

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

Sixth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, March 19, 1993/Phalguna 28, 1914
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Excise Duty on Mini Cement Plants

*341. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is some anomaly in excise duty payable by mini cement plants;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to remove this anomaly?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY): (a), (b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Portland cement, other than white cement, manufactured in a factory using vertical shaft kiln or rotary kiln having

specified installed/licensed capacity (commonly known as "mini" cement plants) attracts excise duty of Rs. 185/- per MT. Cement manufactured in other plants attracts excise duty of 330/- per MT. Concessional rate of excise duty for mini cement plants has been extended in order to encourage exploitation of smaller lime stone deposits; dispersal of cement production capacity all over the country; reduction of burden on Railway Transportation system; lower capital costs and quicker installation and higher employment, especially in rural and hilly and other inaccessible areas. Concessional rate of excise duty has not been extended to cement manufactured in split location units which purchase clinker from outside, as the concept of setting up of a mini cement plant is to encourage manufacturing activity by installation of their own kiln to manufacture clinker and not mere grinding and bagging activities as there is a possibility of misuse of this facility by the larger units. There is, thus, no anomaly in the excise duty structure for mini cement plants.

(c) In view of (a) and (b) above, does not arise.

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL: Sir, there are two stages of manufacturing cement. One is by burning of lime stone and clay in kiln and the other stage of manufacturing cement is from clinker by blending adhesives in predetermined proportion as determined by chemist in the laboratory after testing the chemical composition of clinker and adhesives as per BIS standards. So, clinker cannot be converted into cement simply by grinding it. Some SSI units are doing these two stages in a

split unit, but the ultimate product is cement which is coming out under one brand name; and both these units belong to them.

In view of the fact that the Central Excise rate is levied on the basis of capacity of the unit and also in view of the fact that in no other item, excise duty is levied on SSI unit, higher than big units simply because it is produced in split unit. So, will the hon. Minister inro such cases and relieve them of their grievances?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, already the mini-cement plants are enjoying a concessional duty of Rs. 180 per metric tonne, whereas the cement manufactured in other plants attracts an excise duty of Rs. 330 per metric tonne. Hon. Member has pointed out the manufacture of clinkers and grinding them in separate units, that is in split units, by small scale units; and that should be required a concession under the small scale units. The concept of mini-cement plants as indicated by the Ministry of Industry is that the factory uses vertical shaft kiln and uses rotary kiln.- in case of vertical shaft ciln, not exceeding 210 tonnes per day and a maximum of 66,000 tonnes per annum and in case of rotary ciln, it is 600 tonnes per day and not exceeding 1,98,000 tonnes per annum. However, the concessional rate is available for these mini-cement plants only for 99, 000 tonnes. But the concept of mini-cement plants as determined by the Ministry of Industry is that the grinding plants cannot be considered as a Mini-cement plants. That is why, any split unit functioning in small scale unit cannot be considered as a small scale unit. More than that, the grinding units requires an investment of nearly about Rs. 25,000 and they have a concessional rate of excise duty upto Rs. 30 lakhs and maximum upto Rs.75 lakhs. They are availing of this concession under the present tax structure.

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL: Sir, that was regarding the interpretation of which should be called as a split unit. I have just requested the Minister to look into this, if possible.

My second question is to improve the export prospects of cement and to lower the construction costs of the building materials, such as, cement by products of cement, cement blocks, tiles.

Will the Government consider lowering down the excise duty so that the exorbitant costs of the building materials, prevailing these days, come down? In the newspapers, it has appeared that during the Eighth Five Year Plan, the Government is considering to bring down the excise duty on cement. Is there any such proposal under consideration of the Government?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: At present, the total production of cement during 1992-93 is 57 lakh tonnes. We anticipate to earn as duty Rs. 1, 856 crore towards duty. Three per cent of this revenue is paid by the mini cement plants. They constitute only 5 per cent of the total production.

At present, we have no such proposal before the Government.

[*Translation*]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his reply honorable Minister has stated that in rural and hilly areas, where there are deposits of lime stone, concession in excise duty has been given to boost Cement industry and to provide employment there. Excise duty on cement in these areas is half i.e. Rs. 185 per M.T. Government has a policy to encourage cement industry in small, rural and backward areas where there are deposits of lime stone. When the BJP Government was in power in Himachal Pradesh, it gave encouragement for setting up many industries in the area. And now after imposition of President's Rule, the Governor made an announcement that no industry would be allowed to be set up. Will the Government issue necessary instructions to the Governor not to taking decision on policy matters especially those affecting the decisions taken by the erstwhile Government keeping in mind the necessity to mobilise financial resources and create employment.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Question is not allowed.

Trade Deficit

*342. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's trade deficit has widened during current year;

(b) if so, the estimated trade deficit during 1992-93 as compared to that in 1991-92;

(c) the reasons identified for the unsatisfactory trade performance and the names of the countries where the country's exports have declined; and

(d) the manner in which Government propose to step up exports to minimise the deficit

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The trade deficit during April-Jan. 1992-93 amounted to US \$ 3596.39 million as compared to US \$ 1583.81 million in the corresponding period of 1991-92.

Among the reasons for slow growth in exports, mention may be made of rapid fall in trade with CIS and East European European Countries, recession in industrially advanced countries and sluggish growth in world trade. The principal countries in respect of which exports declined during April-November 1992-93, the latest period for which such data are available, are CIS, Romania, Poland Yugoslavia, Hungary, Japan, Republic of Korea, Belgium and Finland.

In order to boost exports, the Government have taken major steps for liberalisation of trade which include provision of export linked imports, reduction of import licensing,

strengthening export incentives and removal of procedural irritants through simplification of policy and procedures. In 1993-94 Budget, the system of market determined unified exchange rate has been introduced and customs and excise duties have been reduced. Besides, 34 commodities have been identified as "Extreme Focus" sectors aimed at value or volume increase of 30% every year, in exports.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, the trade deficit -as stated in the answer, if you calculate it percentage-wise during the April-December period of 1992-93; has gone up by nearly 60 per cent as compared to 1991-92 for the same period. The imports in rupee terms during April -December, '1992-93 are estimated at Rs. 47,480 crore as against Rs. 44, 238 crore in 1991-92. That means, we have imported in rupee terms for more than Rs. 10, 000 crore whereas in exports, we have nearly come down by more than Rs. 17, 000 crore as compared to 1991-92.

In spite of Ministry's announcement about the era of liberalisation of trade policy or whatever it is or whatever you have estimated, are we not entering the debt trap?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, the Member is correct when he says that compared to 1991-92, the trade deficit has increased substantially. But the fact is that 1991-92 was an extremely difficult year.

And there was a substantial import compression in that period, as a result of which there was no foreign exchange and so, we have to impose strict restrictions on import and export also did not pick up because of certain other factors and import constraint itself reflected export production. So, there are no two opinions on it. It is mainly because of the import constraints. But if we look at the figure of our trade gap, even during the entire Sixth Plan and Seventh Plan taken together the average trade deficit in US dollar terms has been 4-5 million US dollars per year and compared to that, this year, the present April-January figure is 3.5 million US dollars. My assessment is that it may be any where between 4-4.5 million

US dollars. Deposit is not abnormal and it is in conformity with the past trade. But 1991-92 was an exceptional year in the sense that there diexport foreign exchange. So, you could neither import and export also did not pick up.

SHRISRIKANTAJENA: The hon. Minister has stated that as compared to other years, this year's gap is not as much in a bad shape. I am sorry to say that India's competitiveness in the world market has come down and in the ranking, you have come down from tenth to eleventh position this year. I do not know. By the end of this financial year, our ranking may again deteriorate and we may even come down to 12th or 13th position. The strategy which you have stated in your answer is that we have identified 34 commodities as extreme focus commodities and we will see that 30 per cent, either in value terms of values terms, will be exported and emphasis has been given on it. A committee consist of group of traders and officials was formed and it gave a ripper in July, 1992. They have recommended certain things. May I know whether the hon. Minister has accepted the recommendations get them that committee or not; if so, whether he has implemented them or not and if he is going to implement them, whether he is? going to form any high level committee for continuous monitoring of these extreme focus commodities so that, at least, this gap can be met and we can have better conditions and the gap can be brigd

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: So far as the ranking and other things are concerned, it is true that our contribution in the international trade is not at all significant. Honourable Members are fully aware that even in our development strategy, it never contribu a very substantial part and its GDP also was not very substantia. It is because, by and large, our policy was inward-looking and not forward-looking. So far as the decline in the trend is conerned, one of the major reasons is that nearly 30 per cent of our experts were to the erstwhile Soviet Russia in rupee payment area. If we just break up our exports, nearly 30 per co goes to the EEC group, 18 per cent to USA, 9 per cent to

Japan a above 30 per cent erstwhile USSR in rupee payment area. Substantial fall has taken place during the last year. Normally, we used to have 2.5. to 2.6 million US dollars worth of exports. It has come down to 700 to 800 million US dollars this year. This is one of the major reasons, apart from the world deficit and other factors. So far as the 34 extreme focus items are concerned, we have received the recommendations of the committee. And we are acting on it. In my other capacity as the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, while formulating the Eighth Plan, I have indicated that if we want to avoid the type of balance of payment crisis that we had confronted in the past, the country must have a steady growth in exports, in volume terms. Now we have reached 13.6 per cent and we have to keep it up and further improve in the second, third and subsequent years.

SHRI A. CHARLES: It appears from the answer that trade deficit has gone up substantially during 1992-93. We do appreciate the answer of the hon. Minister, because we are aware of the problems. Here, I want to highlight on thing. There are many countries which are interested in buying our handicrafts, value added material, products of agro-based industries and so on. But the problem is, there is no agency to monitor and coordinate. Shri Jena also mentioned it. Many Ministries are inter-related, such as the Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Commerce and the Food Processing industry. As the leader of many parliamentary delegations, you are also aware that a lot of interest is shown by many countries to buy our products. But there is no coordinating agency. May I know from the hon. Minister whether he would consider a proposal for constituting a sub-committee either under the Commerce Ministry or under the Industries Ministry, so that all the concerned Ministries can be coordinated and an earnest effort is made for identifying the products to be exported and also to find out the countries where these products are necessary? I am sure Sir that if such a proposal comes through, trade can be improved. I want to know whether this proposal will be considered favourably.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: There should be a constant endeavour to explore new markets, identify products and also to coordinate the efforts of marketing growth products. The present institutional arrangement at the governmental level through various joint commissions, and at the business and industry level through various business councils and export promotion councils, has to be strengthened. The possibilities of exploring markets and coordinating the efforts of various agencies have been constantly monitored. But I do agree that these institutional arrangements have to be further strengthened and extra efforts are to be put to have a more vigorous export promotion.

SHRI RAM NAIK: The figures of trade deficit are from April 1992 to January 1993. That means the months of February 1993 and March 1993 are not covered. If we take these two months into account at the same rate, the deficit would be something like \$ 4000 crores as compared to the deficit of \$ 1,500 crore in 1991-92. That means there is an additional deficit of \$ 2,500. In the last three or four months, the Russian President, Mr. Yeltsin, the UK Prime Minister, Mr. John Major and also the highest authorities in Germany have visited our country. I want to know whether the Government has any specific discussions with them about the increase in exports and if so the result thereof. If this issue was not taken up, I want to know why it was not taken up.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Firstly, I would like to remove the impression that as if something extraordinary has happened in the current year. It is not so. From 1980-81 till 1990-91, the average trade gap has been between 6 and 7 billion dollars. It happened so because there was a decline of 19 per cent in the imports. This is because we do not have the foreign exchange. If we stop imports totally, the trade gap can be reduced substantially. So, that is not the point.

The second question is about the visits of President Yeltsin and other leaders of the European countries. In fact, with every leader, we discuss our economic and trade

relations so as to expand our economic cooperation with them. In fact, one major bottleneck was removed when President Yeltsin came here and through a talk between him and our Prime Minister, we have been able to resolve the rupee-rouble problem. As a result, I do hope that trade between these two countries will expand. In addition to that, during this period we have entered into agreement with five Central Asian republics in order to facilitate trade between these two countries and to help them to export commodities from India. Despite our difficulties and non-availability of resources, the Finance Minister was kind enough to provide modest technical credit to all those countries keeping in view the expanding trade between these two countries and we are exploring this possibility.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: In view of the fact that there are so many difficulties in our exports and also, as you are aware - it is not often mentioned - a good bulk of our rupee trade was really switch trade, they were importing from our country and re-exporting to non-rupee payment countries and hence part of expansion of our trade with non-rupee area is reflected because of this, is the Commerce Ministry in touch with the Finance Ministry to see whether or not rupee can be devalued further by another 50 per cent?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, there is no question of that because now it is really convertible.

In respect of switch trade also, it is partly true. Partly it can be accountable. For the information of the hon. Member, I would like to say that from the 1st of January, we are not having rupee trade in other countries. We have switched over to freely convertible foreign exchange.

SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT: Sir, the Minister has stated in his Statement that 34 commodities have been identified as extreme focus sectors aimed at value increase. It is my information that the Export Council has recommended two items from Sholapur city, that is *Chaddar* and towel

made from the powerloom sector.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether these two items have been identified among these 34 items; if not, whether he is intending to include these two items also?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, the 34 extreme focus sectors are the bulk areas and these two textile products which the hon. Member has referred to, can be a part of that. But, these are the 34 medium sectors which we are giving extreme focus and which have immense potentiality of export and there is a possibility of 30 per cent growth.

I would like to emphasise one more point here. In fact I have indicated in my earlier observation also that if we exclude rupee payment area then the growth in export in general currency area is more than 10 per cent, even during the period April to January.

Prevention of Smuggling

*343 SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the illegal flow of foreign

goods into the country has increased;

(b) if so, the number of persons detained under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 during the last three years; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to check illegal flow of foreign goods into the country?

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

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Smuggling is a clandestine activity and, therefore, it is not possible to say whether the illegal flow of foreign goods into the country has increased or otherwise. However, the value of contraband seized under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962 during the last three years, as given below, shows a declining trend. The number of persons detained under the provisions of the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 during the last three years is also given below:-

Year	Value of contraband seized (Rs. in crores)	Number of persons detained under COFEPOSA
1990	760.08	749
1991	740.00	751
1992	502.14	423

(c) The anti-smuggling agencies are suitably alert against smuggling activities. The Customs formations have been equipped with vessels, vehicles, firearms, etc. and the requirements are constantly reviewed.

Sophisticated equipment such as x-ray

baggage machines, metal detectors and night vision binoculars are being increasingly utilised. Close coordination is being maintained among all the agencies concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling.

In addition, schemes for import of gold/

silver have been recently introduced and the rate of the customs duty on goods imported as baggage has been reduced to 150% ad valorem.

[Translation]

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply to my question given by the Finance Minister is totally unsatisfactory. Not only unsatisfactory but he has tried to evade my question. I have asked the question:

[English]

"Whether the illegal flow of foreign goods into the country has increased?"

[Translation]

The Minister has replied:

[English]

"It is not possible to say whether the inflow of foreign goods has increased or decreased."

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir mine was a specific question which should have been replied in 'yes' or 'no' I do not know why the reply to my question was evaded. Nowadays most of the newspapers are reporting that smuggling of illegal goods is increasing in the country. I have information about some newspapers. The Pioneer in its edition of 6th October has reported about spurt in smuggling. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am disallowing this kind of question.

[Translation]

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: I am putting the question, when the smuggling of illegal goods is increasing so much, I would like to know categorically whether

the smuggling has increased or decreased?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHAR MURTHY: Sir, if you permit me, I have replied:

"Smuggling is a clandestine activity and, therefore, it is not possible to say whether the illegal flow of foreign goods into the country has increased or otherwise."

But we have given the value in terms of crores of the contraband goods seized and the number of persons detained under COFEPOSA for the year 1990-91 and 1991-92. It really reflects that smuggling has come down.

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: You have stated the correct position.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the figures provided by him in 1991 contraband goods worth Rs. 740 crore were seized and in 1992 worth 502 crore. In this regard I would like to know as to how these seized goods are disposed of and how much amount has been realised therefrom. If you dispose these contraband goods by auction, how much money you have got? Have the V.I.Ps and officers been given these goods without auction also.

[English]

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: Sir, I have said that we have given the value in terms of crores of contraband goods seized.

As far as the procedure for the disposal of these goods is concerned, firstly, we will give them to the co-operative societies and some of them, we will dispose of through auction. And wherever we get more money, we will give them the goods. We have a separate departmental procedure also.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHEE TINDI VANAM: Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister as to whether his answer covers the

arms and contraband drugs smuggled in the country.?

Sir, the southern coast of Tamil Nadu has actually gone into the hands of the international smugglers in spite of preventive measures taken by the Government. I would request the hon. Minister to give the extent of contraband arms and the contraband drugs that were seized during the past one year and the value of the same.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: Sir, for combating smuggling, we have taken up administrative, economic and other measures viz. penal measures to curb smuggling. But as far as the question of smuggling of arms is concerned, I require a separate notice.

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to this question, the hon. Minister has stated that he is not sure regarding the increase or decrease of smuggled goods from foreign countries. Sir, I must say that as regards Bangladesh Border along the State of Assam - it is very unfortunate - that the security forces who are engaged to keep vigile on the border, it is said that there are many complaints against them that they are also involved in smuggling. I want to know whether the Government is aware of the fact and if so, what action the Government has taken to stop this. In the border area, after 7.00 p.m.; every day, the curfew is imposed and public are debarred from movement. In that situation, Sir, there are many complaints that in connivance with the security forces, these smugglers do their evil deed. I want to know whether the Government is aware of it and if so what action the Government has taken to stop this.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY: Sir, first of all, I do not agree with the hon. Member that our security forces at the border areas, in connivance with the smugglers, are encouraging smuggling. But, at the risk of their lives, they have taken so much interest in protecting the borders and not only that, they are prevent try the smuggling activities to a maximum extent.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Sir, the hon. Minister, in reply to this question has said that "The anti-smuggling agencies are suitably alert against smuggling activities."

Sir, there are two hardships that are being faced, firstly, inadequacy of staff and secondly non-availability of sophisticated equipment. These are the two main problems which these antismuggling agencies are facing.

There are certain representations made by the Customs Officers' Association regarding this. What are the steps taken by the Government to meet these two problems?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: Regarding the inadequacy of the staff. It is true that we require more staff for effective functioning of the Department; whereas sophisticated equipments, we are trying to improve upon it; and sophisticated equipments such as x-ray baggage machine, metal detector, even night vision binocular are being increasingly utilised.

A close coordination is being maintained among all the agencies in detection and prevention of smuggling.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: The primary reports about bomb blasts in Bombay have clearly mentioned that smugglers are involved in bringing the material used for bomb blasts. Will the Minister take into account these reports and ask the anti-smuggling agencies to be more alert?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: As you are aware, the bomb blast is being investigated by the CBI and the enquiries are on. At present, we have no information from our Department.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: It is clearly mentioned here.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: It is only through papers.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: It is by the investigating agency; it is my information.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: No, Sir. From our Department, we have no information.

[Translation]

Unemployment

*345 SHRI MANJAY LAL:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed youths in the country at present;

(b) the total estimated number of unemployed youths during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) the number of persons likely to get employment during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to solve the unemployment problem?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

The total number of openly unemployed persons is estimated to be around 17 million at the beginning of the Eighth Five Year Plan, by weekly status. A person is considered to be unemployed by weekly status if, though available for work, he did not get work even for one hour during the reference week. Results of the last comprehensive survey on employment and unemployment conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in 1987-88 show that youth (age-group 15-29) constitute 68% of the total unemployed, by weekly status.

The net addition to the labour force

during the Eighth Plan period is estimated to be of 35 million persons. The strategy envisaged in the Eighth Plan is expected to lead to creation of additional employment opportunities of the order of 8 to 9 million per year on the average, or around 43 million during the total Plan period.

Employment is a thrust area of the Eighth Five Year Plan. The Plan emphasises the need for a high rate of economic growth, combined with faster growth of sectors, sub-sectors and areas which have relatively high employment potential for enhancing the pace of employment generation. Geographically and crop-wise diversified agricultural growth, development of wastelands and forestry, development of rural non-farm sector and rural infrastructure, faster growth of small and decentralised manufacturing and expansion of housing, are the basic elements of the employment oriented growth strategy envisaged in the Plan.

[Translation]

SHRI MANJAY LAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the honourable Minister is misleading. It has been stated that 430 lakh additional employment opportunities would be created in the Eighth Five Year Plan. From the first Five Year Plan to the Seventh Five Year Plan it has been seen that the number of unemployed was more at the end of each plan than the number at the time of launching the each plan. Today, when industries are being modernised and multinational companies are coming in our country, there will be retrenchment of labourers on large scale. I would like to know whether there is any proposal to take steps to check retrenchment of labourers likely to take place or which has already taken place. Will you keep your promise of providing jobs 430 lakh additional and have you any concrete policy in this regard.

[English]

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: During the year 1987-88, the rate of growth of employment has been only about 2 per cent. Out of that, we find that the employment growth rate has

declined in the rural area; the share of the rural area was 1.53 per cent and in the urban area, it was 3.66 per cent..

Now, there could be many reasons for that; one of the reasons is that it has shown that there has been a substantial decline in the rate of growth of employment in the agricultural sector; that is one reason why in the rural area, there is less employment. Secondly, there has been quite a bit of influx of man power from the rural area to the urban area seeking for jobs; and that is why there is some indication that there has been a lightly better growth of employment in the rural area.

MR. SPEAKER: You reply to the main question.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Sir, I am explaining the whole position.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have to react to the interruptions.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Therefore, our thrust of the employment policy during the Eighth Five Year Plan is in the rural areas. I am coming to that. It is because of the reason that there is not much of opportunities in the urban areas, especially in view of the fact, which hon. Member has pointed out, that there is stagnancy in the employment opportunities in the public sector. It has been one of the major employers. I am trying to make the House understand that our emphasis for employment generation is now shifting from the urban areas to the rural areas.

This is what I am trying to say. If we look at the allocations of the Eighth Five Year Plan over the Seventh Five Year Plan, we find that it has been a number of times more than that. So our emphasis in allocation has been in the rural areas.

As far as the question of retrenchment is concerned, our policy.. (*Interruptions*).. If you do not want to understand then what can I do? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please try to understand. The Minister is saying that they are going to spend more money in the rural areas and that is what is provided in the Budget.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANJAY LAL: As regards my second supplementary, I would like to know whether in view of massive unemployment in the country the Government would set up a 'Bhoomisena' of uneducated unemployed and provide employment to the educated youth in small scale industries by imparting training and providing capital for self employment?

[*English*]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Sir, our emphasis is to generate more and more self-employment. It is only by generating self-employment scheme that the problem of unemployment can be solved. Therefore, the question of providing employment to the educated youth is a very important thing and the Government has a scheme for generating self-employment for the educated youth in the small scale and tiny sector. So we are already having schemes of employment to educated youth, which is being administered by the DC (SSI). So we do have programmes.

Over and above, I would like to inform the House that the Cabinet has constituted a sub-Committee with the Deputy Chairman as the Convenor of the sub-Committee to go into the problems of the unemployed educated youth and as to what can be done for them. This Committee has since finalised and submitted its report. That report is before the Cabinet and we are paying attention to that.

[*Translation*]

SHRICHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: As I have seen that the Labour Minister Shri Sangmaji generally provides factual information but today he has said that unemployment in urban area is more than the rural

areas where 80 per cent of country's population resides. I think that he has stated so because of wrong information furnished to him. Villages are the pulse of India. There is acute unemployment in villages. Now he has prepared a scheme to provide employment in villages but implementation of this plan is very difficult.

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the question.

SHRI CHANDUALAL CHANDRAKAR: The Minister, should keep three things in mind. Village people speak less, they do not register their names in employment exchanges and if you get district-wise information about registered unemployed, as there are 468 administrative districts, you will know that the largest number of unemployed is in the villages. Our country has 5,86,000 villages. Will you think of establishing one factory in every village panchayat to provide employment to the people?

[*English*]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Sir, I do not think, there is any conflict between the hon. Member and myself. What I stated is that the rate of growth of employment in rural areas is less. That is our concern. I did not say that the number of unemployed people in the rural areas are less. This is not my case. My case precisely is that the unemployed people in the rural areas are more and the growth rate of employment is less. That is why our concern is for the rural areas. Therefore, the thrust of the Eighth Five Year Plan is to give more attention to the rural areas.

I can remind the hon. Member that during the Seventh Five Year Plan, the allocation for the agricultural and allied sector was Rs. 10,523 crores which has been raised during the Eighth Five Year Plan to Rs. 24,467 crores and for rural development, over and above agriculture, during the Seventh Plan, it was Rs. 8,906 crores which has been raised to Rs. 34,425 crores during the Eighth Plan. So, there is a tremendous increase in the allocations for the rural sector and agricultural sector during the Eighth

Five Year Plan. The main idea of such an allocation is to generate more and more employment in the rural areas.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now Shri Chandulal Chandrakar, the Congress spokesman, has exposed the Government. There is no need to say much because he was not speaking as a spokesman of the Congress but as a spokesman of rural areas.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that from his reply it seems that it is not the reply of a Minister. It is just an imagination not the factual position. The Government had promised that it would create employment opportunities for one crore people every year. What happened to that promise?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, keeping in view the increasing unemployment among educated and uneducated persons in the country and accepting it as the most serious problem of the country, V.P. Singh Government had decided to include the right to work in the Fundamental Rights. Will the Government make an amendment in the Constitution to include the right to work in the Fundamental Rights? I am asking this question relating to policy matters.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a good question but too big a question to be replied to in the Question Hour.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: What about creation of one million jobs per year? (*Inter-rptions*)

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Sir, the answer given by the hon. Minister lacks clarity with regard to quantifying the employment opportunities. The total number of openly unemployed persons is estimated to be around 17 million at the beginning of the Eighth Five Year Plan, by weekly status. Here, it is

categorically expressed in terms of unemployed persons at the beginning of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have to analyse the question. There are many other Members who want to ask questions. Please understand that you have to give a gist.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: There is a misleading answer in the second part of the question. I am bringing it to the notice of the hon. Minister. In the subsequent para it is mentioned that the net addition to the labour force during the Eighth Plan period is estimated to be of 35 million persons.

MR. SPEAKER: May I take it that you do not have any supplementary?

PROF. UMMAREDDY VANKATESWARLU: It is a misleading answer particularly in the context of a promise given by this Government in its Congress Election Manifesto of 1991 that it will create 10 million jobs annually, that is 10 million persons but not creation of 10 million work-days.

I would like to know whether the Government is developing strategies to create 43 million work days during the Eighth Plan or providing additional employment to 43 million persons during the Eighth Plan.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : Sir, let me make this a little clear. At the beginning of the Eighth Five Year Plan, we had a backlog of unemployed to the tune of seventeen million. During the Eighth Five Year Plan, there will be a net addition of unemployed people to the tune of thirty-five million. That means there will be fifty-two million unemployed people during the entire Eighth Five Year Plan- the backlog of seventeen million and then the addition of thirty-five million. With the steps that we have projected during the Eighth Five Year Plan- and as I said, the emphasis is in the rural areas - we hope to generate employment for forty-three million people. Therefore, at the end of Eighth Five Year Plan, we shall be left with a backlog of

nine million unemployed people. That is the exact position. Again, during the Ninth Five Year Plan, there will be a net addition of another thirty-five million. Therefore, during the Ninth Five Year Plan, we will have to provide jobs for forty-five million. If we have to achieve full employment or near full employment by 2002, then during the Ninth Five Year Plan we will have to generate employment per annum to the tune of 9.4 million. That will be the requirement, which would mean a growth rate of 2.7 per cent employment generation during the Ninth Five Year Plan. Therefore, by the end of the Ninth five Year Plan, that is, by 2002, our projection is to generate employment to the tune of 9.4 million per year, which would mean 2.7 per cent growth of employment. This is precisely the policy of the Government and the direction has been given during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

[*Translation*]

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, 80 per cent population of the country lives in the villages. I would like to ask the hon. Minister of Labour whether employment opportunities will be provided to the rural youths in the public undertakings and industries located at district headquarters. Is there any guideline of the Government of India in this regard and if not, will you direct the Union Government to issue such directives?

