar Lal University.
8. Prof. K. N. Reddy, National Instt. of Financial Policy & Planning, New Delhi
9. Representative of Tobacco Board, Ministry of Commerce.
10. Director, Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh.
11. Representative of Indian Tobacco Association, Virginia House, 37, Chauringhee, Calcutta-700 071.
12. **Convener**
Dr. Kishore Chaudhry, Assistant Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi.

Terms of Reference :

The Committee will undertake a comparative study on the economics of tobacco use inter alia examining the tax revenue and foreign exchange earnings, employment and consumer expenditure on the one hand and the cost of tertiary level medical care facilities for treatment of tobacco-related diseases, losses due to fire hazard, ecological damage due to deforestation and disposal of tobacco-related waste on the other hand with a view to making an economic study of the impact of tobacco consumption.

COIR RESEARCH CENTRE

2024. Shri Thayil John Anjalose : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have any proposal to develop the Coir Research Centre in Kalavoor, Kerala; and
(b) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Small Scale Industries and Agro and Rural Industries) (Shri M. Arunachalam) : (a) and (b) The information being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

HINDUSTAN LATEX LIMITED, TRIVANDRUM

2025. Shri A. Charles : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bio-Medical Engineering Wing of I.I.T., New Delhi has been vested with the responsibility of the testing the Copper-T manufactured by the Hindustan Latex Ltd., Trivandrum;

(b) whether any complaints has been received that the Scientists misused their power with ulterior motive of helping the manufacturers of Copper-T; and

(c) if so, the action taken against the arring scientists ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Complaint had been received. As informed by Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi, complaint relates to the decision/judgement of the experts in the matter of technical nature it is extremely difficult to verify such complaints.

NRI ASSISTANCE TO MAHARASHRTA

2026. Shri Anna Joshi : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sought the assistance from foreign countries and NRIs for improvement of the hospitals in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assistance provided to Maharashtra during 1995-96 for the health care schemes ?

The Minsiter of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Nil

[Translation]

IRREGULARITIES IN ANALYSING DATAS REGARDING DRINKING WATER

2027. Shri Mahesh Kanodia : Will the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether irregularities on large scale have been noticed by the Union Government while analysing the data pertaining to drinking water facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard as on June 30, 1995 ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai Patel) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

KAIGA ATOMIC POWER PLANT

2028. Shrimati Diplka H. Topiwala :
Shrimati Bhavna Chikhliia :

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2417 on March 29, 1995 regarding Kaiga Atomic Power Plant and state :

(a) whether the Government have received the report on the incident of delamination of a portion of the inner containment dome at Kaiga Atomic Power Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delamination; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to implement the recommendations of the report ?

The 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) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Partial delamination of the under surface of the inner containment dome of Kaiga Atomic Power Project Unit-1 occurred in May 1994. Two Expert Committees were constituted, one by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) and the other by the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL), to investigate into the incident. Latent deficiency in certain aspects of design and programming deficiency in certain aspects of design and programming deficiency in execution have been identified as the main reasons for delamination by the two Committees.

(d) The dome is being redesigned in the light of the findings of the Expert Committees.

[Translation]

BIRD HIT

2029. Shri N. K. Baliyan : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of planes have been damaged due to bird hit near Hindon airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government propose to ban slaughter-houses at Loni near Hindon airport so as to check recurrence of such incidents in future ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the aircraft damaged due to bird hit near Hindon airfield are as under :

Date	Type of aircraft
21-11-70	MiG-23 FL
4-4-72	MiG-21 FL
12-12-72	MiG-21 FL
18-10-73	MiG-21 FL
8-4-88	MiG-27
1-3-90	MiG-27
5-10-94	MiG-27

(c) No, Sir. Banning of slaughter houses is a State subject. However, necessary measures have been taken in consultation with Ministries of Urban Development, Agriculture and the concerned State Governments for modernisation of slaughter houses and carcass utilisation centres and for sanitation of areas around the selected top priority airfields including Hindon airfield to ensure reduced bird activity.

[English]

MRTPC

2030. Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad :
Shri Tara Singh :

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether MRTPC has ordered an enquiry against the International Institute of Fashion Technology for allegedly making misleading representations to the students regarding the superiority of the faculty and syllabus based on the British education system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the institute ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Shri H. R. Bhardwaj) : (a) MRTPC Commission have instituted two Unfair Trade Practice Enquiries Nos. 62/94 and 98/95 based on applications dated 27-6-1994 and 30-5-1995 filed by the Director General (Investigation & Registration) under the MRTPC Act, 1969, against the International Institute of Fashion Technology (IIFT), New Delhi.

(b) The Director General (Investigation & Registration) had received complaints from students that IIFT, New Delhi had made a false representation in its prospectus for 1994 and in its advertisement that it is a premier fashion institute designed on the British Education System and that it does not compromise on quality. There were also complaints against inadequate faculty and false claims of the Institute

about its affiliation with Cloth and Footwear Institute London.

(c) On an application for grant of temporary injunction filed by Director General (Investigation & Registration), the MRTPT Commission vide their Order dated 31-5-1995 have restrained IIFT from claiming its affiliation with Cloth and Footwear Institute, London and that its courses are based on British system of education or that the courses are at par with MBA.

The MRTPT Commission being a quasi judicial body is empowered to take further necessary action under the provisions of the MRTPT Act.

PUBLIC SECTOR UNDERTAKINGS DISINVESTMENT

2031. Shri Indrajit Gupta : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the public sector undertakings whose share capital have been disinvested so far;

(b) the percentage of share capital disinvested and the total amount mopped up by each unit;

(c) the purpose for which this amount was utilised; and

(d) the units listed for disinvestment during the current year and to what percentage ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : (a) and (b) The names of public sector undertakings whose share capital has been disinvested so far, the percentage of the share capital disinvested and the amount mopped by 39 unit is given in the attached **Statement-I**.

(c) The amount realised from disinvestment is credited to the Consolidated Fund of India which is a general pool of resources of Govt. of India and the amount was utilised for different schemes through the process of Budget allocations.

(d) The enterprises tentatively listed for disinvestment are indicated in the enclosed **Statement-II**. However, the final disinvestment in enterprises, the percentage to be disinvested etc. shall depend on the stock market conditions and other relevant factors.

Statement-I

Year-wise/PSU-wise Details of Amount Realised Through Disinvestment Since 1991-92

Sl. No.	Name of the PSE	% Share capital disinvested	Amount realised (Rs. in Crore)		
			1991-92 @	1992-93	1994-95
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andrew Yule	9.45	—	—	—
2.	Bharat Earthmovers Ltd.	25.00	—	—	48.270
3.	Bharat Electronics Ltd.	24.14	—	—	48.170
4.	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.	31.46	—	8.21	301.340
5.	Bharat Petroleum Corpn. Ltd.	30.00	—	331.18	—
6.	Bongaigaon Refineries & Petrochemicals Ltd.	25.40	—	45.40	—
7.	CMC Ltd.	16.69	—	—	—
8.	Cochin Refineries Ltd.	6.12	—	—	—
9.	Dredging Corpn. Ltd.	1.44	—	—	—
10.	Fertilizers & Chemicals (Travancore) Ltd.	1.67	—	1.30	—
11.	HMT Ltd.	9.68	—	23.38	—
12.	Hindustan Cables Ltd.	2.03	—	—	—
13.	Hindustan Copper Ltd.	1.12	—	8.07	—
14.	Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited	20.00	—	—	—
15.	Hindustan Petroleum Corpn. Ltd.	37.00	—	331.85	563.110

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Hindustan Photofilms Mfg. Company Ltd.	12.53	—	—	—
17.	Hindustan Zinc Ltd.	24.07	—	81.55	—
18.	Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd.	19.03	—	—	—
19.	Indian Railway Constrn. Company Ltd.	0.26	—	—	—
20.	Indian Telephone Indu. Ltd.	21.86	—	15.63	—
21.	Madras Refineries Ltd.	16.92	—	—	—
22.	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.	32.82	—	—	1322.124
23.	Minerals & Metals Trading Corporation	0.67	—	—	—
24.	National Aluminium Co. Ltd.	12.81	—	244.20	0.010
25.	National Fertilizers Ltd.	2.35	—	0.72	0.300
26.	National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd.	1.62	—	17.88	—
27.	Neyveli Lignite Corpn. Ltd.	6.14	—	70.43	—
28.	Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd.	7.50	—	30.36	—
29.	Shipping Corpn. of India	19.88	—	—	28.240
30.	State Trading Corpn.	8.98	—	2.25	—
31.	Steel Authority of India Ltd.	10.60	—	700.10	22.670
32.	Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	15.00	—	—	—
33.	Container Corpn. of India	20.00	—	—	99.720
34.	Indian Oil Corporation	3.92	—	—	1033.697
35.	Oil & Natural Gas Corpn.	2.00	—	—	1051.530
36.	Engineers India Ltd.	5.99	—	—	67.526
37.	Gas Authority of India Ltd.	3.37	—	—	194.119
38.	India Tourism Development Corporation	10.00	—	—	51.985
39.	Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd.	0.97	—	—	11.389
Total :		3038	—	1912.51	4843.200

1. @ as in 1991-92 the shares were sold in bundles the amount realised PSU-wise is not available. The total Amount realised is Rs. 3038 crores.
2. Total amount realised is 9793.71 crores.
3. *Provisional.

Statement-II**Statement of Units Listed for Disinvestment
During 1995-96**

S. No.	Name of Public Sector Undertakings
1.	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.
2.	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.
3.	Oil India Ltd.
4.	Bongaigaon Refinery and Petro-Chemicals Ltd.
5.	Steel Authority of India Ltd.
6.	Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd.
7.	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.
8.	Gas Authority of India Ltd.
9.	Shipping Corporation of India Ltd.
10.	Engineers India Ltd.
11.	India Tourism Dev. Corporation Ltd.
12.	Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.
13.	Air India
14.	Container Corporation of India

[Translation]

RETIREMENT/EXTENSION OF OFFICERS

2032. Shri Khelan Ram Jangde : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) the number of officers of Indian Administrative Service, Indian Police Service and Indian Foreign Service whose services were extended, who sought voluntary retirement and who were retired compulsorily during the period 1992-93 to 1994-95;

(b) the number of cases in which the Government have accorded approval for extension of services and voluntary or compulsory retirement, separately during the period; and

(c) the name of the officers to whom extension of service was granted alongwith their designation and duration of the extension granted ?

The 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) : (a) and (b) Services of eight Indian Administrative Service Officers, four Indian Police Service Officers and one Indian Foreign Service Officers were extended during the period from 1992-1995. During this period, forty-seven IAS, four IPS and eight Indian Foreign Service Officers were allowed by the Government of India to retire voluntarily. Seven IAS Officers and one IPS Officer

were compulsorily retired by the Government of India during the same period.

(c) The relevant information is given in the enclosed **Statement.**

[English]

SETTING UP OF MICRO INDUSTRIES IN URBAN AREAS

2033. Shri Rajendra Kumar Sharma : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have introduced a programme for setting up micro industries in urban areas;

(b) the criteria laid down for setting up industries in urban areas;

(c) the number of persons provided assistance under the programme during 1994-95;

(d) whether the programme has achieved the target laid; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Small Scale Industries and Agro and Rural Industries) (Shri M. Arunachalam) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME) of Nehru Rozgar Yojana was launched in October, 1989. The objective of the scheme is setting up Micro Enterprises not only in industry but in service and business spheres also. The Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises is applicable to all the urban settlements.

Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana was launched on 2nd October, 1993 with the objective of setting up of micro enterprises in industry, service and business sectors. During 1993-94 the scheme was in operation only urban areas of the country. From 1994-95 the scheme is in operation in both urban as well as rural areas of the country.

(b) The criteria laid down for setting up industries under the Scheme of Urban Micro and Enterprises and Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana is given in the enclosed **Statement.**

(c) Under the Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises about 1.25 lakh beneficiaries were assisted to set up micro enterprises during the year 1994-95. Under Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana about 1.94 lakh persons were sanctioned loan by banks.

(d) and (e) The targets and achievements under the Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises and Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana are as under :

Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises*			
S. No.	Year	Targets	Achievements (Figures in lakhs)
1.	Cumulative upto 1994-95	6.07	6.55
2.	1994-95	1.02	1.25

Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana**

S. No.	Year	Targets (Figures in lakhs)	Achievements
1.	1993-94	0.40	0.32
2.	1994-95	2.20	1.94

* For Industry, Service and Business Enterprises in urban areas.

** For Industry, Service and Business Enterprises in urban areas during 1993-94 and in both Rural and Urban areas in 1994-95.

Statement**Eligibility Criteria :****Under Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises : (SUME)**

- (i) Annual Household income : below Rs. 11,850/- per annum.

Under Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana : (PMRY)

- (i) Age : Between 18 to 35 years.
- (ii) Qualification : Matric (Passed or failed) of ITI passed or have undergone Govt. sponsored technical course for a minimum duration of 6 months.
- (iii) Residence : Permanent resident of the area for atleast 3 years.
- (iv) Family Income : Upto Rs. 24,000 per annum.
- (v) Defaulter : Should not be a defaulter to any nationalised bank/financial institution.

[Translation]

FUEL CELL

2034. Shri Brijbhushan Singh :
Shri Balraj Passi :
Shri Rampal Singh :
Shri Amar Pal Singh :

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a new fuel cell power project;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) the approximate quantum of power in Kilowatt which is likely to be generated under this project for a private sector enterprise;

(d) the estimated cost of per unit generation of power under this project ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) :
 (a) and (b) Fuel Cells for power production are at present

in the research & development stage, and the Ministry is currently supporting two research projects on the design, development and fabrication of fuel cells of 50 KW capacity each. One proposal has been received for power production on a commercial basis on a megawatt scale based on fuel cell technology with natural gas as the source of hydrogen. In view of the potential of this new and emerging technology to provide environmentally clean power in the future, this project proposal has been recommended by the Ministry for possible support under the Global Environment Facility of the World Bank.

[English]

IMPLEMENTATION OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

2035. Shri Shiv Sharan Verma :
Shri Manikrao Hodliya Gavit :

Will the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have framed new guidelines to strengthen the infrastructure to accelerate the implementation of schemes (including Indira Awas Yojana) for rural development; and

(b) if so, the details of new guidelines issued to States for effective execution of schemes ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhai Harijibhai Patel) : (a) and (b) (i) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), (ii) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) including Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) and (iii) Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) are major rural development schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment. No fresh guidelines have been issued to strengthen the infrastructure of these schemes including IAY. However, in respect of IRDP, the limit of allocation of funds for infrastructure facilities has been raised to 25% in North Eastern States as compared to 10% for rest of the States/UTs all over the country.

EXPLOSION IN CRACKER FACTORIES

2036. Shri B. L. Sharma Prem : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

(a) the number of fatalities, year-wise during the last three years and also during the past six months of the current year due to explosions, fires and other accidents in the cracker factories in the country;

(b) whether the safety rules in this regard are considered adequate or further modifications are under consideration; and

(c) the measures being taken for strict compliance of the safety rules ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : (a) Fatalities

due to explosions, fires and other accidents in the cracker factories licensed by the Department of Explosives are as below :

Year	No. of persons killed in accidents
1992-93	24
1993-94	3
1994-95	23
1995-96	Nil
(1-4-95 to 31-7-95)	

(b) The safety regulations prescribed in the Explosives Rules, 1983, are considered adequate and there is no proposal at this stage to modify the rules further.

(c) The officers of the Department of Explosives inspect the factories licensed by them regularly to ensure observance of the safety precautions prescribed in the rules. Clear guide lines have been issued regarding layout, design and construction of the cracker manufacturing factories. Regular meetings are held with fireworks industry to ensure observance of safety regulations in the manufacturing units.

INTEGRATED RURAL ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

2037. Shri Dattatraya Bandaru :
Shri Amar Pal Singh :

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has agreed to give loan to the Integrated Rural Energy Development Agency for renewable energy projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the amount of loan; and

(c) the details of the projects on which the loan amount is proposed to be spent, location-wise ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) : (a) to (c) The Asian Development Bank is considering sanctioning a loan of about US \$ 150 million to the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency for assisting specific renewable energy projects to be implemented in the country.

The tentative sectoral break-up of the proposed loan is as under :

	(US \$ in million)
1. Bagasse based co-generation	65
2. Wind Energy Development	60
3. Bio-methanation	20
4. Solar Thermal	5
Total	150

The proposed loan will attract a rate of interest of about 7% per annum and will be for a period of 25 years including a grace period of 5 years.

The loan will be sanctioned to projects pertaining to the four sectors mentioned above. No location-wise targets have been fixed and these will depend upon the locations, which the promoters will select for their projects.

MODERN HOSPITALS

2038. Shri K. G. Shivappa : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether several oil producing countries have provided assistance for construction of a modern hospital at Raichur in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the assistance received so far from these countries and the share of Union Government in this project; and

(d) the progress made so far in the construction of this hospital ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

HOMOEOPATHY RESEARCH CENTRES

2039. Shrimati Krishnendra Kaur (Deepa) :
Shrimati Mahendra Kumari :

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up new Homoeopathy Research Centres in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated cost for setting up these Centres ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) and (b) The Government has no proposal to set up new Homoeopathy Research Centres at present.

(c) Does not arise.

MINI/MICRO HYDEL PROJECTS

2040. Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide financial assistance to mini and micro hydro-power projects in various States;

(b) if so, whether State Governments have sent the details of such projects to Union Government for financial assistance during 1994-95; and

(c) if so, the State-wise projects which have been provided financial assistance during 1994-95 and the names of the projects for which financial assistance is likely to be provided during the current year ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) :

(a) Small hydro projects upto 3 MW capacity are being provided financial incentives under the Small Hydro power development programme of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.

(b) 29 Small Hydro Power proposals were received from various States for providing financial assistance during 1994-95 under the Ministry's Capital Subsidy Scheme.

(c) After examining the techno-economic viability of these proposals, 20 proposals have been sanctioned under the capital subsidy scheme. The details of the projects sanctioned during the year 1994-95 are given in the enclosed statement. The submission of the proposals from different States and their sanctioning is and on-going process and the proposals for subsidy are approved subject to fulfilment of various conditions, techno-economic viability as also availability of funds.

Statement

Details of the Proposals Sanctioned During the Year 1994-95

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Project	Agency	Unit Size (kW)	Amount Released During 94-95 (Rs. In Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
Himachal Pradesh				
1.	Gumma	HPSEB	2x1500	54.000
	Sub Total :			<u>54.000</u>
Tamilnadu				
2.	Mukurthy	TNEB	2x350	11.340
3.	Thirumurthy	TNEB	3x650	13.160
4.	Perunchani	TNEB	2x650	8.775
5.	Aliyar	TNEB	2x1250	16.870
	Sub Total :			<u>50.145</u>
Madhya Pradesh				
6.	Barna	MPEB	2x750	10.125
7.	Birsingh Pur	MPEB	2x1100	14.850
8.	Korba Et. II	MPEB	1x1000	6.250
9.	Asan Fall	MPEB	1x2700	20.250
10.	Kolar	MPEB	1x1500 + 1 x 500	13.500
	Sub Total :			<u>64.975</u>
Bihar				
11.	Neterhat	BSHPC	1x50	—
12.	Sadani	BSHPC	2x500	—
13.	Lower Ghaghari	BSHPC	2x200	—
	Sub Total :			<u>—</u>
West Bengal				
14.	Rongmook and Cedars	WBREDA	4x125	32.400
15.	Mungpoo Rambhi Khola	WBREDA	4x500	24.190
16.	Mungpoo Khali Khola	WBREDA	4x750	29.500
	Sub Total :			<u>86.090</u>

1	2	3	4	5
Manipur				
17.	Singda	I/Deptt.	3x250	10.224
18.	Maklang	MESPDE	3x500	— in principle approval
Sub Total :				10.224
Meghalaya				
19.	Gahwang	MNREDA	2x50	2.250
20.	Rongap	MNREDA	2x50	2.000
Sub Total :				4.250
Grand Total :				269.684

COMPANY LAW BORAD

2041. Shri Mohan Rawale : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Company Law Board is the guardian of the Company Act and ensure the implementation of the provisions of the Act;

(b) whether the Company Law Board has the power to enforce its own orders;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Board can initiate action against a company for contempt of court;

(e) whether the Government propose to provide more powers to the Company Law Board;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Shri H. R. Bhardwaj) : (a) Company Law Board only ensures the implementation of some of the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956.

(b) and (c) Company Law Board has the power to enforce its own Orders as provided under Section 634A of the Act.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) The powers already available to the Company Law Board are considered to be adequate for its working.

[Translation]

Wind Mills

2042. Shri Balraj Passi : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 326 on April 26, 1995 and state :

(a) the reasons for which there is no any sampling scheme in Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) whether the Government propose to formulate special schemes for hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh ; and

(c) the particulars of the projects under which these hilly areas are covered, locality-wise ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) :

(a) Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has taken up wind resource assessment programme covering 25 States/UTs including the State of Uttar Pradesh. Thirty wind mapping stations were set up in the State to collect initial wind data. Based on Data collected from these wind mapping stations, nine wind monitoring stations have been set up at potential sites. Regular wind data is being collected from these stations.

(b) and (c) Under the wind resources assessment programme, it is now proposed to take up precise studies, all over the country, including hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh, to locate potential sites for tapping wind energy.

PUBLIC/PRIVATE SECTOR CLOSED FACTORIES

2043. Shri Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of factories in public and private sector lying closed;

(b) the number of public sector factories in which the Government have to pay salaries due to non-availability of raw material; and

(c) the number of persons to whom the salary is being paid every month ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : (a) The number of factories in private and public sector closed

during the period from 1991 till May, 1995 is 1165.

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

(c) There were 20.69 lakhs regular employees in the public sector as on 31-3-94 and most of the employees have been paid salaries every month.

[English]

DISPOSABLE NEEDLES

2044. Shri P. C. Thomas : Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether disposable needles are not used in Government hospitals and dispensaries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether World Bank assistance is available to help the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the assistance sought and received so far; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure use of disposable syringes and needles ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) No, Sir. The disposable needles are used in the Central Government Hospitals/Dispensaries.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Single use needles and syringes and properly autoclaved needles and syringes are equally safe.

Guidelines on control of Hospital acquired infection circulated to all States / Union Territories, inter-alia, indicate procedure for the disposal of single use needles and single use syringes so as to avoid their recycling.

HEALTH EDUCATION

2045. Shrimati Vasundhara Raje : Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken steps to promote health education in every State;

(b) whether health related vocational studies have been introduced under this health education programme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the states which have introduced these vocational programmes ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) Health Education is an integral part of the delivery of health care services. All the National Diseases Control Programmes being implemented by the States include a component relating to health education.

(b) and (c) These courses are being promoted under the Central Scheme for vocationalization of Secondary education and the following courses have, so far, been suggested for being provided by the States :-

(i) Ancillary Nurse Midwifery (ANM)

(ii) Multi-purpose worker (Male)

(iii) X-Ray Technician

(iv) Laboratory Technician

(v) Ophthalmic assistants

(vi) Dental hygienists

(vii) Pharmacists

(viii) Occupational Therapy

(ix) Sanitary Inspectors

(d) The following states and union territories have introduced health related vocational courses under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme :

(i) Andhra Pradesh

(ii) Bihar

(iii) Chandigarh

(iv) Delhi

(v) Haryana

(vi) Karnataka

(vii) Kerala

(viii) Maharashtra

(ix) Pondicherry

(x) Tamil Nadu

(xi) Uttar Pradesh

BURN STANDARD COMPANY LTD.

2046. Shri Haradhan Roy : Will the **Minister of Industry** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation for the payment of enhanced VDA at the rate of Rs. 2/- per point to the workers of Refractory & Ceramic Units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any delay is being made in respect of payment of wages;

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

(e) whether any representation has been received by the department for the payment of interim relief to the refractory & ceramic units of Burn Standard Co. Ltd.;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the payment has been made;

- (h) if so, the details thereof; and
 (i) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has received two representations from Hon'ble MPs and one representation from West Bengal Government for payment of enhanced VDA. Two representations have also been received from Chairman, Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry on the same issue.

(c) and (d) Payment of wages to the workmen of Raniganj Group for fortnight ending 24-6-95, 8-7-95 and 22-7-95 and to workmen of Guffarbari Works for the fortnights ending 1-7-95, 15-7-95 and 29-7-95 are due but have not yet been paid due to shortage of funds.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Two representations were received from Chairman, Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry in 1994 for payment of Interim Relief to R & C workers.

(g) to (i) So far payment of Interim Relief has only been made to the workers of Niwar Works from March, 1994 onwards in terms of Jabalpur High Court orders. In case of other R & C Units i.e. Raniganj Group of works, Guffarbari Works & Jabalpur Works, Interim Relief has not been paid due to shortage of funds. However, the issue is also pending before different courts.

SPORTS GOODS

2047. Shri S. S. R. Rajendra Kumar : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are likely to consider manufacturing of sports goods like badminton rackets, cricket bats and stumps etc. for domestic consumption and export purposes from the high quality woods available in forest areas of Eastern Ghats and Western Ghats in Tamil Nadu and Kerala; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in this regard and the time by which the manufacturing unit of sports goods is likely to start the process ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Small Scale Industries and Rural and Agro Industries) (Shri M. Arunachalam) : (a) No, Sir. The Government do not propose to undertake the manufacture of sports goods from wood available in Eastern & Western Ghats in Tamil Nadu & Kerala :

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.,

T. B. CONTROL

2048. Shrimati Chandra Prabha Urs : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have embarked upon a

massive Rs. 534 crore project for total eradication of tuberculosis from the country in the next five years;

(b) if so, whether the Government had taken up pilot project in Bangalore;

(c) if so, the amount proposed to be spent during 1995-96; and

(d) the number of TB cases reported every year in Bangalore City ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) An amount of Rs. 15.77 lakhs has been allocated for Pilot Project in Bangalore City for the Year 1995-96.

(d) Around 11,000 TB cases are reported every year in the Bangalore City.

PRIVATE HOSPITALS

2049. Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi :
Shri Basudeb Acharia :
Shri Rabi Ray :
Shri D. Venkateswara Rao :

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has decided to ensure that 40 to 50% of the beds in private hospitals are free;

(b) whether the Ministry has found out the most private hospitals were flouting the current norms of 40% free beds;

(c) if so, whether in view of the non-implementation of the directive Ministry plans to introduce a legislation; and

(d) if so, by what time the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) and (b) There is no such proposal. However, in the past, private hospitals / Nursing Homes were allowed to import medical equipment at concessional rate of duty subject to the condition that certain percentage of free treatment will be provided in OPD/IIID to the poor patients. The State Governments are required to check whether these conditions are being met by private hospitals/Nursing Homes.

(c) There is no such proposal.

(d) Does not arise.

JOINT VENTURE WITH JAPANESE AUTOMOBILE COMPANY

2050. Shri Ram Kapse : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Indian companies are entering into Joint Venture with Japanese Automobile Company for setting up of car manufacturing facilities in the country;

(b) if so, the name of the companies and the amount

likely to be invested in these projects; and

(c) the assistance likely to be given by the Union Government in the matter ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : (a) M/s Maruti Udyog Ltd. have an existing collaboration with M/s Suzuki Motor Corporation of Japan, for the manufacture of cars. Government is not aware of any other Indian company entering into a Joint Venture with Japanese Automobile Company for setting up of car manufacturing facilities in the country.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

SAGHAN ROJGAR YOJANA

2051. Shri Ram Prasad Singh :
Dr. P. Vallal Peruman :

Will the **Minister of Rural Areas and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the news-item appearing in daily 'Aaryavart' dated the July 14, 1995 under the caption 'Saghan Rojgar Yojana Se 8 zile hataye gaye';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for reducing comprehensive employment scheme;

(d) whether the Government are contemplating to bring improvement in this programme and to implement it again in these districts;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Union Government have suspended funding Rural Development and Jawahar Rojgar Yojana schemes in some States; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor, State-wise ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai Patel) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. There is no proposal to exclude 8 districts of Bihar from Intensified Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (IJRY). However, the first instalment of Central funds have not been released to the 8 districts of Bihar as all the blocks of these district are covered under the Employment Assurance Scheme, and hence have a adequate funds to take up works for employment generation in these districts.

(f) and (g) The Government have not suspended funding Rural Development and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana schemes in any of the States.

[English]

PAK FIRINGS

2052. Shri Paras Ram Bhardwaj : Will the **Prime**

Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether nine persons were injured when a rocket launched by the Pakistani troops hit a hospital in the Poonch town on July 6, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to meet such eventualities ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : (a) and (b) on 6th July, 1995, Pakistani troops/terrorists resorted to un-provoked firing by rockets from across the Line of Control (LC) towards Punch town. Out of the three rockets fired, one fell on the roof of the Civil Hospital resulting in injury to seven civilians.

(c) A constant vigil is maintained by security forces and appropriate measures are taken to counter the firing by Pakistani troops/terrorists supported by Pakistani troops from across the Line of Control. Steps are also taken to maintain appropriate defence preparedness to meet any situation.

Such incidents are taken up with Pakistan authorities in local level flag meetings of the concerned formation commanders of the two sides. Whenever considered necessary, they are also raised during weekly telephonic conversation between DGMOs of the two sides.

DEVELOPMENT OF A SIMULATOR

2053. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan :
Shri .rikanta Jena :

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state :

(a) whether aeronautical development establishment has developed a new simulator for training pilots on MIG-29s;

(b) if so, the unique features of this development; and

(c) the foreign exchange likely to be saved on this score ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : (a) No, Sir. However, Aeronautical Development Agency (DDA) has developed a maintenance simulator for MIG-29 for training of aircraft maintenance personnel to meet the requirements projected by the Air Force.

(b) The maintenance simulator developed by ADA is a personal computer based interactive triple display system on which MIG-29 maintenance data has been ported. The simulator has features such as high fidelity animation, user friendliness, easy to customise and low cost. The system is designed for class room instruction and training of maintenance personnel.

(c) About Rs. 2 crore for each maintenance simulator.

POLIO ERADICATION

2054. Shri N. Dennis :
Shri George Fernandes :

(a) whether a nationwide drive for polio eradication is

to be undertaken in this country now:

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the cost of this programme; and
- (d) the steps taken to involve the public in this drive and lay emphasis on rural areas ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Pulse Polio Immunisation Campaign has been started from this year. Two doses of Oral Polio Vaccine will be given to all children 0-3 years of age on 9th December, 1995 and 20th January, 1996.

(c) Rs. 50 crores have been earmarked for this programme by the Government of India during 1995-96.

(d) A massive social mobilization effort will be undertaken to involve the public in both rural and urban areas through other government departments, non-governmental agencies, community leaders by using mass media and inter-personal contacts.

MENTAL HEALTH

2055. Kumari Frida Topno : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plans to provide assistance to NGOs to organise mental health and neurosciences programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the areas covered under these programmes ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) At present, there is no such proposal.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

INDIAN DOCTORS

2056. Shri Rampal Singh : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian doctors working in foreign countries have expressed willingness to come back to their country;

(b) if so, the names of the countries where they are living and the number of these doctors;

(c) whether the Government have assured them to provide every possible help after coming back to the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) to (d) During discussions with the representatives of American Association of Physicians from Indian origin (AAPI) which was held in Chicago between 29th June to 2nd July, 1995, a proposal was made to enlarge the role of NRI doctors belonging

to the Association in the programme of Continuing Medical Education (CME) in India. Suggestions for enlarging the scope of collaborative efforts in the field of medical education and clinical practice have also been received from doctors of Indian origin settled in the United States of America and the United Kingdom. These suggestions are under consideration.

[English]

NATIONAL SAFETY ASSISTANCE SCHEME

2057. Shri Rabi Ray : Will the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to have National Safety Assistance Scheme in order to augment the poverty alleviation programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the programme is proposed to be launched ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai Patel) : (a) to (c) The National Social Assistance Scheme for providing financial assistance to the old destitute, head of the household of the bereaved family on the death of the primary bread winner and pregnant woman upto first two live births who are living under the poverty line will come into effect from 15th August, 1995. The scheme has three components. Under the National Old Age Pension scheme which is the first component, the old destitute person of 65 years of age and above can get a pension of Rs. 75/- per month. Under the National Maternity Benefit Scheme, a one time payment of Rs. 300/- upto two live births will be made to the pregnant woman for nutritional supplement. The last component is the National Family Benefit Scheme under which Rs. 5,000/- will be paid to the head of the bereaved household in the event of death of the primary bread winner under the age group of 20-59. This amount is Rs. 10,000 in case of accidental death.

[Translation]

SOLAR ENERGY IN RAJASTHAN

2058. Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan has submitted the revised composite scheme to the Union Government for approval in regard to the Solar Power Plant situated at Madhaja in Jodhpur district of the State;

(b) if so, the target fixed in regard to the quantum of power to be generated by the power plant and its ratio to the total power generated by other means;

(c) whether funds for the said scheme would be received from the foreign agencies;

(d) if so, the names of the agencies;

(e) whether the Union Government propose to accord approval to this scheme; and

(f) if so, by when ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) : (a) and (b) The Rajasthan Government has prepared a Comprehensive Feasibility Report for setting up of a 35 MW Solar Thermal Power Plant at Mathania in Jodhpur District of the State. The capacity of this power plant will be around 1% of the total generation capacity available to the State.

(c) and (d) The Report has been submitted to the German Government and to the World Bank for concessional finance under the Global Environment Facility. Further feasibility work concerning sizing of the project and system configuration is in progress.

(e) and (f) Steps will be taken to obtain necessary approvals as soon as the feasibility work has been completed by the State Government.

[English]

HIV INFECTION

2059. Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of the report prepared by the School of Tropical Medicine which reveals that 25 per cent of HIV infected in West Bengal are blood donors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the effective precautionary measures proposed to be taken to ensure that infected blood is not circulated either from the donors or the blood banks ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report is not based on facts. The sero-positivity amongst blood donors in West Bengal is reported to be 0.03 per cent.

(c) The regulatory mechanism have already been

tightened and it is mandatory now that only HIV free blood can be given for transfusion.

DEFENCE BUDGET

2060. Maf. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of Defence Budget spent on Pay and Pensions, separately during the past three financial years;

(b) the annual number of service personnel retiring each year;

(c) the average age of retirement of other Ranks, Junior Commissioned Officer and officers, separately for each category;

(d) whether there is any proposal to increase the age of retirement for these three categories; and

(e) the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : (a) The percentage of expenditure on Pay during the last three years in relation to Defence Budget is given below :

Year	Pay
1992-93	36.05 %
1993-94	32.34
1994-95	33.13 %

Pension is paid out of the Civil Estimates of the Ministry of Defence and not from Defence Services Estimates.

(b) On an average, 50000 service personnel are retiring/ released each year.

(c) As per details given in the **Statements I and II** attached.

(d) and (e) As a part of a composite proposal, which includes reduction in colour service, and retirement of certain categories of Army personnel at their present prescribed ages of retirement. Army Hqrs have proposed increase in the ages of retirement of certain categories of Army personnel. These proposals are under a very preliminary stage of scrutiny in the Ministry.

Statement-I

Age of Retirement—JCOs/ORs

Sl. No.	Rank	Operative w.e.f. 30th June, 1979
1	2	3

Other Ranks

1. Sepoys

(i) GD Categories/Semi-Skilled Categories

17 years in the colour and two yrs. in the Reserve or 40 years of age, whichever is earlier.

1	2	3
(ii)	Skilled Technical Categories Specialist Categories	20 years in the colour and 3 years in the Reserve of 46 years of age, whichever is earlier.
2. NCOs		
(i)	Naik	22 years in the colour or 47 years of age, whichever is earlier.
(ii)	Dfr/Havildar	24 years in the Colour or 47 years of age, whichever is earlier.
JCOs		
(i)	Nb Ris/Nb Sub	26 years pensionable service or 50 years of age, whichever is earlier.
(ii)	Risaldar/Subedar	28 years pensionable service or 50 years of age, whichever is earlier.
(iii)	Ris Maj/Subedar Maj	32 years pensionable service or 4 years tenure of 52 years of age, whichever is earlier.

Statement-II

Age of Retirement—Officers

Rank	Armed Corps, Artillery, AD ARTY, Engineers, Signals, Infantry, Mechl Infantry	Remount Veterinary Military Farms, Judge Advocate General, Army Educational Corps.	Army Service Corps (Less FIO), Army Ordnance Corps, Electrical Mechanical Engineers, Pioneer Corps, Intelligence Corps.	Special List	Regimental Commissioned Officers	Food Inspection Officer
	Yrs	Yrs	Yrs	Yrs	Yrs	Yrs
Maj & Below	50	55	52	55	50 Yrs	52
Lt Col (Time Scale)	51	55	52	55	of age or	52
Ltd Col (Selection)	52	55	52	55	10 Yrs of	55
Col	52	55	52	55	service	—
Brig	54	56	54	56	whichever	—
Maj Gen	56	57	56		is earlier	—
Lt Gen	58		58			—
Gen	60 Yrs of age or a tenure of 3 Yrs whichever is less	—	—	—		—

[Translation]

MALARIA

2061. Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the task of conducting door-to-door survey used to be undertaken by the employees of National Malaria Eradication Programme throughout the country as a preventive measure has been discontinued or slowed down;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to restart the survey ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) House-to-House visits to detect Malaria are undertaken by the Multi-Purpose Workers (MPWs) as a part of the primary health care delivery system. Recently, instructions have been reiterated to the State Governments to ensure close follow-up of this activity.

(b) and (c) Question do not arise.

[English]

NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

**2062. Shri Tara Singh :
Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad :**

Will the **Minister of Industry** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Industrial Development Corporation propose to enter into alliance with a Canadian company;

(b) if so, the details and terms and conditions thereof;

(c) the financial position of the NIDC at present;

(d) whether the activities of NIDC are likely to be expanded by the alliance; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Industrial Development Corporation (NIDC) proposes to have a joint working arrangement in the area of application software development with Engineering Technologies Inc. (ETI), Canada. The terms and conditions would be jointly worked out on a case to case basis.

(c) NIDC is a profit making company. The turnover from consultancy operations, for the year 1994-95 was Rs. 695 lakhs with profit before tax of Rs. 29 lakhs (subject to audit).