[*English*]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Sir, I have already answered that question.

SHRI LOKA NATH CHOUDHURY: Sir, the Minister has said that seventeen million was the backlog at the beginning of the Eighth Five Year Plan, so, they have planned for forty-three million jobs. I want to know what exactly will be the total number of unemployed people during this period. He has said that nine million will remain. I would like to know whether they have taken into consideration those people who will be out of their jobs due to the existing policy and also whether they have been included in the

whole assessment of the unemployed people.

Secondly, the Minister has said that the thrust will be on the rural sector. I want to know that of all the total accumulated unemployed persons, how many are educated young people who will not find employment in spite of Government's attempt to provide rural employment. Has any assessment in that direction been made or not? If that assessment has been made.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If there are too many questions, then it will be difficult to get the exact reply.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: It is a total problem, Sir. So, that is why, I will ask again. My third part of the question is that whether the Government has also taken into their assessment the number of jobs that are lying vacant and due to Government orders these jobs not being entertained and people are not being given employment? What is the number of jobs now remaining vacant? Has the Government made any assessment of it?

I have put three parts of my question and I hope to get proper answers from the hon. Minister.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Sir, as far as the youth is concerned, I have said that out of the 52 million unemployed people, 68 per cent of them are youth, that is of the age of 15 years to 29 years. I do not have the separate figure of the youth who are educated and uneducated. That figure is not available with me. We are trying to get that figure also. In fact, today I have given instructions to get that figure also. 68 per cent of the total unemployed people are youth above 15 years of age. This is one part of the question.

Second part of the question is what about the large number of vacancies lying with the Government which are not being filled up. It is true that on the one hand we are talking of acute unemployment problem; but

on the other hand we also have a large number of vacancies to be filled in the Government of India or in the respective State Governments. Now the problem of educated unemployed youth is not merely confined to the unemployment. Unfortunately today we find that many of our educated youth are not employable and that is not their fault. The fault is with our educational system that we have not been able to train our youth according to the needs of the country and, therefore, many of our educated youth are not employable. We are trying to correct this. This is the reason why a National Education Policy has been formulated where the emphasis is on the vocationalisation of the education. That takes off that.

As far as the people who are likely to lose their jobs as a result of the so-called exit policy - though we do not call it exit policy - I may inform the hon. Member that the question today of so-called exit policy is mainly confined to the public sector undertakings numbering 58 units and these 58 public sector undertakings are units which are chronically sick. The total number of people employed in those units are only 4.5 lakhs. (*Interruptions*) I am comparing. Comparing to 319 million work force in the country it is less. I am taking the total work force.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: What about the private sector? I am comparing them (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA: Sir, there are more people in the private sector. You have to consider them. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Sir, some of the units have been referred to the B.I.F.R. Most of the units are being reviewed in the special tripartite committee. I can assure the House that it has never been the policy of the Government of India to put the workers in suffering or in distress. We are not going to result to retrenchment. What we are trying to say is to offer them the voluntary retirement scheme. Each voluntary retirement scheme has also a component of rehabilita-

tion of self-employment. Therefore, most of the people, even in if for argument sake they lose their jobs, will have the opportunity of rehabilitation because each scheme of voluntary retirement has a component of rehabilitation.

[Translation]

SHRI MANIKARAO HODLYA GAVIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to ask the hon. Minister of Labour the number of youths belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes likely to remain unemployed in the Eighth Five Year Plan. Even today it is found that the posts reserved for them are not filled completely on the pretext that suitable candidates were not available. Keeping it in view, will the Government try to change the definition of suitable candidates so that youths belonging to these categories may get jobs and posts reserved for them are filled.

[English]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Sir, I do not have the separate figure of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes unemployed people and the question relating to the reservation of jobs and implementing it, Sir, lies with the Department of Personnel and the Ministry of Welfare. So, this question does not concern this department. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Yes please, you give the notice, we will consider.

[Translation]

SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has any scheme to provide monthly allowances to the educated and uneducated persons living in rural areas as well as in urban areas and whether the Government had decided to formulate any such scheme during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

MR. SPEAKER: This employment scheme is meant for that purpose.

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this country is an agricultural country and 80 per cent of its population lives in the villages. It can be stressed that unless and until cottage and small scale industries are developed in the country the problem of unemployment can't be resolved. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what concrete steps are being taken to ensure development of small scale and cottage industries. There are about four and a half crore unemployed persons in the country. Has the Government formulated any programme to pay unemployment allowance to the educated unemployed youths until they get jobs or are self-employed?

[English]

SHRI P.A. SNAGMA: Sir, in my main answer I have already stated that besides agriculture and rural sector, which is the first area for generation of employment opportunities during the Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans, such area of the Government is also decentralised for manufacturing activity in the rural areas.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply stated:

"The results of the last comprehensive survey of employment and unemployment of the educated by the National Sample Survey Organisation in 1987-88..

MR. SPEAKER: You don't have to read the reply, come to the question.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: But the latest survey has not been made so far though several years have passed. I want to know from the Minister when the latest survey will be conducted.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, survey report can be sent to him. New, Mr. Virendra Singh

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his reply the hon. Minister has stated

that the Government has formulated a scheme to provide employment to the youths in the public undertakings and in the private sector to mitigate the intensity of increasing unemployment in the rural areas. The Government had formulated scheme to provide jobs to the national level, state level and district level players belonging to rural areas in the public sector undertakings as well as in the private sector. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you had also given a ruling that the Government would make arrangements to provide them employment. I would like to know from the Government by when arrangements would be made to provide employment to those players.

[English]

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, the hon. Member is right, we are giving preference to our talented boys in the Force. This scheme is under implementation, it will continue.

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, the educated unemployment is the biggest problem in India. Some of the self-employment schemes are a failure.

MR. SPEAKER: Please be very short. Look at the watch and then frame your question.

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: So, I would like to know from the Minister whether in consultation with the Industry Ministry, the Labour Ministry will conduct a study of self-employment programme to solve the unemployment problem.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, I have already stated that the problem of educated unemployment is very acute in our country and therefore, there is a Cabinet sub-Committee looking into this and formulating a policy specifically for them, which is before the Cabinet.

MR. SPEAKER: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

National Court of Direct Taxes

*344 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI LAL BABU RAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up a national court of direct taxes to ensure the quick disposal of cases relating to direct taxes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up; and

(d) if not, the other steps taken by the Government for quick disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDERASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The jurisdiction of the High Courts in so far as it relates to the direct tax laws, is proposed to be substituted by the jurisdiction of National Tribunal of Direct Taxes, to be known as National Tribunal of Direct Taxes. The proposed Tribunal will hear appeals only on substantial questions of law. It is expected that the Tribunal will start functioning sometime in 1994.

(d). In view of replies above, answer to this part of the question does not arise.

New Schemes of SBI for Orissa

*346. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:
Will the Minister of FINANCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India has folated some new schemes for Orissa;

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

(b) if so, the details thereof;

Small Savings Schemes

(c) whether the schemes are meant for industrial ventures; and

*348. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA:
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:

(d) if so, the details of investment proposed to be made under the scheme?

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (b). No, Sir.

(a) the amount of money invested in National Savings Certificates, Indira Vikas Patra, Kisan Vikas Patra and other small savings schemes during last two years and during the current financincial year;

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

(b) whether small savings collections have declined sharply as a result of withdrawal of certain invectives under the Income Tax Act;

[*Translation*]

Roads in M.P.

347. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(c) whether the decline in collections has adversely affected the resource position of the State Governments;

(a) whether maximum road traffic to all the States passes through Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to provide special Central assistance to Madhya Pradesh for widening and strengthening the medium traffic range of State roads of inter-State importance'

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to strengthen the resources position of the States, particularly of Gujarat: and

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the target fixed for national savings during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

(d) the total length of such roads in Madhya Pradesh and estimated expenditure on widening and strengthening them?

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) the gross and net collections in small savings schemes, including Public Provident Fund Scheme are as follows:-

(a). No, Sir.

(In crores of Rupees)

Year	Upto December		Upto March	
	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
1990-91	11543.79	4907.94	18919.93	9103.92
1991-92	11149.95	3297.74	18586.62	6640.02
1992-93	11750.14	2582.85		

(b) to (d). There has been no decline so far in gross collections of small savings for 1992-93 because of any modifications in savings concessions. In fact gross collections upto December has declined marginally in 1991-92 and they have increased in 1992-93 to a level higher than in 1990-91. The decline in net collections is primarily because of a large increase in repayments which reflects a bunching of maturates of small savings due in earlier years. Although Section 80CCA of the Income-tax Act has been withdrawn, savings instruments eligible for Section 80CCA benefit have been made eligible for Section 88. The incentive under Section 80L was reduced from the exempted interest income of Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 7,000. Although the new limit is lower it is more than adequate to cover vast majority of small savings instruments compared to bank deposits has been widened which will offset any possible adverse impact as a result of modification of tax structure. Finally, there has been a substantial increase in States' share of income-tax. Overall, there is a steady increase in the total resources transferred to the State Government.

(e) No target on small savings has been fixed by the Planning Commission separately for the Eighth Five Year Plan.

[English]

Moratorium on Loan Repayments by West Bengal Industries

*349. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
SHRI AMAL DATTA:

Will the MINISTER of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any communication from the Government of West Bengal to sanction a special moratorium on loan repayments by the industries of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

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

Pending Excise and Customs Cases

*350 SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of excise and customs cases are pending for settlement for long;

(b) if so, the total number of such cases pending as on December 31, 1992 along with the value involved;

(c) the number of cases cleared during 1992-93 and the value therefore;

(d) whether the Government propose some radical reforms in streamlining the disposal procedure of such cases; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b). There are no provisions in the Customs Act, 1962 or the Central Excises & Salt Act, 1944 for settlement of cases by a settlement Commission, as on the lines of the Settlement Commission under the Income Tax Act. However, the total number of cases pending adjudication as on December 31, 1992 is 29679. Information regarding value is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) 42455 cases were adjudicated during 1992-93. Information regarding value is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) and (e). Government propose to set up a Settlement Commission for Central Excise and Customs. Details are being worked out in consultation with the Ministry of Law.

[Translation]

Money Supply

*351. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the money supply has been increasing continuously in the country to cover up the fiscal deficit for the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the money supply during this period;

(c) whether any target has been set for rate of growth of the money supply during the current financial year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to achieve the target in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS. (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Whereas money supply has been increasing over the years, the fiscal deficit as a percentage of GDP has declined from 8.4 per cent in 1990-91 to 6.2 per cent in 1991-92 and is expected to decline further to about 5 per cent in the current financial year.

(b) Growth of money supply (M3) during the last three years is shown .

Financial Year (Rs. Crores)	Annual Growth (Per cent)	
1989-90	37,457	19.4
1990-91 (P)	34,878	15.1
1991-92 (P)	49,256	18.5

(P)= Provisional

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) An indicative target of 10.4 per cent has been set for the growth of money supply in the current financial year (1992-93) as against 13 per cent in the preceding year.

(e) Steps taken to achieve the target are:

- (i) reduction in budgetary deficit;
- (ii) lower market borrowing;
- (iii) reduction in fiscal deficit; and
- (iv) reduction in net bank credit to Government and in particular net Reserve Bank Credit to Government.

Outstanding Dues of Nationalised Banks

*352. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a constant increase in the outstanding dues of the nationalised banks for the last several years;

(b) if so, the extent thereof during the financial year 1989-90 and at the end of the first half of the financial year 1992-93;

(c) whether a major portion out of the above dues outstands in the names of big and medium industries;

(d) if so, the extent thereof by the end of first half of the year 1992-93;

(e) the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government have directed the banks for taking fresh steps in order to recover the outstanding amount; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (b). Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to category-wise overdues in respect of public sector banks. The category-wise outstanding and overdues as on March 1990 and September 1991 (latest available, is given below:

STATEMENT

Amount in Rs. crores

Sectors	March 1990				Amount in Rs. crores
	Outstanding	Overdues	%age of over dues to outstanding	%age share in total overdues	
1	2	3	4	5	
Large & Medium Industries	32549	4277	13.14	27.33	
Small Scale Industries	15198	3075	20.23	19.65	
Agriculture	16603	3451	20.70	22.06	
Other Priority Sector	8157	2516	30.85	16.00	
All Others	25184	2328	9.24	14.88	
Total	97692	15646	16.02		

Amount in Rs. crores

September 1991

Sectors

March 1990

Outstanding

Overdues

%age of over
dues to outstanding%age share in
total overdues

1

2

3

4

5

Large & Medium Industries

34247

4681

13.67

26.06

Small Scale Industries

15600

3579

22.94

19.92

Agriculture

16252

3558

21.89

19.80

Other Priority Sector

8601

2778

32.30

15.46

All Others

27749

3371

12.13

18.76

Total

102480

17967

17.53

(c) to (g). The table referred to above indicates that the percentage of overdues to sector-wise outstanding is lower in case of large and medium industry. However, the percentage share in total overdues is higher for large & medium industry. The banks provide loans to credit worthy borrowers for taking up economic viable activities. However, in the operations of the accounts certain loans become sticky leading to overdues for various reasons. Government have been emphasising upon the public sector banks from time to time to reduce overdues. RBI have also directed banks to reduce the amount of overdues and also to improve their recovery performance. Some of the important steps are as follows:

1. Banks have been impressed upon to institute a viable recovery system with a view to help recycling the scare resources of the banks to the needy and productive sectors of the economy on the one hand and to improve the profitablity and viability of the lending banks, on the other hand.

2. The Chief Executives of the banks have been advised to pay their personal attention to the monitoring of large advances.

3. Introduction of a comprehensive and uniform grading system to indicate the health of individual advances for the purpose of

their effective monitoring and follow up.

4. To keep a watch on the recovery of top sticky accounts at the Board level.

5. Taking action against the officials where advances are found to have become sticky due to their negligence, inefficiency etc.

[English]

Free Trade Zones

*353. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total turn-over of the Free Trade Zones during 1991-92 and 1992-93 Zone-wise;

(b) the problems faced by these Zones; and

(c) the steps taken to make such Trade Zones more investment attractive?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKERJEE) (a) The total exports of Export Processing Zones (EPZs) during 1991-92 and 1992-93 is indicated below:-

Name of FIZ/FPZs	Export (Rs. crores)	
	1991-92	1992-93 (Apr. 92-Feb.93)
Santacruz Electronics EPZ	500.17	644.98
Noida EPZ	78.84	119.03
Madras EPZ	122.47	134.62
Cochin EPZ	28.90	52.23
Falta EPZ	27.90	11.63
Kandla FTZ	427.18	146.07

(b) Besides coping with the changing international scenario such as dislocation of exports to Rupee Payment Areas, units in the Zones require a smooth working environment, as well, as fiscal and other supports to increase competitiveness.

(c) The package to attract investment in the EPZs, inter alia, includes speedier approval procedures, simplification of policy and procedures, 100% foreign equity participation, a five year tax holiday, simplified DTA access with reduced rate of duty concessional lease rent on industrial plots and sheds, and delegation of powers to the Development Commissioners.

Indo-German Trade

*354 SHRI SARAT CHAUDRA
PATTANAYAK:
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H.
TOPIWALA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be

pleased to state:

(a) the total trade transacted with Germany during each of the last three years;

(b) whether any trade team of Germany visited India recently; and

(c) if so, the details of the discussions held and the out-come thereof;

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PHANAB MUKERJEE): (a) A Statement is attached.

(b) and (c). A German business delegation visited India in February, 1993 and held discussions mainly covering different aspects of economic liberalisation in India. Action points were drawn up on either side which, inter alia, pertained to the expansion of trade and economic relations.

STATEMENT

The Indo-German trade for the last three years are as under:

Year	India's exports to Germany	India's imports from Germany	Total trade transacted between India and Germany
1	2	3	4
1980-90	1777.79	2749.67	4527.46
1990-91	2534.59	3477.42	6012.01
1991-92	3104.55	3849.08	6953.63

(Source: DGCI&S)

[Translation]

Marble Mines in Rajasthan

*355. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the minimum wages are paid to the labourers working in marble mines of Rajasthan;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any enquiry in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome of the enquiry; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the payment of minimum wages to those labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b). Does not arise.

(c). No, Sir.

(d). Does not arise.

(e). Regular inspections are conducted by the enforcement machinery for proper implementation of minimum wages in the marble mines of Rajasthan.

[English]

Problems of Ex-Servicemen

*356. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received a large number of complaints regarding anomalies and lacunae in the One Time Increase (OTI) in pension to the Armed Forces pensioners;

(b) if so, the details hereof;

(c) whether the Government have set up any committee to review the same;

(d) if so, its composition, terms of reference, and the time by which the report is likely to be submitted;

(e) whether this committee would also look into the demands of the demobilized soldiers of the Second World War; and

(f) if not, the reaction of the Government to their demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (f). A statement is attached.

Statement

Government have received various representations regarding anomalies in the Scheme of One Time Increase (OTI) in pension. These mainly relate to the grievances against the exclusion of certain categories such as re-employed pensioners, State Forces pensioners, and pensioners in receipt of two pensions, from eligibility to receive OTI. A Committee has been set up to examine such demands. It is headed by Additional Secretary, Ministry of Defence and includes an Additional Secretary each from the Ministry of Law, the Ministry of Finance, the Deptt. of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare; Adjutant General, Army Hqrs; Joint Secretary, Ministry of Defence; Additional Controller General of Defence

Accounts; Addl. Financial Adviser, Ministry of Defence; Deputy Secretary (Pens), Ministry of Defence.

2 The terms of reference of the Committee are:

- (a) To deal with the problems/ anomalies arising from the implementation of the scheme for grant of One Time Increase (OTI) in pensions to Armed Forces personnel who retired before 1 1 1986
- (b) To work out suitable methodology to determine actual quantum of OTI to pre 1 6 1953 Armed Forces personnel who have been authorised OTI in pension as an interim measure
- (c) To look into the problem relating to rent of OTI to State Forces pensioners, Territorial Army pensioners, pensioners in receipt of only the disability element of pension, PAK, BURMA and HKSRA pensioners, non-regular Commissioned Officers etc

3 The Committee is likely to submit its report soon

4 Another Committee, set up to examine the remainder problems of ex-Servicemen, is dealing with the demand for provision of suitable relief to the World War veterans

Economic Growth

*357 SHRI CHITTA BASU Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FICCI) has recently submitted a 10 year perspective plan to accelerate the economic growth,

(b) if so, main features thereof,

(c) whether the Government propose to follow these suggestions for economic growth,

(d) if so the details thereof, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR ABRAR AHMED) (a) Government have not received any such perspective plan from FICCI. However, a theme paper, "Economic Reforms - Futuristic Scenario", presented at the annual general meeting of FICCI in October, 1992 has been brought to the notice of the Government

(b) Some of the major suggestions made in the theme paper are speeding up of economic reforms, Minimizing Government controls, removal of the infrastructure bottlenecks like power and transport, speedy clearance of the projects at the state level, Government guarantee for the dues from the State Electricity Boards, allocation of more Government resources for investment in agriculture commercialisation of agriculture on par with industry with more private sector participation, rationalisation of indirect-taxes by introducing uniform duty rates on similar kinds of products, reduction in corporate tax rates, cut in the non-development expenditure of the Government especially on interest payment and subsidies, opening

up the financial sector for competition, bringing down the spread between the borrowing and lending rates; SEBI approvals for private sector mutual funds, sale of PSE shares to the public, evolving a proper exit policy with an appropriate social security system which ensures an annual income to the affected workers, involving the private sector also in the trade policy reforms and focusing attention on sectors with high employment potential.

(c) and (e). Some of the suggestions made in the FICCI's theme paper are already part of the economic programme of the Government and either have been or are being implemented. Economic reform is a continuing process and suggestions from all quarters including FICCI will be considered by the Government if they are good for the country and feasible within our system.

[*Translation*]

Export of Lather Goods

*358. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country has vast potential to increase exports of the lather goods;

(b) the annual percentage of the potential utilised for export during each of the last three years;

(c) the target fixed for the fixed export of leather goods by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the country's share in the total leather trade of the world at present?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The percentage of growth in rupee terms in exports of leather and leather goods during each of the last three years is indicated below:-

1989-90 : +26.2%

1990-91 : +25.*%

1991-92 : +20.5%

(c) The working Group on Leather and Leather Goods Industries for the Eighth Five Year Plan which was to commence from 1st April, 1990 had suggested a target of Rs. 34516 million for exports of leather and leather goods by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan, i.e. 1994-95. No targets have been fixed for the Eighth Five Year Plan which commenced from 1st April, 1993.

(d) India's share of the global market in leather and leather goods exports is estimated to be about 3.5%.

[*English*]

National Highway No. 17

*359. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of the alignment proposals of National Highway No. 17 sent by the Kerala Government which are at present pending with the Union government for approval; and

(b) the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 3 proposals relating to alignment plans of NH - 17 in Kerala for the stretches km. 18/05 to 19/00, km. 342/947 to 368/400 and km. 214/00 to 225/00 have been received from the State Government.

(b) As the phased programme for development of NH-17 called for from the State Government is still awaited, it is too early to indicate the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared.

Agreements on Border Trade

*360. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some agreements on border trade have been signed with some foreign countries during 1992 and till date;

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

(c) whether some products of Sikkim are also proposed to be considered for exports in these trade agreements;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e). At present India has border trade agreement with People's Republic of China. A Memorandum on resumption of border trade was signed with the Government of People's Republic of China on 13.12.1991. This Memorandum provides that the border trade would be confined initially to Gunji in the Pithoragarh District of U.P. in India and Pulan in the Tibet Autonomous Region of

People's Republic of China across the Lipulekh pass. The Memorandum also provides for extension of border trade to other points on India China border after mutual consultations. In the 4th session of India-China Joint Group meeting on Economic Relations and Trade, Science and Technology held in Beijing on 4-5 January, 1993 both sides agreed, in principle for extension of border trade to other points on the Indian China border. Details in this regard are under consideration.

Anti-Dumping Action Against Importers of PVC Resin etc.

*3466. SHRI S.B. THORAT: SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some companies particularly multinational companies are importing in large quantity materials like PVC resin etc. under OGL Scheme during 1992-93 which causes dumping of materials in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Government have received some complaints regarding dumping of PVC resins and other similar materials in the country by some vested interested companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof, item-wise and company-wise;

(e) the action taken by the Government to curb such practices in future or to impose anti-dumping duty in such cases; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (f). The Indian Customs Tariff Act, 1975 was amended in October 1982 to enable the Government to take measures against dumped imports by levying anti-dumping duties. The act empowers Government to impose anti-dumping duties in those cases in which dumped imports are found to be causing material injury to the domestic industry. Before such a duty can be imposed the authority designated by the Government has to make a finding on the existence of dumping and injury. The designated Authority normally initiates an investigation only upon receipt of a written request by or on behalf of the affected domestic industry. The Customs Tariff rules require the Designated Authority to satisfy itself that it has sufficient prima-facie evidence of dumping, injury to domestic industry and a causal link between the dumped imports and the alleged injury before it decides to initiate an investigation.

Complaints have been received of dumping of PVC Resin; Styrene Butadiene Rubber, Bisphenol-A; Acrylates; acrylonitrile Butadiene Rubber; Glass Fibre; Refined Terephthalic Acid (PTA); Mono Ethylene Glycol (MEG); and Polystyrene.

Three anti-dumping investigations were initiated by the Designated Authority on the basis of the complaints received from domestic industry. Based on the preliminary findings of the Designated Authority, Government has imposed anti-dumping duties until 1st June, 1993, on PVC Resin falling under H.S. Nos. 39041000, 39042102 and 39042109 originating from all sources in Argentina, Brazil, Republic of Korea, Mexico and the U.S.A. The Designated Authority has terminated investigation into the allegation of dumping of Styrene Butadiene Rubber as no injury or threat of

injury to the domestic industry was found. Investigation into the allegation of dumping of Bisphenol-A is in progress. The Designated Authority is to take a decision on initiation of anti-dumping investigations in respect of the remaining complaints.

[Translation]

Traveling Facilities to Students

3467. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide free/at concessional rate travelling facility to the students of Uttar Pradesh in buses of Uttar Pradesh Road Transport Corporation to facilitate their movement for the purpose of education; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Export of Chemicals

3468. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to further amend the negative list of the export and import to control the export of chemicals;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the chemicals to be

controlled thereby?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKERJEE): (a) to (c). Review of the negative list of exports & Imports is a continuous process and changes in the Policy are made as and when considered necessary.

Development of Kakinada Port

3469. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has provided assistance for the development of Kakinada Port in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Pensioners of Major Ports

3470. SHRI RAMNAIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to reply given to unstarred Question No. 7002 on September 13, 1991 and state:

(a) whether all the benefits as applicable to the Central Government pensioners under the Fourth Pay Commission recommendations have also been extended to the pensioners of major ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the details of the pensionary benefits which are still to be extended, and

(d) by when these benefits are likely to

be provided to the pensioners of major ports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) and (b). Although recommendations of the IVth Central Pay Commission are not applicable to the Port Employees, yet the Ministry has extended benefits to the Port Employees as in these recommendations. Details of the benefits extended to the employees of Major Port Trusts are indicated in the statement annexed.

(c) Additional Relief to the pensioners who retired between 1.1.1969 and 31.12.1985 is being considered.

(d) As the decision requires inter-ministerial consultation and concurrence, all efforts are being made to expedite the decision.

STATEMENT

Pensionary Benefits Extended to the Major Port Trusts

(i) The principle of calculation of pension at the rate of 50% of the emolumants may be extended to the Class I and Class II officers and such of the Class III and Class IV employees of the Major Port Trusts and Dock Labour Boards who are on the Central Government definition of pay for pensionary benefits w.e.f. 1.1.1986.

(ii) The minimum pension/ family pension and relief thereon may be raised to Rs. 375/- per month which may be extended to all Officers and other employees irrespective of the definition of pay,

with effect from 1.1.1986. After fixing the minimum pension of Rs. 375/- per month the commuted value of the pension will be deducted. It is also proposed that the maximum amount of pension admissible per month may be raised to Rs. 4500/- in respect of all officers and employees on the Central Government of pay as in the case of Central Government employees.

(iii) The liberalised Death-cum-Retirement Gratuity (DCRG) at the rate of quarter month pay for each completed 6 monthly period of qualifying service subject to maximum of Rs. 1 lakh with no upper limit on reckonable emoluments may be extended to all Class I and II and Class III and IV employees of Port Trusts and Dock Labour Boards who are on Central Government definition of pay for pensionary benefits and who are not governed by the payment of Gratuity Act, 1972.

(iv) The liberalised rate of service gratuity at the rate of half months emoluments for every 6 monthly period of service for the entire service may be extended to all permanent Officers and other permanent employees who are on Central Government definition of pay for retirement benefits and who have qualifying service of less than 10 years.

(v) The same retirement/gratuity benefits as admissible to these in permanent employment will be admissible to quasi-permanent and temporary Class I and II Officers

and Class III and Class IV employees who have put in not less than 10 years of qualifying service and who are on Central Government definition of pay, retiring on superannuation or on being decreed permanently incapacitated for further service on medical grounds by the appropriate Medical Authority, may be extended.

(vi) In respect of the Pensioners who retired prior to 1.1.1969 and whose pension is Rs. 500 or less, additional relief at the rate of 15 percent of the total amount of pension plus relief on pension subject to a minimum of Rs. 75 per month may be granted.

(vii) As regards Contributory provident Fund Retirees, the benefits as admissible to the Central Government Employees with effect 1.1.1986 may be extended to the Class I and Class II Officers of the Major Port Trusts and Dock Labour Boards and permit them to raise the ceiling of special contribution in lieu of gratuity from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1 lakh. However, this concession will not be extended to Class III and Class IV employees as they are having liberal definition of 'pay' for purposes of contributory provident fund benefits and also for those who are governed by the payment of Gratuity Act, 1972.

(viii) Widows and dependent children of the Contributory Provident Fund Beneficiaries who had retired from Service prior to 1.1.1986 shall be granted an ex gratia payment of

Rs. 150/- per month with effect from 1.1.1986 or from the date following the date of death of the employee whichever is later. This payment shall also be admissible with effect from 1.1.1986 to the widows and dependent children of the contributory provident of fund beneficiaries who died while in serve prior to 1.1.1986. They will also be paid relief on the ex-gratia payment at the rates specified by Government to their retirees.

Repair of Kolia Bhomara Bridge

3471. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 3rd pillar of Kolia Bhomara bridge over the river Brahmaputra from Tezpur side has inclined towards south and as a result of this, there is a danger of the suspended span between pillars 2 and 3 falling down;

(b) if so, whether any committee has been constituted to assess the defective construction of the bridge;

(c) if so, the findings of the committee; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to bring the bridge in motorable condition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (d). The Brahmaputra river has been continuously attacking the North bank resulting in heavy scour near pier Nos. P2 and P3. the Pier P3 has slightly tilted towards south direction. A high level Committee was constituted to look into the matter which decided to provide

a crated boulder garland around Pier P3. This work has since been completed and the situation has stabilized and no further tilt is observed. There is, at present, no danger to the suspended span between Pier P2 and P3. The bridge is in motorable condition.

Export of Farm Products

3472. DR R. MALLU:
SHRIMATI KESHARABAI
SONAJI KISHRSACAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the Quantity of farm products like milk, milk products, oilseeds cakes, vegetable oils, fruit and vegetables exported and the foreign exchanged earned therefore during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the export of these items; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The information is contained in (i) Foreign Trade Statistics of India (Principal Commodities & Countries) 1987-88 to 1991-90 and March, 1992 and (ii) Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India by countries, March 1991 and March, 1992 published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Calcutta which are available in the Parliament Library.

(b) and (c). Yes Sir. For 1992-93 an export target of US dollar 2000 million has

been fixed for agricultural and allied products, including farm products as against an achievement of US dollar 1882.24 million during 1991-92. For the year 1993-94 it is proposed to step up these exports by 15% in terms of value.

[Translation]

Mining Labourers in U.P.

3473. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any welfare scheme for the mining workers in U.P.;

(b) whether the Government propose to introduce Group Insurance Scheme and also bring them under the ESI Scheme;

(c) whether the Government provide compensation to the mining workers in the event of death and injury due to mining accident; and

(d) if so, the details of the compensation provided during the year 1992-93.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) The Ministry of Labour administers labours welfare funds namely Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund; Iron Ore Mines, Manganese Ore Mines & Chrome Ore Mines Labour Welfare facilities to mine workers. Under these funds, housing and health schemes have been formulated for the welfare of mine workers. In U.P., only Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare fund is in operation.

(b) to (d). No Group Insurance Scheme

is proposed to be introduced for mine workers. There is also no proposal to extend the provisions of the Employees State Induistrance Act to the mine workers. However, for employment related injuries resulting in death/disablement, the mine workers are covered under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923. Payment of compensation by the management to the next of kin of the deceased is regulated under the above Act, which is administered by the respective State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Information on this aspect is not maintained in the Ministry of Labour.

Interest from Credit Card holders

3474. SHRI GOVIND RAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether different rates of interest are being charged by nationalised banks from the credit card holders;

(b) whether some banks are taking into consideration the business transaction carried out within 24 hours while some other banks take into consideration the transaction carried out upto 30 days in the event of loss of a credit card;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring uniformity in the conditions for the credit cards; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a). Nationalised banks generally charge card holders a service charge at 2% per month for carrying forward unpaid dues.

However, some banks charge 2.5% per month.

(b. According to information available in respect of credit card schemes of Andhra bank, Bank of India and Bank of Baroda, the original card holder is liable for all the usage made on the lost card by the finder upto 30 days from receipt of report of the loss. In the case of Canara Bank Cancard Scheme, the card holder is liable for purchases made against the lost or stolen card until the bank receives such information in writing.

(c) and (d). No proposal is under consideration of the Government for issue of guidelines to bring uniformity in credit card schemes.

SIDBI Assistance to Uttar Pradesh

3475. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD:
Will the Ministe of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether BIDBI has provided assistance under the various refinancing schemes to Uttar Pradesh during the last two years;

(b) if so, the extent thereof;

(c) the percentage of assistance given to Uttar Pradesh to the total assistance

provided by the Government to the States;

(d) whether remarkable increase has been made in creation of employment opportunities under this scheme; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS(DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) . Yes, Sir. the assistance sanctioned and disbursed to the units in the tiny and small scale sector in Uttar Pradesh by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) under its Refinance Scheme during the last two years in Given as under:

(Rs. /Crore)

	Sanction	Disbursement\
1990-91	177.55	147.06
1991-92	207.75	131.74

(c). Government indirectly assists SIDBI in its resource mobilisation, in a non-area specific manner. The percentage of assistance to Uttar Pradesh under the SIDBI Refinance Scheme vis-a-vis the all India total during the last two years in as under:

(Rs./Crore)

	sanction	%to all Indian Total	Disbursement	%to all India Total
1990-91	177.55	8.65	147.06	9.42
1991-92	207.75	8.84	131.74	8.06

(d) and (e). SIDBI has reported that apart from the financial assistance granted by it for small scale industries, it has also been undertaking promotional and developmental activities in various States. The promotional activities recently initiated by SIDBI in Uttar Pradesh are the Block Adoption Scheme, Technology Upgradation of Small Industry clusters, Rural Leather Upgradation project and the Lock Modernisation Programme. These promotional activities would also indirectly help in employment generation in the rural areas.

[English]

Widening of National Highways

3476. SHRI HARCHAND SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of National Highways which are proposed to be widened into four lanes during the year 1993-94 in various States particularly in Punjab;

(b) the amount earmarked therefore; and

(c) the policy/criteria adopted for selection of National Highways for widening into four lanes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Names of National Highways to be taken up for four laning in various States including Punjab during 1993-94 can be indicated only after the Demands for Grants for 1993-94 are voted by Parliament.

(c). As per traffic criterion, 4, -laning is

justified where traffic volume is more than 15,000 PCEs (Passenger Car Units) per day.

Refinance to West Bengal by NABARD

3477. D R. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the refinance provided to West Bengal by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development during the last three years; and

(b) the rate of interest charged thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a). The date on refinance assistance disbursed to various banks under Schematic lending in West Bengal by the National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) during the last three years is as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)	
Year	Amount
1989-90	7590
1990-91	8218
1991-92	9432

(b). The refinance interest rates changed by NABARD were rationalised in September, 1990 linking the same to the size of the loan refinanced. The structure of refinance interest rates applicable to Schematic lendings of NABARD with effect from 22nd September 1990 onwards is given in the Statement.

STATEMENT

Size of loan	Rate of Interest (% per annum)
From 22.9.90	
1. Upto Rs. 50000	6.5
2. Over Rs. 50000	9.5
From 9.10.1991	Cottage, Village, Tiny & Small Scale Industries and Small Road Transport Operators upto 2 Vehicles
1. Upto Rs. 15000	6.5
2. Over Rs. 15000 and upto Rs. 5000	7.5
3. Over Rs. 50000 and upto Rs. 2 lakhs	10.5
4. Over Rs. 2 lakhs upto Rs. 7.5 lakhs	4.5 percentage points 12.0 below the rates charged by the banks.
5. over Rs. 7.5 lakhs	-do- 13.5
1. Upto Rs. 25000	6.5
2. Over Rs. 25000 and upto 2 lakhs	10.5
3. Over Rs. 2 lakhs	
(A) Farm Sector	
(a) Schemes for wasteland development rainfed farming (dryland farming) 100% export oriented agricultural projects (other than tea, Coffee, Rubber and Spices) and minor irrigation schemes implemented by Cooperatives/Public Sector Corporations	10.5
(b) All other schemes supported by NABARD refinance (i.e. other than those for category 'a' above)	12.0
(B) Non-farm sector	
(a) Over Rs. 2 lakhs and upto Rs. 7.5 lakhs	12.0
(b) Above Rs. 7.5 lakhs	13.5

Merger of MITCO with MMTC

3478. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to merge the Mica Trading Corporation of India (MITCO) with Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India (MMTC); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKERJEE) (a) and (b). In 1990, Government took a decision to merge MITCO with MMTC. However, in December, 1991, the decision was reviewed and it was decided that the revamping measures pertaining to MITCO may be undertaken without disturbing its existing status.

Sunderbans Water Area as National Waterway

3479. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether IWAI has worked out the details of cost savings in respect of development of Sunderbans stretch as National Waterway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). The techno-economic feasibility study on the international steamer route in Sunderbans carried out by the IWAI in 1988-89 has

revealed that this Waterway stretch will serve as only a transit route between Ganga and Brahmaputra/Barak rivers. However, movement of 1.6 million tonnes of cargo on this route by 1994-95 was estimated in the study.

Keeping in view the present low quantum of traffic and the need to assess the effects of dredging as the Waterway passes through the National Park, Tiger Reserve and Biosphere Reserve of Sunderbans, the IWAI has decided to conduct an environmental impact assessment.

Trade Unions

3480. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have laid down norms for recognition of Central Trade Unions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of Central Trade Unions recognised by the Government on the basis of these norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SAHNGMA): (a) to (c). In a meeting with the representatives of all Central Trade Union Organisations (CTUOs) held by Labour Minister on 15.5.90, it was resolved that those CTUOs which had a verified membership of 5 lakhs or more and which were spread over 4 States and 4 industries including agriculture, would be recognised as Central Trade Union Organisations for the purpose of their representation on various national and international Conferences Committees and Councils. He form recognition to any of the CTUCs has been

accorded so far on the basis on the norms evolved at the meeting. However the ten CTUOs which had participated in the general verification as on 31.12.80 are being nominated to the various committees etc. constituted by the Government.

Republic Forge

3481. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations for taking over of the Republic Forge, Hyderabad; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) M/s Republic Forge Ltd. (RFL) had requested M/s Bharat Earth Movers Ltd (BEML), a public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Defence, to have a collaborative arrangement which could lead to merger or joint venture between the two.

(b) The Board of Directors of BEML have not accepted the proposal, in view of the excess manpower and heavy indebtedness of RFL and other relevant considerations. however, BEML would continue to source many of its requirements of forging from REL.

Illegal Movement of Narcotic Drugs

3482. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been signed to check illegal movement of narcotic

drugs at the time of visit of the Russian President to India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a). Yes, Sir. The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Russian federation have signed an agreement on Cooperation in Combating Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic substances, during the visit of the Russian President.

(b) The agreement provides for exchanging information and undertaking measures in order to identify, supers and prevent the criminal activities of international drug syndicates.

[Translation]

Army Personnel in Pakistani Jails

3483. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian army personnel languishing in Pakistani Jails at Present;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide any relief to their dependents;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a). According to available information at present 28 missing Army personnel are believed to be in custody in Pakistan.

(b) to (d). Missing personnel are presumed killed and their families are given liberalised pensionary awards, which include liberalised family pension, family gratuity, children allowance and education allowance for children.

[English]

Products/Schemes Approved under C.R.F.

3484. SHRI THAYILJOHANNALOSE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects/schemes sent by the Government of Kerala for assistance from the Central Road Fund(C.R.F.) during 1992-93;

(b) the action taken by the Union Government on each of the -projects; and

(c) the funds allocated/released so far, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The State Government of Kerala has forwarded 10 schemes costing Rs. 650.00 lakhs under Central Road Fund during 1992-93. The proposals are yet to be approved.

(c). Since the schemes are not approved so far, the question of release of funds does not arise.

D.T.C. Staff Strength

3485. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total sanctioned staff strength

of the DTC, category-wise;

(b) total strength of staff in position as on January 1, 1992; and

(c) number of staff recruited during 1992, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The category-wise sanctioned staff strength of DTC is as under:-

	Category	Sanctioned strength as on 1-1-92
1.	Driver	10883
2.	Conductors	10883
3.	Traffic Supervisory Staff	2176
4.	Repair & Maintenance Wing	8706
5.	Administration & Others staff	6529
Total:		39177

(b). The category-wise details of the staff of DTC in position as on 1-1-92 was 40,253.

(c) The category-wise details of the staff recruited during 1992 is as under:-

	Category	Staff recruited during 1992
1.	Driver	1
2.	Conductor	-
3.	Traffic Supervisory Staff	-
4.	Repair & Maintenance Wing	3
5.	Administration and other staff	12
Total		16

*[English]***Co-operative Banks**

3486. SHRI LAL IT ORAON: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: the details of the co-operative banks located in urban and rural areas in the country as on December 31, 1992, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): The number of primary co-operative banks in urban and rural areas as on December 31, 1992 State/Union Territory-wise is given in the statement.

STATEMENT

State/Union Territory-wise number of primary co-operative banks in urban and rural areas as on December 31, 1992

Sl.No.	Name of the State and Union Territory	Total No. of Pcbs	Out of wich No. of Pcbs in	
			Urban	Rural
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	59	59	-
2.	Assam	8	8	-
3.	Bihar	4	4	-
4.	New Delhi	14	14	-
5.	Goa	6	6	-
6.	Gujarat	286	251	35
7.	Haryana	8	8	-
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	3	-
9.	Karnataka	201	190	11

Sl.No.	Name of the State and Union Territory	Total No. of Pcbbs	Out of which No. of Pobs in	
1	2	3	Urban	Rural
10.	Kerala	56	51	5
11.	Madhya Pradesh	41	41	-
12.	Maharashtra	380	353	27
13.	Manipur	5	5	-
14.	Meghalaya	2	2	-
15.	Nagaland	-	-	-
16.	Mizoram	1	1	-
17.	Orissa	14	14	-
18.	Punjab	6	6	-
19.	Rajasthan	23	23	-
20.	Tripura	1	1	-
21.	Tamil Nadu	133	129	4

Sl.No.	Name of the State and Union Territory	Total No. of Pcbcs			Out of wicH No. of Pcbcs in	
		1	2	3	Urban	Rural
22.	Uttar Pradesh			46	46	-
23.	West Bengal			47	42	5
24.	Pondicherry			1	1	-
25.	Himachal Pradesh			4	4	-
26.	Sikkim			-	-	-
27.	Andaman Nicobar			-	-	-
28.	Chandigarh			-	-	-
29.	Arunachal Pradesh			-	-	-
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli			-	-	-
31.	Daman & Diu			-	-	-
32.	Lakshadweep & Minicoy			-	-	-
	Total			1349	1262	87

**Licences for Opening Bank Branches
in Uttar Pradesh**

3487. SHRI RAM SAGAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences issued by the Reserve Bank of India during the last three years for opening new branches of the nationalised banks in Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the concerned banks have opened their branches in Barabanki on the basis of these licences issued to them; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the names of the places, where the branches of these banks could not be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid to extent possible on the Table of the House.

**Encroachment on NHs. Road Side
Land**

3488. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land adjoining both the sides of the national highways to be left after which the general public could use the land to construct houses;

(b) whether the unwanted constructions made within the limits of the National Highways are termed as illegal constructions; and

(c) the action required to be taken in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a). A statement is annexed.

(b) and (c). Guidelines have been issued to the State PWDs, who are the executing agencies of the Central Government for execution of National Highway works, for expeditious and summary removal of unauthorised constructions within the limits of National Highways with the help of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

STATEMENT

With in a prescribed distance from the highway, no building activity is to be allowed to be undertaken. This distance from road is defined by a hypothetical line called the "Building Line". Beyond this line buildings of a height exceeding 13 m above road level are not to be built for a further distance defined by what are called "Control Lines". The minimum desirable standard for "Building Lines" and "Control Lines" for National Highways is as under:-

		Plain and Rolling Terrain		Mountainous and Steep Terrain			
		Urban & Industrial areas		Distance between Building line and Road and boundary			
		Rural areas		Rural Areas		Urban areas	
		Width between control lines	Distance between Building Line and Roadland boundary (set back distance)	Normal (metre)	Exceptional (metre)	Normal (Metre)	
		(Overall width) (metre)	(metre)			Exceptional (Metre)	
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
80	150		3-6	5	3	5	3

*[English]***Study Report on Indo-Sri Lanka Trade**

3489. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted regarding Indo-Sri Lanka trade by the Research and Information System (RIS) for the non-aligned and other developing countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the recommendations made in the study report; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKERJEE): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A study titled 'Indo-Sri Lanka Economic Cooperation (an Operational Programme)' was undertaken by the Research and Information System (RIS) for the Non-aligned and Other Development Countries, in collaboration with the World Institute for Development Economics Research (WIDER) Helsinki, and Ministry of Industries, Science and Technology, Government of Sri Lanka.

The study report has made proposals for strengthening economic cooperation between India and Sri Lanka in various areas. The Government however has to await the counterpart study by Sri Lanka before taking further action.

*[Translation]***Bank Loan to Farmers**

3490. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nationalised banks have provided loans to the tune of rupees fifty thousand to three lakhs to the farmers in the country for installation of pipelines and electric motors;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(c) whether the Government propose to waive of these loans, or to grant 50 per cent subsidy on these pipelines;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS: (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). The data reporting system does not generate the information in the manner asked for. However, the outstanding advances given by all Scheduled Commercial Banks in Uttar Pradesh for minor irrigation Scheme as at the end of June 1990-91 (latest available) was at Rs. 225 crores in about 3 lakhs accounts.

(a) and (d). The Government and Reserve Bank of India do not favour any across the board write-off of bank loans. However, the Government of India and State Governments had formulated a Scheme in May 1990 for providing debt relief upto Rs. 10,000 per borrower to a certain category of borrowers eligible under that Scheme. The Scheme has already come to a close on 31 March 1991. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is not aware of any Scheme of the State Government to provide the stated subsidy for the laying of pipelines, etc.

(e). Does not arise in view of (c) & (d)

above.

[English]

Smoking in D.T.C. Buses

3491. SHRI SANAT KUMAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 'No Smoking' warning printed in DTC buses/private buses in Delhi does not carry any legal force; and

(b) if so, the penal/legal steps taken by the Government to stop such smoking in these buses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). As per the provisions of Rule 4.40 (v) of Delhi Motor Vehicle Rules, 1940, if at any time a passenger in a Stage Carriage smokes, the driver and the conductor may stop the vehicle to alight the passenger. Such passenger shall not be entitled to the refund of any fare & may be removed from the vehicle forcibly.

Zonal Offices of Rubber Board

3492. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rubber Board has any plan to set up its zonal offices at various places in Kerala:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Rubber Board has received any request from the rubber growers to set up a zonal office at Kottarakkara in Quilon district; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKERJEE): (a) and (b). The Rubber Board has no proposals to open new Zonal offices in Kerala.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. However, at present there is no specific proposal to open a zonal office at KOTTARAKKARA.

Additional Areas Under Tea Plantation in Assam

3493. SHRI PROBINA DEKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to bring additional areas in Assam under tea plantation during the Eighth Five year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). During the Eight Plan period it has been proposed to bring 17,250 hectares of additional areas under tea in the country. Out of this 14,750 hectares would be in traditional area and 2,500 hectares in non-traditional area. No state-wise target in this regard have been fixed.

Dairy Breed Project

3494. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has taken up a new Dairy Breed Project at Meerut with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

- (b) if so, the objectives thereof;
- (c) the number of military farms at present in different parts of the country; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b). The project aims at the genetic improvement of cattle in the country by evolving a new breed, called FRIESWAL, which will be cross bred from the Holstein-Friesian and the Sahiwal breeds.

(c) and (d). Presently, there are 88 Military Farms of which 46 are cattle holding Farms, 36 are non-cattle holding Farms (milk processing and supply units), and 6 are hay baling depots.

Investment by PSUs.

3495: PROF. ASHOK ANAND RAO
DESHMUKH:
DR. A. K. PATEL:
SHRI MALINI
BHATTACHARAYA:
SHRI AMAL DATTA:
SHRI AJJOY
MUKHOPADHYAY:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government have reviewed its existing policy regarding investments to be made by Public Sector Units;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the guidelines issued by the

Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS: (DR. ABRAR AHMED) (a) No, Sir.

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

Repayment of Deposits by BCCI

3496. SHRI OSCAR FERANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the deposits of Indian customers with the Bank of Credit and Commerce International have since been repaid;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount still to be paid to the Indian customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a). Reserve Bank of India have reported that the provisional liquidator of Bank of Credit and Commerce International(O) Limited, Bombay has not repaid any amount to any of depositors.

(b). Does not arise.

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

World Bank Assistance to West Bengal for City Development

3497. SHRI RAM KAPSE.
SHRINAWALKISHORE RAI:

DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Union Government had sent an official team to West Bengal to make an on-the-spot enquiry into the alleged misuse of funds granted under a World Bank assistance programme for city development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the team has submitted its report to the union Government;

(d) if so, the findings thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government thereon; and

(e) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be submitted by the team ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (e). No complaint on misuse of funds granted under a World Bank assistance programme for city development in respect of the Government of West Bengal has been received nor has any official team sent to West Bengal for any enquiry into any alleged misuse of these funds. Assistance from the World Bank is provided in the form of commitments tied to clearly defined project or programme objectives, and can only be drawn down as reimbursements after the agreed expenditure in the field has been incurred in conformity with the donor agency guidelines and procedures.

[Translation]

Central Fund for Women Workers

3498. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state.

(a) whether any Central fund for the welfare of women workers has been set up; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a). No, Sir.

(b). Does not arise.

Guidelines for Appointment of Non-Official Directors in Banks

3499. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI SHEELA
GAUTAM:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
GANGWAR

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any guidelines specially under the category of social worker, representatives of trade, commerce and industry in regard to the appointment of non-official Directors on the Boards of Directors of Regional Rural Bank, Industrial Development Bank of India, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, Industrial Finance Corporation of India;

(b) whether Boards of above institutions have been reconstituted have been recently;

(c) if so, whether due representation has been given to the above categories;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (e). In accordance in the provisions of the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) Act, 1976 (as amended), two non-official Directors are to be nominated by the Central Government on the Board of Directors of each RRB. Persons having knowledge of Agriculture, Small Scale Industry, and other related fields and belonging to the area of operation of the RRB concerned are being nominated as non-official directors on the Boards of Regional Rural Banks by the Central Government. Further as per provisions of the aforesaid Act, the non-officials nominated as directors on the Boards of RRBs shall hold office for a period not exceeding two years. The Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964 provides that the Board of IDBI shall consist of among others, not less than five directors to be nominated by the Central Government from among persons who have special knowledge and professional experience in Science, Technology, Economics, Industry, Industrial Cooperatives, Law, Industrial Finance, Investment, Accountancy, Marketing or any other matter, the special knowledge of, and professional experience in which would, in the opinion of the Central Government, be useful to IDBI. The National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) Act, 1981 provides that Board of Directors of NABARD shall consist of among others (i) two directors from amongst experts in the Rural Development, Handicrafts and other Rural Crafts, Village and Cottage Industries and Small Scale Industries or in any other matter, the special knowledge or professional experience in which is considered by the Central Government as useful to NABARD, and (ii) three directors out of whom two shall be persons with experience in the working of Co-operative Banks and one shall be a person with

experience in the working of Commercial Banks. The Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948 does not specifically provide for the nomination of non official directors by the Central Government. The Boards of Directors of the Regional Rural Banks, Public Sector Banks and Financial Institutions are continuing entities and vacancies that arise from time to time are filled up in accordance with provisions of the relevant statutes.

[English]

Misappropriation of Government Funds and Tax Evasion

3500. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of large amount of misappropriation of Government funds and tax evasion have been detected by the Income Tax authorities in South Bihar;

(b) if so, the total amount of income tax-evasion prime facie detected from the persons dealing with the Animal Husbandry Department in the State;

(c) the number of persons arrested in this regard; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to prevent such recurrence in future?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. In course of searches by the Income-tax Department of persons having dealings with the Animal Husbandry Department, Government of Bihar,

unaccounted assets worth Rs. 11.83 crores were seized, and concealed income of Rs. 5.55 crores was disclosed by some of these persons in their statements recorded u/s 132(4) of the Income-tax Act.

(c). The Income-tax Act does not provide for arrest of persons during the searches.

(d). In order to prevent tax evasion the Government takes requisite legislative and administrative steps from time to time. These include:-

- (i) Systematic survey operations;
- (ii) Search and seizure operations in appropriate cases;
- (iii) Verification of information by Central Information Branch in a planned manner;
- (iv) Pre-emptive purchase of immovable property by the Central Government under the provisions of Chapter XXC of the Income Tax Act, in certain notified cities;
- (v) In-depth investigation and scrutiny in assessments in a selected number of cases;
- (vi) Enactment of the Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act; and
- (viii) Imposing penalty for contravention of Sections 269SS and 269T of the income tax Act.

Pension Scheme to Journalists and Non-Journalists

3501. SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR. Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government propose to release the provident fund money forming part of Consolidated Fund of India and give liberty to the fund trustees to invest the fund for the benefit of newspapers workers who are members of the fund.

(b) if so, whether the Government worked out any action plan in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). The Provident Fund contributions recovered under the HPF & MP Act 1952 do not form a part of the consolidated fund of India. The fund is already being invested in accordance with the approved pattern for the benefit of the employees including newspapers workers.

[Translation]

Training to Tobacco Growers

3502. SHRI ASHIBHUJA PRASAD SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide any training to the farmers for producing good quality of tobacco like virginia, Barli etc. because there is great demand of these qualities in foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). During VIII Five year Plan, it is planned to provide training to selected Virginia tobacco growers of each auction platform in coordination with the scientists of Central Tobacco Research Institute and the Research Department of M/s. ITC Ltd. -ILTD Division. Study tours of farmers to the Research Stations are also planned to familiarise them with the latest practices for improving yield and quality. Already eighty two training programmes have been conducted in respect of 23 auction platforms, and 3 study tours of farmers have been conducted in respect of 3 different soil regions during the current year.

Perspective Financial Proposals

3503. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State;

(a) whether the Government have received any perspective financial proposals from the Government of Maharashtra and other State Governments seeking approval under the World Bank projects;

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

(c) the time by which each of these proposals are likely to be accorded approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). No perspective financial proposals have been received from any State Government. However a list of other proposals received with due mandatory clearances from the planning commission and administrative Ministries is given in the attached Statement. The projects which are finally tied up for World Bank assistance, the timing and extent of assistance will depend on commitment availability.

STATEMENT

State-wise List of Projects

Sl.No.	Name of the project	State
1	2	3
1.	Afforestation and development of silvi Pasture in degraded Forestry	Gujarat
2.	Sardar Sarvoar Canal-II project	-do-
3.	Narmada Basin Development project	-do-
4.	Narmada Sagar Project	Madhya Pradesh
5.	A.P. Forestry project	Andhra Pradesh
6.	A.P. Secondary Level Hospitals	-do-
7.	Tamil Nadu Water Resources Consolidation project	Tamil Nadu
8.	Karnataka Rural Water Supply & Sanitation project	Karnataka
9.	Haryana Irrigation III Project	Haryana

<i>Sl/No.</i>	<i>Name of the project</i>	<i>State</i>
1	2	3
10.	Basic Education project	Uttar Pradesh
11.	Subernarekha Multipurpose project	Bihar
12.	Subdernarekha Irrigation Project	Orissa
13.	Kangshati Irrigation Project	West Bengal
14.	IInd Rajasthan Water Supply & Sewarage project	Rajasthan

Opium Cultivation*[English]*

3504. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of opium production India for the last three years;
- (b) whether the Government have any programme to check the illegal cultivation of opium; and
- (c) In so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) Production of opium in India during last three years was as follows:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Production of opium at 90 Degree in MTs</i>
1989-90	437
1990-91	392
1991-92	495

(b) and (c). Production of opium in the country is regulated under strict licensing control and supervision of the Central government. To check illegal cultivation of

opium poppy, different drug law enforcement agencies keep strict vigil and stringent penal measures have been provided under the Narcotic Drugs and Psycho tropic Substances Act 1985.

Closed Industrial Units

3505. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of big industrial units closed during the each of the last three years;
- (b) the number of works rendered jobless due to the closure of the units, State wise; and
- (c) the compensation provided to those jobless workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b). A State-wise statement indicating the number of industrial units closed during 1990, 1991 and 1992 and the number of workers affected is annexed.