(d) and (e) NIDC is already in the area of software development and any joint working arrangement is likely to help in further business development.

[Translation]

AYURVEDIC MEDICINES

2063. Shri Dau Dayal Joshi : Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up a separate Ministry and appoint a director for Unani, Homoeo, Yoga and Siddha systems of medicine including Ayurvedic system of medicine;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard; and

(c) the time by which above decision is likely to be implemented and the reasons of delay in this regard ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) to (c) The Government of India have set up a separate Department of Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy. Under the Department, a Directorate for Ayurveda and Siddha with

a Director as its administrative head is to be established. The filling up of various posts in the Directorate is in progress.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

2064. Shri Datta Meghe : Will the **Minister of Rural Areas and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Rural Development Projects submitted by the Maharashtra and other States during the last three years;

(b) the details of the approved projects; and

(c) the time by which remaining projects would be accorded approval ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai Patel) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

INDIRA AWAS YOJANA

2065. Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri : Will the **Minister of Rural Areas and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) whether funds meant for Indira Awas Yojana were diverted elsewhere; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the funds diverted in the last three years, year-wise ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai Patel) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

FOREIGN COLLABORATION

2066. Dr. Satynarayan Jatiya : Will the **Minister of Industry** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the industries that entered into foreign collaboration during the last three years till June 1995 and their working capital and yearly profit earned by them; and

(b) the profit on capital investment of foreign collaborating companies, in percentage, earned by the each company, each year ?

The 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) : (a) and (b) Details of the companies accorded approval for entering into foreign collaboration during the last three years from 1993 to 1995

(Upto June) are as under :

Year	Total No. foreign-Collaborations approved	No. of approvals involving foreign direct investmet	Amount of foreign direct Investment approved (Rs. in Crores)
1993	1476	785	8859.3
1994	1854	1062	14187.2
1995 (Upto June)	1076	581	7716.1

Details of working capital, yearly profit, profit of capital investment of foreign collaborating companies earned by each company is not centrally maintained.

[English]

MALARIA OUTBREAK

2067. Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the M. S. Dayal Committee has come up with any time-bound plans to tackle the problem of outbreak of malaria;

(b) the recommendations made by this Committee;

(c) whether any public hearings have been held by the M. S. Dayal Committee; and

(d) the recommendations accepted by the Government ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) No such Committee on Malaria has been constituted.

(b) to (d) Question do not arise.

VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

2068. Shri Sarat Pattanayak :

Shri Ram Pujan Patel :

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) the number of voluntary agencies provided assistance under various health care schemes of Union Government during last three years in each State;

(b) whether any evaluation of their functioning has been conducted so far; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

EDIBLE COLOURS

2069. Shri Mohan Rawale : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have imposed a ban of use

of edible colours in preparation of any traditional sweets;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken to enforce the above directives ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) to (c) A Notification has been issued under the prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 to impose a ban on the use of edible colours in the preparation of traditional sweets to be effective from September 6, 1995. In the light of representations received, the ban orders have been deferred to enable the representations to be re-examined by the technical experts.

SMALL INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

2070. Shri Hari Kishore Singh : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

(a) whether a diagnostic survey of the small scale sick units have been conducted by Small Industries Development Corporation;

(b) if so, whether the report has been submitted to the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which this report is likely to be submitted and made public ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Small Scale Industries and Agro and Rural Industries) (Shri M. Arunachalam) : (a) The Small Industries Development Organisation, (SIDO) is conducting the Diagnostic Survey of Small Scale Units on sample basis to assess the impact of sickness amongst Small Scale Industries in collaboration with the State/UT Directorates of Industries. The field work of the Survey has been completed and date processing is in progress.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Survey report is likely to be available by the end of current financial year.

[Translation]

CAPART

2071. Shri Brahmanand Mandal : Will the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether CAPART has demanded inquiry to be conducted by C.B.I. in the matter of misuse of funds provided by the Government to voluntary organisations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhai Harijibhai Patel) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Cases of 34 voluntary organisations have been referred to C.B.I.

[English]

DENTAL DISEASE

2072. Shri Shantaram Potdukhe : Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to promote oral health and prevent dental diseases in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total percentage of population suffering from dental caries in urban and rural areas in each State; and

(d) the preventive measures taken by the Government in this regard ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has decided to launch a pilot project on Oral Health Care in five districts of five states. The project envisages training of health personnel and conducting of survey in these districts to assess the magnitude of the Oral Health problems including caries of teeth. The programme will focus on preventive, promotive and curative aspects of Oral Health including dental diseases.

PLAGUE OUTBREAK

2073. Shri D. Venkateswara Rao : Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Director-General of World Health Organisation has set up an international team of experts in India to investigate the outbreak of plague in India;

(b) whether the Union Government have accorded permission to the WHO team to conduct investigations on the outbreak of plague in Surat;

(c) if so, whether the international team has submitted its report to the outbreak of plague in Surat;

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The recommendations, inter-alia, cover the following operational areas :

(i) Need for laboratories to develop capabilities for primary isolation and bio-chemical and phage characterization of *Y. Pestis*.

(ii) Need to obtain and characterize pure cultures of *Y. Pestis* by subculturing existing cultures and by primary isolation methods.

(iii) Development of surveillance capabilities for Plague in India including network of epidemiologic, laboratory and ecologic capabilities.

(iv) Need for undertaking detailed epidemiologic and ecologic studies in Maharashtra State and Surat City.

(v) Training Programmes to be introduced for plague surveillance and laboratory diagnosis.

(vi) Epidemiological analysis to determine the dynamics of transmission.

[Translation]

PRODUCTION OF BEL

2074. Shri Vilas Muttemwar : Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of the Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has been constantly declining and the quality of production is also sub-standard;

(b) whether it is a fact that the BEL is awarding sub-contract to contractors without assigning any work to their own employees;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the percentage of non-working hours of the employees in 1991-92 and such percentage of the current year till date; and

(e) the reasons for losses in BEL and the efforts made to check it ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : (a) No, Sir. In Fact, the value of production in BEL has been steadily increasing from year to year; it has increased from Rs. 845.88 crores in 1993-94 to Rs. 915.02 crores in 1994-95. BEL is extremely sensitive to maintaining quality in its products. Twenty nine of its 31 divisions have ISO 9001/ISO 9002 accreditation.

(b) and (c) BEL awards sub-contracts only when production/test facilities and skilled manpower are not available. In some rare cases sub-contracting is resorted to in peak load periods.

(d) The percentage of idle direct workers since 1991-92 has been as follows :

1991-92	—	3.12
1992-93	—	3.72
1993-94	—	5.32
1994-95	—	4.54

(e) BEL has for many years been a profit making company and has been providing dividend at rates between 12 and 16 percent.

[English]

DRINKING WATER MISSON

2075. Shri S. M. Laljan Basha : Will the **Minister of Rural Areas and Employment** be pleased to state

(a) whether the Drinking Water Mission has spent money on foreign study tours;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the utility of such foreign tours and advice;

(c) whether adequate internal technology is not available to meet the requirements of drinking water mission; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai Patel) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

FUNDS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

2076. Shri Rajveer Singh :
Shri Rameshwar Patidar :

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) the amount earmarked for the development of Science and Technology during the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(b) the amount spent so far during the plan period; and

(c) the details of research and development work

undertaken in the field during the Eighth Plan period till date ?

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

[English]

VIOLATION OF COMPANY ACT

2077. Shri Anantrao Deshmukh : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Company Affairs has issued show cause notices to semi-Government Companies for violating the Company Act, 1956 in Portfolio Management Scheme (PMS);

(b) if so, the name of these companies; and

(c) the action taken by the Department against these companies ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Shri H. R. Bhardwaj) : (a) to (c) The term 'semi-Government companies' has not been defined under the Companies Act, 1956. It is presumed that reference has been made to public sector undertakings (PSUs). Information on issue of Show Cause Notices to public sector undertakings for contraventions of the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 is annexed as **Statement.**

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Contravention of the Provisions of Companies Act, 1956 covered under show cause notices issued to the company and its Officers/Directors
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1	2	3
A. Government Companies Against Which Show Cause Notices Issues		
1.	Pawan Hans Limited	49, 211, 291, 292 and 370
2.	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.	49, 211, 291 & 292
3.	Maruti Udyog Limited	49 & 292
4.	Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd.	49, 211 & 292
5.	Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd.	292 & 370
6.	National Research & Development Corporation Limited	292 (3) & 292
7.	Nuclear Power Corpn. of India Ltd.	49, 292 & 370
8.	Dredging Corporation of India Ltd.	49 & 292
9.	Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd.	49, 211 & 292

1	2	3
B. Government Companies Against Which Prosecutions Have Been Filed		
1.	Oil India Ltd.	292 & 211
2.	National Aluminium Company Ltd.	17, 211 & 292
3.	Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd.	211
4.	Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd.	211 & 292
5.	National Film Development Corporation Ltd.	49 & 292
6.	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	49, 211 & 292
7.	Gas Authority of India Ltd.	211 & 292
8.	India Oil Corporation Ltd.	49 & 292
9.	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	49 & 211
10.	Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.	17, 49, 58A, 76, 291, 292 & 211*

*Only against the Company (Officers in default have gone to High Court for relief u/s 633(2) of the Companies Act, 1956.)

N.S.I.C.

2078. Prof. M. Kamson : Will the **Minister of Industry** be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Small Industries Corporation has offered opportunities to small entrepreneurs to upgrade their technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such upgradation technology is likely to be provided in some selected areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof with locations ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Small Scale Industries and Agro and Rural Industries) (Shri M. Arunachalam) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Small Industries Corporation Limited through its Prototype Development and Training Centres assists small scale enterprises to test the products and upgrade the same in conformity with the national and international specification. NSIC has also entered into a strategic alliance with Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology to upgrade the technology of the small scale units. It also helps small scale units to upgrade their technology by providing latest machines under their Hire Purchase and Leasing Schemes.

(c) and (d) Technology upgradation is not restricted to any selected areas.

[Translation]

POPULATION CONTROL

2079. Dr. Lal Bahadur Rawal : Will the **Minister of**

Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of increase in population in the country during the current year as compared to the last three years;

(b) whether measures adopted to check increase in population is not sufficient;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the concrete measures taken by the Government to check the increasing population ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) Natural Growth Rate of population as obtained from the latest available estimates of Sample Registration System for the year 1993 is 1.94% as compared to 2.05% in 1990, 1.97% in 1991 and 1.91% in 1992.

(b) and (c) Family Welfare services have been made available to the people through a network of sub-centres, Primary Health Centres, Community Health Centres and Hospitals. Information and educational programmes are also undertaken to increase the acceptance level of family planning. However, factors like social attitudes and beliefs, female literacy, infant mortality, economic status of the family etc. also influence fertility behaviour.

(d) An Action Plan formulated in consultation with the State Governments and Union Territories is under implementation. Its features include improving the quality and outreach of services, promotion of spacing methods among younger age couples, special focus on 90 lagging districts, involving voluntary and non-governmental organisations to promote community participation and strengthening of interventions to promote maternal and child health care.

[English]

KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES COMMISSION

2080. Shri Harish Narayan Prabhu Zantye :
Shri Vilas Muttemwar :

Will the **Minister of Industry** be pleased to state :

(a) the allocation of funds for promotion and development of Khadi and Village Industries Commission during the last three years and the ensuring financial year, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether the sanctioned funds have been released;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay;

(d) the performance of various schemes taken up under the assistance of Khadi and Village Industries, State-wise and year-wise for the last three years;

(e) whether the schemes implemented under the programme have been evaluated and if so, details thereof including deficiency observed in implementation and the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon; and

(f) the allocation of funds for Goa State during the current year, scheme-wise and steps proposed for effective monitoring evaluation and implementation to ensure achievement of basic objective of the schemes ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Small Scale Industries and Agro and

Rural Industries) (Shri M. Arunachalm) : (a) The details of allocation and release of funds by the Govt. to KVIC for the development of KVI sector during last 3 years and the current financial year are given at **Statement-I** enclosed. Details of amount released by KVIC to various States are given at **Statement-II** enclosed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) At Govt. level, performance review of schemes being implemented by the KVIC is undertaken for the country as a whole before finalisation of the Annual Plans. KVIC has been entrusted with the responsibility of implementing various schemes of promotion of Khadi & Village Industries in the country by undertaking detailed review including the reviews of activities of state KVIRs and directly assisted institutions. A High Power Committee (HPC) constituted by the Govt. of India to suggest measures for revitalisation of KVI sector has reviewed the existing schemes in detail and has made several recommendations. In order to enable the KVIC to implement recommendations of the HPC, Govt. have provided additional budget allocation for the KVIC during the year 1995-96. An action plan has also been drawn up for monitoring the implementation of the recommendation of the HPC at the Govt. level. A **Statement-III** is enclosed.

(f) KVIC has recently finalised the budget proposals of KVIB, Goa and approved an outlay of Rs. 234.42 lakhs for the year 1995-96. However, the actual release of amount is yet to take place this year.

Statement-I

Sub-Head	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	Released upto
	Actuals	Actuals	Actuals	Actuals	(B.E.)	30-9-1995
Plan						
1. Khadi Grant	4900	5900	5700	6200	6000	6000
2. Khadi Loan	3500	3500	3500	3500	3500	1750
3. V.I. Grant	1900	1600	1900	2400	7400	3700
4. V.I. Loan	6500	5800	5500	5000	1000	500
5. S & T (Khadi)	30	30	30	30	30	15
6. S & T (V.I.)	70	70	70	70	70	35
7. Interest subsidy (Khadi)	1400	1400	2000	2000	1900	—
8. -do- (V.I.)	1000	1000	1500	1500	500	—
9. Spl. Employment Generation Programme	—	—	600	900	900	—
10. Rural Employment Generation Programme under HPC	—	—	—	—	1300	6500
Sub-Total (Plan)	19,300	19,300	20,800	21,800	34,300	18,500

Statement-II

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	1992-93 Total		1993-94 Total		1994-95 Total	
		Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.16	687.78	22.93	544.23	9.10	317.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.88	1.49	—	—	0.26	17.00
3.	Assam	5.75	73.47	6.97	61.87	5.48	60.00
4.	Bihar	—	16.68	2.28	0.95	—	—
5.	Goa	0.30	48.73	—	24.16	0.06	12.00
6.	Gujarat	84.55	217.33	185.30	145.05	3.96	371.2
7.	Haryana	1.71	241.51	0.20	218.58	10.01	66.5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4.09	162.09	0.60	164.24	15.28	90.1
9.	J & K	0.21	136.44	4.01	117.17	1.75	45.4
10.	Karnataka	6.72	711.77	0.95	191.38	3.45	252.9
11.	Kerala	37.57	675.15	39.32	240.11	10.13	133.8
12.	Madhya Pradesh	6.89	176.51	1.11	57.28	2.11	111.5
13.	Maharashtra	26.16	1258.72	6.91	451.39	12.05	275.3
14.	Manipur	44.49	62.57	36.37	65.61	23.90	105.0
15.	Meghalaya	12.53	22.15	10.28	23.84	10.92	53.31
16.	Mizoram	33.93	50.39	81.53	169.66	37.09	139.3
17.	Nagaland	39.46	117.78	23.79	89.10	43.44	177.82
18.	Orissa	47.47	428.36	53.24	343.78	13.57	153.12
19.	Punjab	1.47	122.96	5.82	423.16	8.24	185.41
20.	Rajasthan	21.36	124.10	9.17	126.15	11.83	221.99
21.	Sikkim	—	—	16.47	51.43	3.14	27.62
22.	Tamil Nadu	179.27	820.49	74.74	560.68	26.00	482.76
23.	Tripura	—	1.33	11.27	43.56	9.69	64.64
24.	Uttar Pradesh	25.29	1224.85	32.97	1113.49	13.01	627.10
25.	West Bengal	11.60	179.16	23.06	514.19	9.47	248.98
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	0.15	6.74	—	—	1.73	11.10
27.	Chandigarh	—	8.02	—	3.16	0.17	4.65
28.	Delhi	—	32.64	—	—	—	93.07
29.	Pondicherry	0.15	7.46	0.79	8.21	0.13	6.89
30.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	3.849	20.784
Total		598.36	7610.69	650.10	5752.43	307.06	4411.20
Other Schemes		—	—	148.80	63.42	—	—
Grand Total		598.36	7610.69	798.90	5815.85	307.06	4411.20

Statement-III

Employment Levels in Different States/Union Territories During the Last 3 Years in KVI Sector

(Lakh Persons)

S. No.	Name of the State/U.T.	1991-92		1992-93		1993-94	
		Khadi	V.I.	Khadi	V.I.	Khadi	V.I.
1.	Andra Pradesh	0.30	2.97	0.32	3.02	0.32	3.05
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	0.01	—	—	*	*
3.	Assam	0.23	0.79	0.23	0.79	0.22	0.80
4.	Bihar	2.29	1.09	2.25	1.34	2.27	1.18
5.	Goa	—	0.05	—	0.05	—	0.06
6.	Gujarat	0.53	0.37	0.53	0.38	0.57	0.44
7.	Himachal Pradesh	0.39	0.39	0.44	0.40	0.42	0.41
8.	Haryana	0.10	0.50	0.08	0.52	0.08	0.53
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.29	0.53	0.27	0.55	0.35	0.57
10.	Karnataka	0.33	1.31	0.38	1.36	0.40	1.32
11.	Kerala	0.21	1.64	0.21	1.77	0.19	1.69
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0.18	0.60	0.17	0.75	0.16	0.76
13.	Maharashtra	0.15	4.28	0.19	4.43	0.19	4.62
14.	Manipur	*	0.38	—	0.38	*	0.39
15.	Meghalaya	*	0.10	—	0.10	*	0.12
16.	Mizoram	*	0.04	—	0.06	*	0.05
17.	Nagaland	*	0.04	—	0.05	*	0.05
18.	Orissa	0.03	1.27	0.02	1.61	0.03	1.28
19.	Punjab	0.72	0.70	0.82	0.71	0.75	0.74
20.	Rajasthan	1.53	2.49	1.59	2.32	1.62	3.21
21.	Sikkim	*	0.04	0.01	0.05	0.01	0.05
22.	Tamil Nadu	0.82	8.71	0.83	9.15	0.85	9.00
23.	Tripura	0.01	0.43	0.01	0.40	*	0.44
24.	Uttar Pradesh	5.54	4.50	5.55	5.18	4.90	5.38
25.	West Bengal	0.52	2.31	0.52	2.43	0.51	2.51
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	*	*	—	—	—	*
27.	Chandigarh	—	0.01	—	0.01	—	0.01
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—
29.	Delhi	0.02	0.13	0.02	0.16	0.02	0.18
30.	Daman and Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—
31.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—
32.	Pondicherry	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.03
Total		14.20	35.91	14.45	38.00	13.87	39.36

*Less than 500.

INVESTMENT BY BRITISH GOVERNMENT

2081. Shri J. Chokka Rao : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

(a) whether the British Government has provided assistance to the tune of rupees 9,000 crores for investment in the joint ventures for the States in South India; and

(b) if so, the State-wise amount invested so far, together with the projects for which it was given ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR R.D. SCHEMES

2082. Shri Ram Tahal Choudhary : Will the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Governments are getting funds under the rural development Schemes at the end of the Year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the directives issued by Government to allocate the funds and timely release thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Departments of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai Patel) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The important Rural Development Schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment are (i) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), (ii) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), (iii) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), (iv) Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and (v) Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP).

Government has laid down clear cut provisions and directions on allocation and release of funds to Districts/States under various programmes. According to these guidelines, funds are released in instalments to the State Governments. The first instalment of Central share under these schemes is generally released to all the districts/states in the beginning of the financial year without any pre-condition. The Second instalment of funds are released to the districts/states on their request as and when 50% of utilisation of available resources is achieved. Under normal circumstances, the States should get the release of second instalment latest by the end of December of each year.

PUBLIC SECTOR UNDERTAKINGS HEADED BY SCs

2083. Shri Kunjee Lal : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

(a) the number of undertakings and enterprises being headed by the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes

out of the total number of public sector undertakings;

(b) the number of enterprises in which the post of Chairman is lying vacant; and

(c) the policy of the Government in regard to the appointment of the officers/persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes as Chairman and Head Public Sector Enterprises ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : (a) Information relating to public sector undertakings headed by persons belonging to Scheduled Castes is not readily available. This is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) Out of the 246 Central Public Sector Undertakings, the post of Chief Executives (Chairman-cum-Managing Director/Managing Director) were vacant in 27 PSUs on 30-6-95.

(c) Board level appointments in PSUs are made on the recommendations of the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB). Eligible candidates (including candidates belonging to SC/ST categories) are short-listed and called for interview. Of the persons called, candidates found suitable on the basis of qualification, job experience and overall merit, are recommended. There is no reservation for SCs for appointment as Chief Executives of the PSUs.

[English]

APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANT

2084. Shri Harchand Singh : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) the number of retired Government employees appointed as consultant in various departments during 1994-95;

(b) whether the Government have evaluated the performance of such consultants; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to review the strength of consultants ?

The 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) : (a) According to information received from 42 Ministries/Departments, 47 retired Govt. employees had been engaged as consultants.

(b) As per guidelines issued by the Department of Personnel and Training, Ministries/Departments are competent to engage consultants upto a period of six months on their own keeping in view of the requirements of work / specific jobs of a specialised nature and evaluation of their performance is not required to be carried out centrally.

(c) The strength of retired Government servants engaged as consultants by Ministries/Departments, as per information

available, is generally within the prescribed limits. If engagement of Consultants beyond limits prescribed is envisaged, prior approval of Department of Personnel & Training is necessary. As such, there is no proposal to review the strength of consultants .

COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

2085. Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have established co-operation with some countries in the field of Science and Technology;

(b) if so, the name of those countries and the date since when the co-operation has been established; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by the Department of Science and Technology to strengthen the co-operation ?

The 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) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has concluded bilateral Agreements/Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation in Science & Technology with 44 countries which are listed in **Statement-1**. In addition, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has concluded Agreements/MoU with 31 countries which are listed in **Statement-II**

(c) Such a cooperation is strengthened by :

- (i) exchange of scientific and official delegations;
- (ii) joint research projects;
- (iii) mutual exchange of scientists;
- (iv) arranging for training of the scientists;
- (v) organisation of joint symposia/workshops/seminars;
- (vi) setting up joint R & D Centres for Research; and Development.

Statement-I

List of the Agreements/MOU's Signed by the Department of Science & Technology

Sl. No.	Country	Date of Agreement / MOU
1	2	3
1.	Australia	15.10.1986
2.	Austria	12.01.1979
3.	Argentina	24.01.1985
4.	Armenia	25.03.1994
5.	Bangladesh	17.11.1982
6.	Belarus	14.05.1993
7.	Brazil	02.07.1985

1	2	3
8.	Bulgaria	11.10.1974
9.	China	22.12.1988
10.	Cuba	31.03.1994
11.	DPR Korea	08.05.1991
12.	France	18.07.1978
13.	Hungary	08.12.1992
14.	Italy	28.04.1978
15.	Israel	17.05.1993
16.	Japan	29.01.1985
17.	Kazakhstan	25.05.1993
18.	Mexico	23.07.1975
19.	Moldova	19.03.1993
20.	Mauritius	24.01.1990
21.	The Netherlands (MOU)	03.07.1985
22.	Philippines	08.04.1987
23.	Peru	26.08.1975
24.	People's Republic of Korea	08.05.1991
25.	Romania	18.10.1993
26.	Russian Federation	30.06.1994
27.	Singapore	04.01.1995
28.	Slovenia	31.01.1995
29.	Slovak (MOU)	07.07.1994
30.	South Africa	19.07.1995
31.	Sri Lanka	28.02.1975
32.	Syria	16.01.1978
33.	Trinidad & Tobago	13.07.1985
34.	Turkey	02.04.1976
35.	Ukraine	27.03.1992
36.	USA	28.10.1974
37.	USSR	17.10.1972
38.	UK & Northern Ireland (MOU)	16.04.1981
39.	Uzbekistan (MOU)	07.01.1992
40.	Uzbekistan	29.05.1993
41.	Vietnam	26.02.1978
42.	Venezuela (MOU)	07.01.1987
43.	Yugoslavia	16.02.1975
44.	Poland	12.01.1993
45.	Zambia	26.01.1975

Statement-II

List of the Agreements/MOU's Special Arrangements/MOU's Signed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research

Country	Agency	Date of Agreement
1	2	3
Australia	DITARD	19.04.1991
Bangladesh	STDB	31.07.1991
Bulgaria	DSTC	15.03.1974
China	NSFC	12.03.1992
	SBTS	28.06.1991
	CAE	05.08.1994
Czech	CAS	30.06.1995
Egypt	ARE	01.05.1968
France	CNRS	10.03.1974
FRG	AvH	03.02.1994
	DAAD	01.09.1968
	DLR	30.01.1982
	FhG	02.02.1994
	GSF	14.06.1993
	KFA	25.01.1974
	MPG	12.04.1988
Guyana	IAST	29.12.1993
Iraq	SRC	01.03.1975
Italy	CNR	06.02.1995
Japan	AIST	06.05.1994
Jordan	RSS	30.04.1985
Kuwait	KISR	16.06.1995
Mongolia	MAS	05.02.1993
Nepal	RONAST	06.01.1994
Netherlands	TNO	03.12.1986
Newzealand	ACRI	04.12.1986
Nigeria	NBRRRI	27.01.1983
Peru	CONCYTEC	02.02.1989
Poland	PAS	26.03.1996
Romania	STD	15.10.1969
Russia	MDB	25.04.1994
Saudi-Arabia	SASO	24.06.1993
Slovak	SAS	30.06.1995
Sudan	NCR	04.11.1985

1	2	3
Syria	SSRC	13.10.1989
Thailand	TISTR	02.08.1991
Turkey	TUBITAK	23.03.1977
U.K.	ICRF	12.05.1988
Vietnam	NCSR	20.05.1989

GENES BANKS

2086. Shri Udaysingrao Gaikwad : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether three National Genes Banks have been set up in the country;

(b) if so, their locations thereof, State and Union Territory-wise alongwith their functions; and

(c) the details of objectives behind setting up of these banks ?

The 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) : (a) to (c) Three national gene banks for medicinal and aromatic plants have been set up respectively at National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi; Tropical Botanical Garden and Research Institute (TBGRI) Trivandrum, Kerala and Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP) Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. The major objectives are to conserve species of medicinal and aromatic plants falling under the following categories; endangered/threatened/rare species of proven medicinal value; those extensively used in traditional system of medicine, taxa which are difficult to propagate; as well as those with significant R&D leads for future; and finally species which are commercially important. The gene banks at TBGRI is concentrating on the biogeographic sub-regions of peninsular India while the other two are covering the northern region.

Basic infrastructure including seed and field banks, tissue culture repository, and crybank have been established. Gene banks carry out surveys, exploration, collection, characterisation, documentation and creation of a data base alongwith training of personnel.

KAIGA ATOMIC POWER PLANT

2087. Shri A. Venkatesh Naik :
Shri K. G. Shivappa :

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families displaced in Kaiga for setting up Kaiga Atomic Power Project; and

(b) the total number of families rehabilitated till date ?

The 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) : (a) 60 families residing in Kaiga Village were displaced for setting up the Kaiga Atomic Power Project.

(b) All except one family were already rehabilitated by 1993-94 itself. One family is yet to be shifted by the district administration due to litigation in Court.

[Translation]

CGHS SUBSCRIPTION

2088. Shri Satya Deo Singh : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) whether the retired Central Government servants are facing a lot of difficulties due to increase in the subscription of the Central Government Health Scheme;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take contribution from retired Central Government employees at earlier rates; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The revised rates are quite modest.

[English]

INDUSTRIAL SCHEMES FOR J & K

2089. Dr. P. Vallal Peruman : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have planned industrial schemes for J&K to create an investment climate in that region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have received any offers from Private entrepreneurs for setting up their units in this region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to provide infrastructure to attract entrepreneurs for setting up of industries in J&K two growth centres at Ganderwal (Srinagar) and Sambha (Jammu) have been allotted to the State. The details of these centres are at **Statement-I**.

The transport subsidy scheme is applicable to the whole State of J&K. This scheme is also meant to attract entrepreneurs.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The details of offers from Private entrepreneurs for setting up their units in J&K are given in the **Statement-II**.

Statement-I

Growth Centres of J&K

1. Ganderwal : Location was announced on 20-10-1989. (Srinagar) Project report has not yet been received from the State Government.
2. Sambha : Project was finally approved on 27-1-1992. (Jammu)

Rs. 2.00 crores was released towards this centre so far (Rs. 50 lakhs released on 27-3-91 after the project was provisionally approved and Rs. 1.50 crores released on 27-1-92 after the Project was finally approved.)

Statement-II

Report : Region
Scope : All Districts

Constraint : Total
Application Type : IEM Period : 01/08/91 To 31/07/95
District : BARAMULLA
Application Status : All

Sl. No	Name of Undertaking/ Address	Location	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Annual Capacity	Ack. No./Date
1.	Trishul Bottlers 71 Fast Extension Trikuta Nagar Gandhi Nagar Jammu & Kashmir NU	Baramulla Jammu and Kashmir	Undenatured ethyl alcohol of alcoholic strength by volume of 80% vol or higher	15000.000 KL	3658 28/10/94
Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 75 Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 5					

Report : Region
Scope : All Districts

Constraint : Total
Application Type : IEM Period : 01/08/91 To 31/07/95
District : Doda
Application Status : All

Sl. No	Name of Undertaking/ Address	Location	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Annual Capacity	Ack. No./Date
1.	Kashmir Gypsum Limited 27 Murza Ghalib Street Calcutta 700016 West Bengal NU	Doda Jammu and Kashmir	Mineral/Gypsum	6.000 Lac.Tonn	4749 21/12/92

_____ Data Processed and Compiled by Industry Division, National Information Centre _____

NA : Manufacture of New Article, NU : Establishment of a New Undertaking.

SE : Effecting Substantial Expansion

Report : Region
Scope : All Districts
Application Status : All
Constraint : Total
Application Type : IEM Period : 01/08/91 To 31/07/95
District : Jammu

Sl. No.	Name of Undertaking/ Address	Location	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Annual Capacity	Ack. No./Date
1.	Trishul Bottlers 71 East Extension Trikuta Nagar Kashmir Gandhi Nagar Jammu & Kashmir NU	Baramulla Jammu and Kashmir	Undenatured ethyl alcoholic strength by volume of 80% vol or higher	15000.000 KL	269 16/01/95
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 75		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 5		
2.	N. K. Jain 113 Phase II Industrial Estate Extension, Gangyall Jammu Jammu & Kashmir NA	Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Vanaspathi Ghee (other than animal fats)	30000.000 Tonnes	381 23/08/91
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 400		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 6		
3.	R.B. Chopra 38/3 Trikuta Nagar Jammu (J&K) NU	Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Manufacturing of Cement	18000.000 Tonnes	1721 03/04/95
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 40		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 1		
4.	Shree Guru Kripa Paper Mills Pvt. Ltd., Bari Brahatmana, Samba Kathua, Jammu Jammu & Kashmir NU	Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Duplex Board Paper	7500.000 Tonnes	1732 04/04/95
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 180		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 3		

Sl. No	Name of Undertaking/ Address	Location	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Annual Capacity	Ack. No./Date
5.	Dujodwala Resins & Terpenes Ltd, 812/813 Tulsiani Chamber Bombay 400021 Maharashtra NU	Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Disproportionated Resin	800,000 Tonnes	1751 11/06/93
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 100		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 1		
	Ajab Singh Wazir Partner of Asso. Group of Engineers Cement Mills, National Highway Kartholi, Bari Barhina Jammu 181133 SE	Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Mfg. of Slag Cement and Portland Cement (PPC&OPC)	16000,000 Tonnes	1788 05/04/95
7.	Uttam Polyplast Pvt. Ltd. Gangyal Industrial Area Jammu 180010 Jammu & Kashmir NU	Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Plastic Injection Moulded Articles and Products Thero Baths Showerbaths and Washbasins	1000000,000 Kgs	2044 18/05/92
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 40		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 1		
8.	Meerut Transformers Pvt. Ltd. B-4&5 Industrial Estate Partapur, Meerut Uttar Pradesh NU	Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	132 KV Class Power Trans- formers Range 25 MVA	1200,000 MVA	2151 26/04/95
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 75		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 1		
9.	Roshan Lal Oil Mills Ltd. 18-A, New Rohtak Road New Delhi 110 005 NU	Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Rape, Colze or Mustard Oil and Fractions thereof, Whether or not Refined, but not Chemically Modified.	9900,000 Tonnes	2191 08/07/94
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 35		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 3		
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 26		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 1		

Sl. No.	Name of Undertaking/ Address	Location	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Annual Capacity	Ack. No./Date
10.	Grover Oils Pvt. Ltd. Backward Bari Brahmana, Jammu Jammu & Kashmir NU	Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Vanaspati	4500.000 Tonnes	2325 15/11/91
11.	R. B. Chopra Partner of Bhawani Cements, Sidco Indl. Complex Bari Brahmana Jammu Jammu & Kashmir SE	Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 0 Manufacturing of Slag Cement & Portland Cement (PPC & OPC)	18000.000	2359 09/05/95
12.	Transasia Tubes and Industries Limited, Sidco Industrial Area Bari Brahmana Jammu Jammu & Kashmir SE	Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 1 Steel Pipes and Tubes Black and Galvanised	68171.000 Tonnes	2521 27/11/91
13.	Abadul Hamid Zargar 5035 Netaji Subhash Marg Daryaganj New Delhi. 110002 NU	Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 2 Vegetable Fats and Oils and Their Fractions (Vanaspati wholly Hydrogenated Oil)	30000.000 Tonnes	2592 02/09/93
14.	Caleste International Ltd. Unit No. 3 1/11-B Asaf Ali Road New Delhi 110002 SE	Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 8 Cotton Yarn	420000.000 Kgs.	2791 05/06/95
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 433		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 21		

Sl. No	Name of Undertaking/ Address	Location	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Annual Capacity	Ack. No./Date
15.	Hindustan Lever Limited 165-166 Backbay Reclamation Bombay 400020 Maharashtra NA	Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Benzene Sulphonic Acid	21000.000 Tonnes	2802 08/07/92
16.	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 0 Singer India Ltd. 3 Devika Tower 6 Nehru Place New_Delhi 110019 NA	Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 5 Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Televisions Black & White	60000.000 Number	2912 09/06/95
17.	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 96 Transasia Tubes and Industries Ltd. 18/B Gandhi Nagar Jammu 180004 Jammu and Kashmir NU	Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 1 Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Cold Rolled Steel Strips	12000.000 Tonnes	2967 22/07/92
18.	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 65 Dujodwala Resins & Terpenese Ltd. 812/813 Tulsiani Chamber 212 Nariman Point Bombay 400021 Maharashtra NU	Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 2010. Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Rosin	3232.000 Tonnes	3339 03/10/94
19.	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 85 Jammu Foods Private Ltd. Keithpur, Jakh Vijaypur Jammu 180004 J & K SE	Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 1 Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Milk Powder	4500.000 Tonnes	3499 01/09/92
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 60	Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 1			

Sl. No	Name of Undertaking/ Address	Location	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Annual Capacity	Ack. No./Date
20.	New Amar Roller Flour Mills Gangyal, Samba Jammu - 180010. Jammu and Kashmir NU	Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Wheat Products (Atta, Maida, Suji & Bran)	30000.000 Tonnes	3932 17/11/93
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 42		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 1		
21.	Mehr Cements Pvt. Ltd. Gandhi Nagar 80 A-D Jammu 180004 Jammu and Kashmir NU	Jammu Jammu and Kashmir	Ordinary Portland Cement Pozzollo Portland Cement	18000.000 Tonnes	4564 02/12/92
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 135		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 3		

Data Processed and Compiled by Industry Division, National Informatics Centre

NA : Manufacture of New Article, NU : Establishment of a New Undertaking, SE : Effecting Substantial Expansion.

Report : Region
Scope : All Districts
Application Type : IEM Period : 01/08/91 To 31/07/95
Application Status : All
Constraint : Total
District : Kathua

Sl. No	Name of Undertaking/ Address	Location	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Annual Capacity	Ack. No./Date
1.	Chenab Textiles Proprietors : Texmaco Ltd. G. T. Road Kathua 184 102 Jammu & Kashmir SE	Kathua Jammu and Kashmir	Cotton Yarn and Synthetic Spun Yarn	42196.000 Spindles	1289 26/09/91
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 3950		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 8		
2.	Chenab Textiles Proprietors Texmaco Ltd. G. T. Road Kathua Jammu & Kashmir - 184102 SE	Kathua Jammu and Kashmir	Synthetic Spun Yarn	51564.000 Spindles	2535 22/05/95
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 4625		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 0		

Data Processed and Compiled by Industry Division, National Informatics Centre

NA : Manufacture of New Article, NU : Establishment of a New Undertaking, SE : Effecting Substantial Expansion.