(c) Workers rendered jobless on account of closure of industrial units are paid compensation as per the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act.

STATEMENT

State-wise Number of Closures and Workers Affected During 1991-92

1992(P)
(Jan. Nov.)

1991(P)

1990(P)

A B A B A B

2 3 4 5 6 7

A.P.	8	551	9	283	4	103
Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	..	..	..	..
Assam	3	99	1	54	-	-
Bihar	-	-	2	44	3	125
Goa	1	38	4	108	2	62
Gujarat	30	684	26	510	29	1131
Haryana	16	415	5	141	6	87
H.P.	1	100	1	28	1	21
J&K	-	-	-	-	-	-

	1990(P)		1991(P)		1992(P) (Jan. Nov.)	
	A	B	A	B	A	B
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Karnataka	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kerala	1	80	2	50	2	39
Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maharashtra	52	1330	33	525	33	664
Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mizoram	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nagaland	..	..	..	..	..	..
Orissa	2	71	9	1388	-	-
Punjab	2	71	9	1388	-	-

	1990(P)		1991(P)		1992(P) (Jan. Nov.)	
	A	B	A	B	A	B
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Rajasthan	6	154	10	588	3	68
Sikkim	..	..	-	-	-	-
Tamil Nadu	1	46	-	-	-	-
Tripura	22	1092	84	11472	15	590
Uttar Pradesh	3	236	33	4257	14	2039
West Bengal	-	-	2	1198	-	-
A&N Islands	1	40	-	-	1	225
Chandigarh	-	-	..	..	..	..
Dadar & Nagar Haveli	-	-	..	..	..	..
Delhi	-	-	2	257	..	..

	1990(P)		1991(P)		1992(P) (Jan. Nov.)	
	A	B	A	B	A	B
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Daman & Diu	-	-	..	..	-	-
Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pondicherry	7	31	13	93	2	5
Grand Total	154	4967	238	21439	124	5546

A= Number of units closed.

B= Number of workers affected.

- = Nil.

.. = Not available.

(P)= Provisional

Source : Labour Bureau, Shimla

Unemployed Engineers in Gujarat

3506. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Graduate Engineers, Diploma holder Engineers, ITI Certificate holders in Gujarat; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to provide them employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (P.A. SANGMA)

(a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Export of Spices

3507. SHRI DATTARAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries to which spices are being exported; and

(b) the amount of foreign exchanged earned therefrom during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) India is exporting spices to more than 70 countries. Among them the major countries are USA, Canada, U.K., Germany, Italy, France, Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, Australia, USSR/ICS, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Bulgaria, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Japan, Singapore, Pakistan, Malaysia, UAE, Saudi Arabia, YAR, Bahrain, Kuwait, Morocco, Libya etc.

(b) The amount of foreign exchange earned from export of spices during the last three years are given below:-

(Rs. Crores)

Year	Value
1989-90	257.76
1990-91	242.14
1991-92	362.04

(provisional)

Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta/Shipping Pills & Exporter's Returns.

References to BIFR

3508. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of references made to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction in respect of the sick Public Sector Undertakings during the period from January, 1992 to January, 1993;

(b) the present position of such references; and

(c) the steps taken to dispose of the pending cases expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that, of the 103 references received by it, in respect of sick public sector companies during the period January, 1992-January, 1993, it has registered 75 references rejected 12 and 16 are under scrutiny for registration. All the 75 references

registered have been assigned to the Benches and have been heard or have had hearings fixed. 55 companies were declared sick and Operating Agencies were appointed in 33 cases. In 23 cases, the companies/concerned Ministry/State Government were given time to come up with revival schemes. BIFR has indicated that it is making every effort to attend to the reference sick public sector companies expeditiously.

World Bank Assistance for Poverty Alleviation Schemes

3509. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have sent schemes for poverty alleviation/eradication with the World Bank Assistance; and

(b) if some the details thereof alongwith the quantum of assistance sought, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ARBORAHMED): (a) and (b). Only one project profile entitled "Andhra Pradesh Poverty Alleviation Project" for possible World Bank assistance has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh. The project involves total investment of Rs. 1149.0 crores over a period of 4 years in agriculture and related sectors of irrigation, forestry, horticulture, sericulture, fisheries, education, women and child development, health etc.

Demands of the Industrial Workers

3510. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a country wide strike of the industrial workers on June 16,

1992;

(b) if so, the details of the demands raised by the industrial workers; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) Most of the unions affiliated to the Central Trade Union Organisations other than INTUC and BMS took part in the industrial strike on July 16, 1992.

(b) The strike call was given mainly in protest against the new economic and industrial policy. The basic issues on which the workers went on strike were as under:-

1. Scrapping the new industrial policy.
2. Reversal of all "TIME-inspired" economic policies.
3. Abandonment of privatisation and public sector disinvestment.
4. Putting an end to closures and retrenchments.
5. Stopping the entry of multinationals.
6. Revival of all sick units.
7. Scrapping Narasimban Panel report on banking industry.
8. Abolition of H.N. Ray Committee on Wage Policy and D.A.
9. Bring down prices.
10. Raising minimum wages for unorganized sector.

11. Introduction of genuine land reforms.
12. Ending discrimination of women workers.

(c). Government urged the trade unions and workers not to go on strike as assurance had been given that their interests would be protected while implementing new industrial/economic policy. Conciliation officers also intervened in the strike notice received in public utility services and made efforts to avert the strike.

Child Labour

3511. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH
(DEORIA):
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a memorandum recently presented to the Government, the South Asian Coalition on Child Servitude has made certain demands to eradicate child labour in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) The Memorandum seeks the liberation of employed children, employment of adults in their place, enforcement of child labour laws, creation of awareness and setting up of National Commission on bounded labour.

(c) Total liberation of child labour in the near future being considered not feasible due to socio-economic conditions, the policy of the Government is its progressive elimination. This is sought to be achieved through legislation, better enforcement of laws relating to child labour, welfare programme, greater awareness against employment of children amongst parents, employers and society at large and extension of education to increasing number of children. Setting up of National Commission on bonded labour had been considered in the 41st Labour Ministers' Conference and the matter has been referred to a Committee of Labour Ministers.

Inclusion of National Capital Region Towns Under Chapter XXC of IT Act, 1961

3512. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the date of which Chapter XXC of Income Tax Act, 1961 came into force in Delhi;

(b) whether the Government propose to include all the towns/cities under the National Capital Region including Bahadurgarh under Chapter XXC of the Income Tax Act, 1961;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (M.V. CHANDRASHKARA MURTHY): (a). The Chapter XXC of the Income Tax Act, 1961 came into force in Delhi on 1.10.1986.

(b) to (d). The question of extending the scheme to other cities or to the adjoining areas of bigger cities is being examined and

a decision will be taken after considering the issue in all its perspective including the additional workload to be generated by such expansion and the gain to the revenue on that account. The issue of extending the scheme to all the towns/cities under the National Capital Region including Bahadurgarh will be similarly examined.

Employment to Women in Rural and Urban Sectors

3513. SHRI RAMCHANDRA DOME: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any special plan for employment to women in urban and rural sectors; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b). Employment is a thrust area of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97). Accordingly a growth strategy for accelerated employment generation is envisaged in the Plan. The strategy for employment of women has been integrated with the overall employment strategy. In addition, steps are being taken to expand training opportunities for women to enhance their access to employment. Special employment programmes being implemented for women include: (i) Support to Training-cum-Employment Programme, (ii) Setting up of Employment and Income Generating-cum-Programs for Women, (iii) Socio-economic Programmes for women, (iv) Women's Development Corporations and (v) a subscheme of the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) called Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA). Women form a special target group in poverty alleviation programme. 40% of the beneficiaries covered under IRDP and 30% of the

beneficiaries under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) are to be women; and efforts are made to ensure that 30% of the beneficiaries of the two schemes under Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY), namely, the scheme of Housing and Shelter Upgradation and the scheme of Micro Enterprises, are women.

[Translation]

Small Scale Industries in Bihar

3514. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated a special scheme for setting up small scale industries for the self-employed people in Bihar, particularly in Madhubani and Darbhanga districts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India has also issued instructions to the bank branches to extend necessary funds to these industries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response of various banks in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED): (a) and (b). Government of India have a scheme for providing Self-Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) for setting up small scale industries which is applicable in State of Bihar also, including Madhubani and Darbhanga districts. Under the scheme subsidy at the rate of 25% of the amount sanctioned to each individual beneficiary is released through Reserve Bank of India as provided by the Central Government. The details of the number of cases sanctioned and the amount sanctioned in the Madhubani

and Darbhanga districts of Bihar State During the last 3 years are give in the attached statement.

(c) and (d). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have issued instructions to the banks for implementation of the SEEU scheme since inception of the scheme. Apart from that, RBI had also issued instructions to all the public sector banks to extend financial assistance to the borrowers belonging to the priority sector which includes small scale industries also stipulating liberalised margin and security norms. For credit limits upto Rs. 25,000/- there is no margin money. For credit limits over Rs. 25,000/- there is no margin money. For credit limits over upto Rs. 25,000/- the margin would be 15 to 25% depending upon purpose and quantum of loan. Where subsidy margin money assistance is available from Government

and/or other agencies and is not less than 15 percent it should serve as margin and no fresh margins should be asked for. There should be no collateral security for the loans upto Rs. 25,000/-. Pledge/hypothecation/ Mortgage of assets is to be created out of the loan. In respect of advances over Rs. 25,000/-, collateral security by way of immovable properties or third party guarantee may be asked for only in cases where the primary security is inadequate or for other valid reasons, and not as a matter of routine. Proposals other-wise viable should not be turned down for want of such collateral security of third party guarantee Loan applications upto a credit limit of Rs, 25,000/- should be disposed of with-in a fortnight and those for over Rs. 25,000/- within 8 to 9 weeks. The banks are required to adhere to the guidelines/ instructions of RBI issued from time to time.

STATEMENT

Number of cases and the amount sanctioned in the Madhubani and Dharbhanga districts of Bihar State during the last 3 years

Name of the District	1989-90		1990-91		1991-92	
	No. of Cases	Amount of loan Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of cases	Amt. of loan sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of Cases	Amt. of loan sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Madhubani	310	78.80	302	74.90	328	73.60
Darbhanga	329	75.72	422	97.68	329	71.02
Total for the State	9176	2342.91	11545	3005.63	8627	2353.03

*[English]***Rating Training Institute**

3515. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3687 on July 31, 1992 and state:

(a) the present stage of the proposal in respect of setting up a Rating Training Establishment at Nedumalakunnu, Kakodi Panchayath, Kozhikode District, Kerala; and

(b) by when the work on this project is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The proposal in respect of the setting up of Rating Training Establishment at Nedumalakunnu, Kakkodi Panchayath, Kozhikode District, Kerala, has been kept in abeyance till final decision on the recommendations of the Committee on Maritime Education & Training.

(b) Does not arise.

Amendment in Modvat Rules

3616. SHRI V. SREENIVASAPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry has urged the Government to make suitable amendments in MODVAT rules, procedures and their implementation with a view to simplify and streamline the laws;

(b) whether the Government have examined the views of the PHDCCI; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the

Government to simplify the MODVAT rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) The PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry in their pre-budget Memorandum submitted to the Ministry of Finance had made certain suggestions regarding MODVAT Scheme.

(b) and (c). These suggestions made by PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry as well as suggestions made by other trade associations have been duly considered by the Government while formulating the Budget proposals for the year 1993-94. The decisions of the Government are reflected in the proposals placed before the Parliament through Finance Bill, 1993.

Beddi Workers

3517. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medical facilities are provided to all the Beedi Workers;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the percentage of Beedi workers to whom medical facility has been provided by the Government, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b). Beedi workers avail of medical facility facilities from the dispensaries and hospitals set up under the various Welfare Funds. They also avail of medical facilities from the health centres, dispensaries and hospitals run by the State Governments, local bodies, etc.

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

[*Translation*]

Foreign Trade Between India and USA

3518. DR. RAMESH CHAND
• TOMAR:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA
CHIKHALIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of the trade in rupee between India and USA (United States of America) during the year 1991-92;

(b) whether the trade between the two countries is likely to be increased during the years 1992-93 and 1993-94; and

(c) if so, the percentage to which it is likely to be increased?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKERJEE): (a) The total value of the trade between India and USA during the year 1991-92 was Rs. 12096.38 crores.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. During the first eight months of 1992-93, there has been an increase of about 41% in rupees over the corresponding period of 1991-92. The increases in 1992-93 and 1993-94 and 1993-94 will depend upon a number of factors the most upon being the extent of economic recovery in the USA and the competitive strength of the US in items of import to India.

Link Road for Transportation

3519. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to link the Koilwar National Highway with Dalmianagar and Bazari via Chandi,

Sandesh, Sahar so that transportation of coal, steel and cement could be made through the highway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

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

[*English*]

Raids by Customs Officials

3520. SHRI BAPU HAIR CHAURE:
SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:
SHRI PARASRAM
BHARDWAJ:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of raids conducted by customs and central excise departments during the last three years, collectorate-wise;

(b) the total amount of cash and articles seized;

(c) the number of cases settled out of the total raids conducted; and

(d) the amount received by Government by way of realisation of customs and excise duty and penalty in each State?

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

Rehabilitation Plan for Sick Units

3521. SHRIMATI VASUDDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State/Bank of India has drawn up a rehabilitation plan for the sick units in the small scale sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the rehabilitation plan in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. The State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that it has formulated rehabilitation packages for visible sick SSI units in accordance with the scheme of rehabilitation prescribed by the Reserve Bank of India. The details of the parameters of reliefs and concessions for nursing viable sick units are enumerated as under:

I. Interest dues on cash Credit and term Loans:

Panel interest charged is waived from the year the unit started incurring losses continuously. Unrecovered interest since the unit incurred losses till date of implementation of rehabilitation is funded on which no interest is charged.

II. Term Loans

Interest on existing term loans reduced where necessary, by not more than 3% in the case of tiny/decentralised sector units and not more than 2% in other cases, below the document rate.

III. Principal Dues:

The amount of principal dues may be funded as working capital term loan (WCTL) with repayment schedule not exceeding 5 years. Interest may be charged at a rate between 1.5% and 3% below the prevailing fixed/minimum lending rate wherever applicable.

IV. Funded interest term loan:

No interest may be charged on funded interest.

V. Working Capital:

Interest on working capital may be charged at a rate 1.5% below the prevailing fixed minimum lending rate, wherever applicable.

VI. Cash Losses:

Cash losses that are likely to be incurred from the time of implementation of the package upto the point of cash break-even should either be financed by financial institution of commercial banks.

VII. Promoters' contribution:

Promoters' contribution may be fixed at a minimum of 10% in the case of tiny sector units and at 20% of such requirements for other units. In the case of units in the decentralised sector, promoters contribution may not be insisted upon for rehabilitation.

VIII. DI & CGC Guarantee Fee:

The guarantee fee payable to ID & CGC in respect of sick SSI units should be borne by the banks.

(c). The aforesaid scheme of rehabilitation in regard to the viable sick SSI units is also in operation in the State of Rajasthan.

Loan Facility to Farmers for Brackish Water Prawn Culture

3522. SHRI SOBHANDREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of small and medium farmers who have taken up brackish water prawn culture are not extended loan facility by commercial banks.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (c). Bank finance to brackish water prawn culture is regulated by Reserve Bank of India's guidelines on priority sector lending, and is treated as a part of agriculture sector. In terms of RBI guidelines, banks are required to extend at least 18% of their total advances to agriculture sector (including allied activities).

The data reporting system of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not generate information regarding loan granted to small & medium farmers who have taken up brackish water prawn culture. However, as per information available with the RBI, the amount disbursed by all commercial banks for direct agriculture (including allied activities) as also the amount disbursement for fisheries is as under:-

(Amount Rs. in crores)

Year ended	Amount Disbursed		Fisheries	
	Direct No. of A/cs. Disbursed	Agricultural Amount No. of Aa/cs	Amount Aa/cs	Disbursed
June 1989	5758639	3813.16	55822	62.67
June 1990	5453361	4282.35	40155	55.60
June 1991	8164029	4675.49	49724	51.12

RBI has advised the commercial banks to provide all possible assistance to farmers undertaking brackish water aquaculture activity subject to the usual terms and conditions laid down for priority sector lending.

[Translation]

Black Money in Film Industry

3523. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUHDARY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made it obligatory to maintain accounts under section 44 A.A. of Income-tax Act, 1961 with a view to check the black money prevailing in Film Industry;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken action against the persons for not maintaining accounts under this section;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to prevent such activities in Film Industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Failure to maintain accounts attracts a penalty under section 271A of the Income-tax Act which shall not be less than Rs. 2,000 but which may extend to Rs. 2,000 but which may extend to Rs. 1 lakh. The details of such action taken are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

NABARD Assistance for Rural Projects in Tamil Nadu

3524. SHRI K. THULASIAN VANDAYAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the refinance allocated by the National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for rural projects in Tamil Nadu during Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(b) the amount released, so far; and

(c) the details of the projects undertaken

during the last Plan period and the refinance provided by NABARD therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):

(a). As per report received from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), the refinance requirement for schematic lending, based on Potential Linked Credit Pla

(Rs. in Lakhs)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1992-93	18755
1993-94	19022
1994-95	19898
1995-96	22403
1996-97	24217

(b). During 1992-93 NABARD has provided refinance assistance to Tamil Nadu to the extent of Rs. 13550.70 lakhs upto 12th March, 1993.

(c). The sector-wise refinance provided by the NABARD during the Seventh Plan (1985-86 to 1989-90) is given in the Statement attached.

STATEMENT

Sector-wise Refinance provided by NABARD to Tamil Nadu during the VIIIth Plan

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sectors	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	VIII Plan Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Minor Irrigation	1556	1252	1073	963	1126	5970
REC	546	646	798	1163	1622	4775
Land Development	-	10	36	27	22	94
Farm Mechanisation	817	917	848	402	624	3609
Dry Land Farming		1	7	3	0	11
Plantation Horticulture	351	381	492	443	438	2105
Dairy Development	374	511	637	758	901	3181
Marine Fisheries	31	183	214	220	129	777
Inland Fishereis	16	11	12	10	28	77
Storage Market Yar	27	156	49			232

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sectors	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	VII Plan Total
	2	3	4	5	6	7
Forestry	2	6	25	153	37	223
Bao Gas	358	388	307	185	345	1583
Poultry Farming	516	241	280	395	526	1958
Sheep Goat Piggery	86	77	427	336	334	1260
IRD P (FS)	2176	1895	2715	2716	3246	12748
IRD P (ISB)	502	1177	708	1254	1363	5004
Others	47	154	222	246	220	889
VFS (ARF)		69	205	425	547	1246
Total	7405	8075	9055	9698	11509	45742
RD P Total	2678	3072	3423	3970	4609	17752

Bhubaneswar - Cuttack National Highway

3525. SHRI ANANDI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank is providing assistance for the development and four landing of Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Road in Orissa;

(b) if so, the total cost of the project and amount of assistance provided by World Bank for the purpose; and

(c) the time schedule for completion of the project?

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

(b). The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 1267.40 million and the assistance provided by World Bank is US \$ 51.7 million.

(c) The time schedule for completion of the project is 42 months from the commencement of the work for which tenders are scheduled to be invited during the current year.

Finance to Mini Cement Plans by IDBI

3526. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether IDBI propose to discontinue its financial support to mini cement industry in Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be

taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that owing to various factors such as surplus installed capacity, higher cost of production, competition from large cement plants etc., financial institutions are adopting a cautious approach in extending financial assistance to mini-cement projects, especially in cement surplus States. IDBI has also assisted a number of minicement projects in Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh and the performance of many of the units is found to be unsatisfactory. As both Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh are cement surplus States, new cement projects and Andhra Pradesh are cement surplus States, new cement projects are likely to face marketing problems.

(c) Government does not propose to intervene to influence the aforesaid decision of Financial Institutions which is based on their own commercial Judgement.

Disposal of Cases by BIFR

3527. DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to expedite the disposal of the cases pending with the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). Government has

introduced the Sick Industrial Companies (special Provisions) (Amendment) Bill, 1992, inter-alia to enhance the effectiveness of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR).

[*Translation*]

Defence construction Projects

3528. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the work on some defence construction projects has been stalled;
- (b) if so, the details of such projects;
- (c) the broad reasons therefor;
- (d) the cost escalation caused as a result thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to complete these projects in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (e). No priority Defence project has been stalled/suspended. The execution of construction projects is taken up on the basis of inter-se prioritisation and availability of funds. All on-going priority schemes are closely monitored with a view to minimise time and cost over-runs.

[*English*]

Stock Norm For Natural Rubber

3529. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the present 'Stock Formula' for stocking natural rubber in the country;

(b) whether the industrialists and manufactures, of rubber products (like tyre) are required to keep one month's stock;

(c) if so, whether they have been adhering to this condition;

(d) whether the present stock formula is causing undue difficulties and hardships to manufactures; and

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to revise the stock formula and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The present stock norm for Natural Rubber is two months consumption requirements distributed as 1 (one) month's requirement including stock in transit with manufacturers and the Balance 1 (one) months with Rubber Growers, dealers, processors and STC.

(b) According to the formula the manufactures should keep one month's stock including stock in transit.

(c) Stock maintained by the manufactures during 1992 was slightly less than one month's norms. (For some periods total stock in the country was also less than two month's requirement).

(d) and (e). The present stock norm of two months consumption requirement, which/was adopted at the end of 1991 is considered fair and reasonable. Earlier the norm was 3 month's consumption requirement. It may not be reasonable to revise it further.

Industrial Finance Branch in Orissa by SBI

3530. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India has opened on Industrial Finance Branch in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a high coordination committee has been formed to sort out the problems of entrepreneurs; and

(d) the steps taken by the SBI in Orissa to help the medium and large industries in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India has reported that they have issued one licence to State Bank of India (SBI) in February, 1992 for opening a specialised Industrial Finance Branch in Bhubaneswar, District Puri in Orissa. SBI has not yet opened the branch.

(c) and (d). SBI has constituted a coordination committee alongwith various financial institutions to sort out the problems of entrepreneurs.. Necessary organisational set up has been created at the local Head Officer of SBI to provide finance to medium and large industries in Orissa. A constancy Cell has also been created to provide guidance to the industries in the matters relating to foreign exchange. Merchant Banking Bureau at Local Head Office of SBI extends support to industries in issue management and other financial services.

Arjun Tank

3531. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN:
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

SHRIMATI BHAVAN CHIKHLIA:
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Main Battle Tank 'Arjun' has been accepted by the Armed Forces for induction into the services;

(b) the special features of this tank;

(c) whether the production agency has been identified;

(d) whether any trial orders have been placed;

(e) the date by which the first batch of production unit is likely to join field service; and

(f) the estimated cost of production of this tank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) MBT Arjun is a state-of-the-art tank with high agility, excellent mobility, composite 'Kanchan'- armour for all round protection and a very accurate/lethal fire power.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Based on the performance demonstrated by MBT Arjun in recent trials; the Army HQ has indicated their intention for equipping two Armoured Regiments with Arjun tank by the year 2002.

(f). Rs. 7 Crore.

ILO Convention

3532. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to protect the manual labourers wages;

(b) whether the Government also propose to ratify the International labour Organisation convention on protection of wages; and

(c) the number of I.L.O. convention ratified so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Provisions already exist under the Payment of Wages Act, 1986 and the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 to protect the wages of workers.

(b) It is not possible at present for the Government to ratify the ILO convention No. 95 concerning 'Protection of Wages, 1949' as the national law and practice do not fully conform to all the provisions of the Convention. The Government, however, reviews the unratified Conventions from time to time to explore the possibility of ratifying them.

(c) The Government of India has ratified 36 ILO Conventions so far.

ESI Scheme in Goa

3533. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of members covered under the Employees State Insurance Scheme in Goa as on September 30, 1992 and their yearly contribution for the last three years vis-a-vis yearly expenditure on services provided to them;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the present facilities are inadequate and cause inconvenience to employees;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide additional hospitals health centres in all the talukas of Goa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) As on 30.9.1992, there were 35 thousand employees covered under the ESI Scheme in Goa. The yearly contribution and expenditure on services provided to the insured person in Goa during the last three years is as given below:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Contribution income (Rs. in lakhs)</i>	<i>Expenditure on services provided (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1989-90	184.17	90.32
1990-91	164.61	105.82
1991-92	158.11	98.80

(b) to (d). The ESI facilities are provided only at those places which are covered under the ESI Scheme. The entire area of

Goa is presently not covered under the Scheme. As such the question of providing additional hospitals/health centres in all the

Taluka of Goa does not arise. The existing ESI facilities for providing cash and medical benefits to the insured persons in Goa are generally satisfactory.

[*Translation*]

Merchant Bankers Under SEBI

354. PROF RITA VERMA:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA
CHIKHLIA:
DR. RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring the merchant bankers under the jurisdiction of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). The merchant bankers are already under the jurisdiction of SEBI as illustrated by Section 11 (2) (b) of SEBI Act, 1992 since they are intermediaries associated with securities market.

(c) The Merchant bankers have been brought under the regulatory framework of SEBI through regulations notified on 22nd December, 1992. The Merchant Bankers' Regulations are exhaustive in nature setting

out conditions for grant of registration, obligations and responsibilities of merchant bankers, procedure for inspection of merchant bankers by SEBI, Code of Conduct for merchant bankers etc.

[*English*]

Setting up of Self-Employment Projects by Ex-Servicemen

3535. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government encourage ex-servicemen from the Armed Forces to undertake small self-employment projects;

(b) if so, the details of the activities in which such projects are encouraged; and

(c) the number of ex-Servicemen so far benefited under this scheme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ex-Servicemen below 60 years of age can avail of financial assistance for establishing Small Scale Industrial Units, farm and allied activities, cottage and village and Khadi industries, under three loan schemes, namely Self-Employment of ex-Servicemen -I (SEMFEEX-I), Self-employment of ex-Servicemen-II (SEMFEEX-II), and Self-employment of ex-Servicemen -III (SEMFEEX-III), formulated in collaboration with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and Khadi and Village Industries Commission, respectively. Financial assistance can also be availed from Bombay Mercantile Cooperative Bank Limited, Oriental Bank of

Commerce and Dena Bank.

A reservation of 10% has been provided for purchase of low technology items being manufactured by Small Scale Industrial Units, owned by ex-Servicemen below 60 years of age, in direct purchases made by Defence establishments from the civil market, provided the quality and price are competitive.

Ex-Servicemen Small Scale Industrial Units are also eligible for grant of 10% price subsidy on the value of items maximum of Rs. 50,000/- in a financial year, for 5 consecutive years counting from the date of submission of its first claim.

(c) Details are given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT*Assistance Under Semfex Schemes*

Sl.No	State/UT	Semfex-I	Semfex-II	Semfex-III
No. of beneficiaries)				
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-
2.	Assam	37	-	-
3.	Andhra Pradesh	151	22	1
4.	Bihar	718	62	-
5.	Delhi	378	22	-
6.	Goa	7	7	-
7.	Gujarat	58	9	-
8.	Haryana	252	70	-
9.	Himachal Pradesh	160	34	1
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	572	21	-
11.	Karnataka	380	16	-
12.	Kerala	557	54	-

Sl/No	State/UT	No. of beneficiaries)				
		Semfex-I	Semfex-II	Semfex-III		
1	2	3	4	5		
13.	Madhya Pradesh	149	24	-		
14.	Maharashtra	265	27	-		
15.	Manipur	2	3	-		
16.	Nagaland	-	-	-		
17.	Meghalaya	-	-	-		
18.	Orissa	33	12	-		
19.	Pondicherry	4	2	-		
20.	Punjab	534	343	-		
21.	Rajasthan	614	111	-		
22.	Sikkim	8	-	-		
23.	Tripura	77	-	-		
24.	Tamil Nadu	725	230	-		

Sl.No	State/UT	Semfex-I	Semfex-II	Semfex-III
1	2	3	4	5
No. of beneficiaries				
25.	Uttar Pradesh	739	444	-
26.	West Bengal	185	64	-
27.	Mizoram	76	7	-
28.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	-	-
29.	Chandigarh	-	-	-

**LIC Operation in United Area
Emirates**

3536. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India have sought license from Government of United Arab Emirates for extending its operation in that country for Indians there;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Insurance Corporation (International) E.C., Bahrain, a joint venture company set up by the Life Insurance Corporation of India in Bahrain for meeting the life insurance need of expatriate Indians, has been making efforts to obtain permission for marketing life insurance products in united Arab Emirates. The LIC (*International*) E.C., Bahrain in pursuing vigorously the matter with the Govt. of U.A.E. For this purpose, discussions at ambassadorial and Governmental levels have also been held. It is expected that Govt. of U.A.E. may give licence to LIC (International) E.C., Bahrain on fulfilling U.A.E.'s requirements for registration. At present, the LIC (International) E.C., Bahrain is engaged in fulfilling the requirements.