Report : Region
Scope : All Districts
Application Type : IEM Period : 01/08/91 To 31/07/95
Application Status : All
Constraint : Total
District : Srinagar

Sl. No	Name of Undertaking/ Address	Location	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Annual Capacity	Ack. No./Date
1.	Saifco Cements Khunmoh Srinagar Jammu & Kashmir NU	Srinagar Jammu and Kashmir	Portland Cement	30000.000 Tonnes	1724 09/06/93
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 110		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 5		

Sl. No.	Name of Undertaking/ Address	Location	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Annual Capacity	Ack. No./Date
2.	Trumboo Cement Industries Pvt. Ltd., Kunhmo, Srinagar Jammu and Kashmir NU	Srinagar Jammu and Kashmir	Cement	475,000 Tonnes	1887 25/06/93
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 115		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 4		
3.	Roma Steels (P) Ltd. Rehmat Abad, Barhana P-C-DEPO, Srinagar Kashmir Jammu and Kashmir NU	Srinagar Jammu and Kashmir	Steel Re-Rolling Mills Manufacture of tor steel, rounds and structural steel	3000,000 Tonnes	2573 01/09/93
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 30		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 1		
4.	Khyber Industries (P) Ltd. Khyam Theatre Building Nowpora, Srinagar, 190002 Kashmir SE	Srinagar Jammu and Kashmir	Ordinary Portland Cement	57000,000 Tonnes	3599 19/07/95
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 140		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 1		
5.	Saifco Cement Pvt. Ltd. Khunmoh Srinagar Jammu and Kashmir NU	Srinagar Jammu and Kashmir	Portland Cement	30000,000 Tonnes	4337 09/11/92
	Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 110		Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 2		

Report : Region
Scope : All Districts
Application Type : IEM Period : 01/08/91 To 31/07/95
District : Udhampur

Application Status : All

Sl. No	Name of Undertaking/ Address	Location	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Annual Capacity Tonnes	Ack. No./Date
1.	J&K Mineral Development Corpn. Ltd. Jammu 180004 Jammu & Kashmir NU	Udhampur Jammu and Kashmir	Dead Burnt Magnesite	30000.000	51 08/01/93
Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 350			Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 44		

Report : Region
Scope : All Districts
Application Type : IEM Period : 01/08/91 To 31/07/95
District : Pulwama

Application Status : All

Sl. No	Name of Undertaking/ Address	Location	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Annual Capacity Tonnes	Ack. No./Date
1.	Safco Vanaspati Pampore Pulwama Jammu and Kashmir NU	Pulwama Jammu and Kashmir	Vanaspati Ghee	15000.000	1723 09/06/93
Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 84			Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 0		
2.	Roma Castings Pvt. Ltd. Rehmat Abad — P. C. Depo Barthana, Srinagar Jammu & Kashmir NU	Pulwama Jammu and Kashmir	Manufacturing of Ingots, Steel Alloy/Steel Casting	35000.000 Tonnes	3165 24/09/93
Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 55			Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 1		

Sl. No	Name of Undertaking/ Address	Location	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Annual Capacity	Ack. No./Date
3.	Saifco Vanaspati Pvt. Ltd., Pampore Pulwama Jammu and Kashmir NU	Pulwama Jammu and Kashmir	Vanaspati Ghee	15000.000 Tonnes	4342 09/11/92
Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 84 Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 4					

Report : Region
Scope : All Districts
Application Type : JEM Period : 01/08/91 To 31/07/95
Application Status : All
Constraint : Total
District : Budgam

Sl. No	Name of Undertaking/ Address	Location	Item of Manufacture	Proposed Annual Capacity	Ack. No./Date
1.	K. K. Cements Kaka Road Nai Sarak Habba Kadal, Srinagar Kashmir - 190001 Jammu & Kashmir NU	Budgam Jammu and Kashmir	Portland Cement	15000.000 Tonnes	3900 12/11/93
Proposed Employment (Numbers) : 80 Proposed Investment (Rs. Crore) 7					

[Translation]

SAINIK SCHOOLS

2090. Shri N. J. Rathva : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Sainik Schools in the country, especially in Gujarat and the locations thereof;

(b) the number among them situated in Tribal/Backward/Rural areas;

(c) the criteria laid down for admission into these schools; and

(d) the details of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe students getting education therein ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : (a) There are 18 Sainik Schools in the Country, of which one School is situated in Balachadi, Jamnagar District in Gujarat State. Details of locations of these schools are given in the annexure.

(b) The number of Sainik Schools situated in Rural / Backward area is 6.

(c) Sainik Schools admit boys in classes VI and IX through entrance examination on all India basis. Boys in the age group of 10 to 11 years and 13 to 14 years as on 1st July of the year are eligible for admission to the class VI and IX respectively, The admission is made strictly in the order of merit and subject to medical fitness.

(d) A **Statement** is enclosed.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Sainik School & its location	Students	
		SC	ST
1	2	3	4
1.	Sainik School Satara, Maharashtra	84	28
2.	Sainik School Kunjpura, Haryana	75	—
3.	Sainik School Kapurthala, Punjab	88	06
4.	Sainik School Balachadi, Gujarat	96	40
5.	Sainik School Chittorgarh, Rajasthan	71	36
6.	Sainik School Korukonda, Andhra Pradesh	77	41
7.	Sainik School Kazhakootam, Kerala	71	12
8.	Sainik School Purulia, West Bengal	73	19
9.	Sainik School Bhubaneswar, Orissa	88	53
10.	Sainik School Amravathinagar, Tamil Nadu	103	08
11.	Sainik School Rewa, Madhya Pradesh	64	32
12.	Sainik School Tilaiya, Bihar	127	49

1	2	3	4
13.	Sainik School Bijapur, Karnataka	85	32
14.	Sainik School Goalpara, Assam	65	95
15.	Sainik School Ghorakhal, Uttar Pradesh	67	24
16.	Sainik School Nagrota, Jammu & Kashmir	63	34
17.	Sainik School Imphal, Manipur	21	84
18.	Sainik School Sujampur Tira, Himachal Pradesh	55	31

FORECAST OF METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

2091. Shri Surendra Pal Pathak : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the steps being taken by the Government to make the forecast of Meteorological Department more reliable ?

The 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) : Short range forecasts, (valid for 3 days), made by India Meteorological Department are found to be reasonably accurate. The monsoon seasonal forecasts of India Meteorological Department have also been quite satisfactory since 1988, when the present model was introduced.

Improvement in meteorological forecasting is a continuing process in the India Meteorological Department.

[English]

PUBLIC ISSUE

2092. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Company Affairs (DCA) has stepped up vigil on companies with a record of public issue related offences;

(b) if so, the principal issue offenders monitored by the Department of Company Affairs: and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against them for various lapses ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Shri H. R. Bhardwaj) : (a) to (c) The Department of Company Affairs has set up an Investor Protection Cell to deal with the complaints from Investors. Many of these Complaints relate to public issues of companies and inter-alia include complaints regarding non-refund of share application money and non-issue of share certificates. The complaints received are processed through a computerised system and are referred to the concerned companies for redressal. The performance of companies

with a large number of unredressed complaints is carefully watched.

When the companies fail to report redressal of complaints, penal action is initiated against them under the Companies Act, 1956. Prosecutions have been filed against 38 companies under section 73/113 of this Act. The names of these companies are given in the **Statement** enclosed.

Statement

Names of Companies Against Whom Prosecution Filed/Conviction Obtained or in Whose Case Offence Compounded

1. M/s. Akhil Ceramics Ltd.
2. M/s. All Seasons Food Ltd.
3. M/s. Altos India Ltd.
4. M/s. Amethi Textiles Ltd.
5. M/s. Atv Projects India Ltd.
6. M/s. Baroda Alloys and Castings Ltd.
7. M/s. Bausch & Lomb India Ltd.
8. M/s. Cauvery Electronics Ltd.
9. M/s. Dynamatic Forgings (I) Ltd.
10. M/s. Essar Gujarat Ltd.
11. M/s. Everest Cement Ltd.
12. M/s. Flex Foods Ltd.
13. M/s. Gold Star Steel & Alloys Ltd.
14. M/s. Grand Foundry Ltd.
15. M/s. Gujarat Ambuja Exports Ltd.
16. M/s. Gujarat Gas Co. Ltd.
17. M/s. Herdillia Unimers Ltd.
18. M/s. Hytaisun Magnetics Ltd.
19. M/s. Idl Salzbau (I) Ltd.
20. M/s. Indana Spices & Food Industries Ltd.
21. M/s. Indian Acrylics Ltd.
22. M/s. Insilco Ltd.
23. M/s. Madalsa International Ltd.
24. M/s. Malanpur Leather Ltd.
25. M/s. Mideast (India) Ltd.
26. M/s. Murablack India Ltd.
27. M/s. Pan Asia Industries Ltd.
28. M/s. Prag Bosimi Synthetics Ltd.
29. M/s. Premier Plantations Ltd.

30. M/s. Punjab Concasts Steels Ltd.
31. M/s. Restile Ceramic Ltd.
32. M/s. Ross Murarka Finance Ltd.
33. M/s. Sab Nife Power Systems Ltd.
34. M/s. Satyam Computers Ltd.
35. M/s. Spic Fine Chemicals Ltd.
36. M/s. Tata Elxi (I) Ltd.
37. M/s. Trimurtee Fertilizers Ltd.
38. M/s. West Coast Brewers & Distillers Ltd.

POLLUTION MONITORING CENTRES

2093. Shri Anadi Charan Das : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons trained and utilised for pollution monitoring, sea level monitoring, semi-intensive aquaculture by the Andaman and Nicobar Centre for Ocean Development since the inception of the Centre;

(b) whether similar centre is proposed to be set up in Lakshadweep and Minicoy Islands; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) So far under the programme on Coastal Ocean Monitoring And Prediction System (COMAPS) which was initiated in the year 1991, 4 graduates were trained for marine pollution monitoring. So far 24 persons were trained in three batches for semi-intensive aquaculture. However, no training was conducted on sea level monitoring.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does Not arise.

RESEARCH WORK IN ANTARCTICA

2094. Shri Gopi Nath Gajapathi : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the different Research Work undertaken in Antarctica during the last three years;

(b) whether there is any proposal to undertake any fresh research work in Antarctica; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) Research work in Antarctica is being undertaken under the following scientific fields:

(i) Atmospheric Sciences

- Climatological Studies including measurements of Radiation budget, Vertical Profile of Ozone and Meteorological parameters.
- Temporal recording of Ozone using mm wave radio spectrometer and Laser Heterodyne System.
- Planetary boundary layer studies using acoustic methods.
- Velocity of mobile Magnetic current systems using fluxgate magnetometers.
- Study of day time auroral emissions by optical aeronomy.

(ii) Earth Sciences

- Geological mapping of the Orwin mountains.
- Lithological sampling for studies on structural, paleomagnetic and geochemical properties of rock formations.
- Petrophysical, VLF-EM, Magnetic and Gravimetric studies of lithounits.
- Topographical mapping of the Schirmacher Oasis.
- Glaciological studies to understand ice motion.
- Ice core drilling to study paleo environmental conditions.

(iii) Biological Sciences

- Studies on Algal colonisation and Phylum Tardigrada as a part of studies on biodiversity of Antarctica.
- Long term monitoring protocol of Antarctic birds and mammals.
- Identification of low temperature microbes for bio-degradation.
- Studies on structure and trophic level of diverse ecological niches.

(iv) Medical Sciences

- Studies on human physiology in terms of adaptability to cold conditions and body metabolism.
- Effect of magnetic storms on human subjects.

(v) Environmental Sciences

- Environmental impact assessment studies on

air, water and soil to design a waste management protocol.

(vi) Engineering & Communication

- Long distance communication techniques using HF and Satellite links.
- Effect of magnetic storms on HF radio propagation.
- Cold temperature structural engineering and life support systems.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) XV Antarctic Expedition is expected to be launched by the end of November, 1995. During the course of the expedition, research work on the above subjects will be continued. In addition, three new programmes namely, (a) Albedo studies to understand the energy balance; (b) Exploration and assessment of krill potential in the Indian Ocean sector of the Southern Ocean and (c) Polar horticulture will be undertaken.

[Translation]

GRANTS TO JAMMU AND KASHMIR

2095. Shri Sushil Chandra Varma : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether ninety percent of the financial allocation made by the Union Government to Jammu and Kashmir is counted as grants and 10 percent as loan to the State;

(b) if so, the per-capita average of the grant and loans provided to Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years;

(c) the comparative figures in regard to Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, separately;

(d) whether non-plan grants are also being provided to Jammu and Kashmir; and

(e) the per-capita amount of non-plan grants being provided by the Union Government and the figures in regard to expenditure incurred by the administration of the State ?

The 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) : (a) Yes, Sir.

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

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The per capita amount of non-plan grants being provided by the Central Government during the years 1992-93, 1993-94 & 1994-95 are Rs. 1197, 1167 and 1289 respectively. The expenditure figures for the three years are same as the grants.

Statement

**Central Assistance Provided to the States of J & K, Bihar, M.P.,
Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan & U.P. as well as Average of Per-Capita of Grant/Loans Provided to These
States During the Last Three Years**

Name of the State	(Rs. in crores)							
	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95		(1992-95) Per-Capita Average in Rupees	
	Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant
Jammu & Kashmir	79.29	713.57	101.13	910.13	171.86	1546.72	152.13	1369.10
Bihar	531.77	229.28	634.44	274.49	690.32	295.85	71.65	20.86
Madhya Pradesh	392.23	168.10	434.53	188.03	445.84	191.07	64.10	27.56
Tamil Nadu	543.92	248.82	728.18	334.30	924.16	417.51	131.06	59.71
Rajasthan	299.40	180.31	370.99	231.13	433.87	266.38	83.65	51.34
Uttar Pradesh	1343.47	731.78	992.46	594.25	1326.40	737.36	87.75	49.44

[English]

SHIFTING OF HINDUSTAN LATEX LTD.

2096. Shri A. Charles : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether any attempt is being made to shift any of the units of the Hindustan Latex Ltd., Trivarnur to any other State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

TIDAL POWER

2097. Shri Anna Joshi : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received memorandum from Maharashtra Government, Members of Parliament and other Institutions for setting up a tidal power plant in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard alongwith the outcome of such action; and

(c) the capacity of this project and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) : (a) The Government of India has not received any memorandum from the Government of Maharashtra, Members of Parliament or other Institutions for the setting up a tidal power plant in the State of Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

DUPLICATION OF R AND D PROJECTS

2098. Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have conducted any study to assess duplication in R&D Projects being supported by various technical departments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that there is no duplication of R&D projects?

The 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) : (a) to (c) Government undertake a continuous review to assess duplication of R&D project being supported by various technical departments to ensure an integrated approach to promote R&D activities.

A number of S&T departments/agencies have specific extramural R&D funding schemes conforming to their mandate. The R&D projects are processed in consultation with experts and other concerned technical departments, wherever considered necessary, to avoid duplication of efforts. The Expert Committees constituted by the S&T departments do have representation from the other concerned departments while screening the R&D proposals/activities. In addition, as a part of the National S&T Management Information System, a complete data base of Extramural R&D projects supported by all the technical departments is maintained and widely circulated to avoid duplication of R&D projects.

[Translation]

DANGER TO PORTS

2099. Shri Anand Ratna Maurya : Will the Prime

Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether privatisation of various Ports has posed a danger to the security of the nation; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to tackle this problem?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : (a) and (b) In the context of liberalisation of economy, private investors/operators have been allowed to participate in some areas of port functioning and port infrastructures. Concerned authorities ensure adequate security cover and as such private participation in port functioning/infrastructure facilities in unlikely to pose any danger.

[English]

ROHINI HOSPITAL

2100. Shri Manjay Lal :
Shri Ram Prasad Singh :

Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a 500 bed Dr. Baba Sahab Ambedkar Hospital and Rohini in Delhi is likely to be constructed during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in the construction of the hospital; and

(c) the time by which hospital is likely to be opened?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) The construction of this hospital is planned during the Eight and Ninth Five Year Plans.

(b) The Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that an expenditure of Rs. 348.66 lakhs has been incurred upto 1994-95 towards cost of land, construction of compound wall, development of site etc.

(c) Start of OPD is envisaged by 1997-98 and the construction of the hospital is envisaged to be completed during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

[Translation]

K.V.I.C.

2101. Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar :
Dr. Chinta Mohan :

Will the **Minister of Industry** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Khadi and Village Industries Commission directly provides financial assistance to a number of units;

(b) if so, the total number of such units as on April, 1995 provided direct financial assistance by the Commission during the previous years;

(c) whether a large number of units among those provided financial assistance are running into heavy losses;

(d) if so, the number of units suffered loss in 1994-95; and

(e) the number of units earning profit continuously for the last three years?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Small Scale Industries and Agro and Rural Industries) (Shri M. Arunachalam) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRES

2102. Shri Chitta Basu :
Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal :
Shri Mohan Rawale :

Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to decentralise the Primary Health Centres throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and rationale behind the move;

(c) whether there is large scale deterioration of services in PHC; and

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

The Minister of Health and Family Welfare (Shri A. R. Antulay) : (a) and (b) With the enactment of the Constitutional (73rd Amendment Act) greater decentralisation and involvement of the Panchayats in the provision of health care services and health education is envisaged.

(c) and (d) The quality of health services is not uniform throughout the Country. The Central Government has asked to States to see that adequate funds are allocated for drugs and essential maintenance and doctors are posted to fill the existing vacancies.

KAIGA ATOMIC POWER PLANT

2103. Shri Rajendra Agnihotri : Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kaiga Atomic Power Plant is likely to be designed by new one; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The 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) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no proposal to have a new design for the Kaiga Atomic Power Plant as a whole, except for the inner containment dome of the reactor building. The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) is re-designing this structure based on the recommendation of Expert Committees which have

inquired into the incident of partial delamination of the dome of Unit-1.

HEALTH CARE SCHEMES

2104. Dr. Sakshiji : Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme pertaining to the Public Health Department of Uttar Pradesh is pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) No specific scheme has been received.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

NATIONAL DENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

2105. Shrimati Susheela Gopalan :
Prof. K. V. Thomas :

Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala submitted a proposal for establishment of a National Dental Research Institute in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to give sanction for setting up this institute; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) No such proposal has been received from the Government of Kerala under the provisions of Dentists (Amendment) Act, 1993.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

POPULATION GROWTH

2106. Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde : Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United Nations Forum for Population Activities (UNFPA) had advised that we should do away with targets in Family Planning Schemes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether this will not hamper the efforts to contain the population growth?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) and (b) The UNFPA has drawn our attention to issue of target-setting as according to them, it may lead to forceful promotion of family planning.

(c) It is possible that removal of quantitative target may

improve quality which could, in turn, promote higher level of acceptance.

FREQUENT TRANSFERS OF IAS OFFICERS

2107. Shri M.V.V.S. Murthy :
Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi :
Shri Rabi Ray :
Shri Manoranjan Bhakta :
Shri Dharmanna Mondayya Sadul :
Shri R. Surender Reddy :
Shri Surendra Pal Pathak :

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Minister have written a communication to the State Chief Ministers of frequent transfers of IAS officers;

(b) if so, the points raised in the communications;

(c) whether the Minister has received the replies from the Chief Ministers; and

(d) the action Government propose to take on this issue which has demoralised the IAS officers in the country?

The 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) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Objectives of the All India Services and provisions of the IAS/IPS/IFS Cadre Rules have been reiterated in the letter to all State Chief Ministers.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Central Government has no role in the transfers and postings of IAS officers serving in the States. However, in the interest of cadre management, certain guidelines are issued from time to time. This is an on-going process.

OPERATION THEATRE

2108. Shri Balraj Passi :
Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya :

Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of operation theatres in Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi;

(b) whether all the above operation theatres were operative during the course of last two financial years;

(c) the total number of operations performed during the last two years;

(d) whether there were any fatal operations;

(e) if so, whether any cases of negligence were reported/ detected on the part of the doctors; and

(f) if so, the outcome thereof and action taken in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and

Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) and (b) Out of 5 Operation Theatres in Dr. R.M.L. Hospital, only one Operation Theatre remained closed for a period of about 7-8 months for major repairs and renovation works.

(c) The total number of operations performed during the last 2 years is given below :

Year	Operations	
	Major	Minor
1993	5406	47314
1994	5960	48235

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) One case of death due to 'alleged' negligence of staff of hospital during April, 1994 was reported. The Committee set up by the Hospital authorities to investigate the matter, did not find any evidence of negligence on the part of staff of this hospital.

COMPANY ACT

**2109. Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh :
Shri Yellaiah Nandi :**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to amend the Company Act, 1956 in view of the foreign investments by the Multi-national Companies in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the MNCs which have invested in the country so far?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Shri H. R. Bhardwaj) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 3298 proposals (excluding Euro issues) involving direct foreign investment have been approved during the period August, 1991 — June, 1995 for setting up of joint ventures in collaboration with Indian companies or subsidiaries. The names of these companies are regularly published by Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to their monthly Newsletter, copies of which are regularly supplied to Parliament Library.

FAMILY CAR BY TELCO

2110. Shri Ram Kapse : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

(a) whether the TELCO proposes to launch a family car in the next year;

(b) whether any foreign collaboration is likely to be taken for this project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry

(Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : (a) According to TELCO, they are in an advanced stage of developing a small car but it is unlikely to be launched next year.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

THROAT INFECTION

2111. Shri George Fernandes : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether 60 per cent of Indian school children carry throat infections;

(b) if so, whether this can develop into fatal or permanently crippling heart disease;

(c) whether rheumatic heart disease is characterised by rapid progression, killing a third of its victims before the age of 18 and crippling most of others;

(d) whether the Government are aware that a major hurdle in tackling the disease is the vast reservoir of streptococcus germs that stalks the country demanding mass treatment of all school going children between the age of 5 and 15; and

(e) if so, the remedial steps taken in this regard ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. According to the Indian Council of Medical Research, all carriers of Group A Beta Haemolytic Streptococcal (GABHS) do not develop Rheumatic fever or Rheumatic Heart Disease. Only 0.3 per cent of untreated Streptococcal throat infections are reported to develop acute rheumatic fever.

(d) and (e) Streptococcal sore throat can be easily treated with Penicillin. Indian Council of Medical Research convened a Transfer of Technology Programme for control of RF-RHD in March, 1994 in which representatives of Medical Colleges from 18 States/Union Territories were apprised of the benefits of the control programme. Training manuals were circulated among the participants for transfer of the knowledge to their medical colleges and to develop and implement control measures at the PHC, District level in collaboration with the State Health Officers.

[Translation]

AYURVEDIC CURE FOR AIDS

**2112. Shri Datta Meghe :
Shri Phool Chand Verma :**

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether any research is being conducted for the cure of AIDS through Indian Systems of Medicine;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any cure has also been identified under Siddha system for AIDS; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

I. R. D. P.

2113. Shri Syed Shahabuddin : Will the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) total outlay on IRDP during 1994-95, State-wise, with

the break-up between Government subsidy and bank loan;

(b) break-up of subsidy between the Central and the State Governments, State-wise; and

(c) break-up of beneficiaries between the families which received the first dose of assistance and others ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhai Harijibhai Patel) : (a) Statement-I showing State-wise allocation, subsidy disbursed and credit mobilised during 1994-95 under IRDP is enclosed.

(b) IRDP is a centrally sponsored scheme shared on 50 : 50 basis between the centre and state. Enclosed statement-I indicates Central and State release during 1994-95.

(c) Statement-II is enclosed.

Statement-I
Financial Progress under IRDP—1994-95 (Provisional)

Sl. State/U.T. No.		Allocation	Subsidy	Credit	Central Release	State Release
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8344.00	7715.63	10528.07	5252.48	5253.87
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	623.00	388.34	58.78	312.00	185.10
3.	Assam	2747.00	1400.27	2359.85	2373.00	793.74
4.	Bihar	16232.00	6519.33	10880.00	6464.95	3742.00
5.	Goa	142.00	NR	123.70	57.16	35.50
6.	Gujarat	3063.00	2610.82	4206.65	1507.63	1507.62
7.	Haryana	736.00	1125.44	2066.81	782.26	905.76
8.	Himachal Pradesh	240.00	264.57	600.83	175.08	58.26
9.	J & K	1000.00	253.05	440.26	451.32	169.32
10.	Karnataka	5603.00	3428.75	6720.93	2506.29	2506.29
11.	Kerala	2038.00	2172.38	3987.02	1150.00	1059.73
12.	Madhya Pradesh	10573.00	7989.56	13852.61	4888.00	3233.85
13.	Maharashtra	9096.00	6579.67	12773.09	3958.53	3963.38
14.	Manipur	450.00	NR	107.13	225.00	87.87
15.	Meghalaya	478.00	290.45	155.70	239.00	101.00
16.	Mizoram	201.00	167.25	16.77	101.00	50.50
17.	Nagaland	337.00	54.58	52.80	168.00	
18.	Orissa	6769.00	5221.79	6736.31	3243.29	1792.84
19.	Punjab	523.00	913.21	1871.52	695.94	396.65
20.	Rajasthan	4393.00	4155.15	7135.10	2017.03	2025.62
21.	Sikkim	56.00	27.09	61.08	28.00	28.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
22.	Tamil Nadu	7543.00	7147.17	11746.31	4455.92	4767.21
23.	Tripura	643.00	838.99	339.70	288.59	249.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	20335.00	16647.56	37417.94	9873.02	9870.52
25.	West Bengal	7478.00	5016.65	8061.07	3295.74	4504.11
26.	A & N Islands	71.00	37.18	27.28	35.50	
27.	D & N Haveli	15.00	11.53	27.26	12.66	
28.	Daman & Diu	28.00	2.92	9.68	14.00	
29.	Lakshadweep	7.00	5.21	8.02	5.21	
30.	Pondicherry	58.00	28.44	93.59	33.32	
	Total	109822.00	81012.98	142465.86	54610.00	47287.74

Statement-II

Families assisted under IRDP—1994-95 (Provisional)

Sl. No.	State/U.T.	Old Beneficiaries	New Beneficiaries	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	159908	159908
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3813	7943	11756
3.	Assam	NR	NR	61861
4.	Bihar	NR	NR	224736
5.	Goa	—	2137	2137
6.	Gujarat	—	76498	76498
7.	Haryana	921	27364	28285
8.	Himachal Pradesh	NR	NR	7349
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	104	9238	9342
10.	Karnataka	6479	119221	125810
11.	Kerala	—	46294	46294
12.	Madhya Pradesh	NR	NR	210560
13.	Maharashtra	15922	180755	196677
14.	Manipur	NR	NR	7658
15.	Meghalaya	—	6020	6020
16.	Mizoram	—	2006	2006
17.	Nagaland	78	1142	1220
18.	Orissa	869	136018	136887
19.	Punjab	20	22681	22701
20.	Rajasthan	—	107799	107799
21.	Sikkim	94	1187	1281
22.	Tamil Nadu	—	201221	201221

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Tripura	2	2359	2361
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1870	367855	369725
25.	West Bengal	940	158782	159722
26.	A & N Island	11	434	445
27.	D & N Haveli	—	302	302
28.	Daman & Diu	45	91	136
29.	Lakshadweep	—	100	100
30.	Pondicherry	—	1221	1221
Total		31168	1638686	2182018

VISIT TO U.S.A.

2114. Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu : Will the Minister and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Health Minister recently visited United States of America;

(b) if so, the outcome of his visit;

(c) whether any firm proposals were made to the Indian Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the broad areas of agreement between both the countries in the field of health care ?

The Minister of Health and Family Welfare (Shri A. R. Antulay) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) During discussions in Chicago from 29th June, 1995 to 2nd July, 1995 with the representatives of American Association of Physicians of Indian origin (AAPI), it was decided to enlarge the role of NRI Doctors belonging to the Association in the programme of Continuing Medical Education (CME) in India. The Medical Council of India (MCI) and the National Academy of Medical Sciences are functioning as nodal agencies to coordinate the CME Scheme in India and are organising short duration programmes in Medical Colleges/Hospitals in different parts of the Country.

In addition, the donation of medical equipments and medical education accessories also are being enlarged. It has also been decided to have a continuous dialogue with the AAPI to explore new areas for co-operation in the health sector.

HEALTH POLICY

2115. Shri Sarat Pattanayak : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to revise the National Health Policy to meet the requirements of 21st Century; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) and (b) There is no such proposal at present.

[Translation]

SEPARATE MINISTRY FOR RESERVATION

2116. Shri Brahmanand Mandal : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether a demand has been made to set up a separate Ministry for reservation;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up such Ministry; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up ?

The 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) : (a) to (c) There is not proposal at present to set up a separate Ministry for reservation.

TELEVISION INDUSTRIES

2117. Shri Rajendra Kumar Sharma : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Television Industry in the country has come to stand still;

(b) whether the Government have started any assistance scheme in order to accelerate the Television Industry in the country;

(c) if so, the outlines thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the export of the items produced by the electronics goods manufacturing units ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) No, Sir. The production of Television Industry in the country during the

last three years has been as under :

Item	(in lakhs)		
	(Production Nos.)		
	1992	1993	1994
B & W TV	34.0	41.0	52.0
CTV	8.3	10.7	13.3

(b) to (d) Various measures taken by Government to boost the growth and to increase the exports of electronics industry including TV in the country are given in the enclosed **Statement**.

Statement

Measures taken to boost the growth of Electronics Industry in the Country

- (i) Policy initiatives like exemption from locational limitations, abolition of licensing except for four specific items, abolition of phased manufacturing programme and amendment to the MRTP Act to facilitate investments.
- (ii) Liberalisation of Export-Import Policy by allowing free access to imported capital goods, value based advanced licensing scheme etc.
- (iii) Rationalisation of fiscal policy especially in the areas of duty structure, corporate taxation etc.
- (iv) Introduction of the Software Technology Park Scheme which seeks to provide infrastructural facilities for small software houses keen to enter the export market. The scheme also gives the flexibility to set up private STPs which can be done by bigger companies taking advantage of the duty free facilities offered for import of CG etc.
- (v) Introduction of the Electronics Hardware Technology Park Scheme (EHTP) designed to meet the specific requirements of a globally oriented electronics sector. This would provide a flexible policy environment that would greatly enhance the ease of doing business and making professional access to the vast Indian domestic market as an incentive for export production in the country.
- (vi) Encouraging foreign collaboration for investment and technology. This includes automatic approval for foreign direct investment upto 51% foreign equity in high priority industries and automatic permission for foreign technology agreements in such industries with certain ceiling of payments.
- (vii) Encouragements to NRIs and Overseas Corporate Bodies predominantly owned by NRIs to invest in India. This includes automatic approval upto 100% equity in priority industries.
- (viii) Implementation of a quality infrastructure programme called the Standardization, Testing & Quality Certification (STQC) Programme to promote the

quality of Indian electronic goods.

- (ix) Participation in and sponsoring of seminars, exhibitions, business delegation etc. abroad and in India.
- (x) Establishment of a Software Services Support and Education Centre to improve the quality of Indian software.
- (xi) Establishment of SATCOM Services (India) to provide high speed data communication for software exports.

[English]

COLD STORAGE FACILITIES

2118. Dr. K. V. R. Chowdary : Will the **Minister of Rural Areas and Employment** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government allocate funds for construction of cold storage in the States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the criteria for allocation of such funds ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai Patel) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

HEALTH FACILITIES

2119. Shri S. M. Laljan Basha : Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to develop infrastructure for the establishment of medical and health facilities all over the country;

(b) the action plan drawn up for the purpose;

(c) whether State Governments have been consulted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) to (d) The provision of health care services is a State subject under the Constitution and the States are primarily responsible for meeting the preventive, promotive and curative health needs of people for which infrastructure is strengthened through each successive Five Year Plan. Since fifth plan onwards, a huge network of rural health infrastructure comprising of 1,31,900 Sub Centres, 22,156 Primary Health Centres and 2,377 Community Health Centres have been set up throughout the country under Minimum Needs Programme to provide comprehensive primary health care in rural areas. During the 8th Five Year Plan, emphasis is on consolidation of rural health infrastructure in terms of qualitative improvement with minimal expansion in tribal/difficult terrain areas. In the urban areas, health facilities are provided through sub-divisional and district hospitals/tertiary level hospitals/medical colleges and institutions run by Central/State Governments, voluntary and private

organisations. Meetings with State Govt. are held to review many aspects of health programmes for ensuring benefit of health care particularly being reached to poorer section of the population. Proposals for further strengthening of secondary level hospitals as received from certain States have been posed to the World Bank for financial support.

COAST GUARD

2120. Shri Anantrao Deshmukh : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study to review the organisational set up of Coast Guard Organisation;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to strengthen the organisational set-up of Coast Guard Organisation ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : (a) and (b) The Organisational set-up of Coast Guard Organisation is reviewed from time to time, keeping in view its functions and responsibilities.

(c) The Coast Guard are being strengthened and modernised as per the Coast Guard Perspective Plan 1985-2000 and 5 Year Coast Guard Development Plans, which envisage a balanced growth of the Coast Guard, commensurate with their requirements, subject to the availability of funds.

[Translation]

POPULATION GROWTH

2121. Sr. Lal Bahadur Rawal : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) the difference between the population of the country at the time of Independence and the population at present;

(b) the reasons for rapid growth of population;

(c) whether the Government feel that imbalance has developed between the development of the country and growing population; and

(d) if so, the action being taken by the Government to set right the said imbalance ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) The estimated difference of population between independence and as on 1st March, 1995 is 569 million as per estimates of Registrar General, India.

(b) Besides rapid reduction in the Death Rate as compared to the Birth Rate, factors like social attitudes and beliefs, female literacy, infant mortality, economic status of the family etc. influence population growth.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) An action Plan formulated in consultation with the state Governments and Union Territories is under

implementation. Its features include improving the quality and outreach of services, promotion of spacing methods among younger age couples, special focus on 90 lagging districts, involving voluntary and non-governmental organisations to promote community participation and strengthening of inter-ventions to promote maternal and child health care.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION

2122. Shri Dau Dayal Joshi : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state the number of the students passed in Hindi Medium in the All India Pre-medical and Pre-dental Entrance Examination and All India Institute of Medical Sciences Entrance Examination held during the last three academic sessions ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C Silvera) : Under the All India Pre-medical/Pre-dental Entrance Examination conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education, medium-wise information about the candidate is not available as the question paper is bilingual and candidates are required to shade the correct response in the answer sheet rather than answering in Hindi/English.

The number of students who passed in Hindi Medium in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Entrance Examination held during the last three academic sessions is as under :

Year		
1993	—	One
1994	—	Nil
1995	—	Two

[English]

SUBSIDY TO BIOGAS PLANTS

2123. Shri K. Muralee Dharan : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to enhance the subsidy to the biogas plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal for establishing mobile repair units in all the districts of Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. In the Conference of the Members of Parliament of the State of Kerala held on 25-7-1995 at Thiruvananthapuram, an agenda on National Project on Biogas Development has been discussed wherein the State Government has made suggestions, inter-alia, for revising the rates of Central subsidy and establishing mobile repair

units in all Districts of the State for consideration of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.

WORLD POPULATION DAY

2124. Prof. M. Kamson : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether World Population Day was organised on July 6, 1995;

(b) if so, the details of celebrations organised State and Union Territory-wise to mark the day with theme;

(c) whether the Government propose to take follow-up action on oath taken on this celebrations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) and (b) The World Population Day was observed on 11th July, 1995. The main function was held at Gwalior in which more than 1500 delegates of Mahila Swasthya Sanghs from different States of the Country took pledge to propagate the message of small family. In addition, all the States/UTs. were requested to Organise similar functions.

(c) and (d) The oath ceremony was organised to enthuse greater sense of participation and responsibility by the community in promotion of the cause of small family norm.

[Translation]

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION AMONG SAARC COUNTRIES

2125. Shri Surya Narayan Yadav : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement among "SAARC" countries has been concluded regarding exchange of Science and Technology;

(b) if so, the names of the countries in which it has been implemented; and

(c) the time by which the remaining countries are likely to be covered under exchange programme ?

The 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) : (a) to (c) There is no specific Agreement on S & T within the "SAARC" forum. However, there is SAARC Technical Committee on S & T which meets periodically. Its activities cover organisation of seminars/workshops, preparation of the state-of-the-art reports/directories, organisation of group training programmes, meetings of experts and joint research in specific areas from time to time. Within the SAARC region, India has, however, bilateral arrangements on S & T with Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

[English]

APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES

2126. Shri Harchand Singh : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) the number of judges appointed in Supreme Court and various High Courts during the last one year, court-wise;

(b) whether some of judges have been appointed from the bar of the same High Court; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Shri H. R. Bhardwaj) : (a) to (c) 5 Judges in Supreme Court and 82 Judges in various High Courts were appointed during the last one year.

All the Judges except one have been appointed from the Bar of the same High Court. The number of persons appointed from the Bar in each High Court is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	High Court	No. of Judges appointed from 1-8-94 till date	No. Judges belonging to Bar
1	2	3	4
1.	Allahabad	10	5
2.	Andhra Pradesh	13	8
3.	Bombay	4	—
4.	Calcutta	7	4
5.	Delhi	8	3
6.	Gauhati	—	—
7.	Gujarat	4	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	2
10.	Karnataka	4	—
11.	Kerala	2	2
12.	Madhya Pradesh	11	4
13.	Madras	6	5
14.	Orissa	1	—
15.	Patna	4	3
16.	Punjab & Haryana	—	—
17.	Rajasthan	5	—
18.	Sikkim	1	1
		82	37
II.	Supreme Court	5	All were sitting Chief Justices of the High Courts

VACANT POSTS OF SC/ST

2127. Shri Krishna Dutt Sultanpuri : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any backlog in different categories reserved for SC/ST and OBC that remained unfilled in the Supreme Court and High Courts in the beginning of 1994;
- (b) the number out of them have since been filled-up; and
- (c) the steps being taken to fill-up the remaining posts that have risen during the last one year ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Shri H. R. Bhardwaj) : (a) Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts are made in terms of Article 124 and Article 217 of the Constitution of India respectively, which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. The Government have, however, addressed letters to the Chief Ministers and the Chief Justices of the High Courts, from time to time, requesting them to locate persons from the Bar belonging to relatively under represented categories such as the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women who are suitable for appointment as High Court Judges, so as to give them better representation on the High Courts than what exists at present.

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

SMALL POWER PROJECT

2128. Shri Anna Joshi : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sought any assistance for setting up the proposed small power project in the State during 1994-95 and 1995-96;
- (b) if so, the amount sanctioned and disbursed by the Government therefor ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) : (a) Government of Maharashtra has sought assistance for setting up of a 2 MW Demonstration wind power project at Chalkewadi, District, Satara.

- (b) Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has sanctioned as assistance of Rs. 384 lakhs for the project, out of which Rs. 38.40 lakhs have been released.

[Translation]

POLIO VACCINE

2129. Shri Sushil Chandra Varma : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

- (a) whether 93 per cent polio victims of the world are in India;
- (b) whether the total requirement of polio vaccine in India are being imported;
- (c) if so, the percentage of the import being made and the countries from which import is being made;
- (d) the temperature required to keep the said vaccine effective; and
- (e) the manner in which temperature is maintained while supplying the said vaccine to the villages ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) No, Sir. About half the world's reported cases of polio, annually, are from India.

- (b) and (c) Polio vaccine is manufactured in India from imported bulk. The installed indigenous capacity to manufacture OPV is currently sufficient to meet the total requirements of the routine Immunisation Programme.
- (d) and (e) OPV should be stored below +8 Celsius. An elaborate system of cold chain has been installed so that.

POWER PROJECTS OF J & K

2030. Shri Anand Ratna Maurya : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

- (a) whether inordinate delay is taking place in the completion of Power Projects located in Jammu and Kashmir;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the action plan for completion of these power projects and the present position thereof;
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to complete power projects within the time schedule; and
- (e) the increase in the financial costs of each project due to such delay ?

The 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) : (a) to (e) A Statement is enclosed.

Statement
NHPC'S Power Projects in J & K

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Completion Original	Schedule Anticipated	Reasons for delay	Steps being taken to complete the project	Cost (Rs. in crores)		
						Original	Revised	Increased
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Salal HE Project St. II (3 x 115 MW)	Sept. '93	The 3 units commissioned in 6/93, 3/94 and 2/95 respectively through Tail Race Tunnel (TRT) of St. I Commissioning thro' TRT of St. II expected by Dec. 95.	Slow progress of work in TRT II by the contractors	Close Monitoring & follow up with the contractors	210.62	307.68	97.06
2.	Uri HE Project (4 x 120 MW)	Nov. '97	May '97	Law and Order problems in J & K	Close monitoring of the progress	1632.62	3070.67	1438.05
3.	Duihasti HE Project (3 x 139 MW)	July '94	Dec. '98	(i) Withdrawal of the civil works partner of the French Consortium which had been entrusted by NHPC in Oct. '89 with the execution of the project of turn key basis.	NHPC has invited global tenders for completion of the balance civil works. Last date for receipt of bids extended upto 21-8-95. In the meantime, NHPC has since April '95 started some preparatory work departmentally alongwith excavation of the switchyard.	1262.97	2496.36 (tentative)	1233.19

* The increase in cost is partly due to escalation within the original commissioning schedule on a partly due to delay. Increase in cost solely on account of delay in commissioning has not been separately assessed.

STRIKE BY STAFF

2131. Shri Manjay Lal :

Shri Ram Prasad Singh :

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether during strike period of Safdarjung Hospital between May 25, 1995 to June 1, 1995 some group C and D staff who were on maternity, earned and medical leaves have been victimised by pay deduction;

(b) whether the Government propose to re-examine such cases for doing justice to these employees; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) to (c) There was no victimisation.

[English]

NATIONAL RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

2132. Shri Rajendra Agnihotri : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether NRDC has decided to commercialise potential technologies from IIT Kharagpur both inside the country and abroad;

(b) if so, whether any MOU has been signed in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The 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) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An MOU was signed between NRDC and IIT, Kharagpur on 29 May, 1995

(c) The MOU, which is valid for 3 years from the date of signing, provides for the IIT to assign to NRDC inventions/technologies/processes, including the patents relating thereon (where the technology/process has already been patented by the IIT) for licensing and commercial exploitation by NRDC. So far, 25 technologies/processes have already been identified by NRDC and the IIT for assigning to NRDC for such commercial exploitation.

[Translation]

AGRO-BASED INDUSTRIES

2133. Shri N.J. Rathva :

Dr. Krupasindhu Bhol :

Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of proposals received by the Government in regard to capital investment in agriculture based industries during the last two years, state-wise;

(b) the details of the proposals approved and places identified for their establishment so far; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : (a) and (b) Most of the agriculture based industries are delicensed, for which no approval under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act is necessary. For the agriculture based industries retained under compulsory licensing, (including otherwise licensable cases) 529 applications were received during 1993, 1994 and 1995 (upto July), out of which till July, 1995, 130 have been approved. A Statement indicating state-wise details is enclosed.

(c) Letters of Intent are valid for three years during which these need to be converted into Industrial Licences. It takes generally 4 to 5 years for an industrial project to fructify. However, the gestation period varies from industry to industry.

Statement

The number of proposals received and the number of Letters of Intent issued under Industries (Development & Regulation) Act for setting up agro-based industries in the country during 1993, 1994 and 1995 (upto July)

Sl. No.	Name of the States/ Union Territories	Number of proposal received	Number of proposal approved
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	29	9
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	—
4.	Assam	—	—
5.	Bihar	5	3
6.	Chandigarh	—	—
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—
8.	Daman & Diu	1	1
9.	Delhi	—	—
10.	Goa	—	—
11.	Gujarat	7	4
12.	Haryana	11	8
13.	Himachal Pradesh	5	—
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—
15.	Karnataka	55	—
16.	Kerala	6	2
17.	Lakshdweep	—	—

1	2	3	4
18.	Madhya Pradesh	19	2
19.	Maharashtra	42	13
20.	Manipur	—	—
21.	Meghalaya	—	—
22.	Mizoram	—	—
23.	Nagaland	1	—
24.	Orissa	13	4
25.	Pondicherry	3	1
26.	Punjab	15	5
27.	Rajasthan	3	3
28.	Sikkim	—	—
29.	Tamil Nadu	117	61
30.	Tripura	—	—
31.	Uttar Pradesh	190	11
32.	West Bengal	5	3
33.	More than one State	—	—
Total :		529	130

Note : Agriculture-based industries are covered by cotton yarn, paper and pulp, sugar, beer, vegetable oil & vanaspati, food processing industries (excluding milk products).

SERVICE CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES OF R.D. AGENCIES

2134. **Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar** : Will the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) the service conditions laid down for employees working in rural development agencies in various States;

(b) whether the Union Government have issued any directives in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhal Harjibhai Patel) : (a) Service conditions of the employees working in the District Rural Development Agencies of the States are being framed by the State Governments.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

[English]

BOMB BLAST IN JAMMU

2135. **Shri M.V.V.S. Murthy** :

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri :

Shri Mohan Rawale :

Shri Phool Chand Verma :

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether a major bomb took place in Jammu recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons killed and injured as a result thereof;

(d) the loss of life and property due to this explosion;

(e) the efforts made by the Union Government and Jammu and Kashmir Administration to apprehend the culprits;

(f) the ex-gratia amount paid to the victims; and

(g) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken in this regard ?

The 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) : (a) to (d) Two major bomb blasts took place in Jammu, one near Central Basic High School in Purani Mandi on 20th July and the other near the Central Bank of India, Shalimar Road, on the 26th July 1995. It is alleged that in the case of blast on 20th July the bomb was planted in an auto, while in the case of blast on 26th July 1995, the explosive device was planted in a Scooter parked on the road side near Central Bank of India. 17 persons were killed and 50 others were injured in the blast of 20th July. 37 persons were injured in the blast of 26th July of whom one succumbed to his injuries later. These explosions had also resulted in damage of some vehicles and nearby buildings .

(e) A special team headed by the Superintendent of Police (Operation) Jammu has been constituted to investigate these incidents.

(f) Rs. 1 lakh each has been sanctioned as ex-gratia relief to those killed in the explosion and Rs.10000 and Rs. 5000 to those who were injured keeping in view the grievousness of injuries.

(g) vigilance and patrolling by the Police and the Security Forces has been intensified, and continuous efforts are being made to strengthen the intelligence machinery, arrangements for checking of vehicles and parking places are being further geared up, and electronic and print media are being used to educate the people about militant tactics and in regard to suspicious objects etc.

[Translation]

CAPART

2136. **Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh** : Will the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated by Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) to the voluntary organisations during the last three years. State and year-wise;

(b) the works for which funds have been allocated by CAPART to the voluntary organisations in Bihar and other States;

(c) the extent of work done by these organisations, state-wise; and

(d) the criteria fixed for completion of works by these organisations in a stipulated time ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhal Harijibhal Patel) : (a) A Statement giving state-wise and year-wise details of amounts sanctioned by CAPART to voluntary organisations during the last three years is enclosed.

(b) Voluntary agencies have been funded projects by CAPART covering areas of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Public Cooperation (PC), Organisation of Beneficiaries (OB), Advancement of Rural Technology Scheme (ARTS), Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP) and Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP).

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

(d) Projects are sanctioned by CAPART for specific durations depending upon various factors including the guidelines prescribed for various schemes.

Statement

State-wise and Year-wise details of amounts sanctioned by CAPART to Voluntary Organisations

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	Amount Sanctioned		
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	—	18.00	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	418.54	593.00	575.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	03.91	01.00	—
4.	Assam	15.49	33.00	11.00
5.	Bihar	515.37	784.00	683.00
6.	Delhi	124.61	159.00	117.00
7.	Goa	—	05.00	—
8.	Gujarat	221.48	316.00	187.00
9.	Haryana	59.82	135.00	81.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	70.75	64.00	31.00
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	13.21	29.00	15.00
12.	Karnataka	161.42	178.00	118.00

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Kerala	180.14	112.00	44.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	53.17	130.00	113.00
15.	Maharashtra	139.10	225.00	153.00
16.	Manipur	163.41	369.00	147.00
17.	Mizoram	93.13	64.00	01.00
18.	Meghalaya	—	02.00	—
19.	Nagaland	10.99	36.00	32.00
20.	Orissa	205.73	279.00	321.00
21.	Pondicherry	—	00.27	—
22.	Punjab	11.00	01.00	13.00
23.	Rajasthan	63.51	158.00	147.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	382.57	404.00	237.00
25.	Tripura	—	08.00	03.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	810.87	885.00	940.00
27.	West Bengal	823.72	841.00	973.00
Total :		4548.94	5829.27	4942.00

[English]

KIDNEY RACKET

2137. Shri Ram Kapse : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the custom officers have recently uncovered the Kidney tour racket;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in the matter; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected.

[Translation]

DRINKING WATER

2138. Shri Surendra Pal Pathak : Will the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) the measures being adopted by the Government to keep the drinking water free from chemicals and bio-contamination;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up a laboratory in each district of the country to test the quality of drinking water; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and

Employment (Department of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai Patel) : (a) The measures being adopted by the Government to provide potable drinking water free from chemical and biological contamination include the supply of drinking water through alternative safe sources, treatment of contaminated water by treatment plants like de-fluoridation plants (fill and draw community type and handpump attached) for removal of excess fluoride, reverse osmosis and electro-dialysis, de-salination plants for de-salination of water, iron removal plants for removal of excess iron, pipe water supply from safe sources for control of arsenic, chlorination of water, water quality surveillance with the help of ION meters, mobile and district level stationery laboratories for testing of water quality for proper remedial measures, etc.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

PAPER AND PULP DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

2139. Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formed a Paper and Pulp Development Council;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have acted on any recommendations of the Paper and Pulp Council over the last five years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to strengthen the Paper and Pulp Development Council ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : (a) and (b) The Development Council for Paper, Pulp and Allied Industries was reconstituted under Department of Industrial Development Notification dated 31-12-93 for a period of two years. A copy of the Notification indicating composition and tenure of the council, is attached as **statement**.

(c) and (d) The views expressed by the various sections of the Industry at the meeting of the Development Council are taken into account while formulating the policies of the Government.

(e) The present pattern of Development Council is considered to be in order to meet the requirements of the Industry.

Statement

(To be Published in Part II Section 3, Sub-Section (ii) of The Gazette of India Extraordinary)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

New Delhi, the 31st December, 1993.

ORDER

S.O.1053 (E). In exercise of powers conferred by section 6 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 (65 of 1951), read with rules 2, 4 and 5 of the Development Councils (Procedural) Rules, 1952, the Central Government hereby appoints for a period of two years, with immediate effect the following persons to be members of the Development Council for the Scheduled Industries engaged in the manufacture and production of paper, pulp and allied industries, in place of members appointed under the order of the Government of India in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development) No. S.O. 724(E) dated 25th October, 1991, as amended from time to time, whose tenure of office has expired :

Development Council for Paper, Pulp & Allied Industries

S.No.	Name	Represent
1	2	3
1.	Shri R.P. Agrawal, Managing Director, Tribeni Tissues Limited	Chairman
2.	Dr. M.K. Raina, Managing Director, Sinar Mas Paper	Member
3.	Shri Ashok Goel, Managing Director, U.P. Straw & Agro Products Limited	"
4.	Shri Vikram Thapar, Ballarpur Industries	"
5.	Dr. B.L. Bihani, President (Paper & Board) Straw Products Limited	"
6.	Shri H.S. Wachha, ICICI, Bombay	"
7.	Shri K.D. Pudumjee, Pudumjee Pulp & Paper Mills, Pune	"
8.	Shri Pramod Jain, Shiva Paper Mills	"

1	2	3
9.	Dr. A.R.K. Rao, Director (Operations) Mysore Paper Mills Limited	Member
10.	Shri S. Raghupathy, Adviser (Energy), Confederation of Indian Industries	▪
11.	Joint Secretary, in-charge of Paper, Department of Industrial Development	▪
12.	Inspector General (Forests), Ministry of Environment & Forests	▪
13.	President, All India Federation of Master Printers	▪
14.	Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Newsprint & Papers Limited	▪
15.	Chairman & Managing Director, Hindustan Paper Corporation	▪
16.	President, Indian Paper Mills Association	▪
17.	President, Indian Paper Makers Association	▪
18.	President, All India Small paper Mills Association	▪
19.	President, Indian Agro Paper Mills Association	▪
20.	President, Indian Pulp & Paper Technical Association	▪
21.	Director, Central Pulp & Paper Research Institute (CPPRI)	▪
22.	Dr. A. Panda, Consultant, UNDP	▪
23.	Shri N.D. Mohta, West Coast Paper Mills	▪
24.	Shri R.K. Kutty, Managing Director, ITC Bhadrachalam Paper Boards Ltd.	▪
25.	Deputy Director General, In-charge of Paper Industry/I.A. (Chemicals), DGTD	Member Secretary
26.	Adviser (I&M), Planning Commission	Member

(F.No. 8 (3)/93-Paper)

Sd/

AKHAND PRATAP SINGH

JOINT SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF INDIA

*[Translation]***FREE LEGAL AID**

2140. Shri Rajendra Kumar Sharma : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have fixed any criteria to provide legal assistance in courts to the people belonging to weaker sections;

(b) whether the guideline issued by the Government is being violated;

(c) whether the Government have enquired into the matter; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and

Company Affairs (Shri H.R. Bhardwa) : (a) Yes, Sir. Every citizen whose annual income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 6,000/- is eligible for legal aid up to High Court level. This income-limit is, however, not applicable to persons belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, women and Children.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

*[English]***LARGE PAPER MILLS**

2141. Shri S.M. Laljan Basha : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have granted any licences for setting up large paper mills in 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether adequate raw-materials have been found or earmarked for these new paper mills; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

AIMS

2142. Shri A. Charles : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Management and Administration of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences is almost paralysed for the last several months;

(b) whether the recruitments to various posts including some of the heads of Department have not been done so far; and

(c) the steps taken to streamline the administration and to bring normalcy in this Institute ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Action is in process to select suitable candidates for the posts of Professor in various discipline and for promotion to the posts of Associate Professor and Addl. Professor under the Assessment Promotion Scheme. Matter of reservation in appointment to the post of Assistant Professor is sub-judice.

(c) The Institute is functioning smoothly.

SOLAR ENERGY IN RAJASTHAN

2143. Shri Anand Ratna Maurya : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the government have taken some new initiatives for harnessing the potential of solar energy in the desert region of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to declare an exclusive Solar Energy Enterprise Zone (SEEZ);

(d) if so, the objectives and special features thereof; and

(e) the time by which is likely to start in that region and the time frame fixed for completion of projects?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-

Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) : (a) and (b) Initiative for harnessing the potential of solar energy in the desert region of Rajasthan include the feasibility of setting up a 35 MW Solar Thermal Power Plant at Mathania in Jodhpur district of the State. A proposal has been received from a US based company for setting up of a Solar Photovoltaic power plant of an aggregate capacity of 150 MW in a phased manner on Build-Own Operate (B-O-O) basis. In addition, the concept of establishing a Solar Energy Enterprise Zone (SEEZ) has also been mooted.

(c) and (d) The concept of SEEZ is mainly to offer land, infrastructure and other facilities in the solar resource-rich region in Western Rajasthan to facilitate full commercialisation of solar energy technologies. SEEZ could provide facilities for establishment of solar energy equipment manufacturing units as well as installation of solar power generation projects.

(e) After their finalisation, and subject to necessary approvals and mobilisation of financial resources, work on both the solar power project could start during 1996-97.

MILLION WELLS

2144. Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu : Will the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent so far, State and year-wise under the "Million Wells" scheme;

(b) whether the Government ensure that the money has been properly spent; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai Patel) : (a) A statement showing the expenditure incurred, statewise and yearwise under the Million Wells Scheme (MWS) is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The guidelines laid out for the Million Wells Scheme (MWS) has built in provisions to ensure that the funds are spent for the specified purpose only. Further, the progress under the scheme is being monitored by the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment on the basis of monthly, quarterly and annual reports received from the respective State governments. In order to obtain a first hand feed back, this Ministry under its Area officers scheme deputed senior officers from the Central Government to visit the works taken up under various centrally sponsored rural employment programmes including the Million Wells Scheme.

Statement

Expenditure Under MWS From 1988-89 To 1995-96 (Rs. In Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/U.T.	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3284.15	524.36	3858.76	4019.94	4267.46	6505.62	5099.95	344.60
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.80	39.00	35.94	8.18
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	242.33	174.71	370.29	1898.75	1143.16	186.77

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.	Bihar	3814.33	2852.57	6878.67	7754.30	10149.84	7927.16	6853.58	1724.69
5.	Goa	0.24	1.62	0.00	0.00	1.30	0.00	3.60	3.39
6.	Gujarat	983.82	1098.89	800.36	1855.88	1788.88	2014.45	2806.64	559.14
7.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	132.47	353.50	427.54	548.97	444.22	29.18
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	7.72	101.76	189.15	185.35	225.81	270.86	35.75
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	13.86	5.30	184.40	158.66	214.64	645.46	1.70
10.	Karnataka	190.86	171.42	1340.54	2372.19	2678.56	4429.99	5395.07	411.14
11.	Kerala	87.02	3.48	307.91	376.06	583.79	1389.35	2132.96	203.09
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1333.71	406.03	2339.23	7137.67	6093.02	6503.34	4923.63	1126.17
13.	Maharashtra	977.80	1433.64	2106.78	1843.35	1558.11	1464.85	2751.06	646.50
14.	Manipur	0.00	0.13	6.75	26.72	39.77	74.23	93.34	29.79
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	2.31	57.52	67.76	66.41	88.80	9.16
16.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	97.83	46.58	40.44	85.09	106.20	0.10
17.	Nagaland	4.40	21.70	23.80	0.00	77.40	133.40	138.60	0.00
18.	Orissa	679.87	863.53	1127.92	2621.64	3101.41	3424.36	4285.12	1230.25
19.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00.
20.	Rajasthan	794.75	1555.54	1794.75	2945.69	1797.14	1301.75	775.75	104.77
21.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	27.33	0.00	0.00	52.98	55.83	4.46
22.	Tamil Nadu	1020.07	585.08	260.98	1346.76	2348.16	5481.79	7339.18	346.18
23.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	104.93	57.88	64.72	181.96	255.34	13.56
24.	Uttar Pradesh	53.52	124.34	3767.97	12541.22	12213.46	14284.02	18883.78	848.75
25.	West Bengal	71.91	1142.28	2632.96	3459.36	5349.78	5635.88	6721.15	948.93
26.	A&N Island	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.83	0.00	1.60	9.35	1.28
27.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	D&N Haveli	3.05	10.72	2.85	22.33	0.00	5.44	31.19	4.94
29.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.74	0.41	0.00
30.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	7.87	24.12	10.98	2.32	0.72	0.00
Total		13299.50	10816.41	27974.26	49518.50	53404.63	63899.90	71290.89	8722.47

0/0.00—Nil/Not Reported.

MINI-PAPER PLANTS

2145. Shri S.M. Laljan Basha : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

(a) whether the government are encouraging smaller size paper mills to the agricultural material as raw material;

(b) the number of Mini-Paper Plants which have come up in 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(c) the proportion of paper being provided by Mini-Paper Plants in the country as compared to large mills; and

(d) the details thereof, year-wise ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) At present, there are more than 300 small paper mills in the country with an installed capacity of around 21.13 lakh tonnes per annum. This accounts for nearly 50% of the total installed capacity and a little more than 50% of the production of paper and paper board in the country. The estimated figures of production are as under :-

(In Lakh tonnes)

Year	Small Paper Mills	Large Paper Mills	Total
1992	11.3	9.7	21.0
1993	13.7	8.8	22.5
1994	14.5	9.5	24.0

SCRAPPING THE RANK OF JCO

2146. Shri Anna Joshi : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether British before Independence introduced the rank of JCO's;

(b) if so, whether such a rank existed in the British army in the part or is still existing;

(c) whether top ranking officers command the troops through JCO's only;

(d) if so, whether Government have received representations from retired officers indicating the total cut-off of officers from other ranks due to JCO's;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to eliminate this rank; and

(f) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) The Army is a hierarchical organisation and JCOs form part of the hierarchy. As such, normal command channels are followed.

(d) No such representation has been received by the Government.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

CGHS DISPENSARIES

2147. Shri N.J. Rathva : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) dispensaries in Gujarat as on June, 1995;

(b) the expenditure incurred on each dispensary during the last two years;

(c) whether the Government propose to open more CGHS dispensaries in Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) There are 5 Allopathic and one each of Ayurvedic, Homoeopathic and Dental CGHS Dispensaries/Units in Gujarat as on June, 1995.

(b) Dispensary-wise expenditure is not maintained in CGHS. However, expenditure incurred on these dispensaries/units as a whole during the last 2 years is given below :-

Year	Rupees in Lakhs
1993-94	99.20
1994-95	121.45

(c) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration.

(d) Does not arise.

S.S.I. PROPOSALS

2148. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal : Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been invited to the news-item captioned "Bulk of Bengal SSI proposals rejected" appearing in the 'Business standard' New Delhi dated July 17, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government plan to reconsider the bulk of proposals rejected; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Small Scale Industries and Agro and Rural Industries) (Shri M. Arunachalam) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In West Bengal, during 1994-95, a total of 35,165 cases had been sponsored to the banks under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana. Over 19,000 cases were not found acceptable to the banks for sanction of loan, while 8753 cases were sanctioned by the banks. Cases under PMRY are sponsored to the banks and not to the Central Government and, therefore, there is no question of Central Government either rejecting or accepting the loan applications under the PMRY.

(c) Review and coordination meetings with banks participation are being held, besides regular follow up. A meeting of North Eastern Region States and some of the Eastern States including West Bengal was held on 26-7-95 under the Chairmanship of Minister of State for SSI, Government of India at Calcutta. Banks also participated in the meeting and assured their full cooperation and support for successful implementation of PMRY. A study to analyse the reasons of rejection is being conducted.

(d) and (e) the cases after sponsoring are sent to banks and not to the Central Government. However, the cases rejected by banks are being reviewed by the State agencies and whenever found feasible are being responsored in the current financial year.

VISIT BY ISRAELI DEFENCE TEAM

2149. Shri Syed Shahabuddin : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Israeli defence team paid a visit to India in April, 1995 to seek air-staging and refuelling facilities for Israeli aircraft on the Indian soil;

(b) if so, the exact nature and extent of facilities sought; and

(c) the decision of the Union Government thereon ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

CONCENTRATION OF PAKISTANI TROOPS

2150. Shri Mohan Rawale : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received intelligence reports that Pakistani troops of the 161 infantry battalion have concentrated near Bhurewala Tiba along the international border in the Rajasthan Sector and their number are gradually increasing;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : (a) to (c) There are no reports to indicate any abnormal concentration of Pak troops along the International Border in Rajasthan Sector. However, a constant watch is being kept on the developments which have a bearing on our national security and appropriate measures are taken from time to time to ensure full defence preparedness.

BIOGAS POTENTIALITY

2151. Dr. K.V.R. Chowdary : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) the total biogas potentiality in the country;

(b) the percentage exploited so far; and

(c) the steps taken to increase than biogas potentiality ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) : (a) A potential of setting up of 120 lakh family type biogas plants based on cattle dung has been estimated for the country.

(b) About 18.3 per cent of the estimated potential has been exploited so far.

(c) Several steps have been taken to increase the biogas potential in the country. Research and development work has been taken up in the areas of development of new designs for production of biogas from agricultural residues, leafy biomass and other organic wastes; reduction in the cost of plants by using locally available construction materials and pre-fabricated ferro-cement structures; and improvement in the efficiency of biogas production. The biogas development programme has been expanded by involving large number of Non-Governmental Organisations and private entrepreneurs in the promotion, construction and repair and maintenance of biogas plants and intensifying education and training among users and potential users.

COLOUR T.V. INDUSTRY

2152. Shri Ashok Anandrao Deshmukh : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) the status of colour TV Industry in the country;

(b) the production data of all colour TV manufacturers with their brand name and quantity during 1994;

(c) the details of Multinational Companies/Joint Ventures approved for manufacture of Colour TVs;

(d) the production and investment plans of Multinational companies; and

(e) whether it is obligatory for multinational companies to set up component base in the country/buy indigenous components with a view to boost Electronic Component industries ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development (Shri Eduardo Faleiro) : (a) The production of colour Television in the country during the last three years has been as under :-

Item	(Production Nos. in Lakhs)		
	1992	1993	1994
CTV	8.3	10.7	13.3

(b) The names of Colour TV (CTV) manufacturing units and the brand name used, alongwith number of CTV sets manufactured by each during the year 1994 as reported to the Department of Electronics are given in the attached Statement.

(c) The following proposals of multinational/joint venture companies have been approved for the manufacture of colour

TVs :

(d) the production and investment plans of M/s Sony is as follows :

Name of the Company	Foreign collaborator	Investment (US \$)	Sales/Production
M/s Sony Corpn., Japan (a multinational company)	100% owned subsidiary of Sony.	1995 (10 million)	25,000 units p.a.
		1996 (5.2 million)	100,000 units p.a.
M/s Reasonable Computer Solution (P) Ltd.	M/s Samung Electronic Co. Korea.	1997 (0.8 million)	200,000 units p.a.
		1998 -	300,000 units p.a.
M/s Akai Baron Intl. Ltd.	M/s Akai Electric Co. Ltd. Japan.		
M/s Bestavision	M/s LG Electronics Inc. Korea.		

(e) M/s SONY has undertaken to source components increasingly from India and by 1998, 20% of components would be produced Locally.

Statement

Colour TV Production during 1994

Manufacturer Name	Brand	Production (Nos.)
1	2	3
1. BPL Ltd., Bangalore	BPL	0.32 Million
2. BPL Sanyo Utilities & Appliance Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	BPL	37,116
3. Calcom Vision Ltd., New Delhi	Calcom	2,000
4. Central Electronics Ltd., Sahibabad	Cel	3,160
5. Dixon Utilities and Exports Ltd., Noida	Goldstar	42,344
* 6. Domebell Investments Pvt Ltd., Noida	Videocon	15,163
7. Dynamic Electronics Ltd., Bangalore	BPL	23,719
8. Electronics Corporation of India Ltd., Hyderabad	ECIL	20,356
9. ET&T Corporation Ltd., New Delhi	ET&T	9,600
10. Goa Electronics Ltd., Mapusa	CEL/EC	138
11. Jupiter Radios (Regd.), New Delhi	Texla	10,592
12. Kalyani Sharp India Ltd., Pune	Optonica	0.10 Million
13. Kinetic Engg Ltd., Pune		1,231
14. Konark Television Ltd., Bhubaneshwar	Konark	2,216
15. Mirc Electronics Ltd., Bombay	Onida	0.15 Million
16. Monica Electronics Ltd., New Delhi	Onida	64,574
17. Onida Saka Ltd., New Delhi	Onida	1,633
18. Panorama Electronics Pvt Ltd., Calcutta	Panorama	492
19. Philips India Ltd., Calcutta	Philips	0.15 Million
* 20. Pinnacle Exports Pvt. Ltd., Bhopal	Videocon	8,090
21. Ra-Veltronics, Madras	Sakthi	6
22. Solora International Ltd., Kashipur	Sabora	483
23. Skantrons Pvt Ltd., New Delhi	Skantrons	24
* 24. Sohan Finance Pvt Ltd., Calcutta	Videocon	7,200
25. Startron Video Pvt Ltd., New Delhi	Star	6,325

1	2	3
26. Telerama (India) Ltd., Calcutta	Telerama	427
27. Television & Components Ltd., Gandhinagar	Crown	40,373
28. Texia Electronics, Ludhiana	Texla	29,201
29. UP Hill Electronics Coporation Ltd., Lucknow	Hiltron	187
30. Uptron India Ltd., Jaunpur	Uptron	11,727
31. Uptron India Ltd., Lucknow	Uptron	9,299
* 32. Venugopal Engineering, Mohali	Videocon	12,620
* 33. Videocon international Ltd., Bangalore	Videocon	5,915
* 34. Videocon International Ltd., Chitegaon	Videocon	0.13 Million
* 35. Videocon International Ltd., Gandhinagar	Videocon	24,265
* 36. Videocon International Ltd., Aurangabad	Videocon	34,332
37. Webel Nicco Electronics Ltd., Calcutta	Webel Nicco	396
38. Westen Electronics Ltd., New Delhi	Weston	6,605

*Estimated based on 8 months production data.

MARUTI UDYOG LTD.

2153. Shri . N. Dennis :

Dr. K.V.R. Chowdary :

Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi :

Prof. K.V. Thomas :

Will the **Minister of Industry** be pleased to state :

(a) whether M/s Maruti Udyog Ltd. is going ahead with a huge expansion now;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Maruti products have markets overseas;

(d) if so, the details thereof till date;

(e) the profits for the last three years; and

(f) the number and model of cars manufactured and exported for the last three years till date ?

The **Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi)** : (a) and (b) Maruti Udyog Ltd. (MUL) is investing Rs. 396 crores towards increasing its production from 2,06,330 vehicles in 1994-95 to 3,20,000 vehicles by 1996-97. The expansion programme is likely to be completed by October, 1995.

(c) and (d) MUL started exporting in 1987. Since then MUL has exported 94,750 vehicles till 31-7-95. Major countries of export are Australia, Chile, France, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Uruguay, Zambia.

(e) Year	Profit before Tax (Rs. in crores)
1992-93	36.61
1993-94	136.68
1994-95*	265.20

*Provisional and unaudited

(f) **Production**

Year	Maruti 800	Omni	Gypsy	3-Box Car	YE2 (ZEN)	Total
1992-93	79,433	32,654	6,033	10,009	9	1,28,138
1993-94	1,00,292	34,530	6,037	15,049	2,201	1,58,109
1994-95	1,17,056	41,565	7,347	25,436	14,926	2,06,330
1995-96	43,184	11,376	2,514	14,580	10,727	82,381

Up to 31-7-95

No. of vehicles exported till July '95

Year	M-800	Omni	Gypsy	3-Box	YE2	Total
1992-93	21,527	425	1,482	132	—	14,566
1993-94	14,855	239	1,857	197	39	17,187
1994-95	10,642	557	2,851	125	6,687	20,862
1995-96	3,029	258	387	33	3,151	6,858

(Till 31-7-95)

CHILD HEALTH CENTRES IN MADHYA PRADESH

2154. Shri Surajbhanu Solanki : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of child Health Centres opened in the tribal district of Madhya Pradesh during the last two years;

(b) the arrangements made in these centres to protect the infants from contracting new diseases;

(c) whether sufficient quantity of drugs is kept in stock in the dispensaries of these districts for the protection of infants against such diseases;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the remedial steps taken in this regard ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) to (e) Under the child survival and Safe Motherhood Programme immunization services have been universalised. Other programmes like Oral Rehydration Therapy, Control of Respiratory Infections (Pneumonia), Prophylaxis against Vitamin A deficiency and nutritional anaemia, essential newborn care, training of dais and control of iodine deficiency programme are being implemented. Those services are provided through a network of 4859 sub-centres, 604 Primary Health Centres and 95 Community Health Centres in tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh.

Under the programme, drug kits are being provided to the Sub-centres twice a year which include Iron & Folic acid tablets Vitamin A solution, ORS packets and antibiotics for the treatment of pneumonia in 37 districts in Madhya Pradesh. All districts will be covered by 1996-97. This is in addition to Rs. 2000/- per annum sub-centre provided by the Government of India for procurement of medicines.

[Translation]

NEEM CONTRACEPTIVE

2155. Shri S.S.R. Rajendra Kumar :
Shri Kashiram Rana :

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian scientists have found that neem-based contraceptive pills could be produced as anti-fertility and spermicidal agents from the tree; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in regard to the manufacture of neem-based contraceptive ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) No Sir. However, a number of studies are ongoing to assess the efficacy of neem oil as an anti-fertility agent.

(b) The question of manufacturer does not arise at this stage.

C.G.H.S. DISPENSARIES

2156. Shri Dau Dayal Joshi : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) the number of C.G.H.S. dispensaries established under allopathy, unani, ayurvedic and homoeopathic system of medicine during last three years;

(b) the expenditure incurred in opening these dispensaries;

(c) the number of C.G.H.S. dispensaries functioning at present in each state;

(d) whether the Government propose to open more C.G.H.S. dispensaries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof with location ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) During the last 3 years, 5 dispensaries have been established under Allopathic System of medicine only.

(b) Dispensaries-wise expenditure is not maintained under C.G.H.S.

(c) The information is given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) the information is given in the Statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I
No. of CGHS Dispensaries Functioning at Present In Each State

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of Dispensaries					Grand Total	
		Allopathy	Ayurvedic	Homoeo	Unani	Siddha		Yoga
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14	2	2	2	-	-	20
2.	Bihar	5+1+@	1	1	-	-	-	8
3.	Delhi	83	13	13	4	1	3	117
4.	Gujarat	5	1	1	-	-	-	7
5.	Haryana*	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
6.	Karnataka	10	2	1	-	-	-	13
7.	Maharashtra	45	5	7	-	-	-	57
8.	Madhya Pradesh	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
9.	Orissa	1@	-	-	-	-	-	1
10.	Rajasthan	5	1	1	-	-	-	7
11.	Tamil Nadu	14	1	1	-	1	-	17
12.	Uttar Pradesh**	29	4	5	1	-	-	39
13.	West Bangal	17	1	2	1	-	-	21
Total		234	31	34	8	2	3	312

Note :- *Expenditure met by CGHS Delhi.

**Expenditure in respect of one dispensary at NOIDA is being met by CGHS, Delhi.

@Expenditure is met by AG's offices.

Statement-II

**The proposal for setting up of the following
dispensaries/units are included in the
Annual Plan 1995-96**

Name of the City	No. of dispensaries/Units			
	Allopathic	Ayurvedic	Homoeo	Unani
1	2	3	4	5
Delhi	5	2	2	1
Hyderabad	2	-	-	-
Jabalpur	2	-	-	-
Jaipur	1	1	1	1
Kanpur	1	1	-	-
Lucknow	1	-	-	-
Madras	1	1	1	-
Patna	1	-	-	-
Pune	1	-	-	-
Ranchi	1	-	-	-
Bhubaneswar	1	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5
Allahabad	1	-	-	-
Bangalore	1	-	-	-
Bombay	1	-	2	-
Calcutta	1	-	-	-
Trivandrum	3	-	-	-
Guwahati	3	-	-	-
Total	26	6	6	2

[English]

CONTRACEPTIVE PILLS

2157. Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Drug Research Institute had developed a non-steroidal contraceptive pills;

(b) whether the Government are distributing it through family planning programme;

(c) whether the steps are being taken for social marketing of the pills; and

(d) the measures taken to popularise it ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The pill is being distributed through commercial channels. It has not yet been introduced in the National Family Welfare Programme.

ABORTION

2158. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been invited to the news-item captioned "Teenage abortions on the rise" appearing in the "Hindustan Times" on July, 19, 1995;

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

(c) the steps taken at the Central level to ensure that only qualified doctors attend to such cases and ensure to remove this social evil ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government has taken steps to provide services for termination of pregnancy by qualified and trained personnel under proper hygienic conditions.

[Translation]

PUBLIC HOSPITALS

2159. Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar :

Shri Guman Mal Lodha :

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi has submitted a report to union Government on "utilisation pattern and financing of public hospitals";

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

(c) the follow-up action taken by the Union Government thereon ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) to (c) A study on the "Utilisation Pattern and Financing of Public Hospitals" has been carried out by the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi. The report has not yet been formally submitted to the Government as it is still in the draft stage, and recommendations etc. are yet to be finalised.

[English]

DMS BOOTS

2160. Shri Indrajit Gupta :

Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad :

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) the names and details of parties who have responded to the tender for supply of DMS boots for National Cadet Corps New Delhi in the past three months;

(b) the details of prices received from each of them in the tender bids;

(c) whether any public sector undertakings has also participated;

(d) whether the Directorate of NCC has been only looking for lower prices without keeping the standard and quality of DMS boots in view;

(e) whether the Government would take steps to ensure quality as a primary criterion and not the price for the defence forces; and

(f) if so, the facts and details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : (a) and (b) Thirty parties have responded against the tenders opened on 4th July, 1995 for supply of boot DMS (also termed as boot DVS). The details of those parties and prices received are given in the attached statement.

(c) Yes, Sir. Two public Sector Undertakings, namely M/s Tannery & Footwear Corporation of India Limited (TAFCO) Kanpur and M/s Bharat Leather Corporation have participated.