[Translation]

**Construction of Bridges/ Flyovers
in U.P**

3537. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:

SHRI RAM SAGAR:

Will the Minister SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government to Uttar Pradesh during the last three years for the construction of over bridges in big cities as well as on different rivers in the State;

(b) the number of over bridges/bridges on the rivers constructed or being constructed with this financial assistance;

(c) the number of bridges proposed to be constructed during the current financial year; and

(d) the location of bridges proposed to be constructed and funds earmarked therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Constitutionally, the Central Government is responsible primarily for development and maintenance of National Highways including bridges/over bridges thereon for which entire expenditure is borne out of Central Government funds and there is no element of financial assistance. However, financial assistance is provided by the Central Government to State Government for works under Inter-State and economic importance programme. No assistance to Uttar Pradesh has been provided during the last 3 years for such bridge works.

(c) and (d). No new bridge scheme is proposed to be sanctioned during the current financial year.

**Construction of Allahabad -Faizabad
Road**

3538. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: will

the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for development work of road from Allahabad to Faizabad (Uttar Pradesh) out of the assistance provided by the World Bank;

(b) the amount spent so far and the extent of construction work completed; and

(c) since when the construction work has been started and the time by which it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Government of India is primarily concerned with the development and maintenance of National Highways in the country and roads, other than national Highways, is essentially the responsibility of the State Government. Since Allahabad-Faizabad road is a State road, the State Government of Uttar Pradesh is concerned. Information as re-reported by the State Government in this regard is as under:-

(a) The amount sanctioned for the work divided into 3 packages is Rs 53.6 crores.

(b) The total amount spent upto January, 1993, is Rs 6.75 crores. Extent of construction work completed in respect of one package is 8% while work has not started on the remaining two packages.

(c) Construction work on one package has started in July 91 and the target date for completion is April 95. Target date for completion of the remaining two packages will be known after the contracts are awarded.

[English]

Export of Iodised Salt

3539. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great demand of Indian refined iodised salt in the international market; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to tap the export potentially?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Export of iodised salt (used for human consumption) has been deleted from the Negative List of Exports and as such, salt including iodised salt is now freely allowed for export.

[Translation]

Joint -Venture Between Indian-USA Companies

3540. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHILIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Indian companies are contemplating to set up joint-venture in America in Collaboration with the American Companies; and

(b) if so, the names of such companies and the area of setting up the joint-venture by them?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE

(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) Names of Indian Companies and

areas of the proposed joint ventures presently under consideration are as under;

<i>Name</i>	<i>Field</i>
1. M/s Saw Pipes Ltd. New Delhi.	Manufacture of ARC welded pipes.
2. M/s Sifa India (P) Ltd., Bombay.	Marketing & development of Hardware & Computer Soft ware
3. M/s Modi Threads Ltd., Modi Nagar.	Manufacturing & marketing of of cotton yam., crochet yam, knitting yam.

Loans to Sugar Mills in North Bihar

3541. SHRI RAMSHRAY PRASAD SINGH: will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of the nationalised banks to deliver loans to the sugar mills of north Bihar;

(b) the nationalised bank-wise amount of loans delivered to each sugar mill in north Bihar during the last three years;

(c) whether these loans were disbursed as per the policy of nationalised banks in this regard;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken for the recovery of these loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The Policy governing loans sanctioned by banks/financial institutions is guided by the viability of projects including those for sugar mills. The criteria for

assistance is mainly the project viability from financial, commercial, technical, management and economic angles. Though the location of the project is taken into account for assessing its suitability for the projects from the point of view of adequacy of infrastructure, availability of raw materials, market etc., this will not come in the way of assisting the project. The working capital requirements of sugar mills are met by the banks/ financial institutions as per guidelines given by the Reserve Bank of India. These instructions contain various aspects, including inter alia. These instructions contain various aspects, including inter alia obtainments of cash budgets, fixing of sub-limits against various components of current assets, monitoring of payment of dues to the cane growers, etc. As the commodity 'sugar' is covered under selective credit control directives of the Reserve Bank of India, the banks have to adhere to the level of credits ceiling, rate of interest and margin requirements prescribed by Reserve Bank of India from time to time.

(b) to (c). In accordance with the statutes governing the public sector banks, information relating to or to the affairs of their constituents, is not to be divulged. The banks are required to adhere to the guidelines

of RBI issued from time to time. IDBI also follows a uniform policy for sanctioning loans to the projects guided by the viability of such projects. Though the location of the project is taken into account for assessing the

suitability for the project, this will not come in the way of assisting the project. The details of amounts sanctioned and disbursed by IDBI in Bihar for the last three years, is as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Sanctioned</i>	<i>Disbursed</i>
1989-90	292.00	34.00
1990-91		73.00
1991-92	261.00	228.00

(e) The banks/financial institutions monitor the recovery position of individual units closely and wherever there are defaults, steps are initiated to recover the loans. In case of genuine difficulties the repayments are rescheduled and sick cases are referred to BIFR and depending on viability relief packages are extend to them. The legal actions are initiated as a last resort to recover the dues. The Reserve bank of India has issued various guidelines to all public sector banks to reduce the amount of overdues and also to improve their recovery performance in respect of their advances to various sectors. Some of the important guidelines are as follows:-

3. Introduction of a comprehensive and uniform grading system to indicate the health of individual advances for the purpose of their effective monitoring and follow-up.
4. To keep a watch on the recovery of top sticky accounts.
5. Taking corrective action where advances are found to have become sticky.

[English]

Smuggling of Cardamom

1. Banks have been impressed upon to institute a viable recovery system with a view to help recycling the scarce resources of the banks to the needy and productive sectors of the economy on the one hand, and to improve the profitability and viability of the lending banks, on the other.
2. The Chief Executives of the banks have been advised to pay their personal attention to the monitoring of large advances.

3542. SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW:
 PROF. K.V. THOMAS:
 SHRI THAYIL JOHN
 ANJALOSE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the cheap and low quality cardamom from Gautemala is smuggled into India by Nepal and some other countries:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government during the last one year to stop/check the smuggling of cardamom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and

(b). Available reeports do not indicate smuggling of cheap and low quality cardamom of Gautemala origin into India. The quantity and value of cardamom seized during the last 3 years in the Indo-nepal Sector of the land borders are given below. However, it has not been established that the seized cardamom is of Gautemala origin.

Cardamom

<i>Year</i>	<i>(Quantity in Kgs)</i>	<i>Value (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1990	4,273	14.11
1991	4,564	17.10
1992	12,639	38.25

(c) The anti-smuggling agencies remainig vigilant against smuggling of cardamom. Close coordination is being Obtained among all the agencies concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling.

(d) whether the Government propose to provide additional incentives for export of caustic soda;

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Export and Import of Caustic Soda/
Flakes and Lye**

3543. SHRI KARIYA MUNDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether caustic soda flakes/solids/Lye, are being imported present

(b) if so, the quantity imported and the foreign exchange spent thereon during each of the last three years;

(c) the quantity of caustic soda/flakes/solids/lye exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) In terms of of the Exports and Import Policy, 1992-97, import of caustic soda, flakes/soldies/lye, is freely allowed.

(b) and (e). A statement indicating the imports and exports of the item, both quantity and value-wise. during the period 1990-91 and 1991-92 for which data is available is enclosed .

(d) and (e). With the introduction of unified market rate of exchange the exporters can now have their entire export proceeds converted into Indian rupees at the market rate. Earlier, this facility was restricted to 60% of the export proceeds only.

STATEMENT

Qty. in Tonnes
Value in Rs. Lakhs

Imports

S.No	Description of items	1990-91		1991-92	
		Qty	Value	Qty.	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Sodium hydroxide (Caustic Soda)				
1.	Flakes	1187	89.49	20808	528.39
2.	Other than Flakes	14892	561.81	6	0.46
3.	Sodium hydroxide in aqueous solution	50367	1620.09	32667	1366.58

Qty. in Tonnes
Value in Rs. Lakhs

Exports

S.No	Description of items	1990-91		1991-92	
		Qty	Value	Qty.	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Sodium hydroxide (Caustic Soda)				
1.	Flakes	14698	1231.74	19297	2081.90
2.	Other than Flakes	5671	171.58	2781	278.93
3.	Sodium hydroxide in aqueous solution.	4587	152.46	463	26.02

Loans to SCs/STs

3544. SHRIMATI BIBHU KUMARI DEVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have introduced any special scheme for granting loans by the public sector banks and other Government financial institutions to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe persons for industrial and commercial purposes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of loan applications received and the amount sanctioned during the year 1992, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):

(a) and (b). Government have not framed any special scheme for granting loans by the public sector banks for the persons

belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for industrial and commercial purposes. However, commercial banks are required to follow the instructions of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) including those for advancing loans to the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. With a view to increase flow of credit to SC/ST beneficiaries it has been enjoined upon banks by Reserve Bank of India that 10% of their total advances should be for weaker sections including that of SC/STs. Banks have been advised by the Reserve Bank in this context that special efforts should be made to evolve suitable bankable schemes for SC/ST beneficiaries. Accordingly the commercial banks participate in the programmes sponsored by the Government to enable the identified beneficiaries to pursue viable schemes for their economic upliftment.

The outstanding amount of all scheduled commercial banks extended to priority sector, weaker sections and Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in the country as on March 1990 and March 1991 (latest available) was as under:

<i>As at the end of</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>No. of accounts in lakhs</i>			
			<i>Amount in Rs. crores</i>			
			<i>Weaker Sections</i>		<i>SC/STs</i>	
	<i>Accounts</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Accounts</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Accounts</i>	<i>Amounts</i>
March 1990	36764	41497	25901	10110	9037	3146
March 1991	35826	44573	25342	10588	9018	3374

Rubber Plantation

3545. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the areas covered under rubber plantation in rubber growing States particularly in North Eastern Region, State-wise;

(b) the total fund sanctioned and dis-

bursed for rubber plantation during the last two years and the current year till date, State-wise; and

the above period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
(SHRI PARNAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c).

(c) the number of beneficiaries during

A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

(a) Statewise Area Under Rubber in India During 1991-92

(i) Traditional Region:		
(a) Total area under Rubber (in ha.)		4,14,200
(b) Fund sanctioned & Disbursed as on 1992-93 (February)		Rs. 691.34 lakhs
(c) Number of beneficiaries		1,45,231
(ii) Non Traditional Region Other Than North Eastern Region		
(a) Total area under Rubber (in ha)		16,678
(b) Fund sanctioned & Disbursed as on 1992-93 (February)		Rs.25.20 lakhs
(c) Number of beneficiaries		2,396
(iii) North Eastern Region	Total area under Rubber (Hectares)	
1) Tripura		17,900
2) Assam		9,700
3) Meghalaya		4,100
4) Mizoram		1,100
5) Nagaland		1,440
6) Manipur		1,215
7) Arunachal Pradesh		50
Total		35,505

(b) **Details of funds Sanctioned and Disbursed in North Eastern States**

<i>State</i>	<i>Funds Sanctioned and Disbursed (Rs. in lakhs)</i>		
	<i>1990-91</i>	<i>1991-92</i>	<i>1992-93(Till February)</i>
1) Tripura	67.00	100.00	51.00
2) Meghalaya	4.00	5.00	3.00
3) Assam	32.00	29.00	25.00
4) Manipur	1.00	1.00	0.75
5) Mizoram	1.00	1.00	0.50
6) Nagaland	4.00	3.00	2.00
7) Arunachal Pradesh	0.50	0.35	0.25
Total	109.50	139.35	82.50

(c) **Statement showing the State-wise number of beneficiaries in North Eastern States**

<i>State</i>	<i>No of Beneficiaries</i>		
	<i>1990-91</i>	<i>1991-92</i>	<i>1992-93(Till February)</i>
1) Tripura	0.50	0.35	0.25
2) Meghalaya	270	465	122
3) Assam	774	850	503
4) Manipur	20	28	21
5) Mizoram	25	31	19
6) Nagaland	121	152	125
7) Arunachal Pradesh	5	2	2
Total	2240	2831	126

[*Translation*]

**Constitution of Committees of
Nationalised Banks**

3546. MAJ GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from any States of Northern India for the constitutions of State Level Bankers' Committee and the Regional Consultative Committee of nationalised banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):

(a) to (c). With a view to create adequate

coordination amongst the Bankers in a State as well as the State Governments, the State Level Bankers' Committees are already functioning. The responsibility of convening the meeting of the Committee is entrusted to specified banks for each State on the basis of their lead responsibility and also the spread of their branch network. The convenor banks for States have been indicated in the Statement attached.

The Regional Consultative Committees (RCCS) stand constituted in terms of the Nationalised Banks (Management & Misc. Provisions) Scheme, for reviewing banking developments within the region for making such recommendations as deemed appropriate for the consideration of the Central Government and the Reserve Bank of India. The meetings of RCCs are held from time to time for Western, Eastern, North Eastern, Central, Northern and Southern regions and are presided over by the Finance Minister or by such Minister in the Union Ministry of Finance, nominated by him. In view of the above, the question of taking any action, on the stated suggestions, does not arise.

STATEMENT

	<i>Name of the Region/State</i>	<i>Name of the Convenor Bank</i>
I.	Northern	
1.	Himachal Pradesh	UCO Bank
2.	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.
3.	Punjab	Punjab National Bank
4.	Haryana	Punjab National Bank
5.	Rajasthan	Bank of Baroda
II.	Northern Eastern	
6.	Assam	State Bank of India

	<i>Name of the Region/State</i>	<i>Name of the Convenor Bank</i>
7.	Manipur	United Bank of India
8.	Meghalaya	State Bank of India
9.	Nagaland	State Bank of India
10.	Tripura	United Bank of India
11.	Arunachal Pradesh	State Bank of India
12.	Mizoram	State Bank of India
13.	Sikkim	State Bank of India
III.	Eastern	
14.	Bihar	State Bank of India
15.	Orissa	UCO Bank
16.	West Bengal	United Bank of India
IV.	Central	
17.	Madhya Pradesh	Central Bank of India
18.	Uttar Pradesh	State Bank of India
V.	Western	
19.	Gujarat	Dena Bank
20.	Maharashtra	Bank of Maharashtra
21.	Goa	State Bank of India
VI.	Southern	
22.	Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Bank
23.	Karnataka	Syndicate Bank
24.	Kerala	Canara Bank
25.	Tamil Nadu	Indian Overseas Bank

*Name of the
Region/State*

Name of the Convenor Bank

Union Territories

a) Daman & Diu	State Bank of India
b) Andaman & Nicobar Islands	State Bank of India
c) Delhi	State Bank of India
d) Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Dena Bank
e) Lakshadweep	Syndicate Bank
f) Pondicherry	Indian Bank
g) Chandigarh (Rural)	Punjab National Bank

Note: In the case of Union Territories (expecting Daman & Diu) the DGC will act as the STBC and the Lead Bank will be the convenor.

[English]

Beedi Workers

3547. SHRI DHARMA BHIKSHAM:
Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have studied the living conditions of Beedi workers in various parts of the country;

(b) whether the Beedi workers are getting statutory minimum wages;

(c) whether the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 and other related labour laws are being implemented properly; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to ameliorate their conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A.

SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments have fixed rates of wages for different zones and different kinds of beedis under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. Under the Minimum Wages Act the State Governments are the appropriate Government and action is taken by them whenever cases of violation of the Provisions of the Act come to their notice.

(c) The responsibility for implementation of the provisions of the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 and other related labour laws except Employees Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and Employees State Insurance Act, 1948, lies with the concerned State Governments. The Central Provident Fund Organisation is the appropriate authority for implementation of the Employees Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and Employees State Insurance Corporation is the appropriate authority for implementation of the Employees State

Insurance Act, 1948. The implementing authority takes appropriate action when any instance of violation of the provisions of these Acts is brought to its notice.

(d) Under the Beedi Workers' Welfare Fund, a number of welfare schemes have been formulated for the beedi workers and their families to provide health care, housing, education, recreation facilities, etc. A Group Insurance Scheme has been introduced from 1st April, 1992 for those beedi workers who are holding Identity Cards and are not covered under the Employees Provident Fund Scheme.

Export of marine products

3548. SHRI THYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity and the countries to which marine products were exported during 1992-93:

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase its exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). During the period April 1992 to January, 1993 156110 MTs of marine products valued at Rs. 1353 crores (provisional) were exports mainly to Japan, USA, European countries, Singapore and Hong Kong.

(c) The following strategies are being adopted to increase the export earnings from marine products:

- (i) stepping up export production by development of capture fishery;
- (ii) stepping up production by culture fisheries:
 - a. by increasing per ha. yield from shrimp farms;
 - b. bringing more area under production of shrimp by culture; and
 - c. by developing production of other exportable items
- (iii) Induction of new technology and value addition;
- (iv) modernisation of processing facilities, quality upgradation and reduction in waste; and
- (v) Aggressive market promotion measures.

Import of Camphor

3549. DR. R MALLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Camphor is being imported at present;

(b) if so, the details of quantity and value of camphor imported during each of the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase its production?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PARNAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Details of quantity and value of import of camphor for the last three years and April-November 92 in 1992-93 are as follows:

	<i>Quantity (Quintals)</i>	<i>Value (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1989-90 (P)	62.50	1.00
1990-91	475.00	10.00
1991-92	639.00	16.00
1992-93(P) (April-Nov)	976.31	39.00

Source: DGCI & S. Calcutta

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

[*Translation*]

Smuggled Goods Seized in Bihar

3550. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details and value of the smuggled electrical goods seized in Bihar during the last two years, year-wise;

(b) the number of persons arrested in

this regard and the nationality thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to check these illegal activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b). The value of electrical goods such as emergency lights, rechargeable torch, VCRs, VCPs and computer parts seized under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962 and the number of persons arrested during the last two years of 1991 and 1992 in the State of Bihar are given below:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Value (Rs. in lakhs)</i>	<i>No. of persons arrested and their nationality</i>
1991	8.64	1 (Indian)
1992	8.52	9 (Indians)

(c) The anti-smuggling agencies remain vigilant against smuggling of contraband including electrical goods. Close coordination is being maintained among all the agencies concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling.

[*English*]

Payment Under Ards to Maharashtra

3551. MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NABARD has still to pay some amount to the Government of India for their implementing the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme, 1990 (ARDRS) through Cooperative Credit Structure;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay in making payment of this amount to the State Government; and

(c) by when this amount is likely to be given to the Government of Maharashtra by

NABARD?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). As per report of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) the position of releases made under Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR Scheme, 1990) to the cooperatives in Maharashtra by NABARD is as under:

	<i>Amount of claims submitted to NABARD</i>	<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>		
		<i>Amount released by NABARD</i>		
		<i>Loan</i>	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Total</i>
Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank	378.89	159.92	47.43	207.35
Maharashtra State land Development	111.38	159.92	47.43	207.35
Bank Total	490.27	319.84	94.86	414.70

The banks have been advised by the NABARD to conduct cent percent verification of the relief provided by them and to furnish revised claims after excluding the portion relating to ineligible beneficiaries. Release of further amounts would be considered after receipt of final claim statements from the bank. It has been reported that the revised claim statement are yet to be received from the cooperative banks in Maharashtra.

SBI Branches in Commonwealth of Independent States

3552. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the task force of State Bank

of India has conducted any feasibility study for setting up joint venture banks in Commonwealth of Independent States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision, if any, taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). A survey team comprising nominees from State Bank of India and Exim Bank conducted a feasibility study in January, 1993 in connection with proposals for joint venture banks in Russia and Ukraine. The reports are being finalised.

[Translation]

Facilities to Artisans

3553. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme to introduce Group Insurance Scheme, free medical treatment and health care for artisans is under the consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Gold Import Schemes

3554. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the two schemes for direct import of gold on post-export basis in replenishment and also in advance under gold import licences;

(b) whether these schemes are still in force after the announcement of new Gold Import licences;

(c) the extent to which these schemes are helpful to bring down the prices of gold; and

(d) the quantity of gold imported under these schemes during each of the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PARNAB MUKHERJEE): (a) A Statement is annexed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) These schemes are linked with exports and have no relevance with the domestic prices.

(d) Scheme-wise statistical data for import of gold is not maintained.

STATEMENT

There are two schemes for direct import of gold of above 18 carats by the exporting units situated in domestic tariff area. Their salient features are as under:-

- I. *Schemes for import of gold of above 18 carats directly by units situated in DTA under replenishment.*

Under this scheme, a non-transferable replenishment licence is issued on post export basis. The value of the licences is determined at the rate of 87% and 80% of the ROB value of exports on export of plain gold jewellery and studded gold jewellery on export of plain gold jewellery and studded gold jewellery respectively. These licences are valid for imports of:

- (i) gold of 0.995 fineness;
- (ii) gold findings/mountings/soliders upto 0.920 fineness upto 10% of the value of the licence; and
- (iii) rough diamonds, rough coloured gem-stones and real for cultured pearls undrilled/unset for the residual value.

- II. *Schemes for import of gold of above 18 carats on pre-export basis for export production by units situated*

in DTA under Gold Imprest Licence

Under this scheme, a non-transferable Gold Imprest Licence is issued on pre-export basis to an exporter who has an annual average export performance of plain and studded gold jewellery of Rs. 3 crores or above. The value of the licence is equivalent to the exporter's best year's export performance during the preceding three licensing years plus 25% thereon. The licence is subject to the following conditions:

- (i) The Gold Imprest Licence issued for export of plain gold jewellery and studded gold jewellery carries export obligation in inverse ratio of 87% and 80% respectively;
- (ii) The export obligation has to be fulfilled within 120 days from the date of clearance of each consignment of gold; and
- (iii) The licence is in terms of value and is valid for import of gold of 0.995 fineness.

2. The details of these two schemes are contained in Chapter VIII of the Export and Import Policy, 1992-97, a copy of which was laid on the table of the House.

Border of North Eastern States

	<i>With Myanmar</i>		<i>With Bangladesh</i>	
	<i>Gold seized (Qty. in kos)</i>	<i>Heroin seized (Qty. in Kqs)</i>	<i>Gold seized (Qty. in kgs)</i>	<i>Heroin seized (Qty. in kqs)</i>
1990-91	-	3.025	5.64	
1991-92	-	6.234	9.74	
1992-93 (Upto Feb. 93)	-	6.370	19.89	

Smuggling of Gold and Heroin

3555. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether smuggling of gold and heroin into the north-east part of the country from neighbouring Myanmar and Bangladesh is on the rise; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or to be taken to check the smuggling particularly of heroin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Since smuggling is a clandestine activity, it is not possible to say whether smuggling of gold and heroin into the north-eastern States of the country from neighbouring Myanmar and Bangladesh is on the rise or otherwise. The quantities of gold and heroin seized during the last three financial years on the borders of the north-eastern States with Myanmar and Bangladesh are given below. These figures indicate that there is almost negligible smuggling of gold from Bangladesh and Myanmar. The figures, however, indicate a rising trend in the smuggling of gold from Bangladesh and of heroin from Myanmar.

(b) The anti-smuggling agencies are vigilant against smuggling of contraband including that of gold and heroin. A regional unit of Narcotics Control Bureau has recently been opened at Imphal. Narcotics cells have been created in the Customs and Central Excise Collectorates and the Police organisations to combat drug trafficking. Close coordination is being maintained among all the agencies concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling and drug trafficking.

Labour Welfare Funds

3556. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the titles of various labour welfare funds in operation and the balance in each fund as on April 1, 1992 and January 1, 1993;

(b) the addition to these funds and expenditure therefrom during April-December 1992, fund-wise;

(c) the estimated number of potential beneficiaries for each fund; and

(d) the number of actual beneficiaries, funds-wise, during 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A.
SANGMA): (a) and (b). the titles of various
Labour & Welfare Funds in operation, the
balance in each fund as on 1.4.92 and
1.1.93, addition to these funds and fund-wise
expenditure during April-December 92, are
given in the Statement attached.

(c) and (d). The information is being
collected and would be tabled on the floor of
the House on receipt of the same.

STATEMENT

		(Rs. in thousand)			
S.No	Titles of Labour Welfare Funds	Balance as on 1.4.92	Receipts for 1992-93 (from 1.4.92 to 31.12.92)	Expenditure for 1992-93 (from 1.4.92 to 31.12.92)	Balance as on 1.1.93 (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	The Beedi Workers Labour Welfare Fund.	32.16.94	9.30.40	7.19.18	34,28,16
2.	The Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund.	11.19.10	3.16.03	1.18.80	13,16,33
3.	The Iron Ore & manganese Ore Mines & Chrome Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund.	5.98.60	2.46.21	1.92.45	6,52,36
4.	The Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund.	86.14	76.97	1.34.19	Not available 'x'
5.	The Cine Workers Welfare Fund.	50.13	6.28	1	56.40

'x' - Relevant figures have not been received from the Directorate of Statistics and Intelligence, Ministry of Finance.

NHB Assistance to Kerala

3557. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Housing Bank has provided refinance to commercial banks, housing finance institutions and State level apex housing finance societies for the repair and construction of the houses in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the amount provided by it during the last two years, institution-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). National Housing Bank (NHB) provides refinance to scheduled banks, housing finance institutions and State level Apex Co-op. Housing Finance Societies in respect of eligible loans disbursed by them. Refinance is provided to eligible primary lenders to the extent of 100 percent of direct housing loans for units whose built-up area does not exceed 40 square metres or cost (including cost of land) is upto Rs. 2 lakhs. Refinance is also provided upto 100 percent for repairs and upgradation loans upto Rs. 30,000/- By the end of February, 1993, the cumulative disbursement under NHB Refinance schemes through these eligible primary lenders together with subscription to Special Rural Housing Debentures (SRHD) floated by Agricultural Rural

Development Banks in respect of their eligible housing loans amounted to Rs. 1514.80 crores. out of this, Rs.46.36 crores is for upgradation. NHB has reported that the state-wise break up of the above edata is not available. However, the said total amount includes amount of Rs. 60.17 crores subscribed for SRHDS issued by Kerala State Co-op. Agricultural and Rural Development Bank Ltd. and Rs. 24.26 crores to Kerala State Co-op. bank Ltd. in respect of their eligible housing loans.

[*Translation*]

Export of Tea

3558. SHRI RAMDEW RAM:
SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD
YADAV:
SHRI SHIV SHARAN
VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of tea during 1992-93, State-wise; and

(b) the total quantity of tea exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom in comparison to the targets fixed during 1992-93, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PARNAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The State-wise tea production during April '92 to January '93 is as follows:

<i>State</i>	<i>Estimate Production (in M Kgs)</i>
i) Assam	381.93
ii) West Bengal	144.30
iii) Other North India	7.17

	State	Estimate Production (in M Kgs)
iv)	Tamil Nadu	87.19
v)	Kerala	48.58
vi)	Karnataka	3.50

(b) Exports of tea during April 1992 to January 1993 are estimated at 150.52 million kgs valued at Rs. 822.36 crores as against the target of 210 million kgs valued at Rs. 1200 crores for the year 1992-93. No country-wise targets have been fixed.

[English]

Production and Export of MICA

3559. SHRI SWAMI SURESHANAND:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated target for 1993-94;

(b) the percentage of mica exported out of this during the above period; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). Reliable production figures of mica are not available. However, the quantity and value of mica products exported during 1989-90 to 1991-92 is tabulated below:-

Year	Quantity	Qty. in MT Val: in Rs. crores
1989-90	42239	51.23
1990-91	42595	51.26
1991-92 (Prov)	34188	55.51

Source: DGCI & S Calcutta.