(d) to (f) Boots DMS are being purchased in accordance with the prescribed specifications of Director General Quality Assurance (DGQA), Ministry of Defence, and are inspected by this organisation before acceptance. The prescribed specifications are strictly enforced to maintain quality and standard. Advance samples of the prospective suppliers are tasted/inspected by DGQA authorities before the suppliers are allowed to manufacture in bulk. The bulk supplies are again inspected by DGQA authorities before final acceptance and dispatch to NCC Units. As the parameters laid down by DGQA are strictly enforced, the question of taking any further steps for quality assurance does not arise.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the Firm	Price quoted			
		Size 5	Size 6	Size 7	Size 8
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1.	M/s Tannery & Footwear Corporation of India (TAFCO)-A Govt. of India Undertaking, Kanpur	273.90	273.90	273.90	273.90

1	2	3	4	5	6
2	M/s Soft Wear Corporation, Agra	255.00	255.00	255.00	255.00
3	M/s Brite Shoe Factory, Agra	226.00	228.00	228.00	238.00
4	M/s Yash Enterprises, Agra	230.80	230.80	230.80	230.80
5	M/s Skolast (India) Pvt. Ltd., Kanpur	269.90	269.90	271.90	271.90
6	M/s Acme Boot Co., Gwalior	185.00	185.00	197.00	197.00
7	M/s Super Footwear Ltd., Kanpur	200.30	212.25	224.08	236.16
8	M/s Atlas Boot Factory, Agra	234.00	234.00	238.00	238.00
9	M/s Rohini Processing Industries, Kanpur	262.00	262.00	262.00	262.00
10	M/s Mahajan Boot Factory, Agra	222.30	222.30	222.30	222.30
11	M/s Agra Tannery Leather, Agra	320.00	320.00	320.00	320.00
12	M/s Agra Tannery Rubber, Agra	320.00	320.00	320.00	320.00
13	M/s Delhi Footwears, Agra	191.00	194.00	198.00	198.00
14	M/s New Advance Shoe Factory, Agra	240.30	240.30	240.30	240.30
15	M/s Mohan leathers Ltd., NOIDA	390.50	390.50	390.50	390.50
16	M/s New India Leather Enterprises, Kanpur		For first 10000 pairs		
		255.00	255.00	258.00	258.00
			For the next 5000 pairs		
		258.00	258.00	266.00	266.00
17	M/s Rajiv Shoe Factory, Agra	231.00	231.00	231.00	231.00
18	M/s Leaco India, Kanpur	241.00	241.00	246.00	246.00
19	M/s Ashoka Boot Factory, Agra	230.40	230.40	230.40	230.40
20	M/s Jordan Shoe Factory, Agra	234.00	234.00	234.00	234.00
21	M/s Gaurav Vishal Enterprises, Agra	229.10	229.10	229.10	229.10
22	M/s Vijay Path Shoe Factory, Agra		For first 5000 pairs		
		224.10	224.10	227.80	227.80
			For next 5000 pairs		
		230.40	230.40	234.00	234.00
23	M/s North India Boot Factory, Agra	240.30	240.30	240.30	240.30
24	M/s Stern Leather Export, Kanpur	267.50	267.50	273.25	273.25
25	M/s A.R. Shoe Factory, Agra	234.00	234.00	234.00	234.00
26	M/s Boot Technic Corporation, Kanpur	170.00	180.00	190.00	200.00
27	M/s Combay Boot Company, Agra	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00
28	M/s Jain Footwear Industries, Kanpur	282.50	282.50	282.50	282.50
29	M/s Cary Footwear, Kanpur	282.50	282.50	282.50	282.50
30	M/s Bharat Leather Enterprises, Agra (A Govt. Undertaking)	275.00	275.00	275.00	275.00

WORLD BANK REPORT ON FAMILY PLANNING**2161. Shri R. Surender Reddy :****Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal :****Shrimati Bhavna Chikhilia :**

Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has asked India to reorient its family planning programme to meet its goal in improving reproductive and child health and stabilising population growth in the 21st Century in its new report "India's family welfare programme" towards a reproductive and child health approach;

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

(c) the measures taken at the central level to revamp the family planning plan ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) to (c) the World Bank in its report "India's Family Welfare Programme: Towards a Reproductive and Child Health Approach" has recommended re-orientation of the Family Welfare Programme to a reproductive child health services approach that meets the individual client health needs and provides high quality services. The Report has recommended an essential package of services with emphasis on improved access and quality.

An Action Plan formulated in consultation with the State Government and Union Territories is under implementation. Its features include improving the quality and outreach of services, promotion of spacing methods among younger age couples, special focus on 90 lagging districts, involving voluntary and non-governmental organisations to promote community participation and strengthening of interventions to promote maternal and child health care.

WORLD BANK ASSISTANCE TO MADHYA PRADESH FOR FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMMES

2162. Dr Ramkrishna Kusmaria : Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has

received assistance from World Bank during the last two years for family planning programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether State Government has fully utilised the funds received during this period; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) and (b) A World Bank assisted India Population Project is being implemented in the State of Madhya Pradesh at a cost Rs. 42.57 crores w.e.f. 6-4-1990. The project is scheduled to be completed on 30-9-1996. The project covers the entire State of Madhya Pradesh.

(c) and (d) During 1993-94 and 1994-95, the Government of India has released an amount of Rs. 24.33 crores, against which the State has reported an expenditure of Rs. 10.81 crores. Implementation of the project is in progress.

FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMME IN MAHARASHTRA

2163. Shri Anna Joshi : Will the **Minister of Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons in Maharashtra who were operated upon for family planning during the last three years;

(b) the details of the family welfare programmes being implemented in the State with foreign assistance;

(c) whether the targets under these programmes have been achieved during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a)

Year	No. of Sterilisation Operations
1992-93	5,61,336
1993-94	5,39,802
1994,95	5,80,471 (Prov).

(b) to (d) Details are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement**Progress of Foreign Assisted Projects in Maharashtra (As on 31-7-1995)**

Name	No. of Districts	Components	No. Planned	No. Achieved	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
(a) UNFPA (1-4-90 to 31-12-95)	5	Sub-centres Distt. Training Teams Training to Health Personnel.	400 29 38208	311 1 38205	(i) Remaining buildings are under various stages of construction. (ii) Several innovative schemes like focus on Health of Adolescent girls, eassy competition amongst school-going girls on delaying age at marriage for girls awards to parents and community have also been taken up.

1	2	3	4	5	6
(b) World Bank (Sept. 88 to 31-12-95)	Bombay	Health Posts Post Partum Centrea Medical and Para Medical Functionaries trained.	108 30 Not Fixed.	176 27 22190	The project has been extended to New Bombay Municipal Corporation for Setting up 10 Urban Health Posts, 5 MCH Car Centres and 100 bedded First Referral Units.

WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT

2164. Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu : Will the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment be pleased to state :

(a) whether a directory is proposed to be maintained of all N.G.O's having liaison or relationship with the Government for Wasteland Development; and

(b) if not, the system being adopted to keep a history of each N.G.O. with the Government ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Wastelands Development) (Col Rao Ram Singh) : (a) The work of development of wastelands is being promoted through Non-Government Organisations by many Central Government Departments/Ministries like Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Department of Rural Employment and Poverty Alleviation, Department of Wastelands Development etc. Each Department promotes the development of wastelands in accordance with the plan schemes and mandate of the Department. The Department of Wastelands Developments maintains a list of Non-Government Organisations involved in the development of wastelands.

(b) The Department of Wastelands Development has up to 31st March, 1995 approved projects for 181 Non-Government Organisations. Each project promoted by Non-Government Organisation is processed separately and its history and sequence of events maintained on a separate file. Information on the performance of each Non-Government Organisation is thus easily accessible.

RESERVATION FOR EX-SERVICEMEN

2165. Shri S. M. Laljan Basha : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued any directive to State Government for the welfare scheme to be complied with respect to the reservation for ex-servicemen in the field of education, employment, self-employment and also allotment of wasteland for development and employment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : (a) and (b) The resettlement and welfare of ex-servicemen is the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments. The subjects of education, employment in the State Government and allotment of wasteland are the

subjects of the State Governments. The Central Government, therefore, cannot issue any directive, in regard to these subjects, to the State Governments. However, the State Governments have been requested from time to time for making suitable reservations for the employment of ex-servicemen in the State Government Departments/Public Undertakings; and to provide for preferential admissions of the children of ex-Servicemen in educational institutions, particularly professional institutions. In the regard to self-employment, the State Governments have been requested to assist the ex-Servicemen in their self-employment ventures by reserving certain percentage of industrial plots/sheds. The State Governments have also been requested to establish ex-Servicemen Corporations to facilitate employment/self-employment of ex-Servicemen.

MALARIA CONTROL

2166. Shri N. J. Rathva : Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Gujarat Government has sent certain proposals to the Union Government in regard to implementation of National Malaria Eradication Programme in the State,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken thereon by the Union Government so far?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Dr. C. Silvera) : (a) to (c) The proposal received relates to a Malaria Control Project with World Bank assistance for which preparatory workshops to facilitate Project formulation have already commenced. The project interalia covers seven States having predominantly tribal population including Gujarat.

[English]

12.00 Hrs

RE: ESCAPE OF LTTE PRISONERS FROM VELLORE FORT IN TAMIL NADU

Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar (Mayiladuturai) : This is about the question of the LTTE. Mr. Speaker Sir, I am sure, all sections of the House will share my concern at the very unfortunate event which took place yesterday, the Independence Day of India, when no less than 43 militants, certified terrorists, escaped from a jail in Tamil Nadu. I am not sure whether I

am accurate in referring to the place where they were kept as a jail because the Director General of Police of Tamil Nadu, Mr. Dewaram is quoted in today's newspapers as saying that these militants were not actually held in a jail, but in a camp. If this statement of Mr. Dewaram, who is incidentally my batch mate in the Police Service, is a reflection of the attitude of the Tamil Nadu Government to the question of the detention of these certified terrorists, then I am not surprised at the event that has taken place. It is shocking that in a camp where these militants are held, where attempts have been made in the past to get individuals to sneak out of the camp, that for a period of several months similar attempts should have been made by other inmates of the camp and a tunnel should be dug in a manner that is reminiscent of some kind of a sensational film, a tunnel should be dug, huge mounds of mud and sand should be taken out of these tunnels, put up as a kind of mound on the side inside the cells where these people were supposed to stay and nobody in the jail administration asks himself the question why a huge mound of sand or mud which is there to be seen today was not to be seen yesterday. Then, the only reason why every single militant from that camp did not escape was that some of them chose to stay behind. I am not surprised that some of them chose to stay behind. Inside this camp, these militants were allowed to roam about freely. I am citing, not quoting, what the police officers of Tamil Nadu in charge of that place of detention have said. They roam around freely, they meet with each other, they are given excellent food by the Tamil Nadu Government and therefore some of them say rather than escape outside, I am going to stay inside. This is the mental attitude that has informed the detention of these terrible terrorists.

I, for one, am unable to understand such a lackadaisical attitude being taken in view of the fact that LTTE killed Rajiv Gandhi in no State other than Tamil Nadu itself. It was upon the sacred soil of the land where my forefathers were born and from where I have the honour to be elected that my leader Rajiv Gandhi met his end. That end was brought about owing to virtual connivance between the then Tamil Nadu Government and the LTTE. I make this statement with full responsibility because when I say that there was connivance between the then Tamil Nadu Government with the LTTE, I am citing no more more than the present Chief Minister and present Home Minister of the Government of Tamil Nadu. You would recall that in June 1990 there took place the assassination of Mr. Padmanabhan of Sri Lanka who had taken refuge with us. This assassination was conducted by a hit squad of the LTTE. At that time all the assassins involved, all the conspirators involved, a team of at least 13 people, were allowed to escape from Madras, get right down to Vedaranyam and out into Sri Lanka.

It was the present Chief Minister and Home Minister of Tamil Nadu who was then a leading voice in the Opposition who condemned this and said that those who were unable to capture the people who had committed such an outrageous crime should not be allowed to run the Government. It was because of the total failure of the then government to act upon what the then Leader of the Opposition in Tamil Nadu was saying that resulted in a cumulation of events which led, eventually in January 1991, to the Union Government of India taking a decision—that the then Government of Tamil Nadu which was having a huge majority in the Assembly had to be dismissed because it was incapable of maintaining law and order in the State and incapable of

capturing criminals responsible for the kind of outrage that had taken place on Mr. Padmanabhan.

I am today left with no alternative but to remind the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister who is also the Tamil Nadu Home Minister of the stand that she herself took from June 1990 to January 1991 in respect of the action to be taken against the LTTE militants. The then Leader of the Opposition is today the Home Minister of Tamil Nadu. She is the Home Minister of Tamil Nadu not owing to the volition of anybody else; it is her own decision to keep the Home Portfolio to herself; and she kept the Home Portfolio to herself. She has explained on more than one occasion that because it was extremely necessary to rid the soil of Tamil Nadu, indeed the sacred soil of India, of the threat of these very same militants who were eventually not even lodged in a properly secured jail, but allowed to sit in a camp that was run almost like a 'holiday camp'; and from there 43 of them are enabled to escape.

A judicial inquiry has been ordered into the event. Has a judicial inquiry been ordered into the lackadaisical attitude of the Chief Minister and Home Minister who had taken upon herself, at her own instance and on her own volition, the responsibility for ensuring that these militants should be kept detained? The nature of the crimes they had committed is far far more heinous than that of several Union Ministers who in this assembly here in this Parliament have been asked to be held accountable for the actions that they and those below them have taken.

In this particular case, I would hope that all the Members of the Opposition would, in keeping with the principal of accountability for the kinds of action that have been taken, first admit the seriousness and the heinousness of allowing these militants to go and therefore, demand along with us that there should be an immediate resignation of her....*(Interruptions)* Madam, you will have your opportunity to speak....*(Interruptions)* I demand on the floor of the House that the Chief Minister and Home Minister of Tamil Nadu should immediately tender her resignation for dereliction of duty....*(Interruptions)* There are many people in the Anna DMK Party, including Mr. Janardhanan standing there, who are far more capable of being the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu than that lady is. If she refuses to resign then I demand that the Union Government, acting on the precedent that was set in January 1991 at the behest of the same Kumari Jayalalitha, take action to remove this government under Article 356 of the Constitution.

One way or the other, whether it is to announce the resignation of the Chief Minister and Home Minister of Tamil Nadu or to announce that action is being taken by the Union Government to preserve the integrity of this country under Article 366 of the Constitution. I demand that the Home Minister make a statement in this House on this subject before the House rises for the day. Thank you, Sir....*(Interruptions)*

Shri M. R. Kadambur Janarthanan (Tirunneveli) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member had told earlier that in Padmanabhan's case, totally all have escaped. But he will accept today that all did not escape and out of 43, 11 persons have been nabbed....*(Interruptions)*

Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar : Let her therefore resign three-quarters than !....*(Interruptions)*

Shri M. R. Kadambur Janarthanan : Out of 43, 11 persons have been nabbed....*(Interruptions)*

Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar : There are also 55 others who are sitting inside the 'holiday camp' that they are running. They are incapable of running this Government.

Shri M. R. Kadambur Janarthanan : The persons, who are suspected to be LTTEs, are not prisoners....*(Interruptions)*

Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar : I would like the House to take note of what he says....*(Interruptions)*

Shri M. R. Kadambur Janarthanan : Please have patience to hear the facts....*(Interruptions)* We are living in Tamil Nadu.

Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar : I have lived in this country. And Tamil Nadu is only a part of India.

Shri M. R. Kadambur Janarthanan : The suspected LTTEs are not prisoners....*(Interruptions)*

Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar : It is unbelievable....*(Interruptions)*

Shri M. R. Kadambur Janarthanan : I want to go on record that the State Government is not empowered under the Foreigners' Act to imprison escaped militants and since under section 3(2)(e) of the Foreigners' Act it can only restrain the movement of foreigners, the State Government was forced to keep the suspected militants in special camps only. The power to imprison foreigners under section 3(2)(g) of the Foreigners' Act is vested with the Union Government. Despite repeated requests of the Government of Tamil Nadu to the Union Government to amend the Act and empower the State Governments to imprison foreigners under section 3(2)(g), there was no response. The State Government even went to the extent of sending a proposal with names of the persons who needed to be imprisoned under the Foreigners Act to the Union Government requesting for necessary orders. Unfortunately this proposal was also not accepted by the Government of India till date. Even during March, 1995, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu expressed her difficulty in the State Assembly and urged upon the Government of India to accept that proposal.

Special Camps are not definitely prisons nor the inmates of the camps militants and in fact majority of them do not have any militant background. Even the slightest excess will get politicised by political parties and get condemned by the National Human Rights Commission and other voluntary organisations championing the cause of human rights.

Further, I want to submit to the House that the Hon'ble Chief Minister, after having reviewed the law and order situation in the State, placed the Superintendent of Police, Arcot-Ambedkar District and the Deputy Superintendent of Police under suspension.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister immediately ordered for a judicial inquiry to be held by a sitting judge of the Madras High Court to find out the circumstances that led to the escape of the LTTE cadres from the Special Camp at Vellore. The Chief Justice of the Madras High Court has been addressed to nominate a

Judge for the above purpose.

Now, I want to tell facts to the House. He told that the then Chief Minister was responsible for the murder of Padmanabhan. Our leader condemned the incident.

Then, there was an assassination of 17 fellows....*(Interruptions)* Eleven people have been nabbed....*(Interruptions)* The Central Government has not acted swiftly. But in democracy, our Chief Minister has taken whatever action was possible.

Now they want to politicise the matter. I request the hon. Member that it is not a threat to Tamil Nadu alone but it is threat to India....*(Interruptions)*

Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar : She is a danger to India.

Shri M. R. Kadambur Janarthanan : It is not a question whether Dr. Jayalalitha will be the Chief Minister or anybody else. Even, Mr. Moopanar can become the Chief Minister by hook or crook....*(Interruptions)* Therefore, I request the House not to politicise the matter. Let us support the Tamil Nadu Government....*(Interruptions)* I know the sea coast....*(Interruptions)*

Dr. N. Murugesan (Karur) : It will be very difficult for the State Government to act whoever be the ruling party—unless the Central Government is in full cooperation with the State Government. Our Chief Minister has requested the Central Government so many times to act in this regard but it did not take care of such requests. What action have you taken so far against Kashmir militants?....*(Interruptions)*

Shri M. R. Kadambur Janarthanan : I request the Central Government to at least consider the proposal which has the names of the persons who need to be imprisoned under the Foreigners Act alongwith whatever Tamil Nadu Assembly has written to it. Please do not tie our hands. Please release our legally to act correctly. This is not the question of LTTE alone*(Interruptions)*....I want to know one thing from the congress side. One Member went to Jaffna illegally and returned from there. He stayed there for three days with Mr. Prabhakaran. He had told about the problem in the Trichy Conference....*(Interruptions)*....Yesterday, he has given a statement as: "Naazhai Nadu Nadungum"....*(Interruptions)*

Dr. (Shritmati) K. S. Soundaram (Tiruchengoda) : Initially, you were the people who encouraged the militants....*(Interruptions)*

Shri M. R. Kadambur Janarthanan : I therefore request the Central Government not to politicise the matter. It is a national matter; it is a national calamity. I hope the House will understand the seriousness of the matter and solve the problem....*(Interruptions)*

Dr. (Shritmati) K. S. Soundaram : How can you ask about our cut-outs? That is our will and pleasure. Only after seeing the cut-out of our Chief Minister, you have erected the cut-out of Prime Minister in Delhi. When you are following the culture of the people of Tamil Nadu, how can you criticise about our Chief Minister's cut-out?....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

Shri Nitish Kumar (Barh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, why is Mani Shankarji disturbing in between. He stands to speak on every point due to which we cannot listen to others' view point....
(Interruptions)

Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar : Please excuse me. We fellow Tamilians are discussing our internal issue....(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

Shri Arjun Singh (Satna) : Sir, I fully share the anguish of my friend. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar and I would like the House to appreciate that this is not a battle of cut-outs; this is a battle being fought, I must confess, unequally between the forces that are out to destabilise the country, who are responsible for the assassination of our former Prime Minister and who, even today, with impunity and challenge get away from the rigors of law which this House is fully aware of. This is not the first instance that has taken place. Many people, Sir, who are directly involved in the assassination, in the total conspiracy, have been able to escape. Some committed suicide. I must confess and I would like my dear friend, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar also to appreciate that what we are witnessing is something much more serious than is being made out by all of us together. I wish the hon. Home Minister and even the Prime Minister, who just walked out as this subject was brought up, were here....(Interruptions)....I am sorry, I should not have taken his name, Sir.

Mr. Speaker : But he did it before it was started.

Shri Arjun Singh : Just a second before it started ...
(Interruptions)

Shri P.C. Chacko (Trichur) : Why are you misleading the House unnecessarily?

Shri Arjun Singh : I am not misleading. I am sitting here.

Mr. Speaker : Anyway, leave that point.

Shri Arjun Singh : That is not the point, Mr. Chacko.

The point is we want, this House wants and this country wants a solemn assurance from the Government that is responsible to this House. Action taken in Tamil Nadu is also something which lies in the domain of this Government. Let them come out as to what they think is happening there; let them come out with what they want to do and I am sure the House will give them full support for it.

But if there is silence, an enigmatic silence, disdain, indifference, then what do we do? Will this happen tomorrow to those prisoners who are facing trials in the designated courts? If the same kind of tunnel is dug and some of the Prime accused who are facing trials there escape, then what shall we do? Will we fight about cut-outs will we fight about what we feel about each other? But the mischief would have been done.

I would like to make a very humble request, through you, Sir, that this is a matter which deserves utmost seriousness and the Home Minister or the Prime Minister must make a statement in this House giving a full picture assuring this House that whoever is responsible for this particular incident will be held responsible, accountable and also assuring that those people who are facing trials in the designated courts will not be allowed to dig a tunnel and get away and flee the justice of this country.

Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar : What about the resignation of Ms. Jayalalita?... (Interruptions)

Shri Arjun Singh : Let him do it.... (Interruptions)

Shri M. R. Kadambur Janarthanan : For what purpose are you asking the resignation?... (Interruptions)

Shri Jaswant Singh (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the very outset I must share my concern about the escape of the under-trials. I have no reason to believe that the under-trials who escaped from the Tamil Nadu were not the terrorists. They were imprisoned as suspected terrorists or rather suspected militants. Escape of 43 persons, even if they are suspected militants, is a very serious matter. This is one part of it.

I will proceed further by saying that the second part to which both the hon. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar and a very senior Member of this House, Shri Arjun Singh have referred as to how India has become the hinterland of an ethnic struggle in Sri Lanka and how the ethnic struggle of Sri Lanka has now spilled over into India is a much larger question. If we were to start apportioning blame about the causes of it, about who has really brought about this situation in India, then that would be altogether a different debate and it would open up many chapters starting from many former Prime Minister to the present day, it is better not to take up now.

Thirdly, on the question about the resignation about which the hon. Member was rather liberal in demanding. I think the question of escape....

Mr. Speaker : Do we need to discuss it?

Shri Jaswant Singh : I am not discussing about the resignation; but am pointing out that I would like to share my views. Notwithstanding the fact that the escape of prisoners is a very serious matter, there is another another equally serious matter. Take for example, walking out of India with impunity of a man like Mast Gul who for months occupied the Charare-sharief, burnt it down and nobody is yet made accountable.

If he starts asking for resignations, I do not know how many heads would roll. Secondly, repeatedly in the North-East of India—the Home Minister of State knows very well—the NSCN is carrying ambushes both in Manipur and Nagaland and walking with impunity into Myanmar and elsewhere. What is happening in the North-East and in Assam is a matter of equally great worry. Self-proclaimed terrorists are there who have raised the flag of insurgency in the North-East. In Jammu and Kashmir they are defying the nation, defying the State. But not one person from the Treasury Benches, from this illustrious Government is to be accountable.

Therefore, when we talk liberally about the resignation, I think this should be even-handed. The matter of escape is a very serious matter and the Union Home Minister would do well to come to the House and share the details with us.

[Translation]

Shri Sharad Yadav (Madhepura) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the question raised in the House that 43 persons fled from there. The arrest of 43 persons shows that the Government had certainly some doubts against them. It is a form of terrorism which has taken the whole country in its grip but it is not the right time for a detailed discussion on it. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyarji demanded resignation on it reluctantly. I do not think that he was serious about it. He should have advocated his viewpoint strongly and perhaps this was the reason behind the resignation demand but if the matter pertains to Tamilnadu only.....

Shri Saifuddin Choudhury (Katwa) : They are demanding to sit together.

Shri Sharad Yadav ; May be, he may join the company after quitting the Government. I would like to say and Jaswant Singhji has also said that if the resignation was demanded on the issue as to how many persons escaped, it would involve much time. The terrorism is prevailing in the whole country(Interruptions). I admit that every country has to face challenge....(Interruptions)*

Shri Nitish Kumar : Mr. Speaker, Sir while sitting here he has stated some thing about all the Members of Parliament. Please keep a note of it that it should not go on record.

[English]

Mr. Speaker : That is not going on record. Let it not go on record.

[Translation]

Shri Sharad Yadav : It is good that Kashmir issue will be taken up today. It will be discussed in detail. It is known to everyone as to how the condition is worsening there. Jammu which was a peaceful area, has also come under its grip and the situation there has become very serious. The terrorism which started from Punjab, North-East and Assam, has now engulfed the whole country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this issue is not related to any party, this challenge has to be faced by the entire country. The country is, at present faced with many serious evils but it has not to lose its heart and has to face them bravely. If we are not fully alert and our preparations are not upto the mark, we will fail to meet those challenges. I was very sorry to read the Statement of the Commissioner on 15th of August.

[English]

Mr. Speaker : There are many other points.

[Translation]

Shri Sharad Yadav : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Mani Shankarji

*Not recorded.

has taken much time whereas I have taken hardly one and half minutes time.

Mr. Speaker : Alright. There are other points also.

Shri Sharad Yadav : Yesterday, when I was watching TV, the Commissioner Sahab, who was preparing for 15th August celebrations, warned that the place could be hit by missile any time. I do not take this matter very seriously. Even if a missile hits the place, we have enough population. Today, our population has touched the figure of 90 crore. We should embolden ourselves. If a bomb can create a terror in our mind, it will be difficult for country to survive. We make hue and cry every day that the country has been disintegrating. We are peculiar type of weak people. We have been blessed with the country in its present shape after thousands of years. The need of the hour is that we should show our grit. Demanding resignation is not going to help. Resignation is not needed at present. You should face this problem with determination. The enormous population of our country can fight for years together and even after our death, many people will survive to administer the country. I would like to request all of us to prepare ourselves strongly and engage ourselves to save the country.

[English]

Mr. Speaker : Is the Government interested to respond?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Rajesh Pilot) : Sir, it is a fact that this incident has happened in the early hours of 14-15 August at a special camp from where 43 inmates, who were suspected of having some connections with the LTTE, escaped. Out of them, 11 were traced. While arresting, two of them committed suicide. We are in touch with the State Government.

As all Members have shown their concern, we have also shown our concern. I had flown to Madras 8-9 months back and had a long discussion with the Hon. Chief Minister. We said that whatever could be done by the Central Government would be done in terms of provision of additional paramilitary forces, in terms of modernisation of the police system, in terms of providing some additional help from Coast Guards and the Navy etc. We discussed all that. We tried to do the maximum that the Central Government could do in terms of finance also. Some modernisation plan has been given and Rs. 10 crore were sanctioned immediately. Another plan has come. We are helping them further so that the Government of Tamil Nadu does not have to face financial burden to the extent that this problem cannot be sorted out. But it is also a fact that these incidents have taken place frequently during the last 3-4 years. Let us accept it....(Interruptions)....

Shri M. R. Kadambur Janarthanan : What about the amendment of the Act, Sir?... (Interruptions)

Shri Rajesh Pilot : I am coming to that. As the whole House and all the hon. Members have shown concern irrespective of their parties, it is a problem concerning the whole nation. If this does not stop, it is going to disturb the whole nation in some form or the other. You must have been reading in the newspapers of the coordination among groups like ULFA, LTTE, and JKLF. Even others are trying to coordinate so that they can have combined operations. The Government has taken

many steps to curb them at the root itself. It is the first time that the Coordination Committee of Southern States is also functioning very nicely. A lot of inputs which come from the Intelligence agencies are shared immediately with the State Government so that they do not lack information and coordination.

It is a serious matter, Sir, and I will come to the House—I have seen the concern of the whole House—with a statement on behalf of the Government, informing actually how it happened, what all remedial measures were taken by the State Government as reported by them, and what all we had been telling them to do. The House is aware of the effort the Central Government is making and further efforts that needed to be made. I will come to the House with a statement on behalf of the Government explaining the total position as to what has been done and what is being done by the Central Government in coordination with the State Government.

Sir, this issue concerns the whole nation and I share the spirit behind the statements of the Members. We shall not lag behind and shall not leave any stone unturned to curb the activities of these organisations at the root level....(Interruptions)...

Shri Hari Kishore Singh (Sheohar) : I want clarification on one point.

Mr. Speaker : No, clarifications please.

Shri Hari Kishore Singh : I want to know whether it is a Hoilday Home or a jail. It has been alleged by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar that it is a Hoilday Home rather than a Security Prison. I want to know if it is a fact, or not?

Shri Rajesh Pilot : I will clarify that point. It is called a Special Camp and there are precautions taken. It is not a Hoilday Home that the inmates go out and come back whenever they want. They are detained there.

Shri Hari Kishore Singh : That has been alleged by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar.

Shri Rajesh Pilot : That is what the hon. Member has said but I feel as the Minister that whenever you have a camp, there are restrictions on it, and specially when it is a detention camp, there has to be a restriction. I will come with a statement giving all the details to the House whenever the Hon. Speaker wants....(Interruptions).....

Mr. Speaker : You please discuss this matter. Probably you would be able to get some information; give some information you have by some method....

12.34 hrs.

RE: MID-TERM APPRAISAL OF THE EIGHTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN

[Translation]

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you must be remembering that when the Monsoon Session

began, it was discussed as to which were the issues likely to be taken up. The treasury bench was also party to that discussion. Even opposition was eager to discuss the 'Mid Term Appraisal' of Eighth Five Year Plan which could not be discussed for the last three years.

Mr. Speaker, Sir you have been willing from the very beginning that the House should get an opportunity to discuss the mid-term appraisal. We thought that time and date would be fixed in this regard but the situation has taken a new turn on 3rd August, 1995. A question was asked by my friend Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri ji and Shri Rajesh Kumar ji about the mid term appraisal which was replied to by Shri Girdhar Gamang. Time and again.....(Interruptions) Now this 'O' is not here in the name which has been mentions in that....(Interruptions)

Shri Saifuddin Choudhury (Katwa) : 'Go' has been removed.

Prof. Prem Dhumal (Hamirpur) : The astrologer must have said that it should be removed.

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee : 'Go' has been removed.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you must be remembering that this matter was raised time and again as to where is the mid-term appraisal, why mid-term appraisal was nor carried out? Mr. speaker, Sir, I would like to quote what you had said :

[English]

The Member wants to know, the House wants to know why the mid-terms appraisal is not done on time.

[Translation]

This was replied by Shri Girdhar Gamang.

[English]

It was delayed because we have to consult the States also.

[Translation]

Further, he had said :

[English]

We discussed this in our internal meeting. A full Planning Commission meeting is yet to be fixed.

[Translation]

When flurry of questions were lashed on him, the hon. Minister said, I quote :

[English]

On the appraisal of the Eighth Plan, internal discussions are going on and after that we will have a full-fledged meeting of the Planning Commission and then the NDC meeting.

[Translation]

Again I will come to the House.

It is apparent that you had expressed dissatisfaction with the delay in preparing an appraisal and House was also not agreeable to this kind of delay, but one new fact has come

before us that when hon. Minister was claiming that no appraisal had been carried out, then he was concealing the fact, and in fact he was misleading the House.

My friend Shri Jaswant Singh ji has sent one document to you. I too have the same with me. Though it is marked confidential, yet we have succeeded in getting it. That document is mid-term appraisal of the Eighth Five Year Plan. This document contains 10 chapters, 10 parts and 566 pages and the annexure contains 104 pages. The hon. Minister says that "meeting of the full Planning Commission was not held. But it is written on this document and the reply was given August that meeting of the full commission on 19th July, 1995". The meeting of the full Planning Commission was held on 19th July, (Interruptions) what is the outcome of that meeting... (Interruptions)

One hon. Member : Wherefrom have you got it?

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee : I have not brought it from anywhere else, this has come to me. All these things come to us from that side only and so we are returning it to that side. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I may kindly be allowed to bring privilege motion against Shri Girdhar Gamang

Shri Somnath Chatterjee (Bolpur) : He is a good man. There are one or two good men. He is one them.

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee : My charge is that the House has been misled. But my friend Shri Jaswantji was authenticated it, you have got its copy, first you give a directive to the Government that no one could claim that the document available in whichever form, does not belong to the Planning Commission. Now the Minister can say that the document is not of the entire Planning Commission. It is submitted by a single Member. Even if a single Member had undertaken the appraisal and had claimed that it was of the entire Planning Commission, then it should have been circulated. Its copies should have been made available to the Members. I seek your permission to place it on the table of the House. If you have no objection, may I place it?

Mr. Speaker : Legally, I can permit only after going through it.

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee : Please go through it. But the rules and the law should go in our favour.

Mr. Speaker : Law and rule demand a discussion.

Shri Lal K. Advani (Gandhi Nagar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Leader of Opposition, Shri Vajpayeeji has raised a very important question. The economic policies of the past five years are analysed in different spheres. The Planning Commission in this context undertook an analysis and prepared a mid-term appraisal. Suddenly, it is being said that the report was the work of a single Member. The fact being that, the report, for which Shri Vajpayeeji sought your permission for placing it on the table of the House, was prepared by full time Member of the Planning Commission. He prepared the report and it was decided, which is mentioned in it, that a full meeting of the Planning Commission would be held on 19th July, and the Prime Minister would also participate in it. And in the meeting, it was to be formally accepted as the entire Planning Commission's report. It is correct if the report was presented by the full-time member it becomes a draft for the entire

Planning Commission. The report was sent to the P.M.O. and the Finance Ministry and it is mentioned in the report that due to the policies of the Government poverty increased in the country, and resulted in such ill-effects. There should have been no objections to this economic analysis. The Government, immediately decided not only to withdraw it, but to make it confidential and secret. It is so written on the report. Now it is not known when a full-meeting of the Planning Commission would be held. One cannot say whether it would be held or not. Therefore, it was said, that no mid-term appraisal was done. As said by Shri Vajpayeeji, it is misleading the House. They could have said that a report was indeed prepared. The meeting of the full Planning Commission on 19th July in which the Prime Minister had participated, was cancelled. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the tradition is clear in this regard. I am quoting from Kaul and Shakdhar :

[English]

"A Member can ordinarily quote from a document that is treated by Government as 'secret' or 'confidential' and which the Government have not disclosed in public interest...."

[Translation]

However, public interest is not involved.

[English]

This has been made confidential in the political interest, not in the public interest.

Further, it says :

"There is a possibility for such a document to be obtained through leakage or stealth or an irregular manner and there is no compulsion on the Member to disclose the source from which a copy thereof has been obtained by him...."

[Translation]

As Shri Vajpayeeji said, whatever we get, it is from there.

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not stolen it.

[English]

Mr. Speaker : I can vouchsafe that.

[Translation]

Shri Lal K. Advani : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my only submission is that in such matter tradition is clear :

[English]

"When a Member quotes from a secret document and seeks to lay it on the Table, he is required to submit the document or a copy of it to the Speaker after recording a certificate thereon...."

That certificate has been recorded by Shri Jaswant Singh ji. That certificate can also be recorded by Shri Vajpayeeji, as you permit.

Further it says :

"The document is thereafter sent to the Government for

verification of its authenticity so that the Speaker's job at this point of time is essentially to verify from the Government whether this document is authentic or not whether it has been fabricated by the Member...."

[Translation]

The Member says it is his, but that is an authentic document. If it is an authentic document, then, Sir, I think, in the interest of the House and in the interest of the whole nation, you should allow this document to be placed on the Table of the House so that the people can come to know from an absolutely independent unbiased non-political authority as to what is their evaluation of the mid-term Plan, its performance in the context of the New Economic Policies.

Sir, the only reason is that there is an overriding authority with the Speaker to stop a Member quoting from documents in national interest where the security of the country is involved. That is the only situation where you can prevent this paper from being laid on the Table of the House—that is, when security of the country is involved—and if there is no security involved, then the only thing that remains is to ascertain about the authenticity of the document and permit Shri Vajpayee to lay it on the Table of this House.

Shri Jaswant Singh (Chittorgarh) : I have to add only one sentence with your permission. I submitted this document to you on the 11th of August and I submitted it in writing with a request and due authentication. All that I request is that either I may be granted permission to lay the document on the Table of the House or Shri Atalji be granted permission to lay the document on the Table of the House because it is the same document. That is the request that I wish to make now.

Shri Chandra Shekhar (Ballia) : I do not know what you are going to consider now. The Leader of the Opposition is ready to authenticate it. One Member says that six days or five days back, he wrote to you and authenticated the document. What more is under your consideration?

Mr. Speaker : I will explain it.

Shri Chandra Shekhar: Otherwise, I think, according to the understanding of Parliamentary rules, the Speaker has no other option but to allow him to lay it on the Table of the House.

Mr. Speaker : I will explain it. It is true that you had sent it to me on 11th but 11th was not a working day, as far as Parliament was concerned. I have sent this to the Government and I have called for the Government's comment on it and the Government's comment was presented to me just before I was coming to the House. I shall have to look into Government's comment, the document presented and your letter also and then I shall have to take a decision. The argument advanced by Advanji is correct and there is a lot of substance but without going through the contents of the letters written by you and others, no decision can be taken by me at the spur of the moment. And I do think that in matters like this, it is not correct to take a decision at the spur of the moment. But at the same time, I do feel that the matters relating to the economic development of the entire country are the matters in which the Members are likely to be interested in discussing on the floor of the House.

Shri Indrajit Gupta (Midnapore) : May I ask one question?

Mr. Speaker : You cannot ask me questions.

Shri Indrajit Gupta : No. I am not asking you to reply to the question.

Mr. Speaker : I cannot rebut the statement of the senior Members. That is my difficulty. That is why I am saying this.

Shri Indrajit Gupta : I am only seeking one clarification. In the middle of all this controversy, confidential, secret documents and all that, the Deputy-Chairman of the Planning Commission is here. Can he not inform the House at least this much, whether in fact any mid-term appraisal Report has or has not been prepared? If it has not been prepared, what is the position?

Mr. Speaker : You are right.

Shri Indrajit Gupta : Are they likely to prepare such a Report within a reasonable time? Or are we going to give it a go-by as far as the whole session is concerned?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Pranab Mukherjee): I would like to, most respectfully submit (Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker : The Minister will please understand the meaning of the interruptions in between they are doing. They would not do it without studying the Law.

[Translation]

Shri Sharad Yadav (Madhepura) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I respect Shri Indrajit. He has raised a right issue. The Vice-Chairman of the Planning Commission is sitting here. But the issue is no longer in his jurisdiction. Now it is in your hands. I think you should settle this issue.

[English]

Mr. Speaker : You will please refrain from directing me as to what I should do. You leave it to me.

[Translation]

Shri Sharad Yadav : I am not doing so.

Mr. Speaker : When ever you fail to make a point against the Government, you try to get it done through me. This is not proper.

Shri Sharad Yadav : For no reason you are getting angry.

Mr. Speaker : Had you understood my point, you should not have spoken.

Shri Sharad Yadav : I mean to say that the matter is now in your hands.

[English]

Mr. Speaker : It should be a matter between you and the Government and not between the Speaker and you.

[Translation]

Shri Sharad Yadav : You are the Head of this institution. And this matter is now in your hands. This is all I am saying

[English]

Mr. Speaker : All right. I will facilitate you.

Shri Pranab Mukherjee : First of all I would like to say that I think, there is one precedent. It was when Shri Ashok Metha was the Deputy-Chairman, Planning Commission and Petroleum Minister and somebody else was the Planning Minister. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

Shri Nitish Kumar (Barh) : We wanted to know whether the Minister was speaking in his capacity as the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission.

Mr. Speaker : You do not need to know this. He was speaking on behalf of the Government.

[English]

Shri Pranab Mukherjee : How is the planning document prepared? First, it is being prepared by various divisions in the Planning Commission. Then, it is examined in what is called the internal meeting of the Planning Commission by the full-time Members of the Planning Commission. Then, it goes to the whole Planning Commission presided over by the hon. Prime Minister and attended by other Minister members like the Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Finance and Minister of Defence. Thereafter, it goes to the National Development Council. The National Development Council is the ultimate master to finalise the document.

Shri Indrajit Gupta : What about the mid-term appraisal?

Shri Pranab Mukherjee : I am just coming to that. Unfortunately, this House, despite our best efforts, could not discuss the original document itself and what we are talking of today is the *kunjika* of the document, the mid-term appraisal of the Eighth Plan. The Eighth Plan, which was ultimately approved by the National Development Council, has never been discussed on the floor of this House. Therefore, most respectfully I would like to submit that if the hon. Members are interested in having a full discussion of the Eighth Plan, I think, my colleague the hon. Minister is ready and I would also like to contribute my own submission with your approval or with your permission in regard to this document. *(Interruptions)*. A document was prepared by the various divisions of the Planning Commission. It was discussed by the full-time Members of the Planning Commission. But, thereafter, a question came that various Ministers would like to make their comments. Thereafter, the meeting of the full Planning Commission, which was scheduled to be held on 19th July, could not take place. Therefore, there has not been full Planning Commission's meeting. Even after the approval of the full Planning Commission, perhaps it would not be proper for discussion because the report would remain incomplete unless the inputs from the Members of the National Development Council are available. Any document which we have discussed here till now is not on the internal papers of the Planning Commission, but the document which has been discussed, debated in the National Development Council like the Eighth Plan, or some times the Approach Paper because even the Approach Paper is approved by the National Development

Council and then only it comes to Parliament and Parliament gives its views.....*(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation (Shri Girdhar Gamang) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Vajpayee ji has said that I am misleading the House, so I would like to give a clarification in this regard.

[English]

Mr. Speaker : There is nothing against you. Please, do not worry.

[Translation]

Shri Girdhar Gamang : When Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri asked about it I had replied that—

[English]

"The internal meeting of the Planning Commission was held, but the full Planning Commission meeting, which was scheduled, was not held because of the reasons that consultation with the Ministries concerned is still going on".

Therefore, I have not avoided the question raised by Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri. *(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker : Well, the question before us is whether we are going to discuss the economic performance of ours after the Plan was drafted and four years after it was implemented. We may discuss the document as such we may not discuss the performance or not? But are we going to discuss the performance or not? This is a method through which the discussion can take place. If the document is not the final document and if it is in the process of finalisation, we may or may not refer to the document or we may refer to the document when the Members may say that this is what is said in the document, the Ministers may explain why this cannot be taken as the final verdict on certain points raised and all those things. But should we discuss the economic development, social development and other developments in the country or not? I do think that we should : As to how it has to be done, I will call the meeting of the senior Members and then look into it.

As to the document itself, I will just go through the legal points and I will take appropriate action.

The Minister of Water Resources and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Vidyacharan Shukla) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I make a small submission?

Mr. Speaker : Yes.

Shri Vidyacharan Shukla : Sir, you have been good enough to impress upon all the Members who attend the Leader's meeting and the Business Advisory Committee meetings all the time—I do not remember a single meeting where you have not been impressing upon the Members—to discuss the Eighth Plan and I do not remember any Member having opposed your idea. But for some reason or the other, this House has been denied the opportunity of discussing this document.

Mr. Speaker : May be, that is because we have not been sincere.

Shri Vidyacharan Shukla : Sir, I would urge upon the leaders present here in the House to find time to discuss the Eighth Plan.

Mr. Speaker : Thank you very much. We should discuss the Eighth Plan as well as the performance.

Shri Vidyacharan Shukla : Yes, we should discuss the performance also along with it. From our side, we will do our best. Let us find time and give full time to all the Members to discuss it. It will do a lot of good to the Government and it will do a lot of good to the country.

Mr. Speaker : Very good.

[Translation]

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee : Should we presume that Government is disapproving the document which is being referred to....(Interruptions).....

Mr. Speaker, Sir, they may or may not accept that this is their document. It has been said that it is the document of the full-time Members. Alright, the meeting of the Planning Commission could have not taken place but this document can become a base of the discussion. The facts cannot be changed. Therefore please allow me.

[English]

Mr. Speaker : Vajpayeeji, this is a matter of time. Let me look into it. I am not saying that it cannot be put on the Table of the House. I cannot say that it can be put on the Table of the House. Let me read what is the document. Let me read what are the contents of the letter. I will come to a proper conclusion.

[Translation]

Shri Ram Naik (Bombay-North) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Independence Day was celebrated yesterday only and in this regard I would like to draw the attention of the House and the country towards an important issue. Our National Flag is a symbol of the dignity of the country and every patriot is ready to sacrifice his life for its protection. The Independence Day is celebrated far and wide at a large scale.

There is an Indian Flag Code in which it has been stated as to how the National Flag should be hoisted. I would like to draw the attention of the House towards what has been stated therein in this regard. It is very unfortunate that the people, the political leaders and the Government officers have not studied it thoroughly. The Section 4(3) of the flag code says that at the time of unfurling the National Flag nothing like, flowers or garland should be tied with the flag or the flag pole but you might have noticed it yesterday in the function held at the Red Fort and also in the State capitals.....

[English]

Mr. Speaker : May I ask the Parliamentary Affairs Minister to pay attention to this? This appears to be a little serious matter.

[Translation]

Shri Ram Naik : The National Flag unfurled in the State

capitals were having flowers. Yesterday, when the hon. Prime Minister was addressing the nation from the Red Fort the petals of rose were visible on his head. It does not happen in Maharashtra because there was a freedom named Shri G.V. Varad. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are acquainted with his name—he used to keep always this thing in mind that the National Flag Code should be respected in letter and spirit. He used to lodge a complaint with the Police Station against the persons violating the Code. That is why proper regard is paid in Maharashtra. Therefore, my submission is that the Government should study the National Flag Code and the entire country should be made aware of it so that at least on the next 26th January, the flag may be hoisted properly and the flowers may not be kept in it. It should be followed all over the country.

Therefore, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards this important issue that the dignity of the National Flag should be maintained by all of us. I would like to know as to what does the Government intend to do in this regard. If the hon. Minister.....(Interruptions) gives a statement in this regard, it can be of some use. I would not like to give it a political issue against the hon. Prime Minister.....(Interruptions)

13.00 hrs.

[English]

Shri Ram Naik : I think that the hon. Minister wants to say something about it.

Mr. Speaker : Of course, the Government will look into it whether the flowers can be tied or not.

Shri Saifuddin Choudhury (Katwa) : Sir, we are going to discuss the Budget of Jammu and Kashmir. But I want to raise one very humanitarian issue on which the whole country has been shocked. The gruesome killing of the Norwegian tourist in the Kashmir Valley and the way he was killed had really stirred our conscience. He came to India knowing that the Kashmir Valley is a disturbed Valley. But he might have hoped that the foreign tourists would not be touched. But the people, the terrorists, who are out to destroy Kashmir, destroy the unity and integrity of the country did not hesitate even from committing this kind of a heinous crime. We understand the feelings of the people of Norway, the family members of Mr. Hans Christian Ostro. It was such a gruesome murder that no word is sufficient to express our feelings.

Now, four other tourists are also under the captivity of the terrorists and efforts are on to secure their release. We have been told that foreign Governments are also cooperating. It would be good if the Government comes out explaining the latest position as to whether any progress has been made in the matter of getting their release so that the things are settled in a peaceful manner.

Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav (Azamgarh) : Sir, I want to say just a word about this. This has been universally condemned. The Norwegian tourist was killed in a gruesome manner and he was beheaded. Even the Security Council of United Nations has condemned this gruesome murder. The House should also

condemn it because it had happened, unfortunately, in our country.

There are other four tourists who are still in the custody of those terrorists. Nobody knows about their fate. Their family members and wives are camping in Srinagar and are appealing every week to all authorities and militants to show mercy and release them. In spite of all this universal condemnation and appeals from many countries, these tourists have not been released till now.

So, the House feels concerned, the country feels concerned and it is also a matter of our national prestige. Sir, today the debate will take place and it has been decided that it will not only be on the Supplementary Budget of Jammu and Kashmir but also on the other incidents. So, Sir, I would request that the Home Minister should be present during the debate because many important issues will be raised.

Therefore, I would appeal, through you, that the Home Minister should clarify the position and inform the House what steps have been taken; whether our Government has officially approached the Pakistani Government—as they are also involved—to do something for immediate release of these tourists. This is the appeal which I would like to make, through you, Sir.

[Translation]

Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat (Agra) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rajasthan has been hit by floods. 198 out of 200 dams situated in and around Bharatpur have been damaged by floods which have left a devastating effect on not only Rajasthan but also district Agra of Uttar Pradesh situated contiguous with Bharatpur. Such incidents have taken place earlier also. According to an estimate of the district administration of Agra about three lakh people have been affected by floods and two have died. A number of cattle have also died. Many contagious diseases are likely to break out once the flood waters recede. There is no fodder left to feed the cattle with. A large number of farmer's houses were swept away. The household goods were also destroyed. Link roads in flood affected areas have also been damaged. The breach in the dams of Rajasthan has caused this heavy destruction in Agra also. Any breach in the dams of Rajasthan or excessive rains leave a devastating effect on Agra. In normal days Rajasthan does not allow the rain water to flow down to Agra due to which the level of groundwater of these areas is continuously falling and the wells are drying up.

I urge upon the Central Government to have talks with the state Governments of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh and chalk out a permanent scheme for the solution of the problem of floods. Moreover, some part of rain water should be allowed to flow down to Agra every year. A permanent arrangement of the outflow of water should be made in the suburban areas of Agra by constructing small checks, dams so that the local inhabitants have not to bear the scourge of floods and on the other hand crave for drops of water during normal times. The Central Government should allocate funds for its permanent solution. The Central Government should ask the State Government to make an estimate of the damage caused to link roads in the villages and the state and national highways and provide necessary funds to compensate for losses caused by

floods alongwith the reconstruction of roads in these areas so that the flood effected people can once again return to their normal life.

[English]

Shri Somnath Chatterjee (Bolpur) : Sir, I want a small clarification on the matter of Jammu and Kashmir. You have been kind enough to allow a discussion on this matter. We are under the impression that the matter pertaining to Jammu and Kashmir will be taken up soon after the Zero Hour.

Mr. Speaker : No, we have a Bill; we have started discussing the Bill. Maybe, it may come up tomorrow for discussion.

There is one Bill and another Bill and then the Jammu and Kashmir issue will be taken up.

Shri Somnath Chatterjee : But we are under the impression that it will be taken up today and accordingly we have alternated our programme.

Mr. Speaker : Maybe, we will take it up tomorrow.

Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav : The date was already decided.

Mr. Speaker : What do we do?

Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav : I understand the problem, Sir, but it should be given the priority.

Mr. Speaker : It will come up for discussion, but tomorrow.

[Translation]

Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a very important issue. The Eastern and Western coastal banks of river Kamala have been totally broken due to the unprecedented spate of floods in Kamala-Galan river flowing from Nepal in Jhanjharpur Parliamentary Constituency situated on Indo-Nepal border. The rail and road link has throughout been damaged there which has posed a threat to the life and property of the people. The people are taking refuge at the upper reaches of the banks. An unusual situation has arisen for the last two days. The hon. Minister of Water Resources is present here. The Government of Bihar is conducting the relief work on its own but the situation is not under control as yet. The life and property of lakhs of people is in peril there. Half a dozen blocks are inundated in flood waters. Therefore, I demand that in view of this situation, the Government of India should provide additional financial assistance to the Government of Bihar on a war footing and ask the army to airdrop relief material expediently at places where there is no road link so as to protect the life and property of the people.

[English]

Mr. Speaker : It is for the State Governments and they shall ask for it.

[Translation]

Shrimati Krishnendra Kaur (Deepa) (Bharatpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, many villages of Bharatpur city, Kumer Nagar,

Nandbayee, Bayana and Rupa tehsil have been inundated in flood waters due to the breaches in Panchana dam on account of heavy rainfall in Rajasthan. Hundreds of farmers' houses have fallen apart, their crops and fodder swept away and the roads linking the villages dilapidated. I would like to know whether the Central Government has declared it a flood affected area and provided financial assistance? If not the reasons therefor and the time by which relief will be provided to this area? The State Government is doing its best but I want that the Central Government should provide additional financial assistance. The dams have developed breaches and there is a heavy loss.

The river Rupa has brought the same devastation to Kathumar tehsil in district Alwar.

Shri Prabhu Dayal Katheria (Firozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to add a few words to the issue raised by hon. Rawatji. My Parliamentary Constituency is just adjacent to Agra. The Flood water started entering the area on the night of 9th at 4 O' clock in the morning. The people were asleep when they were submerged by water. A large number of cattle were killed and hundreds were affected. Crores of bighas of land belonging to farmers was ruined. Not only Agra, half of the country is flood affected. The government of India should take initiative to check floods and provide additional assistance for it.

13.09 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notification Under Essential Commodities Act, 1955

[English]

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry) (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Cement (Quality Control) Order, 1995 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 641 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th July, 1995, under sub-section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8001/95]

Notification Under Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Homoeopathy Central Council (Registration) Amendment Regulations, 1994 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 7-1/92-CCH in Gazette of India dated the 7th March, 1995 under sub-section (2) of section 33 of the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8002/95]

13.10 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Seventh Report

[English]

Shri Inder Jit (Darjeeling) : Sir, I beg to present the Seventh report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on External Affairs on Action Taken on the Recommendations contained in the third Report of the Committee on Passport Facilities.

13.10½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE IN HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Twenty-ninth, Thirtieth and Thirty-first reports

[English]

Shri Inder Jit (Darjeeling) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of the Twenty-Ninth, Thirtieth and Thirty-first Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on the University Grants Commission (Amendment) Bill, 1955, functioning of Central Government Health Scheme and functioning of Central Government Hospitals respectively.

13.10¾ hrs.

STATE BANK OF INDIA (SUBSIDIARY BANKS) AMENDMENT BILL*

[English]

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, the State Bank of Hyderabad Act, 1956 and the State Bank of Saurashtra Act, 1950.

Mr. Speaker : The question is :

That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, the State Bank of Hyderabad Act, 1956 and the State Bank of Saurashtra Act, 1950.

The motion was adopted.

Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy : Sir, I introduce the Bill.**

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 2, dated 16-8-95.

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

13.11 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to Take Expeditious Action for setting up of Electronic Telephone Exchange at Korba Town in Madhya Pradesh

[Translation]

Shri Bhawani Lal Verma (Janjgir) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the population of Korba town in Madhya Pradesh is about 3.5 Lakh. The offices of 14 coal mines, the office of the General Manager of South-Eastern Coal Fields, BALCO projects, Units of National Power Corporations, Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board and other ancilliary industries are functioning there. It is the second largest industrial centre of Madhya Pradesh. People from every part of the country and big industrialists and traders live here. The officers of district administration also live here. Therefore, there is a great demand of telephone connections in this town.

Only 1200 connections have been provided against the demand for a large number of telephone connections. Complete preparations have been made for installing a 2,000 line electronic exchange in the town. The building has already been constructed. It is really sad that equipment for installing the proposed electronic exchange had already reached there but it was shifted elsewhere later. Consequently, there is great resentment among the people of this area which is turning into an agitation.

The Central Government is requested to take immediate action on it and send necessary equipment for setting up the proposed 2,000 line electronic exchange in the town.

(ii) Need to Provide Financial Assistance to State Government of Himachal Pradesh for Repairs and Maintenance of Roads Connecting National Highways and Rail Tracks Affected by Floods in Himachal Pradesh and to Pay Compensation to the Flood Affected Persons

Shri Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri (Shimla) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to excessive rains in Himachal Pradesh the National Highway and the railway lines have been blocked. Vegetables and fruits worth crores of rupees could not reach Shimla and other markets. Kalka-Shimla road has been re-opened for traffic after untiring efforts but the road from Kumarhatti to Dehradun Via Nahan Pounta is still lying closed and a number of vehicles are still stranded. Land worth crores of rupees have been destructed due to soil erosion and the crops have been ruined. Alongwith it a number of persons and cattle have perished. Several people are getting treatment in hospitals. All the approach roads to villages are closed. At several places houses and water mills have been washed away. People are in a difficult situation. Crores of rupees are required for repairing the railway tracks and roads connecting the National Highway from Kalka to Indo-Tibet border and also to make good the loss suffered in places like Mandi, Chamba, Hamirpur, Kangra and Kullu etc.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government that a sum of Rs. 20 crore may be sanctioned to the State Government for repairing the approach roads and additional funds may be

provided to pay compensation to the people for the loss to crops and houses after taking stock of the situation. Immediate action should be taken on it.

(iii) Need to Ensure Benefit of Pension to the Employees of Cooperative Sugar Mills in Tamil Nadu

[English]

Shri P. P. Kallaperumal (Cuddalore) : Sir, there are 240 sugar mills in the Cooperative Sector. Their Contribution to the production of sugar is considerable. Lakhs and lakhs of men and women are being employed in these sugar mills. Their sweat and toil sweeten the life of the Indian humanity. But surprisingly these employees are not provided with the retiral benefit—the retirement pension.

The basic framework of our Socialistic Republic is to provide a decant standard of life to the working people and to provide security from cradle to grave. The State is obliged to provide assured, decent living standard in old age of the retired employees ensuring economic security. The employees deserve help to desist destitution in their old age. Pension is not merely compensation for loyal service of the employees rendered in the past when they were physically and mentally alert, it is also a measure of socio-economic justice which stipulates economic security in the fall of life.

Hence, pension is not an *ex gratia* payment. It is a social welfare measure to render socio-economic justice to those employees who, in the hey day of their life, ceaselessly toiled for the employer. Hence, pension is a right of a retired employee.

Hence, I urge upon the government of India to direct the Managements of Cooperative Sugar Mills in Tamil Nadu to introduce pension scheme for the employees of Cooperative Sugar Mills so as to render them social justice in their old age.

(iv) Need to Declare Bateshwar and Sairipuri Near Agra as Places of Tourist Resorts and Provide Adequate Funds for Their Development

[Translation]

Shri Prabhu Dayal Katheria (Firozabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise an issue under the Rule 377. Bateshwar situated at a distance of 45 kms from Agra is a famous place of pilgrimage. Besides, there is also a religious place of Jains at a distance of one kilometre from Bateshwar and it falls under my Parliamentary constituency, Firozabad. Ancient and rare idols are there at this place. Lakhs of pilgrims from foreign countries and also from different parts of the country visit these places but proper facilities have not been provided to these tourists by the Government. This is a beautiful tourist spot. As this place is near Agra, foreign tourists of different religions also visit it.

I would therefore, request the Government that in view of the demand of the public, Bateshwar and Sairipuri should be declared as tourist resorts and adequate funds should be provided for their development.

**(v) Need to Develop Places of Tourist Importance
In Bihar to Attract Foreign as well as
Indian Tourists**

Shri Nawal Kishore Rai (Sitamarhi) : Speaker, Sir, under rule 377, I would like to inform through you that there are several tourist spots in Bihar. Regarding tourist spots, Bihar compares favourably with other States. Bihar has several places of historical, cultural, natural and religious importance. In absence of adequate facilities tourism industry in Bihar is lagging behind as compared to other States. There are several tourist spots of national and international importance. By giving wide publicity, a large number of Indian and foreign tourists can be attracted and a large amount of foreign exchange can be earned. This would improve the State's economy. Income from tourism can increase many times if all the tourist spots are linked by direct rail and air services and also by providing adequate staying, food, medical and security facilities. In addition to it I would request the Central Government to construct an international airport in Patna at the earliest in the interest of the tourists and for the development of tourism in the State.

**(vi) Need to Restore Flights Between Bhubaneswar
and Delhi and also to Connect Jharsuguda In
Orissa by Air**

[English]

Shri Sriballav Panigrahi (Deogarh) : Sir, the State Capital Bhubaneswar is the only place in Orissa to have airlink. Thus, the need for operation of at least one flight between Bhubaneswar and Delhi every day need not be over-emphasised. But it is a matter of regret that the Indian Airlines which is the only organisation operating in this sector has recently withdrawn its flights on two days a week, that is, Tuesday and Sunday, thereby causing a great deal of inconvenience to the air passengers. Further, necessary action may please be taken to establish the much-needed airlink with Jharsuguda, the gateway to the western region of Orissa.

I would, therefore, request that flights withdrawn by the Indian Airlines in this sector may be restored immediately and Jharsuguda be connected by air.

**(vii) Need to Protect the Interests of Workers of
Cotton Mills in Kanpur, U.P.**

[Translation]

Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona (Kanpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, earlier also I had drawn the Government's attention towards the plight of the cotton mills in Kanpur, but the government did not take effective steps in this direction, as a result of which there is grave labour unrest in Kanpur. And this has become a permanent problem for the administration. The workers are not being paid wages, what to talk of running the mills. Due to the sharp cut in the budget provision by the Government neither the raw materials is being made available nor wages of the workers are being paid since the past two months. Large number of workers who had been working for over fifteen years have been retrenched inspite of the clear cut assurance given in the Lok Sabha by the hon. Prime Minister and the Finance Minister. Referring the case of these sick mills to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), is, in the workers' views,

a step towards the closure of the mills. Thousands of workers have lost their jobs and their families have become victims of starvation. An unprecedented uncertainty is prevailing. There is great resentment among the workers and they are expressing it in various forms.

Therefore, I demand that the Central Government should implement its assurances and announcements made in this House without any delay and it should be ensured that not a single worker is removed and those who have been removed would be taken back immediately. The Government should make permanent arrangement for the timely payment of wages. Administrative and economic analysis should be undertaken to run these mills and effective steps should be taken to prevent unprecedented expected labour unrest.

**(viii) Need to Provide Financial Assistance to State
Government of Bihar for Modernisation of Sick
Power Units**

Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh (Jahanabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, power generation had come to a standstill in Bihar, Bengal and Orissa on 30th-31st July, resulting in acute power crisis in Bihar. Two units of 65 MW each, of Sawarnarekha Hydel Power Project were started, but they too stopped. For this reason Bihar was purchasing 50 MW of power from Uttar Pradesh.

The problem of inadequate and irregular supply of power already exist in Bihar. The supply of electricity in rural areas is very little. Electricity is essential for the farmers and the public. Due to non-supply of electricity regularly, generators are used, which increases pollution. In such a situation, the Central Government should assist the State Governments for providing regular supply of electricity and effective step should be taken for setting up of indigenous power plants.

Therefore, it is my request to the Central Government to provide necessary assistance for the modernisation of sick power plants in Bihar to ensure regular power supply and to take an initiative at the earliest to set up new power plants.

[English]

Mr. Speaker : I think, we have a Bill to be passed. We shall have to take care to see that the Bill is passed within the time which is allotted to it so that we can take up the other business. Please cooperate.

The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.30 p.m.

13.23 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Thirty
Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.30 hrs.

(At 14.30 hours quorum bell was rung. No quorum was made. At 14.34 hours quorum bell was rung again and no quorum was made. At 14.37 hours once again quorum bell was rung and no quorum was made. Thereafter, the Secretary-General made the following announcement.)

14.41 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE: POSTPONEMENT OF SITTING OF HOUSE FOR WANT OF QUORUM

[English]

Secretary-General : There is no quorum. So, the House cannot meet; and we cannot start the House till there is quorum. Hon. Deputy Speaker has directed that the House will re-assemble at fifty-five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.57 hrs.

[English]

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled of Fifty-Seven Minutes
past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

INDIAN TELEGRAPH (AMENDMENT) BILL—Contd.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : We will take up further consideration of the Bill. The Hon. Minister has spoken. Now, I shall call Major D.D. Khanoria of BJP to speak.

The Time allotted to this subject is two hours. Each political party has given the names. The list is there. It is very difficult to accommodate them. Therefore, I would request the hon. leaders of political parties to see who are the persons who are to participate in this debate. The time shall have to be limited.

When two hours were allotted, we dragged on up to four to five hours with the result that we were not able to finish the business of the House. So, kindly stick to the timings also. Of course, each political party has been allotted time—for example, congress 40 minutes, BJP 25 minutes, and CPM 8 minutes. So, kindly try to arrange yourselves according to the time allotted to each political party. Thank you.

[Translation]

Major D. D. Khanoria (Kangra) : Sir, the Indian Telegraph Amendment Bill, 1995 brought by the hon. Minister of Communications was the need of the hour in our country. I would like to congratulate Shri Sukhrāmji for this Bill. People in remotest corners of the country are benefited by the telephone facilities and the telecom network throughout the country has expanded to the maximum possible limit. It would have been better if a statutory body had been constituted under the Bill instead of non-statutory body as we know that telecommunication is a permanent feature. The field of Telecommunication will immensely progress through setting up of 'Telecommunication Regulatory Authority of India' as we have suggested.

15.00 hrs.

Setting up of Regulatory Authority of India will benefit its employees, on the other hand, customers will get all the

facilities. When we talk of foreign companies, there is an apprehension that these companies may dominate indigenous smaller companies. Therefore, the hon. Minister should think over this aspect so that small companies get encouragement and also benefit. At the same time, all employees of this Department from the lowest rank to the highest, should be given promotions. It has been found that there is a shortage of staff in every Telephone Exchange due to which most of the telephone connections, STD are dead. Therefore, more employees should be recruited in this Department so that it may make progress.

Today, telephone facility is available everywhere in the country. Hon. Minister, is making efforts to strengthen the system and I hope that he will succeed in his endeavour and our Telecommunication Department will March ahead and make more progress in the near future.

In some offices of this Department the employees are not satisfied. We will have to abide by the rules and regulations to fulfil their hopes and aspirations. If we satisfy them, they will benefit our customers also and the number of grievances of subscribers regarding overcharging of Bills and other complaints would certainly come down. Besides, if our workers are trained in adequate number, they will be able to solve the problems of customers where telephones remain out of order for several days.

I would like to give more suggestions in this regard. Generally, wire-thefts are reported in this Department. The Government should form squads in order to stop such thefts. These wires are very costly, that is why their theft should be stopped because we have found that telephones remain dead for several days only due to such thefts. Such thefts cause huge loss to this Department, to the Government as well as to the whole country. Therefore, squads should be formed and they should function under the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India. The Secretariat of this Authority should control the Telecommunications in the entire country.

With these words I conclude and thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

Shri Shraavan Kumar Patel (Jabalpur) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I stand in support of this Bill. Telecommunication has become the most crucial factor of economic development.

15.05 hrs

(Shri Tara Singh in the Chair)

The new Economic Policy—when this Government took over in 1991—has enunciated two main objectives. Number one is 'achieving rapid economic growth through globalisation' and number two 'inviting foreign investments on a scale that could sustain the proposed development'.

The new Telecom Policy 1994 has therefore to be dovetailed keeping in view these twin objectives in mind. The new Telecom Policy obviously aims at upgradation of our telecom services to world standards; meeting the ever-increasing consumer

demand at reasonable price; and thirdly ensuring fair competition.

In order to achieve these objectives, the Department of Telecom has deemed it essential to separate regulatory functions from service. This is the general trend all over the world. It is, therefore, proposed to set up an independent authority to be called "The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India" which in the beginning will be a non-statutory body and it will play the role of a watch-dog for the Telecom sector in an effective manner.

Under section 3(6) of the Indian Telegraph Act 1885, presently the Secretary, Telecom who has been notified as the DG, Telecommunications, exercises regulatory powers and performs functions as delegated by the Central Government under the Act from time to time. It may be pointed out that the intention of the Bill is to amend section 3(6) of the Indian Telegraphs Act 1885 so that the regulatory powers of the Telegraph Authority vest in the now proposed new Telecom Regulatory Authority.

Sir, the reasons for not coming up with a comprehensive Bill to set up a statutory authority with independent powers at this stage are that the Government would like to watch the working of such an authority for at least two to three years and learn from the experience and secondly, after getting necessary feed back from the Chairman, Members and various groups it would frame a comprehensive law to make it a statutory body. Then the authority will derive its powers directly from an Act of Parliament.

Sir, the current trend in the Telecommunication sector the world over, is to distance policy making functions, operational functions and regulatory functions from each other and to entrust the regulatory functions to an independent authority.

This will, hopefully, inspire the confidence of the subscribers and also various operators in telecom field.

Sir, I also understand—the other day, the hon. Minister himself indicated—that the Cabinet has decided that the new regulatory authority will be chaired by a retired or serving Chief Justice of a High Court or a retired or a serving judge of the Supreme Court and it will have two members of the status of a Secretary Additional Secretary to the Government of India of standing of 3 years.

Sir, the tenure of the Chairman and the members would be secure and protected to five years or upto the age of 62 years. Similarly, so far as the emoluments and other terms and conditions are concerned, they would not be changed to their disadvantage. Therefore, the intention of the Government is to send a clear signal, a positive signal that the authority will act independently and in a judicious manner and it would protect the interests of the operators and subscribers.

Let us hope that the Telecom Regulatory Authority will have a healthy impact on the working of the telecom services in the country. It is hoped that it will act as a watch dog, ensure level playing field, monitor quality of services and protect and promote the consumers' interests.

I, therefore, congratulate and compliment the hon. Minister

for bringing forward a timely Bill in front of this House. Let us also hope that with this change, the position of telecom services in India, particularly rural areas of the country would witness a radical change.

Sir, I would like to make a point that so far as the rural India is concerned, the condition was far from satisfactory and you would also agree that India resides in its rural villages. Therefore, it is very very essential that the changes that we bring about through these Acts of Parliament, should also benefit the rural masses of this country.

On March 31, 1991, there were 0.86 telephones per 1000 population in rural India as against the figure of 6.01 telephones per 1000 population in the rest of the country. These figures are expected to reach 1.85 and 14.0 respectively, as per the Eighth Five Year Plan projections. Out of over 6 lakh villages, only about 1,42,000 villages had the telephone facility on March 31, 1991. Over 4,58,000 villages are still without the telephone facility. To cover such a large number of villages with the telephone facility, the policy of the government initially was to provide a public phone within a walking distance of 5 km of any habitat. However, under the National Telecom Policy, one public phone will be provided in each of over half-a-million villages by April 1, 1997. Under the new policy, telephones are to be provided, on demand, throughout the country by April 1, 1997.

In addition to this some important features of the new Telecom Policy are :

1. Five lakh new phone connections for four metropolitan cities, i.e. Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras.
2. All villages to be provided telephones by April 1, 1997.
3. A Public Call Office (PCO) for every 500 urban population.
4. Special emphasis to remote, hilly and backward areas of the country.

I am also happy that the Department of Telecommunications is recognising the need for participation by private sector in areas like E-mail, Voice Mail, Video Conferencing, Audio Text, 64 KBPS, V-SAT services and Direct Access Customer Dialling. Very shortly we are going to have countrywide cellular phone and paging services.

To conclude, rapid economic development is inconceivable without matching advancement in telecommunications. The new Telecom Policy aims at developing adequate telecommunications infrastructure by the end of the century.

In the end, I welcome the Bill being brought by the hon. Minister and I support it.

Thank you for giving me time to speak.

Shrimati Suseela Gopalan (Chirayinkil) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Bill has been brought before the House since it became necessary to bring a Bill after the announcement of the National Telecom Policy. This policy was never discussed in this House. And now, a Bill is brought before the House to implement that wrong policy. I would like to know why it was not discussed earlier in the House. When the Prime Minister was about to

go to America, this Telecom Policy was announced just to appease them since it has wide ranging implications. Especially, through this policy the basic telephone services are going to be privatised. Long before, you had taken a decision to give the Value Added services to private people.

Privatising the basic telephone service has some implications. It affects the security of the country itself. It should have been discussed with the people concerned. This Policy should have been discussed in this Parliament. The Government has come with a *fait accompli* that now that the policy is announced to bring a regulatory authority, this Bill is necessary. But without discussing the Telecom Policy, how can this Bill be considered? It is going to affect India in so many ways which need to be discussed.

What was the necessity for inviting private sector into the basic telephone service? I say this because all sorts of things were said. In the Five Year Plan it is said that only 75 lakh telephones are required. But then, all of a sudden, the requirement was raised to 100 lakh. It is so because the Government has to give some excuse for bringing private sector into the field. Now that the private sector is brought into the field, you are saying that tenders are invited and the public sector also can participate. But, at that time private sector was not allowed to participate. Now you are saying that tenders are invited and they are in the process of being opened. That is one thing. You have also said that even if private sector comes into this field, a condition must be laid that only those who had the experience of tackling five lakh connections can participate in this. This is a clear indication that actually you do not want Indians to participate in it even if the public sector is in a position to tackle it. You want the multinationals to have joint-ventures with these people. The Government does not want monopolisation of the telecom sector. But what is going to happen in future is, another monopoly is coming into being. Who has filed application for tenders in all the sectors? It is the Reliance. Another monopoly is coming into being here. That is because even the public sector was not given a chance.

Shri Srikanta Jena (Cuttack) : They only rely on Reliance.

Shrimati Suseela Gopalan : They can only rely on Reliance. That is the only thing that comes to mind. But is it beneficial to the country? There was no necessity for this. Our DoT could well have given these telephone services to the public. You have commended them only last year. You have given a 'good' certificate to them that though the target was for 14 lakh, they have invested 17 lakh. The DoT has the capacity to do whatever more is needed. Money also will come because when they wanted money and invited money from the public, they wanted to take loan. How much did you get? I think it is Rs. 7000 crore. Much more is possible. Why should you ask the MNCs to come in? It is a dangerous thing to do. In the whole world, very few countries have actually given it to the private sector. British people have given it with the result that within ten years half of their work force has been finished. That is the result.

Mr. Chairman : You hardly have two minutes to finish.

Shrimati Suseela Gopalan : There are so many points to be mentioned. The Policy is involved in this. I want a little more time.

In America the equity participation is 20 per cent only. But there is a wide gap here. The foreign equity of the capital there is only 20 per cent, but here in India it is 10 to 49 per cent. What does it mean? It means that it can go up to 49 per cent. It means that they can direct the policy of the Government. Do you think that these private people who are coming in can provide telephones in the villages? One telephone connection in a village, from what I understand, costs about Rs. 1,25,000. The annual interest on that itself comes to Rs. 1,600.

We are giving it for Rs. 350 or Rs. 250. How can they give it? They will tell that they will give it to the villagers also but ultimately it is the villagers who are going to suffer. Actually, the private companies want to earn profit. In a way they will be deceiving 10 per cent of our people. They have a novel idea. They will think that these MNCs are giving good service. If the upper strata people who constitute ten per cent go to the private sector, then our Telecom service will become sick. About five lakh workers will suffer as also the people who are getting good and cheap service. At the present moment, you are charging only Rs. 3000 for fresh registration. They will say that they will also charge only Rs. 3,000 but in due course, they will raise that amount to Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 30,000. It is because, they want profit. At the time of war, what will happen? What was our experience during the Second World War? Those MNCs had helped the Nazis. That experience is before us. If this service is handed over to them, whatever is being spoken by our Prime Minister to the Personnel of Ministry of Defence will reach other countries. They can get every news. Now, the security of our country is in peril. As far as our security is concerned, you are not taking enough safeguards. Even the former chairman, Telecom Board, Mr. D.K. Sangal had said and I quote :

"Building in specific safeguards in regard to security issues, particularly, in respect of border States—get this aspect examined in depth by a group consisting of three arms of defence forces, the police and their intelligence agencies."

Did the Government care about it? I feel, It is a security risk. But, still, his proposal is there; his recommendation is there and nothing has happened. They did not care. They said all security measures are taken and that is why, the Government is giving the guarantee. What guarantee have they given? It is the MNCs who will actually give all the guarantees. Anyway, the future of our country is in peril. The consumers are also going to suffer. This service is going to cost much more. At the moment only Re. 1/- is charged per call, but that is going to be difficult.

Mr. Chairman : Your Party has already taken eighteen minutes.

Shri Saifuddin Choudhury (Katwa) : Still, it is not complete!

Shrimati Suseela Gopalan : These are vital issues. Everybody is supporting this Amendment. But the Members who are opposing this Amendment should be given a chance to speak.

Mr. Chairman : Nobody is saying that you take my time.

Shrimati Suseela Gopalan : They were giving compliments to the Minister. There may be some others who may be opposing it. It is because, our party has a policy towards these things and all the people who are speaking will oppose this. That is what I understand. I thought that the BJP will be opposing this also because they have cancelled the Enron which was a timely action. Such a Bill is actually harmful. So, what I propose is that this Telecom Authority itself is not needed. The entire thing should be re-discussed. Now, all the top bureaucrats are very happy. Many of them have retired and have gone to the private people. Many more are aspiring to go to the private people. Only some patriots who are there in this sector, who are still in the bureaucracy are opposing it. It is because they know it that it is detrimental to the country. So, this is a nexus between these top bureaucrats and the MNCs.

These are the things you have to take into consideration because so many experiences in the world has seen. How are they behaving especially the private sector? When the plague started all the private people went away. Only the public sector like transport, telecom and railways remained there and worked there. All the private sector people even from hospitals have fled the area. So, like that in times of peril you will find it very difficult. It is such a vital sector that this is going to affect our country very badly.