[Translation]

World Bank/IMF Loans

3560. DR P.R. GANGWAR:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

to state:

(a) the details of the conditions on which loans are being received from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund since July, 1991;

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased

(b) whether the Government have

accepted all the conditions; and

(c) if not, the conditions which have not been accepted by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR ABRAR AHMED): (a) On 31.10.91 India entered into a Standby Arrangement with IMF for a SDR 165 million assistance, the conditions of which are contained in the letters of Intent dated August 27, 1991 and June 2, 1992 from Finance Minister to Managing Director, IMF and copies of which have already been laid on the table of the House.

The World Bank loans are taken for specific projects and programmes and the conditions vary from project to project or programme to programme.

(b) and (c). The financial assistance from the World Bank and IMF is based on a mutually acceptable set of terms and conditions which are finalised after negotiations. No condition that is detrimental to the national interest has been accepted.

Tripartite Agreement for Cement Industry

3561. SHRIBHERU LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first tripartite agreement for Cement industry was signed in 1992;

(b) whether this agreement has been made effective in all the Cement industries especially in Rajasthan; and

(c) if not, the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A.

SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir. The memorandum of settlement was signed on 31.7.1992 between the office bearers of five Central Trade Union Organisations representing the workmen in Cement Industry and the Cement Manufacturers' Association before the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central).

(b) The settlement is applicable to all the establishments in Cement industry except Orissa Cement Limited, who has obtained orders of the Court directing that the settlement, if signed, will not be binding on Orissa Cement Limited, until the matter is finally disposed of by the Court. M/s. Bajaj Cement Industries, Udaipur (Rajasthan) has not implemented the said settlement and have filed a writ petition on 14.3.1992 in Rajasthan High Court, Jodhpur. Similarly certain other Cement establishments in Orissa and Gujarat have also filed writ petitions in the High Courts.

(c) Since the matter is sub-judice, it is not considered advisable to take any action for non-implementation of the settlement until the petitions are disposed of by the respective High Court.

[English]

Textile Mills Referred to BIFR

3562. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of textile mills referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction so far;

(b) the number of such cases finalised so far; and

(c) the details of the decisions taken in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF

STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMETARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED): (a) to (c). The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that as on 28.2.93, 237 references of

sick industrial companies in the textile sector were registered with them. Of these, 149 references have finally been disposed of. The details of the cases disposed of are as follow:

(i) References dismissed by the Board as not-maintainable	40
(ii) Revival schemes sanctioned	50
(iii) Company's revival schemes approved	15
(iv) Cases referred to the High Court for winding up	41
(v) Others (Sale ordered in one case and two references from High Court disposed)	3
	149

[Translation]

Strike in Sugar Mills of Uttar Pradesh

3563. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the labourers working in several sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh are on strike;

(b) if so, the details of the demands raised by these labourers; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Royalty Paid by Japan for Mining of Iron-Ore

3564. SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of royalty is being paid by Japan for iron-ore from Beladilla iron-ore mines;

(b) the time by which this contract is going to expire;

(c) the quantity of iron-ore which Japan is buying from India from these mines every year;

(d) the total quantity of iron-ore which Japan has bought from India during 1991;

(e) whether the rate of royalty is same from the beginning of the agreement till-date;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the details of revised rate at present in comparison to the previous rate?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). There is no contract with Japan for payment of royalty for iron-ore from Bailadila iron-ore mines.

(c) The quantity of iron re bought by Japan from Bailadila mines during the last three years is as under:

Year	Qty. (in million tonnes)
1990-91	4.83
1991-92	4.57
1992-93	3.58

(Apr. 'Feb.' 93)

(d) The total quantity of iron ore bought by Japan from India during 1991-92 was of the order of 18.29 million tonnes.

(e) to (g). Do not arise in view of the position stated in reply to parts (a) and (b).

Credit Card Facility

3555. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many consumers in the country prefer taking credit cards from the foreign banks instead of Indian banks;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the credit card facility being provided by Indian banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that from the data available with them, it cannot be determined as to whether customers prefer credit cards issued by foreign banks rather than those issued by Indian banks.

(c) Reserve Bank of India have advised the banks to improve their systems and procedures regarding issue of credit cards accounting and recovery of dues.

Calicut Bypass Road

3566. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the present stage of work on the Calicut bypass Road;

(b) whether the pace of work on this road is very slow; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to expedite the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). The work of Calicut Bypass is being taken up in 4 phases. Work of land acquisition in Phase-I has been completed. In the remaining three phases, work of land acquisition sanctioned in February 1990 and March 1991 is in progress. The pace of work is not very slow considering that land acquisition is a time consuming procedure.

[*Translation*]**Loan to SCs/STs in Bihar**

3567. SHRI LALL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any irregularities have been noticed in disbursing loans to SCs/STs by public sector banks in Bihar during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). The commercial banks are required to follow the instructions of the Reserve Bank of India including those for advancing loans to the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. With a view to increase flow of credit to SC/

ST beneficiaries it has been enjoined upon banks by Reserve Bank of India that 10% of their total advances should be for weaker sections including that of SC/STs. Banks have been advised by the Reserve Bank in this context that special effort should be made to evolve suitable bankable schemes for SC/ST beneficiaries. Accordingly, the commercial banks participate in the programmes sponsored by the Government to enable the identified beneficiaries to pursue viable schemes for their economic upliftment. In addition to the above, the banks also frame the scheme on their own to assist weaker sections of the society by way of providing loans to them for productive ventures. The performance of public sector banks in the matter of extending credit assistences to SC/ST beneficiaries is reviewed by the Government as well as RBI periodically and suitable steps are taken to make up the deficiencies noticed, if any.

The outstanding amount of all scheduled commercial banks extended to priority sector, weaker sections and Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in Bihar has been increasing is evident from the following table:

*No. of Accounts in lakhs
Amount in Rs. crores*

<i>As at the end of</i>	<i>Priority Sector</i>		<i>Weaker Sections</i>		<i>SC/STs</i>	
	<i>Accounts</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Accounts</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Accounts</i>	<i>Amount</i>
March 1990	2600	1845	2041	708	788	204
March 1991	2661	2020	2014	697	806	222

The loan applications are received by banks branches directly from applicants or through some state sponsored agency and end are sanctioned accordingly. Action against officials is taken by banks in accordance with the laid down rules and procedures for wilful neglects, non-following of instructions, any reported malpractices etc. The reporting system from banks does not generate information on the number of

employees against whom action has been taken or contemplated for various category of charges.

[*English*]**Policy in State Trading**

3568. SHRI V. SREENIVASAPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry has urged the Government to modify the present policy on state trading to facilitate counter trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e). In connection with the Round Table on Counter Trade as Export Promotion Mechanism and EXIM Policies and Procedures organised by ASSOCHAM at Calcutta on January 13, 1993. ASSOCHAM had forwarded a copy of the Discussion Papers to the Ministry of Commerce which included some suggestions for promoting Counter Trade such as, earmarking part of canalised items for Counter Trade issuance of clear guidelines, strengthening of commercial intelligence; creation of warehousing facilities abroad; remodelling banking system; infrastructure development and encouraging joint ventures. However, no final outcome on the preliminary suggestions made in this regard has emerged so far.

[*Translation*]

Delay in Loading of Goods at Visakhapatnam

3569. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation has been incurring heavy losses in terms of foreign exchange due to inordinate delay in loading of iron-ore being exported to Japan, Sri Lanka and other countries from Visakhapatnam port; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). During the current year quantify of 7, 63,463 tonnes of iron ore was loaded in 7 vessels by MMTC for export to Japan at Visakhapatnam Port (VPT). There was no delay in 3 vessels, one vessel was loaded ahead of schedule and there was some delay in loading of balance 3 vessels. This was due to reasons like bunching of vessels and Plant failures, etc. Following steps have been taken to improve the working of mechanised loading system . (1) Replacement of 110 mtrs. of Worn out steel cord belt on 8000 TPH shiploader (2) Procurement of Slew Ball bearing to replace the Worn out one on 2000 TPH bucket wheel reclaimer (3) Replacement of 50 mtrs. Worn out steel cord belt on shipping conveyor No.S. 2 (4) Erection of suspended electromagnet on shipping conveyor No. 12 (5) Repairs to Worn out parts at 4000 TPH bucket wheel reclaimer.

[*English*]

Export Subsidies

3570. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the total amount paid as export subsidies during 1992-93 item wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Government has not provided any export subsidy to our exports during 1992-93.

[*Translation*]

D.T.C. Bus Services

3571. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-RAO GUNDEWAR:
DR. RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR:
SHRI RATILAL VARMA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of D.T.C. buses, Green Line, Red Line and White Line Luxury buses under D.T.C. operation as on date, category-wise;

(b) whether D.T.C. has reduced its services of Green Line buses recently;

(c) if so, the details and reasons therefor;

(d) the number of new buses proposed to be started during the current financial year, category-wise; and

(e) other steps taken to provide better transport services to the people of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The details are as under:-

*Number of buses
(As on 10-3-93)*

DTC buses	4037 (including 174 Green Lines buses)
Private buses under DTC operation	595
Red Line buses under STA permit.	2103
White Line buses under STA permit	92

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The details of Greenline routes discontinued are given in the statement annexed. These routes were discontinued by DTC due to low patronage by the commuters.

(d) Under the Scheme of 3000 Stage Carriage Permit the Govt. of the National Capital Territory of Delhi, has already issued 2103 permits, and the grant of the remaining permits is in process. It has also been decided to grant another 100 permits for White Line Luxury Buses by the State Transport Authority.

(e) (i) The Delhi Transport Corporation have introduced Green Line buses at a higher fare structure and with limited stops to provide fast and comfortable travel facility to that section of the commuters who cannot travel in the crowded city buses;

(ii) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have introduced the White Line Luxury buses connecting various residential colonies and important offices and business centres of the city.

(iii) The Govt. of National Territory of Delhi have decided to introduce point to point motor-cycle taxis with a view to cater to the need of single passengers and to provide cheap transport facilities.

STATEMENT

S.No	RT.No	Description	Made Ordinance	Discontinued
1	2	3	4	5
1.	GL-25	New Seema Puri-Rly. Station	-	11-1-93
2.	GL-86	Janak Puri D. Blk-Azad Pur (T)	-	5-3-93
3.	GL-41	Badar Pur Bdr/Sarita Vihar- New Delhi Rly. Station 2nd gate	11-1-93	-
4.	GL-118	Kalyan Puri-Clock Tower	"	-
5.	GL-264	Nand Nagri-Shivaji Stadium	"	-
6.	GL-270	Karawal Nagar-Kend Terminal	"	-
7.	GL-307	Trilok Puri-Kamla Market	"	-
8.	GL-405	Badar Pur Bdr- Rly Station	"	-
9.	GL-127	Haider Pur-Rly. Station	16-1-93	-
10.	GL-231	Mangol Puri-Rly Station	"	-

S.No	RT.No	Description	Made Ordinance	Discontinued
1	2	3	4	5
11.	GL-601	Uttri Pitam Pura-R.K. Puram	"	-
12.	GL-990	Rithala-Kend. Terminal	"	-
13.	GL-MS(-)	Punjabi Bagh (T)- P.B. Terminal	"	-
14.	GL MS(+)	GTB Nagar-GTB Nagar	8-2-93	-
15.	GL MS(-)	GTB Nagar GTB Nagar	"	-
16.	GL MS(-)	W.P. Depot-I- W.P. Depot-I	"	-
17.	GL-984	Rohini-III-S.J. Terminal	5-3-93-	-

[English]

Mandays Lost due to Ayodhya Incident

3572. SHRI HANNAN MOLIAH:
SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the number of mandays lost in the country due to riots, curfew and other impact after Ayodhya incident State-wise and Union territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): Compilation of information relating to mandays post due to strikes and lockouts does not include mandays lost due to riots, curfews, communal disturbances etc. separately.

[Translation]

Decline in Turn-Over of Trade Development Authority

3573. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trade undertaken by the Trade Development Authority has declined during each of the last three years:

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

(c) the efforts made by the Trade Development Authority to increase the volume of trade handled by it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). The erstwhile Trade Development Authority

(TDA) was not involved in actual trading. Therefore, the question of volumes of trade does not arise. In fact, in order to strengthen the institutional frame work for exports, the erstwhile TDA was merged with erstwhile Trade Fair Authority of India (TFAI) with effect from 1.1.1992 to form an integrated organisation by the name of India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) with a mandate for providing wider facilities to the Indian exporters and facilitating an increase in volume of exports, through the medium of international trade fairs in India and abroad, organising of buyer-seller meets, contact promotion, preparation of market studies, dissemination of trade related information, etc.

[English]

Trade with Australia

3574. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to expand trade with Australia to have a favourable trade balance: and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in the above matter?

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

(b) The Government has taken the following important steps for expansion of trade with Australia - (i) The Joint Ministerial Commission/Joint Trade Committee between India and Australia monitor, reviews and formulates measures to expand and diversify bilateral trade between the two countries; (ii) The Indo-Australia Joint Busi-

ness Council provides an effective forum for businessmen to explore the potential for growth in bilateral trade; (iii) The Government encourages participation in Trade and Industrial displays in Australia under the International Trade Development Centre Scheme of the Government of Australia and through the Indian Trade Promotion Organisation.

Stockinvest Scheme

3575. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR
SHASTRI:
SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether inordinate delay is taking place in the allotment of shares and refund of money whenever stockinvests are sent along with the applications for allotment of shares;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of complaints received against the companies regarding investments made through stockinvest scheme; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to safeguard the public interest and to achieve the purpose of stockinvest scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):

(a) to (d). Under the provisions of Companies Act, 1956, Companies are required to make the allotment and refund excess application money within the statutory time limit laid down. However, Bombay Stock Exchange has received some complaints against companies in connection with appli-

cations made with stockinvest. With a view to eliminating possibilities of delay in getting refund of money whenever stockinvests are used. RBI has issued revised guidelines in October, 1992. Accordingly, unutilised stockinvests are now returned by the Registrars directly to the investors so that they can present the same to the bank and have the lien lifted. Further, validity period of the stockinvest has also now been reduced to 4 months and provision has also been made for lifting of lien against indemnity after expiry of validity period in case of postal loss. SEBI are not maintaining any separate data regarding investments made through stockinvests.

National Stock Exchange

3576. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a national stock exchange for the weal of the capital market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also propose to open more regional offices of Securities and Exchanges Board of India;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to allow public representation at the time of allotment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED):

(a) and (b). On the basis of approval given by the Government, a company has been incorporated for the establishment of National Stock Exchange in Bombay. This Exchange is expected to operate as a model stock exchange with member brokers all

over the country trading in the exchange through modern telecommunication facilities.

(c) and (d). SEBI proposes to set up regional offices for the present at three metropolitan centres, namely New Delhi, Madras and Calcutta. Premises for all these offices have been acquired and the offices are expected to be operational during the months of April/May, 1993.

(e) SEBI has decided to associate a Public Representative with the issue allotment and dawal of lots. In order to implement this, lead managers in respect of two issues have already been advised by SEBI.

Army and Para-Military Personnel Sent to Cambodia

3577. DR. SHRIMATIK.S. SOUNDARAM:
SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV:
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:

MAJ. GEN. (RETD):
BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the actual number of Indian army and para-military personnel sent to Cambodia under the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) and their ranks and position;

(b) whether they are paid the actual amount received from the United Nations;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the details of the casualties among Indian contingent so far; and

(f) the measures taken by the Government to keep the morale of our men in Cambodia high?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (f). A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

The number of Army and CPO forces personnel deputed to Cambodia under UNTAC is as under:-

	<i>Officers</i>	<i>JCOs</i>	<i>ORs</i>	<i>Total</i>
(i) Inf Bat	26	41	853	920
(ii) Field Ambulance	31	38	306	375
(iii) Engr Team	8	6	23	37
(iv) Military Police	-	-	10	10

	Officers	JCOs	ORs	Total
(v) Staff Officers	11	-	-	11
(vi) Staff Clerks	-	2	2	4
(vii) Military Observers	17	-	-	17
(viii) CPO forces personnel of the ranks of Commandant/Asstt. Commandant/ Inspectors/ Sub-Inspectors/Head Constables/Constables/ Drivers.				437
Total	93	87	1194	1811

2. During their deputation, apart from their normal salary and allowances, which continues to be paid by Govt. of India, the personnel also receive certain allowances from the United Nations, which are paid directly. In addition to the allowances directly paid to the personnel, the UN also pays to the Government of India \$ 980 per person (an additional \$ 291 for experts) per month as "troop costs" in respect of the Army personnel. From the funds so received, the Government are paying additional allowances at the following rates to the Army personnel:

- (i) Offices : \$2190 per man per month
(ii) JCOs : \$1640 per man per month
(iii) ORs : & 730 per man per month

3. There have been five casualties so far, four of the Army personnel and one of the CPO forces.

4. The morale of the personnel is high. Their performance has been commended by the UN authorities.

[Translation]

National Cadet Corps

3578. DR. LAL BHADUR RAWAL:
SHRIDHARMA BHIKASHAM:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the uniforms and other items that are provided to the cadets of the National Cadet Corps (NCC);

(b) whether there is a shortage of these items;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to expand the activities of the NCC and to introduce it as a compulsory subject at High School and College levels; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to further popularise the NCC among the youth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). NCC Cadets are authorised two sets of stitched uniforms, which differ according to the Wings and Divisions viz. Army, Navy, Air Wings and Girls Divisions and one pair each of Shoes/Boots, Socks, Beret, Web Belt and other accoutrement items like rank badges, cap badge, hackles, Arms Titles etc. In addition, the Cadets are authorised items like Canvas shoes, Blanket Barrack, Kit, Bags, Durries, Jerseys, Cape Water proof etc. before attending Camps. Shortages, which emerge from time to time, are remedied promptly.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The Central Government as well as some of the State Governments provide concessions to NCC Cadets in the matter of employment etc. Some State Governments also give lucrative incentives to NCC Cadets by way of each awards, scholarships, concession for admission in professional institutions, prizes, medals and trophies. Raksha Mantri has written to the Chief Ministers of all States suggesting a model set of incentives which may be provided to NCC Cadets.

[English]

Exports of Mica by MITCO

3579. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

Year	Total Qty. (in MT)	Total Value (Rs. Crores)	Value of mica scrap exported through MITCO (Rs. Crores)
1989-90	42,239	51.23	10.18
1990-91	42,595	51.26	5.71
1991-92	34,188	55.51	4.67

[Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta]

MITCO

(a) whether the Indian mica industry is facing crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is also good demand for mica based insulating materials all over the World;

(d) the responsibility of Mica Trading Corporation (MITCO) to promote the sale of mica abroad and to what extent it has been achieved; and

(e) the total quantity of mica exported and foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The Indian mica industry is facing crisis on account of global recession in demand for mica consequent upon substitution of sheet mica by mica paper, mica and its products by alumina ceramics, bentonite, nylon, synthetic mica, etc., technological obsolescence of vacuum tubes because of solid state technology, etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). Only mica scrap is canalised through MITCO at present. The total quantity and value of mica and mica products including mica scrap exported during each of the last three years has been as under:-

Development of N.Hs

3580. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the amount sanctioned for the development of existing National Highways during the Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): An amount of Rs. 2460 crores has been allocated for development of National Highways in the Eighth Five Year Plan. It is not possible to indicate the amount sanctioned for development of National Highways statewise as this would depend upon the actual sanctions form year to year.

SC/ST Employees in Nationalised Banks in Gujarat

3581. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the branches of the

nationalised banks functioning in Gujarat are following the guidelines issued by the Union Government on reservation policy for employment of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes persons;

(b) if so, the total number of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes candidates recruited in different categories in the banks during the last two years and in 1992-93 so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED): (a) Yea, Sir.

(b) and (c). As per latest available information, details of the All India recruitments of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes candidates made by nationalised banks during the years 1990 and 1991, cadre-wise, are as under:

Sl. No.	Cadre	1990		1991	
		SC	ST	SC	ST
1.	Officers	302	169	102	50
2.	Clerical	1403	892	854	434
3.	Sub- Staff (including Sweepers)	1431	447	928	208

Trade Agreement Between India and Hungary

3582. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be please to state:

(a) whether the Hungarian Trade Team had discussions with banks stock-ex-

changes, credit rating agencies, financial institutions, etc. during their visit to India in January, 1993; and

(b) if so, the details of agreements signed, if any?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE

(SHRI PRAN AB MUKHERJEE): (a) No trade team from Hungary visited India in January, 1993.

(b) Does not arise

Cases Registered with BIFR from West Bengal

3583. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases referred to Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction from West Bengal during the last three years;

(b) the number of sick units revived with the help of BIFR during the above period;

(c) the number of cases which are still pending; and

(d) the reasons for slow rate of disposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (d). The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that 41 references of sick industrial companies of West Bengal were registered with them during January, 1990 to February, 1993. Of these 4 cases were dismissed as not maintainable, 4 cases recommended to the High Court for winding up and in 4 cases schemes for revival have been sanctioned. The remaining 29 references are under various stages of process in terms of the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. BIFR has further reported that since revival of sick industrial companies takes about 5 to 10 years data regarding West Bengal companies which have been turned around during 1990-93 has not been compiled by them.

Funds for NHs in Andhra Pradesh

3585. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of maintenance grant given at present for National Highways;

(b) the amount of grants released to Andhra Pradesh during 1992-93 for maintenance of National Highways;

(c) whether all the grants sanctioned during 1992-93 have been released; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The rate of maintenance grant for National Highways varies from State to State depending on the terrain, climate, lanewidth, road condition, traffic intensity, rates of labour etc.

(b) A sum of Rs. 12.49 crores has been released to Andhra Pradesh for maintenance of National Highways during 1992-93.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Equity Capital of Indian Trade promotion Organisation

3586. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Confederation of Indian Industry has submitted a proposal to acquire half of the equity capital of the Indian Trade Promotion Organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposal is likely to adversely affect the Trade Fair Authority; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d). The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) had submitted a short proposal on 31st March, 1992 for preliminary consideration in which it was, inter alia, envisaged to offer 50% equity to private industry and their active involvement in day-to-day management of India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPC). The proposal was discussed between ITPO and CII during April, 1992. The CII was asked to provide a detailed proposal as to how the objectives of ITPO could be better served through the proposed corporate modifications. No further concrete proposal has been received from CII.

Development of N.Hs. In Sikkim

3587. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to undertake some programmes for development and improvement of existing National Highways of Sikkim during the year 1993-94 and Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Details about programmes for development of National Highway No. 31-A in Sikkim for 1993-94 can be given only after Demands

for Grants for 1993-94 are voted by the Parliament. Proposals for the Eighth Plan are yet to be finalised.

[*Translation*]

Introduction of Fax Package for Exporters

3588. PROF. RITA VERMA: Will the Minister of FIANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Corporation Bank propose to introduce a special 'Fax package' service for exporters;

(b) whether there is a proposal to introduce any special service for corporate customers also;

(c) whether computer system is likely to be introduced in both these services; and

(d) the names of places where the bank propose to open its branches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ABRAR AHMED): (a) Corporation bank have reported that they are in the process of linking all the existing 25 branches dealing in foreign exchange to their International Banking Division at Bombay. An overseas branch has been opened at Bombay to cater exclusively to the needs of exporters/importers. An export bill processing centre is also being set up at Bombay.

(b) The bank has set up industrial finance branches at Bangalore, Bombay and New Delhi for serving their Corporate customers.

(c) Computer system has been introduced in the industrial finance branch at Bangalore and the same is being introduced

in other branches in a phased manner:

(d) The bank propose to open, in due course, industrial finance branches at Ahmedabad and Pune and an overseas branch at Delhi.

[English]

Confiscation of Goods

3589. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of goods confiscated during the year 1991-92 and 1992-93 by the different enforcement agencies in the country, Collectorate-wise; and

(b) the value of goods disposed of during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHAR MURTHY): (a) The approximate value of contraband seized under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962 during the financial years 1991-92 and 1992-93 (upto January, 1993) are given below-

Year	Value of contraband seized (Rs. in crores)
1991-92	668 (approx.)
1992-93 (upto January '93)	347 (approx.)

Collectorate-wise figures are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The value of seized/confiscated goods disposed of by the Customs during the financial years 1991-92 and 1992-93 (upto December, 1992) are given below:-

Year	Value of seized/confiscated good disposed of (Rs. in crores)
1991-92	586.93
1992-93 (upto December '92)	238.98

World Bank Loan to IRBI

3590. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India propose to take loan from World Bank for incremental advances to sick units; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. A proposal for World Bank assistance has been received from IRBI. IRBI has sought assistance of an amount of Rs. 300 crores from the World Bank to give incremental advances to sick and weak industrial units in the private sector, in particular, units with export potential. The purpose of the advance on soft terms will be for investment in plant and machinery to enable these units to recover. The proposal is being posed to the World Bank.

[Translation]

Widening of National Highways in Bihar

3591. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the double lanes and four lanes National Highways exist at present in Bihar;

(b) the National Highway-wise details of the increase in number of the double-lanes and four-lanes national highways in the State during Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) the details of such projects sanctioned in respect of Bihar during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Details of double lane and four lane National Highways in Bihar at present are as under:-

Double lane	- 1964 Kms.
Four Lane	- Nil

(b) The National Highway-wise increase in double-laning during Seventh Plan is as under:-

National Highway	28...62 Kms
National Highway	28A... 4 Kms
National Highway	31...8 Kms

There is no four lane section on National Highways in the State and as such the question of increase in the Seventh Five Year Plan does not arise.

(c) No project for four laning or double laning of National Highways has been sanctioned during the Eighth Plan so far.

[English]

Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium

3592. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC) has since been set up;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). Planning Commission has done the preparatory work to set up the Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC). A steering Committee has been set up by them to work out an action plan and the details of the organisational structure including the Articles of Association of the Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC). The main purpose of SFAC is to achieve the twin objectives of the 8th Five Year Plan, namely, employment generation and diversification of agriculture and agro-based industries to attain self-sufficiency in food production and generate surplus for exports. The SFAC shall have a three tier structure, namely, Advisory Council at Apex Level Governing Board consisting of banks, Government Corporations, private industries, scientific community and farmers and users Associations at the second tier and a third tier consisting of State/Project Level Organisations comprising farmers/beneficiaries user organisations. SFAC is proposed to be set up as a society under the Societies Registration Act.

[Translation]

LIC Policies

3593. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons insured by

Life Insurance Corporation of India under various Insurance policies during the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 so far;

(b) the number of Insurance policies have been lapsed during the above period;

(c) the number of policy holders on whose death the extent of amount paid year-wise and the amount received by the LIC as premium of insurance during the above period;

(d) the year-wise income earned and expenditure incurred and profit earned

therefrom;

(e) whether Life Insurance Corporation of India have formulated any scheme to decrease the premium amount of insurance;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ABRAR AHMED):

	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93 (Provisional upto 31.12.91)
(a) Policies issued* (in lakhs)	86.45	92.38	47.18
(b) Policies lapsed (in lakhs)	28.77	28.26 Available	Not
(c) Policies paid on death*	87.697	94,894	Not available
Amount paid (Rs. in crores)	197.63	230.69	Not available
(d) Total income Rs. in crores)	8517.98	10690.69	7666.05
Total Expenditure (Rs. in crores)	3588.85	4400.27	3504.25

Premium in respect of the policies paid o death of the policy-holders is not maintained separately.

Note: Since a person may hold more than one policy, number of persons insured/ policyholders are not available.

The excess of income over expenditure does not denote profit earned. However, surplus is ascertained separately by means of an actuarial valuation of assets and liabili-

ties every year.

(e) Generally, the premium rates under with-profit policies are not revised. The Cor-

poration has, however, reduced premium rates under without-profit policies

(f) and (g). Premium rates under without-profit policies were last revised in April, 1980. The premium rates under without-profit plans were revised in 2/1970, 4/1980 and 9/1986.