I want to bring to your notice another notice. Now, you have taken action against the people who have fought against the policy. You have seen what has happened in the country in the five days. That capacity is still there. Do not think that by taking action you can prevent all these things. The patriotic sections in the country will fight back together. You are inviting private people in all the sectors. See the division of the revenue itself. How is it divided? 75 paise for the companies and 50 paise for the Department. Who divided it? What is the necessity to divide it before the formation of the telecom authority? They could have invited tenders and then discussed with them and given the revenue share. But that is done earlier. What are they going to do now? Can they re-discuss it? They will go to court. We have this experience in other services. It was delayed because they went to the court and now only it is settled. Even if they want to redivide it, will it be allowed? The MNCs will go to the court because this is the condition the Government has given. It is only a farce. The telecom authority itself will be a farce. The MNCs are going to control the entire thing. This is what is going to come. This is very much detrimental to the interest of the country. The whole thing should be discussed in the Parliament. A Bill on the telecom policy and telecom authority cannot be discussed within two hours. The Minister has promised several times that the whole policy can be discussed but never gave an opportunity to discuss. So, that opportunity should be given. There should be a proper discussion on that. This has very wide implications regarding the future of the country. So, I oppose it tooth and nail and I appeal to the Government to withdraw this Bill and re-discuss everything and then decide the policy. Otherwise it will be detrimental to the interests of the country.

With these words I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

Shrimati Girija Devi (Maharaj Ganj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir,

we have many times come to learn that the Department of Telecommunications is going to bring about not only national but a global change in the level of its telecom services. We are, of course, tired of hearing about this global change but, it had, simultaneously, raised a hope that the country will be benefited to some extent by bringing forward this new Bill. The reason of change has been attributed to the fact that our law is quite obsolete. The telecom policy was chalked out in a planned manner in 1885 for the whole country. Subsequently, it was amended in 1951. While talking about change, it was perceived that after 110 years, due to corruption, our unweariness and unmindfulness etc., we are not able to keep pace with the time.

This Ministry has been working unabatedly and the words 'Ahamisham Sewamahe' are captioned on the album but it would be appropriate if the word 'vishramahe' replaces the word seva.

We talk of the global change and the pace of the time but the figures given by Patel Sahib from the treasury benches are intriguing. We want to peep into the window of the world but refuse to peep into the window of our own village. There is no mention in it as to how far our rural areas will be benefited by it. So, what change will this development bring about here? We have achieved progress, acquired the cellular telephones, the paging system but what has the 90 to 95 per cent population living in rural areas got? All the Panchayats have not got telephone connection so far. Even if the connection has been provided, the telephone remains dead. If it functions at times, the operator replies that 'the route is busy. Please dial after some time'. There is no mention in the Bill as to how to remove and rectify all these lacunae, how to help them, what punishment is to be given to the guilty persons and how much time will it take exactly to get a telephone line.

I am aware, Mr. Minister, and I reiterate my submission already made to you that four years ago your telecom department issued pamphlets saying that an exchange will be provided where there are 10 subscribers but no exchange has so far been provided in Bhagwanpur Hat area of my constituency where 24 people have applied for telephone connections and deposited the money whereas you and I are informed by the department that only 13 applications have been received. Even going by their figures, this number still exceeds 10. Why, then a new exchange has not been provided?

Shri Buta Singh sent us heavy documents of Consumer Protection Act. Why has not the hon. Minister brought this department under the purview of the Consumer Protection Act through this Bill? We deposit the money. Why does the department not fix a time frame for providing the telephone connection to a subscriber?

At the outset, the national telecom policy, 1994, inter alia, lays emphasis on providing countrywide services, raising the quality of telecom services at the global level, fulfil the subscribers' demands at reasonable rates, providing comprehensive services within permissible range, ensuring the participation and competition of companies registered in India in the infrastructural telecom services sector and also on the management of protection, augmentation of the interests of the subscribers. Sir, all this protection, augmentation is meant to protect their interests but how to do? It is not clear anywhere as to what

criteria are being fixed in the department for the purpose or what is the formulation for the extra-departmental management.

Then, there is the geographical imbalance. Any department of telecommunications or posts or telegraphs can be set up and functions more than smoothly in the most progressive area but a backward area is meeting abominable injustice at the hands of every department. Sir, one can speak on a telephone for three minutes in just one rupee within the bounds of a metropolis and other contiguous towns around it like Ghaziabad and NOIDA but under the exchanges opened in the rural areas, the subscribers have to deposit on additional amount of Rs. 100 per km. on the rental money of two months for a distance of more than five kilometers. First, exchanges are not opened for those poor, backward, rural farmers whom the Government talks of helping and if there is an exchange, more money is charged from them.

Fine is charged on them because their houses are located far away. I request you to withdraw your telecom policy at once. It has not been fully discussed as yet. It may be brought at the global level after holding a detailed discussion but before looking at the facilities available in other countries, we should bring about parity of the sorts in our own country where the urban folks can talk to anybody in any corner of the world by merely pushing a button and a rural person has every right as a citizen of this country to avail of this facility. Non-availability of a telecom connection is one of the main reasons of anarchy prevalent in many places today. Today, the whole world is progressing by enormously. The will and capacity to progress is present in all but there is also the need to make provision for extending facilities of every department. A separate authority will be constituted. It will be headed by a retired judge or other judges. In case of any default, the head will be removed by a process similar to that of impeachment of a judge. He is probably in a negative mood. It is mentioned in the second page of the report of the standing committee that its Members will enjoy the privileges a secretary to the Government of India is entitled to. It is also envisaged that the tenure of the Chairman and the Members is secured. Their term of office is secured whether they do the work or not. What is the need of constituting a separate authority when a well arranged infrastructure already exists? Will not it necessitate spending of money? It is being said that material, stock is not available. Why not, then, to ensure and strengthen the departmental services. A separate arrangement will call for additional expenses. The Government often say that for bearing the expenditure, they do not get adequate funds from the budget and they are also not earning so much profits from it. Then why the Government is spending so much and setting up a separate authority? It has also been said that this is the temporary arrangement. If we have to decide about the facilities to be given to this authority after one year, then why this bill is not being brought after a proper deliberation? Now apprehension arising out of this bill is whether this has been brought hastily for benefiting certain particular persons and some companies? This is just a matter of one year only. We have waiting for it eagerly and now when it has been brought it has been brought temporarily for one year only. You may bring this Bill after one year.

This authority's tenure will be very safe and their rights are also protected. Only one thing that is unprotected in it is that

what service it would render. This has not been made clear as to whether it can do it or cannot do it. It will be an autonomous body. Who will mediate when there is a conflict between them and their President? This is also not clear as to who will be the Senior-most among them. These all things have not been made clear.....(Interruptions)

We have so many grievances like wrong telephone bills, dead telephones are not being attended, or being connected to other after getting them tampered etc. People get tired of giving their representations to the Consumer protection Forum but they are not heard. If foreigners come to our country, then our workers will become jobless. The material which can be produced in our country is being purchased from abroad by the Telecommunications Department. People of Mankapur and Naini come to us often and their union leaders also meet them regularly. We have got the capacity to manufacture cellular phones or any other telephones but when power is in their hands, they have handed over these things to the foreign companies. When it will completely be in the hands of foreign companies then there can be an authority of the foreigners, then what service it will render to rural areas, poor people and common people. The grief that we have suffered because of changes in the Telecommunication Policy is not of any individual alone but of the common people at large. With these words, I oppose this bill because I cannot support such a bill.

Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri (Saidpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I had never thought that I would be given an opportunity to speak so soon. Thanks for giving me the opportunity.

We welcome the Indian Telegraph Amendment Bill 1995. It was indeed very necessary to introduce this Amendment Bill in today's circumstances. The National Telecommunication Policy was introduced in 1994. The Bill was necessary in the situation that emerged within the sphere of new Telecommunication Policy. We congratulate the hon. Minister for having presented this Bill at the appropriate time.

Comprehensive changes have taken place in the Indian Society during the recent decade. The system of our society has completely changed. Our system and our economic life have registered revolutionary changes. Many scientific inventions have taken place in this decade. A need of new Telecommunication Policy was being felt under such circumstances and our Telecommunication Department was fully aware of it.

Our present system has welcomed this new Telecommunication Policy 1994. No complaint has been received from any quarter and no adverse reaction has been witnessed on the part of our people as well. Today, 30 lakhs lines are needed and Rs. 30 thousand crore are needed for this. Rs. 23 thousand crore are required for providing telecommunication facility to the village level. An effort has been made for fulfilling this requirement under the new Telecommunication Policy. Foreign private companies have been allowed to work in the basic telecommunication services under the new Telecommunication Policy. Foreign Companies have been allowed with 49 percent equity. A indication of privatisation under open economy was also given in the new Telecommunication Policy. Indian companies working in collaboration with foreign companies will also adhere to the condition of 49 percent share of foreign companies under the new Telecommunication Policy.

Under this policy a call has been given to adopt foreign capital and foreign technology. We hope that this new Telecommunication Policy would bring about revolutionary changes in telecommunication sector with the collaboration of developed country's technology and Indian Industries. This will definitely satisfy Indian consumers. Today our telecommunication service is in trouble. We see that our consumers are not fully satisfied. Our new policy also pays attention towards these things. We have invited foreign companies to our country. This will give rise to competition in our country and this competition will become a means of betterment of our telecommunication services.

The new telecommunication policy has been criticised by some specialists and some people have expressed many apprehensions. Some people have also expressed their doubts as to how private companies will have participation in laying down cable on roads and setting up the equipments. People opposed to it say that this will give rise to new controversy in the matter concerning participation of public land and courts will be thronged with endless litigation. Not only this, people have said that Mobile telephone and paging services will be adversely affected. But our critics perhaps do not remember that International Services have been envisaged in the National Telecommunication Policy. A draft is being prepared under the new Telecommunication Policy in order to bring the quality level of our telecommunication services to the international standard. Our new Telecommunication Policy envisages to fulfill the demands of consumers at appropriate prices. How to promote the interests of consumers by protecting their interests has been talked about in the new Telecommunication Policy. Attention has also been paid in it on Competition management. New Telecommunication Policy also emphasises as to how our services be made effective.

The Indian Telegraph Amendment Bill has been presented keeping in view all these things. A proposal has been made in the amendment that one Indian Telecommunication Authority be set up. Just now a reference has been made to this authority. It has been envisaged to regulate the powers of Director General of Post and Telegraph through this body. This authority will consist of a Chairman and two members. It has been said that the Chairman of the authority will be any judge of the Supreme Court or Chief Justice of High Court or retired judge or retired Chief Justice. Even the retired persons can be appointed on these posts. Its tenure will be of five years. There is no doubt that it is a good idea and a good experiment. Parliamentary Standing Committee has also welcomed it but there is an apprehension about it. I would expect from the hon. Minister that he should explain as to why only the Chief Justice or a judge of Supreme Court will be its Chairman? If you have to set up such an authority, then why not you appoint a retired person of any university or any other reputed institution or a distinguished Member of Parliament who has his own place in the society? I would like to have a clarification from the hon. Minister. The hon. Minister has rightly said and we also agree to it that you would review the working of this authority after two years. This is a good thing that you will constitute a Permanent Committee after making such review. But I would like to submit that it is a new idea of having a Temporary Committee, so special attention should be paid to it. The Hon. Minister must pay his attention towards its services also. I was

reading about it that this Committee will be a Controlling Committee. There is no doubt that there is a need of a powerful Controlling authority in our telecommunication system. There is a need of a powerful body or a Committee which could set right the telecommunication services, protect the interests of consumers, review the quality of telephone services in remote areas and review the licensing conditions to be followed in case of entry of foreign companies. I believe that this Committee will definitely work in this direction. But I want to ask as to whether this could not have been done through the present vast departmental set up? We hope that you will pay attention towards the difficulties that I have expressed about the proposed arrangement you have made for strengthening the telecom system.

I want to say in brief. The condition of rural telephones is very bad. You have started MRAM system in villages and it is very good. You have widely expanded this system. My Parliamentary Constituency Saidpur is beset with difficulties about which I want to speak something. We used to praise for making available telephone facilities in the remote areas of our country through this system. We used to praise this Government also that it is working well. About 15 to 20 telephones have been provided at Sadat, Sakhariya, Jalalpur, Muffiganj areas in Saidpur. I would like to tell you that when a report to this effect comes to us, then we too claim that it is the Government of our party and our Government has done so much good work. But when we go into its roots then our heads hang in shame. Telephones are there in four villages at Sadat but they have not yet started. When we talk to the engineers and General Manager to this effect they say that they would be started within 2-3 days but two years have elapsed and these telephones have not yet started. Such is the mismanagement prevailing there. You have done a very good work, you have provided new technology to rural people but there is no body to monitor and assess its performance. The Government employees are acting arbitrarily. Demands for various places were made and you have provided STD facility at Gaurabaspur. You have made available STD facility at Saidpur in 1991. We also had a talk about it and started work on it but today its condition is very bad.....(Interruptions). I am winding up. Sir, the hon. Minister of Communication is sitting here. He desires that telephone facilities should reach the towns, local markets and the remotest parts of the country and our communication system could get strengthened. You have got a commitment that our country could establish contact with other parts of the globe through updated communication system. But your desire would not materialise until you change the present system and if you want to change this system through this Committee and through Telecommunication Policy, then we do not have to say anything but you have to exercise control over it. This would not be possible unless and until you exercise stringent control. Just now our friend Shri Jena was talking about excess telephone bills. I want to tell you that I am an ordinary M.P. and have no friends abroad, yet I have been served the telephone bill of Rs. one lakh for international calls. I have also requested the hon. Minister in this regard and the hon. Minister told me that if nobody contracts me within 15 days in this regard then I may remind him about it. That you had said in desperation. I have given you representations atleast ten times, but till date neither any body has contracted me nor it was investigated through CID or CBI as to whether I have made any international call

or not I am a poor man and I hail from the rural area. If I do not pay this bill then my house will be auctioned. If I am living at Varanasi and my telephone remains locked even then the calls are shown against my Delhi telephone. How it happens? We are not technical persons. When we contact concerned officers, they says that we might have made calls. When I am sitting in my house, the room is locked and the key is with me then how the call can be made. Sir, such things have happened a number of times during the tenure of the present Minister. Such things were also there when Mr. Rajesh Pilot was the incharge of this Ministry. When I became an M.P. for the first time it was also there at that time. At that time the amount was Rs. 30-35 thousand and this time the bill has gone up to Rs. two lakhs. I had announced it on the floor of this House that the department may go for endless litigation or may send me to jail but I would not make any payment of the bill. Sir, this is a very serious matter and we should not take it lightly. This is happening with the people. The telephones have become showpiece in villages and small towns and even then they are getting bills. How this happens? Wherefrom such things originate? This has to be looked into. If this process of wrong bills is checked I think it would be a great achievement of the Government. Before I conclude I would like to reiterate that hon. Minister has taken into consideration the problems like false billing, misuse of telephones, making telephone facilities attractive in rural areas and extending telephone service to the remotest villages. It will prove to be the biggest achievement if proper planning is made and implemented effectively. With these words I welcome this Amendment Bill. I would like to say to the hon. Minister that his Telecommunication Policy will definitely succeed. There are 3-4 major defects in it and the hon. Minister should pay attention towards these thing. With these words I conclude.

16.00 hrs.

Shri Bhubaneshwar Prasad Mehta (Hazaribagh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank that there was no need to bring the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Bill which has been presented by the Hon. Minister. This Bill is neither in the public interest nor in the national interest. But it is dangerous from security point of view as well. Under the new policy, the Ministry of Communication and the hon. Minister Sukh Ramji are trying to transfer this establishment to the private sector by winding up the public sector. They want that foreign capital should be invested. But the reality is that only the people of our country themselves can make these investments. The result of handing over it to the private sector will be that the cost of telephones and corruption will increase. It appears that though the Hon. Minister...

16.01 hrs.

(Shri Sharad Dighe *in the chair*)

repeats it time and again in the House that telephone facility would improve but the situation is quite opposite. As and when he has given assurance, the communication system deteriorated. Claims are made that telephones are being installed in the villages, whereas the reality is that installation of a telephone takes two or three years, and if at all it is installed, it does not function. The same situation is prevailing in Hazaribagh area where an Exchange had been set up and STD facility has

been made available but not even a single STD call can be made from there. Not to speak of STD call, even local call cannot be made from there and the Hon. Member Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastriji has told about telephone bills. Excess bills amounting to thousands of rupees are received and this amount continues to increase. The need to set up an Authority as stated by him would increase corruption as well as expenditure. The suggestion to improve telephone facilities by inviting foreign companies is totally wrong. More than five lakh officials are employed in this Department. We can improve the efficiency by increasing the number of these officials but, unfortunately, it has not been done. On one hand, we could not improve this service and on the other hand, we are inviting foreign companies and transferring all to them. Do you think that this step would be appropriate?

At present the position is that you will find STD out of order everywhere and Rs. 10 to 20 thousands have to be spent for the installation of a P.C.O. I wrote a letter to the hon. Minister that the telephone exchanges of Hazaribagh and Dhanbad have burnt. I have written several times about this incident but he is too busy to reply. I think that the hon. Minister does not have time to reply the letters from Members of Parliament. Now when the Government is going to hand over the Department of Telecommunication to foreign companies, they will try to earn more and more and would exploit the economy, and workers of our country would be retrenched. Had these companies been left in the hands of our countrymen, they would have tried to make them better, but, unfortunately, this has not been done.

Lakhs of rupees have been spent by the Department of Telecommunication but the common man has not been benefited. Telephones have been installed in few villages to show off to the common man, but they are not functioning properly. There is corruption everywhere and it cannot be expressed in words. Therefore, we think that the Government has tried to transfer this Department to the foreigners by bringing this Bill. The Hon. Member has rightly said that the Government should have thought over it before presenting this Bill. It should have thought as to how the telephone services can be improved, and be made available in the remote villages?

But the hon. Minister has brought such a Bill in desperate haste. There is a saying in rural areas—"Much ado about nothing". Similarly, the hon. Minister has tried to mislead the people of this country and this House by presenting this Bill. That is why we object to this Bill. This Bill is not in the interest of our country, the people as well as in the national interest in any way. It is dangerous from security point of view also.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would, therefore, like to say that this Bill should be withdrawn by the hon. Minister and a fresh Bill should be introduced after detail discussion thereon with all the parties. If this department is handed over to the foreign companies. The instruments manufactured in our country would become useless and shall become dependant on the foreign companies. That is why, a fresh Bill should be introduced after consulting all parties. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

Shri K.T. Vandayar (Thanjavur) : Sir, I rise to support the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Bill, 1995.

After liberalisation and globalisation, the world has shrunk and the communication revolution should impress upon achieving universal service. We should also improve the quality of telecom service to the world standard; meet the requirements of customers at reasonable price and enable the private sector to provide basic service to customers in telecom field.

When the telecom activities are increased and open to private sector, naturally a regulatory authority has to be constituted to cope up with the increasing workload and to regularise its functioning. Under the proposed Bill, the scope of the "Telegraph Authority" is being widened to include any statutory or non-statutory body or an officer empowered to perform the functions under the Telegraph Authority Act. At present, these powers are being exercised by a single authority called the Director General of Telecommunications. I welcome the proposal to bring an independent regulatory authority into being which would regulate the working and activities of all telecom services both in the private sector and the public sector in the interest of the nation and the consumers. The Public Sector should set an example. When there was a recent strike, there was damage to the property of the Post and Telegraph Department. Care should be taken to see that the Government property is protected for the welfare of the people. The Post and Telegraph Department should not be a regular victim and target of the angry mob. There should be a sentinel watch to regulate and control the activities of service agencies engaged in the telecom sector in an effective manner.

Sir, in this connection, I would like to state that the hon. Minister has not specified the composition of the Telecom Regulatory Authority, that is, how many members it would consist of and its Chairman; what are their terms and conditions, tenure of service, mode of appointment etc. I want the hon. Minister to take care and work out the details in the Gazette Notification.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat (Ajmer) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to submit that the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Bill, 1995 seems to be very concise on the face of it but it would have far reaching impact as Hindi Poet Bihari has written —

"Satsaiya ke dohre jyon navik ke teer,

Dekhan mein chhote lagen ghav karein gambheer"

This Bill seems to be very minor and a small section is sought to be inserted in place of section 6 under article 3 of Indian Telegraph Regulation, 1885.

"Telegraph Authority" means Director General of Telecommunication. Is there any public or private authority who has been empowered by the Central Government, under this Act, to perform any or all duties of Telegraph Authority.

This Authority will have two members and a Secretary etc. It is being repeated time and again that the Chairman of this authority would be a Judge which has not been mentioned in this Bill anywhere. Therefore, the hon. Minister should make it clear and should also lay down the eligibility criteria for

members. He should also explain the recurring and non-recurring expenditure which has been stated to be Rs. 40 and 60 lakhs. And whether the Chairman of this Authority will be a judge of the Supreme Court or his equivalent judge of the High Court.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, regarding TRAI, a mention was made in Nanda Committee meeting and it presented its report in October, 1992. In this report, ten recommendations had been made. The Government has accepted the recommendations of TRAI after the introduction of the new Telecommunication Policy, though after a very long delay but no action has been taken on other recommendations. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to why the other recommendations have been ignored. It was stated in the recommendations that the Indian Telegraph Bill, 1885 has become very obsolete and it needs to be amended. The Government had also given assurance repeatedly that a comprehensive Bill is required to be introduced. All these aspects have been over looked and in 1994 new Telecommunication Policy has been introduced but an opportunity has not been given to discuss this Bill in detail in the Parliament. Probably this thing has happened because at that time the Prime Minister had to visit America and was expected to have discussion with American companies due to which Telecommunication Policy was announced in haste. This Bill has been brought in the name of implementing this Policy and other aspects have been overlooked. What are the reasons thereof?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, one more point has raised in the Nanda Committee that the legislation of 1885 is authority oriented. In this legislation, more emphasis has been given on the right of Officers, whereas, it needs to be consumer oriented. This Bill should have been framed, keeping in view the interest of the people and all rights should have been exercised properly but all this has not been done anywhere. The Government has talked about the protection of customers' interests and world standard quality as if Telecommunication revolution is coming to India. Model slogan of the Department of Telecommunication "Aharnisham Seva Mahe", today seems to be changing into "Aharnishma Videshi Company Mahe." Foreign companies are going to dominate our economy. The Government is talking about liberalisation and open economy. We had also supported it but that does not mean that Multi-national companies should be allowed without any restriction in such a field where latest technology is already available in our country. Sam Pitroda had said that if foreign companies are allowed in C-DOT technique, they should come to help us so that we may solve the problems regarding Telecommunication and extend services to the maximum extent. But overlooking the potential and capabilities of Hindustan Teleprinters and Public Sector Telephone Industry, it has been transferred to foreign companies.

Sir, earlier it was said that only 25 percent shares will be given to the foreign companies and remaining 75 percent shares will be retained by the Government or Public sector companies. In the beginning, he also favoured this view point and stated this fact in several conferences. But now, why this percentage has been raised to 49. He has simply said that 51 percent shares will be kept by the Government and only 49 percent shares will be sold to the foreign companies but if the foreign companies are clever, they would try to play their game at the

cost of small share-holders of India and would give up priority to their own interests. I would like to quote the conclusion drawn in the report of experts :

Official logics are nothing more than a mask....The decision of entrusting telecommunication sector to the foreign companies has been couched with such words and conditions that on its face, it looks like a normal policy. But 'gene' test is sufficient to prove it to be unwanted. The first such term used is 'foreign companies registered in India'. It has been said that such companies can enter into contract with the Department of telecommunications. The ground reality is that the foreign companies having 49 percent shares can share the remaining 51 percent shares in such a manner that not even a single Indian will be able to dominate in such company.

What will the Government do to avoid such a situation? As has been just said, that telecommunication system has gone out of gear. The Government has said that the quantity will be increased but nothing has been said about improving the quality. When we dial 197, it is repeatedly said that wait for a while. But after a while line becomes busy. The same is the position of 198 or 199. This is the situation in the entire country. Complaint number is given when complaint is lodged but the next day when reminded, reply comes that they had sent lineman and cable fault or some other fault has been detected. The Government has tried to expand telephone services throughout the country but there is no guarantee to maintain these services and to provide better services to the people and nothing has been clearly stated in this regard. Nanda committee had also asked to pay special attention towards this aspect, but there are only one or two lines about it.

Today, foreign companies are prepared to operate and lay cable only in cities but they do not want to do this work in villages or semi-urban areas. India lives in villages. The Government has provided telephones to the Gram Panchayats but all telephone batteries and exchanges are not functioning properly there. Telephones remain dead for several days in the panchayats and no lineman goes there to remove the fault. Foreign companies should be allowed only in semi-urban and rural areas where resources are required, more investment and technology is needed. Priority should be given to our own competent companies in cities with large net work of telephones.

Instruments used in telephones are manufactured by small scale industries in our country. If foreign companies are allowed to enter this field, our industries will close down. One or two American companies have criminal record and a lot of material about them has been published in the American newspapers. These companies have approached the Government. Therefore, the Government should be cautious enough while considering their case. These companies should not be allowed to spread their network in India.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I seek protection from you. Tenders have also been received from one or two such companies which have no experience in laying cables or providing telecom services and they do not have specific technology also, yet they intend to commence their business in India only with the power of money and capital manipulation. Such companies should not be allowed to spread their wings in India.

In this regard, I would like to add one thing more, that Indian entrepreneurs should be given full opportunity to show their potential. Their efficiency should be improved and strong and balanced network should be set up. I would like to submit that there is a need to reorganise the Telecommunication Department and the services of this Department are also required to be made more effective.

The Government is changing only one clause of this Act of 1885. My submission is that radical changes are required to be carried out in this Act so that the technique and technology available in our country may be utilised fully. There is no need to purchase foreign technology and technique. Efforts should be made to make our country self reliant.

[English]

Shri Bolla Bulli Ramaiah (Eluru) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Bill.

It is mainly intended to give penalty for unauthorised diversions, adulteration and other smuggling. Today we can see that the expansion of the telecommunication is so fast. Whatever happens now, it is only the departmental people who are responsible for it. I also find that the system is being developed — fax system, telex system, teleprinter system and various other types of systems that are being developed with the help of microwave.

With the acquiring of satellite system, cellular phones and fibre optics, the electronic system should be able to improve substantially and they would be able to serve the people in the remote areas with better facilities along with the cities that are being served. Here, the two things that we require are these. One is the training of the people. When new technology is coming and the system is being changed, the whole system should be renewed and the people should be well-trained. Otherwise, we will have to face more problems. Today what happens is that the stability has not come. Frequently the calls are cut off; we get wrong calls and these are causing big problems.

Some of my colleagues have mentioned that they get wrong bills. Hereafter, I think, we should be able to have electronic-bill-system printed with time and the place of call without any difficulty. In that case, we will not have such complaints. This requires a lot of expansion very fastly. The requirement of finance is not a problem. In fact, that will give a lot of revenue. Today with the expansion of the private sector also in this field, it is becoming very fast. Simultaneously we should also see that it serves the proper people.

I do not know whether they are really encouraging the use of telephone system more. In the case of telephones, when the number of call is more, the rate goes up. It is very unusual. Normally, the rates should come down; when the calls are increasing. In the case of Railways, if the distance is longer, the rates will come down. Telecommunication system should also improve on those lines and utilisation of the telecommunication system should be made to the maximum extent possible. With the electronic system, a lot of things can be improved. With the help of cellular phones and other things, not only big cities, but also the rural areas should improve. You

will find that not even 15 to 20 percent of the people are using it because the supply system is not adequate. In the rural areas, we need more facilities. We have a lot of places which require immediate telephone system for medical and other purposes. They find it more difficult to communicate in such places. The road development is not up to the mark and so, at least the telephone system should be made available with overhead cables. Microwave system can also be used, radio telephone system should also be used so that these places are connected as much as possible.

I know that there is a lot of demand for the telephones. Today they may say that they will be able to fulfil the requirements of the people within a reasonable time. But the supply system is not up to the mark. In other countries, including the backward countries, the system has improved so fast; and the people are getting phones on demand; and if the phones are not working, they see to it that they work because it is in the interest of their revenue.

But here nobody seems to be much bothered about it. So, this system should also be made more practical-oriented. People's requirements are more important and the revenue earnings also simultaneously come along with that. I think, on this basis, if you can standardise it and try to improve it, the system will definitely work. If the entire staff would be able to work on these lines, then the system will be able to give better service. With better system and better development, they will be able to serve the people most of these things.

I know you may say something on this penalty system that you are actually putting in this Bill. But unless the staff of the telephone system, or the telegraph system, help, it is not possible. I am sure, today the communications require a lot of other facilities. Any wrong tapings or wrong connections will be done only with the help of the staff. If you can improve your own people and see that they should be stabilised, these things can be improved. With these words, I thank you very much.

[Translation]

Shri Hari Kishore Singh (Sheohar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Bill brought forward by the Government apparently looks to be very simple and seek to improve our communication system. In view of the country's industrial, economic and geographical condition, the communication system is very obsolete. Last year, many reforms were carried out in it under the new Telecom Policy but, simultaneously, some apprehensions were also expressed including those about the future of the employees working in the department. They look panicky today. Under the new Telecom Policy, this sector is being entrusted to the private companies, the foreign multinational companies particularly when they will have more than 51 percent shares, the Government or the Parliament will not be able to exercise any control over it and it will also affect the services of the employees working in the department. The Government should ponder over it and inculcate a sense of security among the lakhs of employees working throughout the country. This is the reason for their panick.

Under the new Telecom Policy the multinational companies (MNCs) will get the opportunity of doing work of a sensitive

nature in the communication sector. Not only that, the foreign companies will also control by using their own equipments and tools all the information and news emanating from the offices or residences of the VIPs not only in Delhi but in other parts of the country as well. In other words, the whole communication system will be controlled by foreign companies. Official Secretary can be in jeopardy. How can we ensure secrecy of information and documents? The Government should make arrangements for preserving the secrecy of the Prime Minister's Office, the Defence Minister's Office and the Ministry of Finance and should also keep a vigil over it.

The Telecommunication Regulatory Authority has been termed as a watch-dog that will look after the whole system. I wish that this organisation should not only be constituted of the bureaucrats but also chaired by a retired judge of the Supreme Court. It should also include the representatives of the subscribers and the Members of the Parliament as in the case of Board of Directors of the Banks which are composed of the representatives of the staff and of the account-holders. Unfortunately, there are no Members of the Parliament representing there but I would like the hon. Minister to keep in mind, while replying to the debate, my suggestion that the representatives of the people should also be included in the Regulatory Authority because many anomalies arise in the absence of the representatives of the subscribers and of the Parliament.

Today, many arrangements are being made in our country and many kinds of experiments undertaken. Telecommunications has entered a new era. It has reached the villages by a new method of setting up a tower through microwave but most of the plants and equipments do not function. There is nobody to repair and maintain them. In my constituency, Sheohar, Bihar, people received whimsical bills even to the tune of Rs. 50,000.

Sir, yesternight, when I wanted to talk to one of my friends in Bombay and rang him up, I was told that this telephone service had been withdrawn. Then, I left a message for that friend on another telephone asking him to ring me back and he talked to me from Bombay on the same telephone which was said to have been withdrawn. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you also might have come across such incidents. How shall these lacunae be removed in the electronic exchanges and how can this system be strengthened under the new Telecom Policy? Everytime you ring, you are told — please check the number which you have dialled. Same thing can be heard on a telephone if you make a call from the Parliament House. You are not able to talk. The moot point is how to improve this system and how to give facilities to the subscribers?

The most important thing is that with the advent of foreign technology a sense of desperation is gripping the minds of the country's technicians because we are eager to set our feet with immediate effect in the domain of world trade and world economic order in pursuit of the new policies of liberalisation and globalisation in total ignorance of our sense of self-reliance which is not good. Today, we see which company floats the most hefty Euro-issue—whether it is Mahanagar Telephone Nigam or the Railways or any other government institution—and after floating it, they are compelled to withdraw it time and again though the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. has not floated

any Euro-issue so far. I would like to know the steps the Government is going to take to dispel the apprehensions arising in the country's technicians working in the field? The hon. Minister should touch upon it as well.

Lastly, I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to by what time will the subscribers get the benefits of the much publicised cellular telephones and its installation charges should not be such as will facilitate the affluent class alone to benefit by this facility. It is learnt that the Government is going to earn a revenue of Rs. 50,000 crore over a span of 10-15 years through it. This is good but the common and backward people should also get this facility. It would be in the fitness of things if the people of the hilly and the desert areas are also able to this facility. The home town of the hon. Minister, Himachal Pradesh, is also a hilly area.

With these words, I welcome the new Telecom Policy but I also condemn the policy of over looking and ignoring the competition and the principle of self-reliance involved in it.

[English]

Shri Yaima Singh Yumnam (Inner Manipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, though I rise to support this Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Bill, I would like to raise some points which I think are necessary for the House to consider.

In the Statement of Objects and Reasons given by the Minister incharge, it is mentioned that this Amendment Bill has been brought forward in the context of the National Telecom Policy 1994. Since he has mentioned the National Telecom Policy, which is made as the basis for his other proposals, I consider that it would be necessary for the House to discuss this National Policy and get it approved by the House before it is made a National Policy; before it is made the basis for other proposals. I strongly demand for bringing the proposals for the National Telecom Policy before this house and seek the approval of this House.

Sir, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it is mentioned that the amendment is for the promotion of the quality of the telecom service to the world standard. It is very good. It is encouraging and we would like to encourage it, since it would be for the promotion of the quality of the service, to make it of the international standard. So, we have to agree with this proposal. There, it is also mentioned that it is for the protection and promotion of consumers' interest. It is also very good. If it is implemented fully, then it will serve the purpose greatly.

Sir, the amendment is for making the independent Telecom Regulatory Authority under the name and style "Telecom regulatory Authority of India". But here also, the proposal is for making it only a non-statutory in character. But I would like to propose that it would be more purposeful if it is made a statutory one.

So, these are some points which I would like to propose while supporting the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Bill. In the matter of proposals I would also like to propose that there should be regional advisory committees for telecommunications for every Chief General Manager so that the effective service can be given to the consumers. The MFs, MLAs and the representatives of the consumers can be made members of

such advisory committees. Now, we are having advisory committees at the State level for the telecommunication services.

Sir, I would like to propose that the composition of such Advisory Committees should include at least the Members of Parliament representing that constituency or the region so that they could bring before this House the problems faced by the Committee in respect of the particular States concerned. Although I have written to the Minister-in-charge to include the Members of Parliament of the area—say, for Manipur I represent the whole valley including inner Manipur—yet I have not been made a member of that Committee. I also find no proposal contained in this amendment Bill regarding the problems being faced by the Advisory Committee. So, I would like to propose—for other States also—that Members of Parliament representing the area or the Constituency should be made members of the Advisory Committee so that they could discuss the problems faced by that area and by the region.

Sir, I would like propose that there should be a classification of the applicants who are in the waiting-list for telephone connections. Now there is a long waiting list for telephone connections. But the priority the connection is determined by the capacity to pay the deposit amount. It is not fair. It must be classified for advocates, for doctors, for teachers, for businessmen etc. It should be classified as per the profession. The list is priority consideration should be drawn in this way.

Lastly, I would like to propose that telephone connections with STD facilities should be provided in the areas covered under the *Nagarpalikas*, the Municipalities and the *Zila Parishads*. Otherwise, it becomes very inconvenient for the people to go and make STD and other calls from far off places. So, I would like to propose to the hon. Minister to consider this aspect seriously and provide for telephone connections with STD facility in the areas covered under the *Nagarpalikas*, the Municipalities and the *Zila Parishads*.

With these few words I support the Bill.

Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal (Chandigarh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, rapid advancement in science and technology has reduced our once mystic and unexplored planet into a global village today. This is so particularly because of the accelerated development in the field of telecommunications, besides of course the advent of fast and even supersonic modes of transport. Today we are witnessing a veritable revolution in the field of telecommunications—triggering, catalysing and facilitating developments in other fields of activity.

Sir, till recently India was lagging far behind and it seemed almost impossible for us to match the level of progress achieved by many other countries in the field of telecommunications. With archaic equipments, the services were mostly confined to the urban areas and those also were woefully inadequate both in reach and quality.

During the last four years the number of telephones in the country has increased many-fold and today even the remote, inaccessible villages in deserts and a top mountainous ranges are connected via Telecom satellite. You just have to dial the number and talk to the person at the other end, thousands of miles away, as if you are conversing in a close group in the

drawing room or across the dining table. Indeed, we have taken a step that is poised to become a gigantic major leap and for this I compliment the Hon. Minister.

With the state-of-the-art equipment, quality and variety of services has improved tremendously. FAX, radio paging, cellular phones, which of course, hon. Members of the other side wanted to be distributed freely amongst the Members of the public, V-SAT network including E-Mail, Hybrid Mail are the 'in-thing' today and the conventional telegram seems to have lost its pride of place. To keep pace with the developments in the rest of the world and to enter the 21st century, as a country confident of its future, we obviously have to accord due to importance to the expansion of Telecom network.

Given the resource crunch and the need to step up governmental expenditure on social sectors like education and health, we have to today look for private investment in infrastructure like telecommunications, electricity and roads. The National Telecom Policy has today opened the basic services also to the private sector and I welcome this step. It is heartening to find that many foreign companies of repute have evinced interest in telecommunications here. So far, it was the Government of India which retained monopoly or exclusive privilege of establishing, maintaining and working telegraphs, which expression under the Indian Telegraph Act includes telecommunications, and in that scenario it was perfectly valid and understandable for the Government to vest powers of the Secretary to the Government, the Chairman Telecom Commission as also that of the regulatory authority, that is the Director General of Telecommunications in one person.

Today, Sir, when we have opened the telecommunications to private sector, it becomes incumbent on us that if we want to be really fair in the matter, the regulatory functions must be separated from the policy making and operational functions and I think it is quite clear that it is to achieve this objective that the present amendment to the Indian Telegraph Act is sought to be incorporated. This, as the hon. Minister has said while piloting the Bill, is essential for the healthy growth of telecommunications. This would stimulate confidence amongst all the participants. The Government — we must understand today — cannot both be a participant and a referee in the match. It is in this perspective that the decision to establish an independent and autonomous Telecom Regulatory Authority has to be viewed. So, this must be welcomed.