[English]

Construction of Bridge on N.H. No. 47

3594. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have approved the project regarding construction of a bridge between Wellington Island and National Highway No. 47 at Kochi in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated cost of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Presumably, the Hon'ble member is referring to the construction of Phase II of NH 47-a connecting Willingdon Island to Cochin bypass. Phase II of the link road which is 2.17 km long involves construction of Rail over bridge and bridge structures totalling to a length of 1.685 km. and approach roads of 0.485 km. length

(c) The project has been sanctioned for Rs. 43.09 crores.

Establishment Expenses of Ministry of Surface Transport

3595. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated annual establishment expenses of his Ministry;

(b) whether his Ministry have taken any steps to meet their salary and establishment expenditure from their own resources; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) About Rs. 13 crores annually.

(b) and (c). The Ministry cannot meet its expenditure direct, in terms of our budgetary practices. However, the Ministry has devised a scheme of charging 1% of the freight, as a service charge, for the services rendered by the Chartering Wing of the Ministry to Indian shipowners. This would bring an approximate Rs. 7 crores annually to the general exchequer.

[Translation]

Mutual Fund Scheme

3596. SHRI RAMDEW RAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount received by each bank through the mutual fund scheme started by various nationalised banks for investment in the stock exchange;

(b) the profit or loss incurred by these banks in this respect during the last three years;

(c) the amount received under the said scheme by different insurance companies; and

(d) the profit or loss incurred by these insurance companies in this respect during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Territorial Army Personnel

3597. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI SHEELAGAUTAM:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Territorial Army personnel in urban units are demanding their inclusion in the category of ex-Servicemen;

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

(c) the number of Territorial Army personnel likely to be benefited by giving them the status of ex-Servicemen;

(d) whether they have put forth any other demands; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). Provision already exists for treating ex-TA personnel, who satisfy the prescribed eligibility criteria, as ex-Servicemen.

(d) and (e). A summary of the demands of TA personnel, relating to the terms and conditions of their service, and the position in regard there to is given in the annexed statement.

STATEMENT

<i>Demand of TA Personnel</i>	<i>Present position</i>
1	2
1. Grant of Family Pension to next-of-kin of TA personnel	1. Appropriate orders were issued on 24-2-1993
2. Extension of time-limit for exercising option regarding counting of former regular Army service for purposes of pension.	2. Order were issued on 27.8.1992.
3. Counting of former State Forces Service for purposes of pension.	3. Appropriate order were issued on 12-1-1993
4. Enhancement of TA Group Insurance Cover	4. This demand shall be discussed in the Central Advisory Committee for TA, at its next meeting.
5. Enhancement of terminal Gratuity for TA personnel.	5. -ditto-

<i>Demand of TA Personnel</i>	<i>Present position</i>
1	2
6. Pension for Hony Rank to TA JCOs	6. -ditto-
7. Grant of ex-Servicemen status to all TA pensioners.	7. -ditto-
8. Facility for leave encashment for TA personnel.	8. -ditto-
9. Provision of canteen facilities to TA personnel when not embodied.	9. This demand has been considered and rejected.

Privatisation of D.T.C.

3598. SHRIVILASARONAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3169 on December 11, 1992 and state;

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise D.T.C. in phased manner; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise

[English]

Development of National Highways in Kerala

3599. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects sent by the Government of Kerala for development of National Highways in the State during the Eighth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) the action taken by the Union Government thereon and the amount allocated therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Government of Kerala have sent proposals amounting to Rs. 606.83 crores for development of national highways in the State during 8th five year plan period.

(b) 5 road/bridge projects at a cost of

Rs. 6594.35 lakhs have been sanctioned during 1992-93. A sum of Rs. 14 crore has been allocated during 1992-93 for new works including on-going projects.

Unemployment Due to New Economic Policy

3600. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
PROF. MALINI
BHATTACHARYA:
DR. SUDHIR RAY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the impact of new economic policies on the problem of unemployment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to control the continuously growing unemployment problem under the changed circumstances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). The economic reforms have been undertaken and intended to accelerate the growth of employment. There is no evidence of any significant increase in unemployment attributable to the reforms.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Agriculture and allied activities, rural, village and small scale industries, con-

struction, trade and other services have been identified as sectors with higher employment potential. The sectoral development programmes of the Eighth Five Year Plan or these sectors have been formulated keeping in view the objective of additional employment generation. In the Budget proposals for 1993-94, presently before the House, substantial increases have been made in the outlays for agriculture, rural development, rural water supply programme, and Jawahar Rozagar Yojna with a view to generating more employment

Bachawat Award

3601. SHRI DHARAMA BHIKASHAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petitions filed against the Bachawat Award;

(b) the number of petitions disposed of and the number of petitions are still pending; and

(c) the time by which the remaining petitions are likely to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) In all, 24 writ petitions were filed against the Bachawat Award.

(b) The Supreme Court has transferred one write petition to Delhi High Court and rendered another as infructuous due to agreement between the parties. Thus there are 22 writ petitions pending in the Supreme Court and one writ petition in the Delhi High Court

(c) The writ petitions are to be disposed of by the Supreme Court/Delhi High Court.

No definite time frame can be indicated.

Setting up of Mica Export Oriented Project by Mitco

3602. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mica Trading Corporation (MITCO) has decided to export value added mica products like mica tapes, sheets, etc. instead of raw mica so as to earn more foreign exchange;

(b) if so, whether the MITCO has also set up an export oriented project based on mica;

(c) if so, the details of its capacity, production, sales, export and foreign exchange earned every year from the time of its commissioning and commercial production;

(d) whether MITCO is facing any crisis in Bihar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) to (e). A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

MITCO has been exporting both value added mica products and raw mica

Details of capacity, production, sales and exports of MITCO 's export oriented projects based on Mica are as follows:

Mica Paper Project

Production Capacity 600 MT.

Commercial capacity from January, 1987

Qty. in MT
Val. in Rs. Lakh

<i>Year</i>	<i>Production Sales</i>			<i>Export</i>	
	<i>Qty.</i>	<i>Qty.</i>	<i>Val.</i>	<i>Qty.</i>	<i>Val.</i>
1987-88	104	16	8	14	7
1988-89	140	121	69	114	65
1989-90	101	131	80	130	78
1990-91	155	211	133	211	133
1991-92	79	54	40	37	28
1992-93 (as on 15.3.93)	60	74	54	61	40

Heater Miocanite Sheets

Production capacity 45 MT

Commercial production From June 1989

Qty in MT
Val. in Rs, Lakh

<i>Year</i>	<i>Production Sales</i>			<i>Export</i>	
	<i>Qty.</i>	<i>Qty</i>	<i>Val.</i>	<i>Qty</i>	<i>Val.</i>
1989-90	-	-	-	-	-
1990-91	0.93	-	-	-	-
1991-92	5.00	4	5	4	5
1992-93	3.00	4	7	4	7

In view of the steep fall in MITCO's turnover consequent upon the canalisation of processed mica, substitution of mica and its products by alumina ceramics bentonite

nylon, synthetic mica etc., have interest liability, larger number of employees than the business needs, low capacity utilisation in manufacturing plants etc., MITCO has

been facing acute financial constraints. Various alternative for rehabilitation of MITCO have been considered but none of there were found workable. In January, 1993 the case of MITCO was redudced to the Bureau of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1991 for an appropriate decision regarding the future of the company

Repair of Bye-Pass Road

3603. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from the Government of Maharashtra requesting to carry out repairs to Thane-Bhivandi bye-pass road (in Thane district of Maharashtra) of Bombay-Ahmedabad Highway; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Teh proposals received from the State Government of Maharaashtra for repairs of Thane-Bhiwandi bypass road on NH.3 were returned unapproved as the road is being maintained in traffic worthy condition out of normal maintenance grants.

National Bank of For Women

3604. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Bank for women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ABRAR AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Banks extend credit to women entrepreneurs for all viable projects taken up by them as part of their normal banking operations, and no need is felt for creating a separate bank for that purpose.

Profit Earned Investment Made by LIC

3605. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total premium collected by the LIC from persons insured, the expenses incurred on payment of compensation and on other heads during each of the last three years State-wise;

(b) the investment made by the LIC in various sectors and returns earned therefrom during the above period;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring out new insurance schemes specially designed to benefit the rural and urban poor at nominal rates or premium;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ABRAR AHMED): (a) The total premium collected by LIC from persons insured State-wise and year-wise is given in Statement-I. The details of expenses incurred on compensation and other heads during each of the last 3

years is given in statement-II. State-wise figures are not available

(b) The requisite information is contained in statement-III.

(c) No. Sir, LIC gives insurance cover

on the basis of premium rates actuarially determined.

(d) and (e). LIC has to charge premiums which are economically viable for the life Insurance policies it sells.

STATEMENT-I

State-wise/ zone-wise premium Income of Life Insurance Corporation of India during 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92.

(Rs. in Crores)

State/Zone	Premium income during		
	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
1	2	3	4
<i>Central Zone</i>			
a) Madhya Pradesh	181.97	231.67	289.63
b) Uttar Pradesh	433.58	545.45	663.59
	615.55	777.12	958.22
<i>Eastern zone</i>			
a) Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	-	-
b) Arunachal Pradesh	0.54	0.52	1.05
c) Assam	73.26	89.35	109.28
d) Bihar	177.85	231.61	288.68

(Rs. in Crores)

State/Zone	Premium income during			
	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	
1	2	3	4	
e) Manipur	4.54	5.84	7.11	
f) Meghalaya	4.51	5.15	6.54	
g) Mizoram	0.47	0.57	0.75	
h) Nagaland	2.63	1.50	3.93	
i) Orissa	68.14	90.24	117.53	
j) Sikkim	-	-	-	
k) Tripura	8.24	10.26	13.04	
l) West Bengal	408.17	532.30	651.83	
	748.35	967.34	1199.74	

(Rs. in Crores)

State/Zone	Premium income during			
	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	
1	2	3	4	
Western Zone				
a) Goa	22.40	28.55	37.74	
b) Gujarat	391.20	467.09	582.90	
c) Maharashtra	775.41	967.31	1168.13	
	1189.01	1462.95	1788.77	
Grand Total	4421.42	5554.11	6895.29	

STATEMENT-II*The expenses incurred on compensation and other heads during each of the last three years.*

	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
	1	2	3
<i>Policy Payments</i>			
i) Claims by Death	253.94	327.86	417.66
ii) Claims by Maturity	1181.20	1434.59	1751.71
iii) Annuities	45.43	56.67	80.25
iv) Surrenders	153.26	132.29	172.49
Sub -total	1633.83	1951.41	2422.11
<i>Expenses of Management</i>			
(Agents' commission, salaries & other expenses of management)	1070.33	1301.40	1549.80
Total	2704.16	3252.81	3971.91

(Rs. in Crores)

STATEMENT-III*Investment made by LIC in various sectors during the years 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92**(Rs. in Crores)*

	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
	1	2	3
1. Public Sector			
i) Govt. and Govt Guaranteed Marketable Securities	1313	2271	2607
ii) Socially Oriented Sectors	1029	989	1231
iii) Special Deposit with Government of India	150	180	180
	2992	3440	4018
2. Co-operative Sectors			
i) Land Development Bank Debentures	35	40	40
ii) Apex Co-op. Housing	211	323	456
iii) Co-op. Industrial Estate	1	1	1
	247	364	497

	(Rs. in Crores)		
	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
	1	2	3
3. Private Sectors			
i) Loans to companies	287	493	839
ii) Debs. of companies	422	708	679
iii) Preference shares	-	4	-
iv) Equity shares	85	50	252
	794	1255	1770
Grand Total	4033	5059	6285

Interest/Dividend income earned sector-wise for the last 3 years

(Rs. in Crores)

	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
	1	2	3
Public Sector	1609	1977	2356
Co-operative Sector	136	150	193
Private Sector	264	323	460
	2009	2450	3009
Interest on call and bills	64	128	263
Total	2073	2578	3272

[Translation]

Development of NHs. In Bihar

3606. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes approved by Union Government for development of National Highways in Bihar during 1993-94 and Eighth Five Year Plan period; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Details of schemes for development of National Highways in Bihar during 1993-94 can be indicated only after Demands for Grants 1993-94 are voted by Parliament. Projects amounting to Rs. 2. 59 crore have been sanctioned during the Eighth Plan so far. An allocation of Rs. 13.5 crores has been made for 1992-93 including the ongoing schemes.

Road From Gourikund to Kedarnath

3607. SHRI VILASRAONAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to construct a road from Gourikund to Kedarnath in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which the road is likely to be constructed?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Dredging of Calcutta Channel of Hooghly

3608. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the present stage of work regarding dredging of Calcutta channel of the Hooghly river;

(b) the target date fixed for completion of this project;

(c) whether there has been an inordinate delay on the part of the foreign contractors in respect of completion of this project;

(d) if so, the action taken against the contractors and the impact of delay on the cost overrun; and

(e) the anticipated rise in the traffic after proper dredging of the channel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The maintenance dredging from the sea face to Calcutta Dock System is being continuously done. The capital dredging for Recession of Jiggerkhali Flat is yet to commence.

(b) The work on capital dredging for Recession of Jiggerkhali Flat was to have commenced in Dec, '1992 and to be completed by 1/9/93.

(c) The foreign contractor has not yet taken up the capital dredging work.

(d) A decision on the future course of action regarding this contract is expected to be taken shortly. In view of the uncertainty in commencement of the work the cost overrun due to delay cannot be realistically

assessed at this stage.

(e) It is anticipated that the traffic may increase by an additional one million tonnes per year with the completion of improvement of draff expected after recessional dredging.

Development of Mormugaon Port

3609. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared a comprehensive plan for integrated development of major ports along Western

Coast; and

(b) if so, the details thereof particularly for Mormugaon Port in Goa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) An outlay of Rs. 1158.00 crores has been proposed for inclusion in the 8th Five Year Plan 1992-97 for development of major ports on the Western Coast of India.

(b) The details of the major schemes proposed for inclusion are given in the statement attached.

STATEMENT

Details of the major schemes proposed for inclusion in 8th five Year Plan 1992-97.

(Rupees in crores)

*Proposed outlay
(1992-97)*

<i>Name of the Scheme</i>	<i>Proposed outlay (1992-97)</i>
1. Bombay	
1. Container handling Facilities	26.39
2. Replacement of Pir Pau Oil Pier	92.45
3. Replacement of two submarine pipelines including loading arms	35.00
4. Replacement of Grab Dredger Vikas	29.00
5. Replacement of seven submarine pipelines including provision for loading arms	80.00
6. VTMS	26.00
1. Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust	
1. Phase I development of port	115.00
2. Approach to service berth	10.00
3. Port Crafts/Equipment	20.00

(Rupees in crores)

Proposed outlay
(1992-97)

Name of the Scheme

4.	Augmentation of container handling Facilities	15.00
5.	Berth for liquid cargo	19.20
3. Cochin		
1.	Procurement of 30-35 ton B.P Tug	11.75
2.	Remodelling of BTP & MCB as multipurpose berth	12.00
3.	Deepening of channel leading to cot	10.00
4.	Replacement Q1 berth	10.00
3. Kandla		
1.	Additional Oil Jetty	19.67
2.	Additional Cargo Berth	37.20
3.	Improving survey capabilities	10.00
4.	Container handling Facilities	11.00
5.	Replacement of wharf cranes	12.10
6.	Modification to M D Kutich Vallabh	16.00

*(Rupees in crores)**Proposed outlay
(1992-97)**Name of the Scheme*

5. Mormugao	
1. Additional Cargo Berth No.11	20.00
2. Modification to MOHP	12.00
3. Replacement of barge unloader (PH.I)	20.00
4. Procurement of tug	10.00
5. Re-alignment of old berth	20.00

[*Translation*]

ately, alongwith interest thereon on the basis of the Census of 1991?

Per Capita Loan

3610. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of the per capita amount of internal and external loans, sepa-

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ABRAR AHMED): (a) The details are as follows:

	Per capita on the basis of 1991 Census (Rupees) Total population 84.6 crore)
(i) Internal market loans of the Central Government outstanding at the end of 1991-92 (Rs. 78075 crore)	923
(ii) External loans on Government account outstanding at the end of 1991-92 (Rs. 106638 crore excluding Rouble debt at current rate of exchange)	1260
(iii) Interest on internal market loans (Rs. 7355 crore)	87
(iv) Interest on external loans on Government account (Rs. 2704 crore)	32

[*English*]**Liquidation of Bombay Branch of BCCI**

3611. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) has liquidated its Bombay branch; and

(b) if so, the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIN-

ISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). Consequent upon the appointment of Receiver, by Monetary Regulator of Cayman Islands, to assume control of the affairs of bank of Crew and Commerce International (BCCI), RBI issued constructions to the local office of the BCCI at Bombay to suspend its operations unless otherwise permitted in writing by RBI. Subsequently on 15th July, 1991 RBI Moved the High Court at Bombay under the provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 for the liquidation of the branch and also for the

appointment of provisional Liquidator. Bombay High Court granted interim order appointing State Bank of India as provisional Liquidator of BCCI (Overseas) Ltd., Bombay branch, SBI took over the possession of the affairs of the bank as per the said order on 16.7.91. State Bank of India has now offered to acquire specified assets and all liabilities of the Bombay branch of BCCI (O) Ltd. RBI have moved to Bombay High Court for their approval.

[*Translation*]

Special Penal Law for Banks and Insurance Companies

3612. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether Central Vigilance Commission has suggested to legislate a special penal law for the bank and insurance related crimes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). The Central Vigilance Commission had made a suggestion in 1986 regarding banking and insurance industry that it would be worth-while considering amendment in the law for including a provision for confiscation of ill-gotten wealth from

the illegitimate possessors.

(c) The matter was considered and in view of the enactment of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and the provisions contained therein, the need for enactment of such law was not felt.

[*English*]

Air Travel Facility to Government Officials

3613. SHRI CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the officials of the Union Government entitled to travel by Air on official tour, grade-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to allow these officials to avail air travel facility under leave Travel Concession Scheme also; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRA SHEKHRA MURTHY): (a) Officers drawing a basic pay of Rs. 5100 and above may at their discretion, travel by air on official journeys. Officers drawing pay between Rs. 4100 and Rs. 5100 may also, at their discretion travel by air on official journeys, if the distance involved is more than 500 kms. and, the journey cannot be performed overnight by a direct train service/through carriage service.

(b) and (c). The relevant Rules permit a Govt. servant to travel by air on LTC between places not connected by rail, where an alternative means of travel is either not available or is more expensive.

Subsidy to Public Sector Enterprises

3614. SHRI C. SREENIVAASAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide subsidy to the public sector enterprises;

(b) if so, the whether continuously loss incurring public sector enterprises are also likely to be given subsidy;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (d). Subsidies are paid to Public Sector Undertakings only in cases where they undertake certain operations at the behest of Government and on condition that Government would subsidise loss, if any, incurred in such operations. Subsidies provided for such purposes are indicated in Statement No. 6 of Expenditure Budget Vol. 1 1993-94, presented to the Parliament as a part of Budget of 1993-94. The Eighth plan approved by the National Development Council has also emphasised the need to substantially roll back subsidy payments as a percentage of G.D.P. by the end of the Eighth Plan period. It has pointed out that a policy of Government meeting the cash losses of so many P.S. Us for all times to come is sustainable.

Seminar on Peace-Keeping Operations under United Nations

3615. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have participated in the Seventeenth Session of

Pacific Armies Management Seminar on peace-keeping operations under the United Nations; and

(b) if so, the proposals put forward by the Government in the Seminar and the reaction of other participating countries thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLILKARJUN): (a) The representatives of Indian Army participated in the Seminar.

(b) This was a professional Seminar, attended by Army representatives of various countries. There was no occasion for Government to offer any proposals.

Restructuring of Global Environment Facility

3616. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the North-South divide that marked the negotiations leading upto the Earth Summit at Rio last June, has resurfaced over the Global Environment Facility;

(b) if so, the amount of grant India expects from this fund; and.

(c) the impact of the proposal restructuring of GEF on its area of priorities and funding so far as India is concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ABRAR AHMED): (a) The effort of GEF Participants is to seek a consensus approach which would prevent a North-South polarisation

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

12.00 hrs.

[English]

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mohan Singh.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record except Mr. Mohan Singh.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record except Mr. Mohan Singh. If you speak afterwards it will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

12.02 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER -in the Chair]

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will call the names one by one.

*(Interruptions)**

12.02 1/2hrs.

*At this stage, Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav and some other hon. Members come and stood on the floor near the table.**(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will call the names as per the list.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will call the names one by one.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I request you to please go to your seats.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please go to your seats.

*(Interruptions)**

12.08 hours

At this stage, Shri devendra Prasad Yadav and some other hon. Members went back to their seats

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, please.

(Interruptions)

12.10hrs.

*At this stage, Shri Nitish kumar and some other hon. Members came and sat on the floor near the Table.**(Interruptions)**At this stage, Shri Nitish Kumar and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Speaker had called the name of Shri Mohan Singh only. Immediately after Shri Sharad Yadav, I will call other names as per the List. This is the understanding. Do you agree, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan?

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN(Rosera): Yes. Mandal.

[Translation]

SHRI ASTABHUJA PRASAD SHUKLA(Khalilabad): We do not get even one opportunity to raise our points....

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, are you allowing the debate on the Mandal Commission?

Would you allow us to speak...

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. deputy Speaker, Sir, 52% of our population belongs to the backward classes but during the last 40 years they have been deprived of their rights. Now with the decision of the Supreme Court we have found our a new way. The Supreme Court has given a categorical decision in favour of the exploited and the oppressed. I think that the basis of the economic criterion was discussed threadbare in the Supreme Court. The judgement repeatedly emphasises that there is no mention of economic criterion in the Constitution. The Supreme Court has taken a categorical stand on this issue. Every party has raised this issue in the elections and it formed part of the manifesto but it was postponed every time. When our party took up the issue there was lot of controversy and many unfortunate things happened. There was unanimity over the issue later and the Supreme Court ignored the principle of economic criterion. Later the Government through a notification set up a Commission which tried to distort and manipulate things. The Government tried to change the structure of the system and the rights given to the backward classes under the Constitution.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you want to run the House smoothly then I demand that immediate decision should be taken in this regard. We want to fight a value based battle. You should not test our patience. How is it possible that the Government has accepted the report of the Committee which is not in favour of the backward classes. Their rights are being snatched away. They are being trampled upon and there is no mention of the economic criterion.

Mr. Deputy speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that is the report of the Committee is not withdrawn immediately there would be lot of agitation inside and outside the House which has never been witnessed before. I have recently come back from a tour of the country and I found that the people all over

were anxious. It is a matter of regret that even though thousand went to jail on this issue and they had thrown up a challenge to the Government but even then the Government accepted the report of the Committee and the policies of the Congress party were thrust on the Nation. It has made the situation worst and a result there is tension today. If the backward classes had got these rights earlier there would have been no tension nor thousands would have been killed. Today the Government has again given birth to a controversy on this issue.

I would like to submit to the Government that the report of the Committee should be withdrawn immediately. If it is not done we would not allow the House to function. We work according to some norms but now we have had enough and the water has flown above our head. The Committee can not violate the basic rights of the oppressed class. I therefore, demand that the Government should immediately withdraw the report. I would also like the Government to express its reaction in this regard.
...*(Interruptions)*

12.19hrs.

At this stage, Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Why do you not finish this Mandal issue first and then go to some other subject ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wanted to say that this is a very sensitive matter. The Committee has given its recommendations but before the Government had acted on this and accepted it, it should have been discussed here. An opportunity should have been given to the Members to express their views. Therefore, the Government should allow a discussion on this. What is this? I do not know. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): The implementation of the Expert Committee's report should be kept in abeyance till it is discussed in this House. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Khurana, is on his legs. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: How can the Government implement this report without being discussed here in this House? (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Madan Lal Khurana. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, 400-500 jhuggis in Mithapur Village near Badarpur on Delhi Border have been demolished by bulldozers... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI (Saidpur): Discussion on Mandal Commission should be held first. ... (*Interruptions*)

12.23 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Chhedi Paswan and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: How will the Government accept the Expert Committee's report without being discussed here? (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will call one by one.
(*Interruptions*)

12.26 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Chhedi Paswan and some other hon. Members sat on the floor near the Table
(*Interruptions*)

12.29 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen to me first.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats. If need be come later, but first listen to me.

12.30 hrs.

At this stage Shri Chhedi paswan and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You please take your seat too. I will be grateful to you for this cooperation. If you want discussion on this topic then it will be allowed and if later on some hon. Members want to discuss the issue with the hon. Minister then a meeting can be arranged in my Chamber. Even if after this, you want something else, then...

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Bosera). Please listen 2-4 hon. Members. Yesterday also we met you in this connection and requested you to ...

MR. SPEAKER: I am prepared to listen your brief speech. If you want a full fledged discussion, then it can also be arranged. After it if you still desire anything else then it is your sweet will. Other hon. Members are also anxious to speak on this issue.
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAJ SSI (Nainital): What about Mr. Shukla...

SHRI SPEAKER: It is regarding Mr. Shukla. Anything can be said about you too.

You have not given me any notice. You cannot start speaking just like that. Please sit down. I will also allow you to speak. If you want to speak later on then I will grant you permission for it too.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:

Without listening to us how can you give your ruling.

MR. SPEAKER: Please first take your seat. I am just saying that all that you want will be allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not disturb. your intentions are good but you are disturbing the House in the transaction of the Business before it. Had you told me in advance, I would have allowed the discussion. Shri Paswan, I told you that I will allow discussion. However, I am giving you people opportunity to speak one after the other..

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is not so. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will afterwards allow you to speak too.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If you are in favour of adjournment then I will adjourn the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Speak one by one. The House cannot be run in this manner. If you want the House to be adjourned then I have got no reservations. When I am on my lages, you should sit down. I will give you chance too. If all this is not stopped then I will adjourn the House. What is this you are not allowing anyone to speak. Unnecessarily the House is being disturbed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please first sit down. I am reiterating that the House cannot be run like this. I will first talk to the leaders of various parties.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. This is not your home where you can prevail upon.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed him.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH(Aonla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you allowed Shri Ram Vilas Paswan to speak on the Mandal issue.....*(Interruptions)*We also want to put forth our views.

MR. SPEAKER: Alright, speak afterwards. Now I call Shri Khurana.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA(South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards demolition of the approved slum cluster, on the Delhi border near Badarpur close to Mithapur village, by the Haryana Government's agency HUDA. Four- five hundred jhuggis were razed to the ground by bulldozer in which a young man and two innocent children-one infant about one and half month old and the other 5 year old lost their lives.

For holding the Congress (I) convention at Surakjund hundreds of people were rendered homeless to make way for the widening of road. I am raising this issue of the livelihood of the poor and inhuman treatment that has been meted out to these poor people *(Interruptions)* ... Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the duty of the State Government to look after the welfare of the people. Dr. appears that the ruling party has transformed itself into the State and the country and thinks itself to be above law. It may be justified morning to fascion but in a democratic set up such acts are causing concern and ruling party have made us sceptical that in which direction the Congress is steering the country? Have the emergency days

come back? Has the Government taken practical steps not to repeat the emergency excesses.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday night I visited that area and I was pained to me the gory sight. It could well be imagined what might be happening in other parts of the country when such incidents are taking place right here in the capital. Mithapur village located on the left side of Mathura Road and Badarpur village was provided with all the facilities provided in slums by the DDA, but on 28th February the Haryana Government razed it through bulldozers after illegally entering Delhi. Now they are living in the open and till date two children have died. All the four B. J. P. MPs from Delhi have framed a charter of 3 demands i.e. firstly, the demolition work should be immediately stopped and secondly, all people should be rehabilitated and thirdly, compensation should be paid to the next of kin of those killed. All of us- the four BJP MPs- are going to Mithapur to stage 'dhama'. Till the demands are accepted we will not allow smooth functioning.. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI TARA CNAND KHANDELWAL (Chandni Chowk): Mr. Speaker, Sir, atrocities on the people cannot be tolerated... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Virendra, please sit down. I am asking you to sit down..

(*Interruptions*)

12.31 hrs.