Sir, the main functions, I gather, that this Telecom Regulatory Authority of India would be called upon to perform include: to ensure technical compatibility and effective interconnection, revenue sharing arrangements, protection of consumer interest and national security interest, enforcement of service quality standards, compliance of licence conditions, fixation of tariffs, compliance of universal service regulations, resolution of issues between service providers, rendering service to Government on technology options, service provision aspects and other matters connected with Telecom industry.

Sir, this authority, I presume, is going to be a quasi-judicial authority vested with the power to adjudicate upon various disputes or issues relating to telecom services. The proposed authority, as the hon. Minister said, would be a watchdog for telecom sector and would monitor quality of service. Sir, a doubt

was expressed by hon. Shri Hari Kishore ji about the impact that the working of the National Telecom Policy would have on national security and matters connected with official secrecy. Sir, I, with uttermost humility would like to submit that this apprehension is misplaced. Sir, what is of importance as regards these aspects given vent to by Shri Hari Kishore ji is the question relating to the management of frequency. I think, Sir, there is no doubt that it is not proposed to give the management of frequency to the regulatory authority. There is an abundant safeguard about the maintenance of security.

Mr. Chairman : It is a one-clause Bill and the time allotted was two hours. You have already crossed the time limit. I think Members from most of the Parties have spoken. You are practically the last speaker. Please wind up.

Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal : Sir, I accept that the functions relating to the management of frequency should not vest in a regulatory authority like this and we need not really have doubts on that since that is not one of the functions that would be given to this regulatory authority immediately.

Sir, about the composition of this regulatory authority I must say that the Government has assured this House that this is going to be a high-powered authority. The Chairman would be a person who has been or is a Judge of the Supreme Court and the other members would be those who have been Secretary to the Government of India or Additional Secretary to the Government of India. I think, Sir, that should infuse confidence in the minds of all concerned. I only wish that there is a provision to ensure that one member is a technical person. We do not have to entertain any other doubt about this.

Sir, I am always for the demand that Parliamentary control over the working of the Government has to be ensured that strengthened. But I beg to differ with the hon. Members from the other side as far as this question of regulatory authority is concerned. Sir, this function would be entirely different from what you expect from the Members, the representatives of public to perform. For that purpose we have this forum here, the Parliament. We have the Consultative Committee, we have the Departmentally-related Standing Committee and we also have the Telecom Advisory Committees. But, given the functions that you expect that authority to perform, I think we have to leave it to those three members to look into those matters. However, Sir, there is one doubt which I would like the hon. Minister to clear. Going through the Statement of Objects and Reasons I find that there is a specific mention to the first proviso to Section 4 of the Indian Telegraphs Act.

It empowers the Government to delegate to the Telegraph Authority all or any of its powers under the first proviso to Sub-Section (1) which of course, deals with granting licence to run telegraph services. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether function of grant of licence is also proposed to be transferred to this regulatory Authority. In my view, Sir, I think, to begin with, this function must be retained with the Government. This function of granting license is quite different from the regulatory functions. This, for the time being — till as we say, we gain experience — or till we finally come out with a self-contained enactment to provide for a statutory authority after a few years, this power to grant licence should vest with the Government and subsequent regulatory functions, should of course, vest with that high-powered Authority.

The second question that comes to my mind with this is about the jurisdiction. Sir, at present, any act of the Director-General of Telecommunications is challengeable in the Civil Courts. Once you have a very high-powered Authority under the Chairmanship of a Judge of the Supreme Court which would be the forum where the decisions of this authority could be challenged? The act does not speak of this, meaning thereby, that the Act does not bar the matters from being taken to the Civil Courts. If the same position were to exist, it would tantamount to the decisions of a Judge of the Supreme Court — though not working as Judge of the Supreme Court — being challenged in the Civil Court. I think their jurisdiction cannot be barred by a Resolution which the hon. Minister may subsequently be bringing in, to setup this Authority. That care has to be taken. May be another Amendment — if I am not mistaken — is called for in the Act itself.

And associated with this would be the question of revocation of licence, because as far as revocation of licence is concerned, there is no provision in the Act for the Government to delegate its authority to anybody else. The Telegraph Authority cannot revoke the licence. It can grant the licence. If and when this new Authority is setup, those functions, according to the Statement of Objects and Reasons, are likely to be transferred to the Authority. I would like the hon. Minister to clear this point.

Finally, to conclude, I would say that this National Telecom Policy, which of course, is not strictly under discussion here, but about which more references have been made and are likely to be made also than the present Amendment, is indeed a step which was necessary in the present environment, if we really want to be counted amongst the countries that matter in the world.

Sir, the present initiatives of the Government are packed with job opportunities; with international Concerns vying to come to Indian markets. I think in the next two or three years, may be anything upto five lakh trained personnel in different streams, engineers, MBAs and people down the line are likely to get good and high paying jobs in telecommunications. The purpose or the ideal of any Government is to create avenues of employment for the people. It is not important for the Government to give doles; and it is not important for the Government to give jobs which perhaps, our hon. Members, who sometimes even opposed that policy, want. Sir, what is important today is for the Government to create an environment where people get the opportunity to earn.

17.00 hrs.

What is important is the generation of sources of income for them. This is one initiative which is going to create that in abundance. I am sure that in the days to come it will usher a virtual revolution in the field which would ultimately benefit the country in all spheres.

With these words, Sir, I support this Bill.

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Kanduri (Garhwal) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, to start with I would like to assert that the drafting and contents of this Bill are highly confusing. As I understand, and as you have said this is one-Clause Bill for merely changing the definition of the telegraph authority and if

that is the total content of this Bill, I do not see how does this financial memorandum and how does this talk of regulatory body, statutory and non-statutory come into it? Therefore, I think what you have done here is to confuse two separate issues. One is merely changing the definition which existed in your books and thereafter what you propose to do is a separate issue. Therefore, I would like to ask the Minister as to what exactly is the aim of this Bill. If there was only a change of definition, then that would not involve Rs. 40 lakh of financial memorandum. In fact there should be no financial memorandum with this Bill as per understanding. To make things worse the other day, on the 9th of August when the Minister gave his introductory remarks he said and it is in the content of the Bill also that there is going to be a non-statutory regulatory body. He said when we want to establish a statutory body we will again come to this House. Now, this Bill in its present form does not authorise you to form a statutory body or a non-statutory body. It merely authorises you to change the definition of a particular term. Therefore, I would like the Minister to clearly state as to what does this imply and why this confusion has been created because if you just change the definition, thereafter you have the option of constituting the body and if you want to have statutory body, then you should have presented a Bill.

Next I come to the Bill itself. The Statement of Objects and Reasons as given are laudable, only if they were not laughable keeping in view the performance of this Ministry and this Department. Sir, it talks of bringing the quality of Telecom service to world standard. Number two, widest permissible range of services to meet the customer's demand and number three, promotion of consumers' interest. Now, I do not know, Sir, whether we are suddenly going to jump from bullock cart stage to rocket stage or the Minister and his Department wants to go for a 100 metres sprint before we start walking. The present state of our telecom service is so awful that I do not understand how in the Statement of Objects and Reasons he has put all these things which he wants to achieve through the National Telecom Policy, 1994. Earlier the Members had given many examples. I would not like to repeat them. But I would like to give two instances for which I have written a letter to the Minister a few days back. There is a big talk. But from my own telephone in Delhi people get a response on the other side, whether they talk from Delhi or Dehradun or from my constituency, 'please check the number you have dialled and this number has changed'. A number of people have contacted me through other channels. I have got still more wonderful examples. I have given these instances. I have got specific cases, still more interesting. Sometimes when you re-dial a number you think that you have made a mistake in re-dialling. I dial a number and then press the repeat button. First time you get a response, a recorded message, 'please check the number you have dialled'. After ten seconds when I press the repeat button, I get connection to the number I want. I do not know what sort of electronics, what sort of technology or what sort of modern methods you are using to get such replies from your telecom system. I have given the specific timings in my letter. Many of the things happen. Your MTNL has given us beautiful cards. They keep on changing the colour. Sometimes it is yellow and sometimes it is green for Members so that their agony is minimised.

Even on those telephone numbers, there is no response. When we talk of improving the quality, we talk of a quantum jump in quality. Let us talk about the reality on ground and what is happening on ground. Let us not try to go to the moon when we cannot even walk. Therefore, as I said, it is a laudable aim but in the present circumstances, Sir, it is unbelievable and I do not think that there are any chances of your achieving it.

From here I cannot get through to the Headquarters. Some Members have suggested that we should get through to the Headquarters and we have many STDs. I had written to you many number of times about this. I got your reply after eight months. You have said that some changes are taking place but those changes were not taking place on ground. From here I cannot get through to my constituency. I cannot get through to the Headquarters or to the Commissioner. For five district Headquarters, one Commissioner is sitting. I cannot get through to him. I cannot get through to many of the District Headquarters. So, I think, we need to be a little more realistic. Therefore, when we are trying to aim certain things, let us see what our capabilities are or the degree of our inefficiency or the degree of corruption that has gone into the system and thereafter we should aim for whatever we want to do.

You have used the word 'watchdog' here. If this watchdog is going to be handled like the way it is presently handled, then God only can help us and there is not going to be any change. I am sorry to say one thing. You can have an independent body but if the system is not changed, then these three human beings are not going to make much difference.

Now I come to the aspect of members. Well, I appreciate when you said that it is going to be headed by a Judge. That was in your introductory statement but it is nowhere mentioned in this Bill. Some Members have also raised the issue as to who is going to be the Chairman and the members. But on that day you have said that you are going to have a serving or a retired Judge from a Supreme Court and you are going to have the Secretary and the Additional Secretary as two members. As far as having a Judge as the Head is concerned, one can understand that probably you want to give a legal authority or something to that body. But I do not understand why the Secretary and the Additional Secretary should be there. This telecom business is a highly technical business. Why do you not have the technical people there? Are you short of the technical people? Are you going to have more avenues for the IAS people and the bureaucrats through this Bill? I strongly recommend to you that you have this body of experts. You have given a legal expert. You give a lot of technical experts and telecom experts. There are many people who are available. Only then they will be able to understand the problems, put things right and will be able to use this body properly. Otherwise it is just as having a bureaucratic body. Presently you are having all the bureaucrats but they are not working. You have all the authority. You do not need any more authority than what the Regulatory Body has. The Minister has got all the authority. Then, why is it not functioning properly? It is not functioning properly because the people who are dealing with this are the people who have no knowledge about what is happening on ground, no knowledge about the technology and no knowledge about the system and, therefore, it will not work. I strongly request you to have a technical people as members of this body.

Now, Sir, to conclude, the aim of this Bill is to have a monitoring system. You liberalise and remove the Government's stranglehold on various things. We all support it. We want things to be liberalised. But, unfortunately, your concept of liberalisation is to do what the World Bank wants you to do, what the IMF wants you to do and what the multi-nationals want you to do.

Therefore, we agree to the concept but your methodology is neither good nor is it dependable or reliable. Your intentions may be very good but the methods that you adopt are not good. We want things to be liberalised and we want that the control should be removed. But you start it from home. Charity always begins at home. You should do it beginning with yourself. Please give some freedom to our own people, who have tremendous potential and who have tremendous capability. Therefore, I request you to do something for our own entrepreneurs, technocrats and industrialists.....(Interruptions)

Shri Murlil Deora (Bombay South) : What about MP's quota for telephone connections?.....(Interruptions)

Maj.Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri : You can take it away from us provided you reduce the waiting list. In my constituency, Dehradun, the waiting list is six years. When we go back to our constituency, people tell us, 'you give us some telephones'. This quota is eventually linked up with efficiency. The person who has deposited a sum of Rs. 10,000 is supposed to get the telephone connection immediately.

The day before yesterday, at Dehradun, I pointed out a case. For three months the clearance was not given to the telephone connection. When I went to the concerned Circle, they said, 'They will give it'.

At the end, I support the concept that you are trying to do but I have doubts on your basic intentions and basic methodology. Therefore, I hope you will keep all these in mind, particularly, the first point which I had made about the drafting of the Bill. Please clarify that point.

Shri P. C. Thomas (Muvattupuzha) : Sir, I welcome the Bill in the sense a watchdog is necessary to watch the entire telecom sector where the people are getting more and more involved because telephone is now one machine or one service which is a must for all.

Now the fact that a non-statutory body is going to come, I think that needs review. It must be something which is to be discussed in Parliament and the Regulatory Authority which is going to be given so much of powers should be one with a lot of technicians as well as people who know what the real feeling of the people is. So I think that must be discussed before a finality is taken on that account.

Now I am not going into the details of the other aspects. But I would like to touch one or two aspects. Sir, one is regarding the wrong billing about which we are all afraid. I remember once Mr. Paswan was complaining that he got a bill which was for Rs. 2 lakh when he was actually not in the House. Because it was Paswan, I am sure that he could raise the matter in the House and he could get the bill reviewed and he got the remedy immediately. But what about those who are not Paswan? There are so many persons. There are so many persons who cannot afford are not getting justice. So I suggest

that something must be immediately done and I would suggest even to think of some metre for each person or to think some kind of a machinery whereby the bill can be viewed, how the bill is going to change can be viewed by the person who rings or who uses the telephone.

Now the next point I would like to submit is regarding the public booth. In fact I complement the Government for starting so many public booths and this has become a place where the common man can go in. Now it has given employment to so many persons also. So it is a very welcome step but now-a-days we find that so many very rich persons are coming into this field. Those who want to start it as a passerby job or side job are all coming into this field. Those who have all facilities are coming into this field. So the other aspect of employment is not getting due weightage and many persons who are less privileged in the society, the handicapped, are not getting jobs because of this. So I would suggest that they may be considered for these jobs and there must be something in this regard where the policy matter is being taken in this regard.

I want to bring to the notice of the Minister one aspect. There are a lot of waiting lists in all the exchanges especially in Kerala which I know personally. The waiting list is going on very very long and we are not able to cope up with the demand. Now the money which is given to the States, to the Circles is also one real problem and I find this problem on a checking up of the money which has been given to Kerala Circle which I would like to bring it specifically before the Minister's notice. I know in the other Circle also there may be complaints. But here in 1992-93, the amount granted for Kerala Telecom Development was Rs. 300 crore, whereas in 1993-94 when the total investment in this regard went up to 30 percent in Kerala Circle, the amount given was only Rs. 200 crore. That is, it went down to 30 percent. Instead of going up to 30 percent, it went down to 30 percent. Then we all went in and at last the paltry amount was increased. But in the next year, in 1994-95 also, the amount has not been considerably increased and the amount given is only Rs. 260 crore. Now I would urge upon the Minister that this is a place where a lot of revenue is being earned and a lot of new telephone lines are to be given. And they are meeting the targets. But at the same time they are unable to meet the demands because so many applications are pending. They are doing a very good job. The employees are also working well and I would suggest that more money may be given to this sector.

Lastly, I would like to make one suggestion. In my constituency there was a family problem which had ensued just because of this telephone. A husband started calling his wife again and again. The computer just showed that the line was busy. He was wondering how his wife could be so busy! Every time the computer said that the line was busy. Actually the line was not busy. It was faulty. It was always faulty. That is the problem. The computer saying something else as a result of which the work in the area is not proceeding. So, I would suggest that something should be done immediately with regard to the computerisation and the answers which are given by the computer.

As it was mentioned, we are always told to "Check the number". But when we check the number also we are getting into more difficulties. I have a personal experience. My number

has been changed. But the Department does not know about it. If 197 is dialled, they also do not give the correct number. They are unable to give the number, even of a Member of Parliament. I think something must be done in regard to 197. There is no response. The response given is not correct also.

Lastly, one aspect I would like to pose, regarding the problem caused by lightening. In many of the areas in the North-East, Bengal and Kerala, and also in many other places lightening causes problems. Wherever the electronics exchanges are there — it is a very good system — because of lightening so many problems are caused. It is very difficult to mend the parts immediately. I think the Department is thinking of a new technology of micro-wave system. That is good. The network is also growing bigger and bigger.

I would suggest that the optical fibre system which is now coming up may be used. I believe that the allotment for it has already been made. It must be expedited. We find that the amount required is already there. Optical fibre is there. The production, as we understand, is also there. Just because the jointing — I do not know exactly the technical word — the jointer is not available to connect the optical fibre from one exchange to the other, it is delayed. I learn that one machine costs Rs. 12 lakh, which is not costly. Just because that is not available the work is not going on well. We have made a study in Kerala. There optical fibre is found to be necessary in many parts. The survey made has found that it is necessary in many parts. But it is not being given because of this problem. I would suggest that this should be taken into account very seriously so that immediate possible results are ensured.

I would submit about the buildings. This Department, I must compliment, has done a great job by purchasing plots in very many areas. The Department has got many buildings for exchanges. It was a very good job done. Now the plots have become so costly that the Department will find it very difficult to buy. But the department, I would suggest, must go a long way to find ways and means to construct buildings. If the buildings are available, I think under the new technology which we are fortunate enough to get under the leadership of Shri Sukh Ram and the Department and also this Government, I am sure that, we will be able to make a good break through.

Lastly — I am sorry, I do not say again and again — finally, I would compliment Shri Rajiv Gandhi who, I would say, has had a very very wide range of thoughts in his mind and a very good planning which has brought India to a very good position with regard to the development of telecom. I compliment this Ministry and I also urge upon this Ministry to take action on some of the points which I have raised here.

Mr. Chairman : I think now that we have had sufficient discussion. Let us listen to the hon. Minister.

(Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman : It was only a one-clause Bill. The time allotted was two hours. We have already taken three hours. Most of the parties have been fairly represented in the discussion. If you spare such a long time for such a Bill, what will happen, to the other Business of the House ?

(Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman : Please cooperate. I will appeal to all the Leaders of the Parties to cooperate. Let us close this discussion now.

Shri Rupchand Pal (Hooghly) : Sir, please allow us for two minutes each....(Interruptions)

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 would also like to request you that we have already taken a substantial time and there are many important items which we have to take up. I will request the Members that they may kindly cooperate with us. (Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman : So many subjects are there for discussion and if we take three hours on one-clause Bill, then I think we will not be doing justice to other subjects.

...(Interruptions)

Shri Rupchand Pal : They are bulldozing the opinion of the Members of the Opposition. (Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman : At great length the policy was discussed by Shrimati Suseela Gopalan. Now, I will call the hon. Minister to speak.

...(Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman : All the aspects have been covered.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

Shri Ram Kripal Yadav (Patna) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, by disallowing me to speak on this Bill you are throttling democracy (Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Chairman : Then, I will have to allow everybody. All the Parties have participated in a big way. This is just a one-clause Bill.

...(Interruptions)

Shri Rupchand Pal : The Parliament is being denied the opportunity to discuss the very important Policy like the National Telecom Policy. Now, we have been asked to discuss an amendment to the Indian Telegraph Bill which is a follow-up action of the above Policy.

Mr. Chairman : You can speak on other Bills. There are several other Bills.

...(Interruptions)

Shri Amal Datta (Diamond Harbour) : You are not allowing the hon. Members to speak on the National Telecom Policy and you are cutting down the discussion. (Interruptions)

17.23 hrs.

At this stage Shri Rupchand Pal and some other hon. Members left the House.

[Translation]

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Communications

(Shri Sukh Ram) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to those hon. Members who have participated in this discussion. I am very happy that hon. Members have discussed not only this Bill but also the Telecom Policy. The hon. Members have also alleged that they were not given the opportunity to discuss it. I had presented it on the floor of the House the very day, that is on May 13 the Cabinet approved it. Now it is for the hon. Members to call for a discussion on it and then they could have discussed it because when a document is presented to the House, it becomes the property of the House and it was the right of hon. Members that they could have called for a discussion and then it would have been discussed. I would have felt very happy then. We have been listening for the last 8-10 years. Now the Telecom Policy has been framed under the leadership of Hon. Prime Minister for the first time and target and the objective of the Telecom Policy is to have a uniform telephone service and this must be of the international standard. It should be made available at the affordable price. There are three things about which nobody should have any objection.

Now the question arises as to how to achieve the target. How to achieve it in the real question because Telecommunications is really very capital intensive and technology intensive and the today's technology has become obsolete. The coming of technology and investment are two necessary things. Though our network is one of the biggest networks but so far as density is concerned, we are far behind. We are far behind Pakistan, China and other developing countries also. Now we have reached upto one percent only. In today's world, communication is one of the criteria whereby the economic prosperity of a nation and its social standards are adjudged. We must have an improvement systems. When I took charge of this Ministry, wherever a new proposal came, we said that we do not have money, so this is not possible. If we cannot do it because of paucity of funds, our country will lag behind. So we adopted several innovative methods, which included leasing, deferred payment and equipment purchase. Ever since the Telecommunications Policy was launched, I could say that the work that has been done during this five year plan, is more than what was done during the last seven five year plans. Earlier we were not in a position to give more than five or 6 lakh telephone connections and now we give more than sixteen and half lakh connections and the target set for this year is 30 lakh. Extension is also a point.

We have to bring in the most up-to-date technology because without this neither we can compete with the world nor we can give good system. How the technology will come in? We talk of C-DOT. There is no doubt that C-DOT is a good technology but this is not enough. Can you deliver message to the entire country through C-DOT? We have got 6-7 technologies in India which are the latest ones. These include the ISDN facility, delta transmission facility etc. All the facilities that are available in today's world, is available in our country.

I do appreciate the question raised by the hon. Members that our country mainly consists of villages and facilities are really needed in villages. I do believe that there are so many shortcomings in it. I will talk about it later on but what I notice is that the achievements that we have made during these years, were not achieved during any of the previous years. In our country, people hesitate in talking about telecommunications

because the old concept of telecommunications is for industries or for those engaged in Commerce or Government Services. I say that if telecommunications is needed in today's world, it is needed in the areas where there are no roads and areas which are inaccessible. Our North East and the state from which I hail, are such regions where people live beneath snow for eight months. While there is a 15,000 feet high mountain covered with snow on one side, there is a 14,000 feet high mountain on the other side. The entire world is cut off from this place. Nothing becomes clear as to what is the condition there. We manage to know through telephone as to what condition is there. We may talk to entire India. Today, the need of the hour is that cordless telephone should be provided in villages because as hon. Members have pointed out thefts also occur there. Today, people steal the copper wire. How to protect them is a problem. This is spread over thousands of kilometer. So, the latest technologies like MARR, UHF etc. are reaching people through satellite. We are introducing the entire system throughout the country. If we have to connect our Panchayats through telephones, we need at least Rs. 4000 crore. We have to provide such a system to all the people in 6 lakh villages, this is not just the question of one Panchayat only.

I come from hilly and rural area. I do understand the problems of villages. The hon. Prime Minister has given the directive that first priority will be given to villages. Now, we have talked of privatisation in which we have seen so many big things at our own level. Perhaps, no Minister looks to conditions stipulated in the tenders, but I have given importance to the fact that if private sector gives for more telephone connections to the villages, we will give it more weightage. This was opposed also, but I did not agree to it so that they could pay their attention towards villages. Telephones are not remunerative in villages as in urban centres. That is why they have come to villages. But wherefrom Rs. 4000 crore will come? We talk of villages but wherefrom we will get Rs. 4000 crore and technologies? When we allow the Private Sector, hon. Members say that these are foreign companies and we are selling out the country to foreign companies. I do believe that there was a big pressure that foreign companies should be given major share, but Hon. Prime Minister's stand was that foreign companies should not be given major shares, our Indian companies should be given priority. But the question is why the question of bringing in foreign technologies arose? There are two reasons for this.

You should mobilise the funds available in the domestic sector. Funds are needed for creating infrastructures not only for telecommunications, but also for power, surface transport etc. Internal resources would not be sufficient for all these purposes. Foreign investment is needed in order to meet these requirements. Today, China provides 7 to 10 million telephone connections each year. China attracts more foreign investment than us. None could exploit China. Then how could anyone exploit India, when it has such a huge watch dog (Parliament) and a vibrant democracy? We have allowed them to have a minimum equity participation of 10 percent and a maximum of 49 percent only. We have told the foreign companies that they can have 15 percent, 25 percent of equity participation but not more than 49 percent. Thus the majority shareholding will remain with us. We will get foreign capital and technology. Then, what is the problem? You have a complaint regarding monopoly,

be it in the private sector or public sector. The evils of monopoly are to be found here also. D.O.T. has done a very good work. Today, telephone facility is available in all parts of the country. The world is progressing by leaps and bounds. We will also have to keep pace with other countries else, we would lag behind. This would result in social and economic loss. Therefore, competition was necessary. Competition against whom?

Who is to compete against D.O.T.? The private sector. Private sector as well as D.O.T. will co-exist. There are complaints against it as well as against its work culture. They do not listen to our complaints and take umbrage. Sometimes they tamper with the lines. All this is due to their monopoly. Because there is no competition. When private sector becomes a competitor, their work culture will also change. You have seen how things changed with competition, in civil aviation. It will happen here also. There will be a change in the work culture. We will also have to provide technology and training to them. For this also, we have made arrangements.

I was talking of villages. Now we have opened the cellular mobile telephone tenders. You should be proud of the fact that India does not lag behind any developed nation in the field of telecommunications. Telephone facility will be made available in the trains. This was available in the aeroplanes last year. Within one year Cellular mobile telephones would be available in all the cities. It would be available in the villages also. My estimate was, we would earn between Rs. 18,000 to Rs. 20,000 crores as licence fee for cellular mobile telephones. But we have earned Rs. 20,000 crores. The resulting traffic would bring in thousands of crores of rupees. Offer of Rs. 20,000 crores have already been received. Tenders regarding basic telephone services would be opened within one month. It is estimated that we would earn about Rs. 70,000 to Rs. 80,000 crores through this. In this way the total earning would be about 100,000 crores. I can claim with certainty that it is only in India that tenders of such a magnitude have been invited. I do not know in which sector of the world such a huge investment has taken place. Everyone is talking of the policies of the Prime Minister. It is the result of these policies that an investment of around Rs. 100,000 crore has been made possible. Investment of such a huge amount in telecommunications is not a joke. I hope Shri Manmohan Singhji would not keep the entire amount in reserve. I was talking to the officials of my Ministry regarding your complaint that the lines remain busy. We have given a concession in tariff from 10 to... (Interruptions)... I dialled at 9 a.m. We only talk of deficiencies. Say a few words regarding our achievements. Major Khanoria praised me. He belongs to Himachal Pradesh. He is aware of the achievements that have been made in that area. He should not praise me. We should have a large heart and be magnanimous to praise one's rival. It would be to your credit to praise where it is due. One should not be a miser in praising others. Now, Sushilaji spoke of victimisation. Who is being victimised? I can claim with certainty that not once in 35 years of my political life have I mixed development with politics. Not even a single opposition Member can say that developmental work did not take place in their constituency.

There can be ideological difference. But, regarding development in any honourable Member's constituency, difference of opinion is possible. Yes, omission and

commission can take place. Our's is a vast country. This matter concerns lakhs and crores of people. Therefore, it is not possible for a person to satisfy each and every one. But always, I try to see to it that extensive developmental work takes place every where. The Prime Minister has asked me to provide more facilities to the villages. I am working on a package for this. For the backward areas, a call upto a distance of 20 km would be treated as a local call. In the tribal and hilly area for a distance of 30 km, the rates per call was Rs. 5 and Rs. 8 respectively. Now in such areas, only 80 paise per call would be charged. Not every one can afford a telephone in villages.

Shri Umrao Singh (Jalandhar) : Now you have made it tehsil-wise. Regarding the talk of 20 Km...*(Interruptions)*

Shri Sukh Ram : In plains also, it is 20 Km. In hilly and tribal areas it is 30 Km. But instead of charging Rs. 5 and Rs. 8 respectively per call, now it is 80 Paise. Every one need a phone in villages. For Panchayat telephones, 40 paise per call will be charged. For STD calls 50 per cent concession will be given so that this facility can be used by every one in the villages. We would also bring down the rental rates. And for villages, the service would almost be free.

If a person makes 2-3 calls each day, he will not have to pay anything. At present the number of free calls are 150. But in villages I will increase the number of free calls. This will be made known in the coming days. This has to be done for the villages. Secondly, the MARR system has proved in appropriate regarding technology. It is a new system. It would be operated. Shortcomings are but natural. I concede there can be shortcoming in technology...*(Interruptions)*

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri (Garhwal) : Your intention is good. But 80-90 percent of telephones are not working in Panchyats.....*(Interruptions)*

Shri Mrutyunjaya Nayak (Phulbani) : We concede, infrastructure has been developed.....*(Interruptions)*

Shri Sukh Ram : Regarding maintenance, it is being done automatically. There is no need of any manual work in exchanges.

Honourable Member, Sushilaji perhaps said I was indulging in victimisation. I can claim with certainty that during the two recent big strikes you did not face any inconvenience. Perhaps the postal and telecommunications Strikes were over in four days. Had the strike continued for longer, you would have faced immense difficulties in telecommunications and other fields. There was resentment among the people where ever strike took place. There were no losers and so gainers in the strike. They were far sighted. Tell me even a single case of victimisation. As I said before, in my political career spanning 35 years, I never mixed development with politics. And I never resorted to victimisation. Differences do occur. But victimisation did not occur. Harsh steps may have been taken due to administrative reasons. That is a different thing. Everything was settled amicably.

You now talked of over billing. I concede there are problems. Four crore bills are issued annually. The complaint rate is only 0.44 per cent. There is a particular complaint mentioned by Shastriji. The complainant had received billing for overseas

calls. Though such calls were not made.....*(Interruptions)*

Shri Surya Narayan Yadav (Sahasra) : The billing amount is Rs. 900,000.....*(Interruptions)*

Shri Sukh Ram : I agree with you. In all the meetings attended by me at the international fora, I enquired if there was any technology to detect and prevent such cases. I was told there was no such technology. In big cities we have posted CBI personnel. Recently a three member committee has been constituted. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are the Chairman of this committee. Two members of this committee are from the Lok Sabha and one from Rajya Sabha. One of its member will be from the Opposition party. You kindly give suggestions in order to check over billing. I know, on one hand there are people in DOT who have achievements to their credit.

On the other hand there are unscrupulous persons who are responsible for overbilling. The problem of overbilling can be solved by installing electronic exchanges. Through dynamic locking system or some other means the problem will be solved to a great extent. About 30 percent of our exchanges are non-electronic. We have the finance. Previously, it was our policy that non-electronic exchanges would continue to be used as per their life. But now we have decided to provide dynamic-locking-system in all cities and villages, within two years. All the non-electronic exchanges would be done away with, irrespective of whether their life is over or not. Even if it was two years old. But manipulation is still possible. If there is any remedy, suggest it, I am ready to implement it. To check this we are enacting a legislation. Under the present law we can only suspend those responsible for such manipulation. Under the new law such unscrupulous persons would be sentenced to two years of imprisonment.

[English]

Shri P. C. Thomas : Is there any technology to give separate meter to the subscribers, as in the case of electricity?

Shri Sukh Ram : We are considering that also.

Shri P. C. Thomas : That must be considered.

Shri Sukh Ram : I am told that this also does not solve the problems.

Shri P. C. Thomas : If separate meters are given, much of the problem can be solved.

Shri Sukh Ram : If it is the solution, we will try it also.

Shri P. C. Thomas : Yes.

Shri Sukh Ram : I would like to assure the hon. Member that whatever be the technology and whatever be the expenditure, if there is some technology, we will do that.....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

Bansalji has raised 1-2 questions. He is a very successful lawyer. As far as it is concerned, he can challenge its validity in the High Court. An honourable Member made a mention of statutory and non-statutory. Give us a chance. It is our first experience. We have made a commitment. Give us a year or

two. This, we have decided in the resolution, which will be passed after the introduction of this Bill. In that we have mentioned :

[English]

"Whereas Government is satisfied that it is necessary to pass a comprehensive legislation for setting up of a statutory apex body to promote orderly and healthy growth of telecommunications infrastructure and for promotion and protection of the consumer interest and ensuring fair competition."

[Translation]

An honourable Member has perhaps introduced an Amendment for replacing non-statutory with statutory. If you want it to be statutory, then a comprehensive legislation is needed. And we are committed to do so. I give this assurance. Give us a chance for 1-2 years. Rules would be framed. Earlier also we had said this.....(Interruptions).....Your doubts are removed.

First, the consumer's interest should be protected and there should not be injustice to the investors. That is non-statutory at present. But it would be made statutory. For that a comprehensive legislation would be introduced. A serving or a retired Supreme Court Judge and the serving or a retired Chief Justice of High Court would be appointed and of the two, one would be a financial expert and the other expert in technology. Another member would be of the secretary level, who has been additional secretary for three years. A secretariat would also be constructed. We have given it full protection also.....(Interruptions)

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri : What is the need to say secretary level?....(Interruption)

[English]

You say about the financial man or the technologist. Why do you insist on a Secretary level person?.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

Shri Sukh Ram : We are giving them a good status, so that the people would not doubt their decisions. Their actions can not be over ruled. And they can not be removed.....(Interruptions) Through this Amendment, we seek your permission to set up this Telecom Authority. And when the time comes it would be made statutory so that everyone has faith in it. I have full hope that the honourable Member would co-operate by withdrawing his Amendment and getting the Bill passed.....(Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Chairman : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman : The House shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Chairman : There are no amendments to Clause 2.

The question is :

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Mr. Chairman : The question is :

"Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

Mr. Chairman : The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

Shri Sukh Ram : Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

Mr. Chairman : Motion moved :

"That the Bill be passed."

[Translation]

Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat (Ajmer) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to ask a question regarding the Nanda Committee, set up by the Government in 1992. It had made 10 recommendations. The recommendation regarding TRAI was accepted. What is the Government going to do regarding the other nine recommendations.

One thing more I would like to know. Whether it is a fact that there was immense controversy among the senior officials of the Communication Ministry and the members and experts of the Telecom Commission, regarding the issuing of directives for the participation of multinationals. And that they were in favour of implementing the Joshi Committee's recommendations which was constituted by the Ministry. The participation of the multinational companies was restricted to 25 per cent, as per the recommendation of the Joshi Committee. But under the new directive this has been raised to 49 per cent. The Minister should clarify this. What is the Government going to do regarding those issues on which the Joshi Committee and the Telecom Commission members were unanimous?

Shri Sukh Ram : Mr. Chairman, Sir, had there been enough time I would have explained every thing. We have gone ahead of the Nanda Committee's recommendations regarding our restructuring policy. The point raised by the honourable Member concerning the Nanda Committee is very old. He should acquaint himself with new developments. On several points, we have gone farther than the recommendations of the Nanda Committee.

[English]

Mr. Chairman : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

17.59 hrs.

INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation (Shri Girdhar Gamang) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to amend the Indian Statistical Institute Act, 1959, be taken into consideration."

The Indian Statistical Institute in Calcutta is a non-profit distributing institution of learning. Originally, it was registered in April, 1932 as a Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. The Institute is now deemed to have been registered under Section 36 of the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961.

In view of its pre-eminent position in the field of Statistics, the Indian Statistical Institute Act, 1959, declared the Institute as an Institution of National Importance. Section 4 of the Act empowers it to conduct such examinations and award degrees/diplomas in Statistics as may be determined by the Institute from time to time. With the passage of time, demands on the Institute to run courses in other related subjects have been increasing.

18.00 hrs.

In particular, there has been a strident demand for courses in Mathematics, Quantitative Economics and Computer Science. Section 4 of the Indian Statistical Institute Act, 1959, is, therefore, proposed to be amended to mention in particular these subjects besides Statistics. At the same time, taking note of the trend of the emergence of many other subjects related to Statistics, the amendment is also proposed to encompass such emerging requirements through an enabling clause.

The Institute proposes to start some of the new degree courses from the next semester. We are, therefore, keen to have the Bills passed at the earliest.

Mr. Chairman : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to amend the Indian Statistical Institute Act, 1959, be taken into consideration."

The discussion will be continue tomorrow. The House stands....

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) : Sir, this is a small Bill. Since it is taken up for consideration, it may be passed now if the hon. Members agree.

Mr. Chairman : Is it agreed?

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri (Garhwal) :

We can pass it today because we have to take up discussion on J&K tomorrow. There is no difficulty; we can sit for a little more time. I think not many speakers will be there.

Shri Mukul Wasnik : We will try to see that it is passed as soon as it is possible, if the hon. Members cooperate.

Mr. Chairman : Are you agreeable?

Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee (Dumdum) : We are not agreeable. The point is, I had grown up in the Indian Statistical Institute. Therefore, permit me to say that I know something about the Indian Statistical Institute and that knowledge will not be limited to five minutes. Excuse me for saying so.

Mr. Chairman : Nirmalji, you will be allowed to speak. It is not that nobody is allowed to speak but we will continue and finish the Bill today. That is the proposal. We can sit late and finish it.

Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee : I want to speak.

Shri Mukul Wasnik : Nobody is objecting to your speaking. You can speak and complete it.

Mr. Chairman : I will allow you to speak as long as and as much as you want to speak.

Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee : I thought that you are adjourning the House. You stood up to adjourn the House after saying that this Bill will be taken up for discussion tomorrow. This is what I gather from what you have said.

Mr. Chairman : I was about to do so but the Parliamentary Affairs Minister intervened.

Shri Mukul Wasnik : The House is aware that there are several important items before the House and the time at our disposal is very very limited. Therefore, I requested the hon. Members that if they can consider and take up this Bill to be passed, it will greatly help in conducting the business of this House. Nirmalji, if the honourable Chair permits, we are eager to listen to you today and if possible, immediately. So, it is not that we are not interested in having a discussion on this Bill.

Mr. Chairman : Time allotted for this Bill is one hour and we may sit for one more hour and pass the Bill.

Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee : That is what is objected to, namely, to sit one hour late. I do not know if others will speak or not. Therefore, Sir, we are not agreeable to extend the time of the House.

Mr. Chairman : The House stands adjourned to meet at 11 AM on 17th August, 1995.

18.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, August 17, 1995/Sravana 26, 1917 (Saka).

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