RE. SUPREME COURT'S JUDGEMENT ON MANDAL COMMISSION REPORT

MR. SPEAKER: In the light of the special importance of the Mandal Commission report I am allowing some hon. Members to speak. After this other subjects too can be taken up. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for the opportunity given by you to speak. I will just

dwell on 2-3 points. Sir, as you are well aware that it was our Government which was able to implement Mandal Commission report after 40 years on 7th August, 1990 and due to this it had to resign. Judgement of the Supreme Court delivered on 16th Nov. in this regard quite categorically states that 27 per cent reservation in jobs will be made for the backward classes. Further the judgement says that the creamy layer i.e. the advance backward classes among the backward classes need be identified but the 27 per cent reservation will go only to the backward classes. The Expert Committee set up to go into this aspect has submitted its report 3-4 days back which has been accepted by the Government. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to submit that accepted by the government Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to submit that acceptance by the Government of the Export Committee's report shows the intentions of the Government. Because the Government has also accepted the recommendation that the children of the farmer having land on lease with more than 65 per cent land with irrigation facilities, will be denied the benefit of reservation. Even the children of class-II employees will be denied the benefit of reservation. All these have been covered under the economic ceiling. What I want to say is that in this manner even one per cent youths of the backward classes will not be able to enter the Government jobs. Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Government as to how this 27 per cent reservation quota is going to be filled in such conditions are imposed. The Government should, therefore, reject the Expert Committee Report. The Government need convene a meeting of the leaders of the Scheduled Castes, backward classes and minorities and in the meeting should announce reservation of 27 per cent seats for the backward classes. Only after this quota of 27 per cent is filled up, the Government need think about the economic criteria. The hasty acceptance of the report of the Export Committee by the Government clearly shows its anti Mandal Commission stand from the very beginning. The Government wants to keep the youth of backward classes deprived of the benefits of reservation even

after forty years of independence when the Supreme Court has given its verdict in favour of it. I have given a notice for discussion on it under Rule 193.

MR. SPEAKER: Paswanji, I have told you that

[*English*]

I will find time for you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Therefore, I would like Shri Vidyacharan Shukla ji to assure us on behalf of the Government that the report of the expert committee which the Government has accepted, will not be implected and a meeting will be convenced again to hold talks on this issue
(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will give time to all the hon. Members. One Member each from every political party will get time. Please express your views within two or three minutes. I will give time if you want time to have a discussion on it.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this matter just does not concern him alone, rather it is related to the entire nation.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH (Rajgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Mandal Commission and reservation for weaker sections is concerned with the sentiments of people, and in this regard I would like to urge upon the Government to review whatever decision they have taken. They should discuss the issue with the Members of all political parties and try to arrive at a consensus.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have an objection to "Shri Paswan's submission on that the representatives of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and backward classes should be

invited in the meeting. I would like to submit to you that though I come from upper class I have always championed the reservation for backward classes and the Congress Party has always worked for the welfare of backward classes. So far as the verdict of Supreme Court is concerned, I do agree that the Supreme Court has not yet taken into consideration the reservation on economic basis, but so far as this question of creamy layer is concerned, for which it has issued directives to the Government to define the 'creamy layer'. Afterall, what will be the basis to find out the creamy layer?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the farmers be covered by it ?

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: Please listen. My submission is that whether farmers are covered by this emotional issue or not, but the Government should invite the leaders of all political parties including the representatives of upper classes and backward classes and review the matter.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the last day of the four months' time limit given by the Supreme Court, the hon. Minister has made a statement in hurry and that the report of experts committee has been placed on the Table of the House. It means that the hon. Members were unaware of what the report was. That report must have been first brought to the notice of the country and the Parliament so that people could have discussed its contents, evaluate the positive and negative points of it and decided whether the recommendations were in accordance with the verdict of Supreme Court or not. But this was not done. The Government may have two types of intentions behind it. Just as Shri Sharad Yadav and Shri Ram Vilas Paswan have mentioned. I would not like to repeat what they have submitted as to how the experts' committee considered the economic aspect to be of equal importance in their report. If you please permit me, I may quote each and every line of it.

MR. SPEAKER: You may do so afterwards and not just now.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I drop it at the moment and would take up them during the discussion. However, the expert's committee had stated-

[English]

"Economic advancement leads to social advancement."

[Translation]

It is totally against the verdict of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court had stated that it would accept social advancement alone and not the economic advancement.

The other ill intention behind it and the important thing is that all have been removed from it including the farmers who are below the ceiling of 65 per cent irrigated land. Mr. Speaker Sir, there is a big fraud in it that M.Ps, MLAs.....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us discuss it in detail later on.

[Translation]

I will give you chance for that.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I will make one point and then conclude. The report excludes all the persons of the status of M.Ps. M.L. A. and even Governor. Mostly those who are in politics raise this issue. They have given a message to the society that the politicians have ensured guarantee of reservation for their own children and have excluded all the remaining people. I feel that the expert's committee report has been brought in between with the purpose of dividing the people. I want that the report of the Experts Committee should not to be accepted. Let there be thorough discussion on it and only then a decision on should be taken.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR
(Paralit): Mr. Speaker Sir it appears that

intention of the Government is not clear from the very beginning. I would like to clarify that this issue is not confined to particular party nor is it confined to weaker sections, rather the feelings of the people of the entire country are associated with it. It would really be very difficult. If a proper decision is not taken in time. The decision which the Central Government has taken and the points it has raised are likely to create discord and an atmosphere of confrontation in the country again.

After the Supreme Court verdict was announced the Central Government should have adopted a clear policy with regard to reservation and if it was to take any decision regarding creamy layer, it should have taken it afterwards in consultation with all.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, being a farmer, I know that it is just impossible to maintain the family even if 60 per cent of the land, left after ceiling, is irrigated land. The Government should certainly have made clear to the country that its aim was not this. In the election manifesto of the Bhartiya Janata Party for the ninth Lok Sabha elections, it has been clearly mentioned that there should be reservation for these people. We never followed a dual policy. We did advocate the reservation facility for economically backward sections of the society but we never tracked of complicating the issue. Government's intention on this issue is not clear.

My submission is that this matter may continue to be reviewed, however, reservation facility should be provided in jobs with immediate effect and when there is 27 per cent reservation, then only the creamy layer or any other issue may be taken up for consideration. A decision should be taken in this regard invariably. Advertisements for jobs are being published in newspapers these days but there is no indication of reserved posts in them.

MR. SPEAKER: You will get an opportunity make your point in detail.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: That is all right, but I want to say something with regard to the report of the experts' committee which is said to have taken decision on the basis of majority, whereas the fact is that only four of 9 members have recommended for this. It is certainly a conspiracy to divide the society. As Shri Nitish Kumar has pointed out here. I have also been receiving a number of telephone calls complaining that the politicians were concerned only about their own side and have neglected the weaker sections of the society. I may give a number of examples. of people who may be prosperous from economic point of view but their social status is not well. I would like the hon. Minister to direct the administration to take an immediate decision with regard to reservation facility and seek the views of the people of every section of society on the issue of creamy layer in order to take an appropriate decision on it.

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, our party, i. e. the communist party of India has welcomed the verdict of the Supreme Court. But the matter of regret is the when the committee was preparing its report, the Congress Party has tried to exert influence for the inclusion of its own views on the reservation issue in the report through backdoor. According to the decision of the Supreme Court, the economic criterion was obviously rejected. The report of the Committee deals with the economic criterion only. The soul of Mandal Commission goes against the soul of decision given by the Supreme Court. So, I would like to suggest that the Government should immediately make the announcement. The Government has approved the report of the Committee, but the Members are not aware of it and no discussion was held on it. So, according to the decision of the Supreme Court, the recommendations of the Mandal Commission should be implemented immediately. So far as the 'creamy layer' is concerned, a way out should be found by discussing it with the people.

[English]

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): I can

very well understand the embarrassment of the Leaders of the Janata Dal Party and some of the Opposition Parties. Sir, it is very said that when the Government has taken a decision to finally implement the recommendations of the Mandal Commission, a wrong message is being attempted to be communicated to the whole nation that the backward communities are not benefited. I belong to a backward community and I had been a Member of the Kerala Public Service Commission. I have got twenty years of experience in the functioning of the public Service Commission. I speak with authority that there is no problem to implement the decision of the Government to ensure that really the deserving backward classes are given the benefit of the Mandal Commission. One thing I want to ask them and that is, whose interest are they representing. Do they really want to protect the interest of the really backward classes? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. CHARLES: Sir, with authority, I can say that in Kerala....

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Why have you be flour M.Ps. M.L.As.? (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nitish Kumar, you are taking his time. Let him speak what he wants to speak. You are not expected to immediately reply. Please sit down.

SHRI A. CHARLES: In Kerala, for the last 25 years, the Government are implementing the reservation for the backward community.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Very good. I have to clinch the issue. There are other Members who want to speak. I will give you time.

SHRI A. CHARLES: On this issue, I can give hundreds of instances where only the children of First Class Officers are getting

the reservation while, the really backward people who deserve reservation, are totally neglected. We want to protect the interests of the really backward people. Nobody can take the monopoly of reservation. I want a detailed discussion and I would request you, Mr. Speaker, to allow a discussion on this.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTATREYA BANDARU(Secundrabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I welcome the provision of 27 per cent reservation for the backward classes as recommended by the Mandal Commission. There is too much poverty in the villages of our country. I also belong to a backward community and come from a poor family. This 27 per cent reservation for the backward classes has been given now, but they are still struggling for their livelihood in the Villages. People with political and I.A.S. background only are getting the benefit of reservation. The theory of creamy layer introduced by the Government is not justified.

The backward classes should actually get the benefit of reservation made for them. I am deadly against those people who are snatching the due rights of the deserving people of backward classes...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry I thought that you wanted to speak on some other point.

Mr. A. Charia be very brief. You have a very wonderful capacity of saying many things in a short time.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA(Bankura): We all welcome the judgment of the Supreme Court. After the judgment of the Supreme Court, an Expert Committee had set up and that Expert Committee has submitted its report. Now, that Report is laid on the Table of the House.

MR.SPEAKER: All these facts are known to us. Please come to the point.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: It is surprising and we consider it to be a denigra-

tion of the House that the Report is laid on the Table of the House immediately after it has been accepted by the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that after the reports of the experts are given and if they are laid on the Table of the House, the Government is expected to say something on those reports. You do not know this procedure.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: But how without any discussion them?

MR. SPEAKER: If there as anything objectionable, they would have objected to it.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: How without any discussion, it has been accepted by the Government ? I demand that the implementation of the Report should be kept in abeyance.

Until the Report is discussed here, until a consensus is arrived at on that Report, the recommendations of that Report should not be implemented. This should be discussed here in this House. The Government should call a meeting of all the leaders of all the political parties and discuss this issue.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV(Saharsa): Mr. Speaker, Sir from the very beginning it has been the intention of the Government to evade this issue. In the verdict given by the Supreme Court after prolonged discussions, there is no mention of fixing economic criterion. The report of the Committee clearly states the economic criterion. Sir, there is much resentment in the backward classes and the Common people due to this. When Shri Sharad yadav was speaking. I was attentively listening to him I fully agree with his views. everyone is anxiously waiting for the decision which will be taken here. The report of the Committee should be withheld for the present and a unanimous decision should be taken by conducting an all party meeting. The recommendations should be implemented follow-

ing a decision is taken. The economic criteria should be removed at all cost.

[English]

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): This is a very emotional issue. We are all for the implementation of the Mandal Commission Report. If the Report of the Expert Committee is going against the interest of the backward classes, it has to be rejected. Otherwise, we have to take it that the Government is going against the interest of the backward classes.

So far as we are concerned, the creamy layer criterion is creating a lot of confusion; it has to be dropped. In fact, we want more percentage for the backward classes...

MR. SPEAKER: You what other Members have said is acceptable to you; that you are endorsing it; you need not repeat it. You have made your point regarding the percentage. You have made it very clear.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: I endorse what other hon. Members have said about it.

[Translation]

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR(Barrackpore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Supreme Court has observed that the Government wants to get the work done through Judiciary which should have been done by the Government itself.

[English]

This is serious observation by the court; and now they have set up an Expert Committee, which will be more expert than the Mandal himself and the Supreme Court.

I like that the Supreme Court orders should be adhered to taking the Parliament

into confidence and having a threadbare discussion in the House.

13.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH(Ferozepur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the backward class, which is the majority class of this country has been the victim of great injustice for a long. Every party, which has come to the power, has taken the help of these backward classes, but after coming to the power, they have totally neglected these classes.

The report of the Mandal Commission was not implemented for long. The Supreme Court gave a decision to implement the Commission's recommendations and an Expert Committee was set up after that. The people of this country are not aware of the committee and therefore, they want that the recommendations of the Mandal Commission should be implemented as it is. No change should be made in it, so that the backward classes can get justice...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Please do not disturb me, when I am helping you on your point....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please be quiet and let me say something.

You have raised your point in a very good manner. This House and the Government respect your sentiments and there is no doubt that the other people will also have a regard for your feelings. The hon. Minister is also present here, but I am not directing him to say anything. You told me that a discussion should be held on this matter. I will allot time for this discussion. This matter is such an important matter as requires a time for the discussion on it.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, why do not you keep quiet? Why do not you seal your lips?

[Translation]

I would like to request the hon. Minister that the hon. Members of this House have expressed their sentiments very minutely. So, he should call a meeting with them. If they have some misapprehensions, you should discuss it with them, before coming to the House.

[English]

It will help you. If you want, I can invite the Minister and you also in my Chamber and discuss. But you please first go to the Minister's chamber and have a cup of tea there and then come to my chamber, if you do not feel like and if you are not satisfied.

[Translation]

After this, I will not allow any other discussion on this issue today. Today is Friday, and I am allowing one or two Members to express their views. Shahabuddin ji, I will take up your subject on Monday. I am allowing one or two Members now and then I am going to allow the papers to be laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI ASTBHUJA PRASAD SHUKLA(Khaliabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the main crop in my constituency is sugarcane. The single sugar mill with a capacity of 600 tonnes is privately owned and it has become very old and obsolete. It has not been able to crush sugar for the last two seasons. The employees have not received any pay for the last 10 months. The family members of two employees died, as they were not able to get medicines for them. They had been deprived of electricity and water. Their entire life has become a hell. There is a widespread resentment among the farmers. The feelings of frustrations are also prevailing among them, as they have not been

able to take their sugarcane to the mill for the last two seasons. There is much resentment among the employees also. For the last 10 days, they are giving dharna at Lucknow, but no one is paying any heed to them. I have repeatedly appealed to the Governor, his advisor and the Food Minister to listen to the employees and the farmers and to talk with the owners.

It is being said that the sugar mill will run, but the Government is going to take-over it. Is the Government going to sell it or going to run it through the present mill owner? It is March and no decision has been taken and no work has yet been started in that mill. I have talked with the Secretary, today morning. the BJP Government of Uttar Pradesh had constituted a Committee to solve this dispute..

MR. SPEAKER: Today is Friday and we have to rise early.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ASTBHUJA PRASAD SHUKLA: The Committee submitted its report in January but no decision has been taken on that report so far. I want to submit and demand that the House should be apprised of the action being taken by the Government with regard to Commissioning of the sugar mill of Khalilabad and work should be started there as soon as possible so that the crushing of sugarcane may be started in the next season. Prompt arrangements should be made to ensure the payment of salary to the mill employees-so that they can meet our their daily expenses. They should be given guarantee of livelihood and the hon. Minister of Food should make a statement in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: Papers to be Laid.
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I warn you. You should now go back to your seat. This is not correct.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am warning you. You cannot hold the House to ransom like this. Please sit down now. You cannot turn the House into this kind of thing.

(Interruptions)

13.06 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Virendra Singh and some other hon. Members left the House.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notification under Tea Act, 1953

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (Shri P.A. Sangma): On behalf of Shri Pranab Mukherjee; I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Tea (Amendment) Rules, 1993 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 932(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th December, 1992 under sub-section (3) of section 49 of the Tea Act, 1953. [Pleased in library. SEE No LT. 3628/93]

Ordinance under Article 2B(2) (a) of the constitution in relation to the State of Himachal Pradesh.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Ordinances (Hindi and English versions) under article 213 (2) (a) of the Constitution read with clause (c) (iv) of the proclamation dated the 15th December, 1993 issued by the President in relation to the State of Himachal Pradesh:-

(i) The Himachal Pradesh Industrial establishments (National and Festival Holidays and Casual and Sick Leave) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1992 (No. 3. of 1992) promulgated by the Governor of Himachal Pradesh on the 15th September, 1992.

[placed on library see no. Lt. -3629/93]

(ii) The Himachal Pradesh Shops and Commercial Establishments (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993 (No. 4 of 1992) Promulgated by the Governor of Himachal Pradesh on the 15th September, 1992.

[Placed in Library. Sec. No. Lt.- 3630/93]

Notification under Mayor part Act, 1963 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): On behalf of Shri Jagdish Tytler: I beg to lay on the Table-

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of Section 124 of the Major Ports Act, 1963:-

(i) G.S.R. 429(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st April, 1992 approving the Vishakhapatnam port Trust Employees (Leave) Regulations, 1992.

(ii) G.S.R. 754(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th September, 1992 approving the Calcutta Port Trust Employees ' (other than Haldia Dock Complex) (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Eighth Amendment Regulations, 1992.

(iii) G.S.R. 760 (E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 8th September, 1992 approving the Kandla port Trust (Recruitment of Heads of Department) Amendment Regulations, 1992.

(iv) G.S.R. 891(E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 24th November, 1992 approving the Kandla port Employees (Grant of Advance for Building Houses) Amendment Regulations, 1992.

(v) G.S.R. 23 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th January, 1993 approving the new mangalore port Trust (Recruitment, Seniority and promotion) Seventh Amendment Regulations, 1993. [Placed in Library . See No Lt. 3631 /93]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 103 of the Major Port Trust Act. 1963:-

(a) (i) Annual Accounts of the Paradip port Trust for the Year 1991-92 together with audit Report thereon.

(ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Paradip port Trust for the year 1991-92. [Placed in Library . See No LT 3632 /93]

(b) (i) Annual Accounts of the Visakhapatnam port Trust, Visakhapatnam, for the year 1991-92 together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Visakhapatnam port Trust, Visakhapatnam for the year 1991-92.

(3) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust, Visakhapatnam, for the year 1991-92 together with Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust, Visakhapatnam, for the year 1991-92.

(5) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library sec No LT 3633 /93]

(6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Inland Waterways Authority of India, Noida, for the year 1991-92 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Inland Waterways Authority of India, Noida, for the year 1991-92.

(7) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the pers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library see No. Lt 3634 /93]

(8) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956. -

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1991-92.

(ii) Annual Report of the Central Inland water Transport Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1991-92 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(9) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

Placed in Library see No Lt- 3635 /93]

Annual report and Review on the working of Tobacco Board Guntur far 1991-92.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA):On behalf on Shri Kamaluddin Ahmed . I beg to lay on the Table -

(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi

[Sh. P. A. Sangma]

and English versions) of the Tobacco Board, Guntur, for the year 1991-92 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Tobacco Board, Guntur, or the year 1991-92.

[Place in Library see No. Lt. 3636 /93]

Notifications under customs Act. 1962 and a consolidated report on the working of public sector bank for year ending March 1993.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY): I beg to lay on the Table -

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act. 1962:-

- (i) S.O. 116 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th February, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate on exchange for conversion of Japanese Yen into Indian Currency or Vice-versa.

- (ii) S. O. 127(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th February, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of Imports.

- (iii) S.O. 128 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th February, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency

or vice-versa for purpose of assessment of Exports.

- (iv) S. O. 144 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd March, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for purpose of assessment of Exports.

- (v) S.O. 145 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd March, 1993 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for purpose of assessment of Import.

[Placed in Library . see No LT -3637 / 93]

(2) A copy of the Consolidated Report (Hindi and English versions) on the working of public Sector Banks for the year ended the 31st March, 1993.

[Placed in Library . See No Lt- 3638/ 93] placed in Library See No LT 3640 /93]

3. Balasore Gramin Bank, Balasore (Orissa)

[Placed in Library . See No LT-3641/ 93]

4. Howrah Gramin Bank, Howrah (West Bengal)

(3) A copy each of the following Annual reports and Accounts of the Regional Rural Banks for the year 1991-92 together with auditor's thereon:-

1. Bhilwara Ajmer Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bhilwara (Rajasthan) [placed in Library See No. LT 3639 /93]
2. Kapurthala Ferozpur Kshetriya

- Gramin Bank, Kapurthala(Punjab) [Placed in Library . See LT- 3651 /93]
- [Placed in Library . See No LT-3642 /93]
5. Cuttack Gramin Bank, Cuttack (Orissa) [Placed in Library . See No. LT - 3643 /93]
6. Tripura Gramin Bank, Agartala [Placed in Library . see No LT- 3644/93]
7. Fatehpur kshetriya Gramin Bank, Fatehpur (U.P.) [Placed in Library . See No. LT- 3645 /93]
8. Allahabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Allahabad(U.P.) [Placed in Library . See No. LT -3646 /93]
9. Subansiri Gaonlia Bank, North Lakhimpur (Assam) [Placed in Library . See No. LT-3647 /93]
10. Jaipur Nagpur Aanchalik Gramin Bank, Jaipur (Rajasthan) . [Placed in Library . See No. LT. 3648 /93]
11. Tulsi Gramin Bank, Banda(U.P.) [Placed in Library . See No. LT-3649 /93]
12. Pratapgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Pratapgarh(U.P.) [Placed in Library .See No. LT - 3650/93]
13. Malwa Gramin Bank, Sangru. (Punjab) [Placed in Library . See No. LT- 3651 /93]
14. Jammu Rural Bank, Jummu (J&K) [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3652/ 93]
15. Marudhar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Churu (Rajasthan) [Placed in Library . See No. LT- 3653/93]
16. Rayalaseema Grameena Bank, Cuddapah(A.P.) [Placed in Library . See No. LT- 3654/93]
17. Mizoram Rural Bank, Aizawal. [Placed in Library . See No. LT- 3655/93]
18. Mewar Aanchalik Gramin Bank, Udaipur (Rajasthan) [Placed in Library . See No. LT- 3656/93]
19. Cachar Gramin Bank, Silchar (Assam). [Placed in Library . See No LT-3657/ 93]
20. Pandyan Grama Bank, Sattur (T.N.) [Placed in Library . See No. LT-3658/ 93]
21. Netravati Grameena Bank, Mangalore (Karnataka) [Placed in Library . See No. LT- 3659/93]
22. Kanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Kanpur(U.P.) [Placed in Library . See No. LT- 3660/93]

[Sh. M. V. Chandrashekhara]

23. Shekhawal Gramin Bank, Sikar (Rajasthan)
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3661/93]
24. Chhatrasal Gramin Bank, Orai, Distt. Jalaun(U.P.)
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3662/93]
25. Aurangabad Jalna Gramin Bank, Aurangabad(Maharashtra)
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3663/93]
26. Hadoti Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Kota (Rajasthan)
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3664/93]
27. Sarankshetriya Gramin Bank, Chapra (Bihar)
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3665/93]
28. Santhal Parganas Gramin Bank, Dumka (Bihar)
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3666/93]
29. Monghyr Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Monghyr (Bihar)
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3667/93]
30. Bundelkhand Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Tikamgarh(M.P.)
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3668/93]
31. Mayrakshi Gramin Bank, suri, Birbhum (West Bengal)
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3669/93]
32. Cauvery Grameena Bank, mysore(karnataka)
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3670/93]
33. Ratnagiri Sindhudurg Gramin Bank, Ratnagiri(Maharashtra)
[Placed in Library . See No . LT -3671/93]
34. Parvatiya Gramin Bank, Chamba (H.P.)
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3672/93]
35. Vaishali Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Muzaffarpur (Bihar)
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3673/93]
36. Uttarbanga Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Coochbehar (West Bengal)
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3674/93]
37. Palamau Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Daltonganj (Bihar)
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3675/93]
38. Samastipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Samastipur (Bihar).
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3676/93]
39. Pinkaini Grameena Bank, Nellore (A.P.)
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3677/93]
40. Ka Bank Nongkyndong Ri Khasi jaintia, Shillong
[Placed in Library . See No. LT-3678/93]

41. Giridih Kshetriya Gramin Bank,
Giridih (Bihar)

[Placed in Library . See No LT-3679/
93]

42. Dewas Shajapur kshetriya Gramin
bank, Dewas (M.P.)

[Placed in Library . See No LT-3680/
93]

Notification under Army Act, 1950

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DE-
VELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH
AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER
OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIA-
MENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL
WASNIK): On behalf of Shri mallikarjun. I
beg to lay on the Table a copy of the
Notification No. S. R. O. I (Hindi and English
versions) published in Gazette of India
dated the 23 rd January, 1993 specifying
the corps/ departments of the regular Army
in which the women shall be eligible for
enrollment or employment issued under
section 12 of the Army Act, 1950 [Placed in
Library .see No. LT-3681/93]

13.07 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY - GENERAL: Sir, I have
to report the following message received
from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

" In accordance with the
provisions of rule 111 of the
Rules of procedure and Conduct
of Business in Rajya Sabha, I am
directed to enclose a copy of the
Multimodal Transportation of
Goods Bill , 1993, which has
been passed by Rajya Sabha at
its sitting held on the 17 th March,
1993"

13.07 1/2hrs.

MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION OF GOODS BILLAS PASSED RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I lay on
the Table the Multimodal Transportation of
Goods Bill, 1993, as passed by Rajya Sabha
on the 17th March, 1993.

13.08 hrs.

Rules Committee (I) Second Report

[English]

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay
Noteh Central) : Sir, I beg to lay on the
Table, under sub-rule (1) of Rule 331 of the
Rules of Procedure and conduct of Busi-
ness in Lok Sabha, the Second Report
(Hind and English versions) of the Rules
Committee.

(II) Minutes

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Sir, I beg to
lay on the Table the Minutes (Hindi and
English versions) relating to the Second
Report of the Rules Committee.

13.08 1/2 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEM- BERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

Fourth report

[English]

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH
(ELURU) : Sir, I beg to present the Fourth
Report (Hindi and English version) of the
Committee on absence of Members from
the Sittings of the House.

13.09 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business from 22 nd March, 1993 to 31st March, 1993, will consist of:-

1. (a) General Discussion on the Railway Budget for 1993-94.
(b) Discussion on the Resolution regarding recommendations of Railway Convention Committee.
(c) Discussion and Voting on Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1993-94.
(d) Discussion and Voting on Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1992-93.
2. (a) General discussion on General Budget for 1993-94.
(b) Submission to the Vote of the House the Demands for Grants on Account (General) for 1993-94.
(c) Discussion and Voting on Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1992-93.
3. General Discussion on the State Budgets of Jammu & Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh and Discussion and Voting on Demands on Account for 1993-94 and supplementary Demands for Grants for 1992-93 in respect of these Budgets.
4. Consideration and passing of the following bills as passed by Rajya Sabha:-

(a) The Uttar Pradesh State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Bill, 1993.

(b) The Madhya Pradesh State legislature (Delegation of Powers) Bill, 1993.

(c) The Rajasthan State Legislature (Delegation of powers) Bill , 1993.

(d) The Himachal Pradesh State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Bill 1993.

5. Consideration of any item of the Government business carried over from today's order Paper.
6. Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Multimodal Transportation of goods Ordinance, 1993 and consideration and passing of the Multimodal Transportation of Goods Bill , 1993 as passed by Rajya Sabha.
7. discussion on the resolution seeking disapproval of the National Commission for Backward Classes Ordinance, 1993 and consideration and passing of the National Commission for Backward Classes Bill, 1993 as passed by Rajya Sabha.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, I am on a point of order. Mr. Speaker: you have to give the notice.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL (Phulpur): Sir, I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:- "In order to remove social, economic and political disparity in the country" uniform education policy should be implemented so that the unity and integrity of the country is not affected.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Sir, I request that the following items may be included in the next week's

agenda:-

(1) On the occasion of the beginning of sant Jhulelal anniversary (Navchand) Chaitra Shukla Paksha) Sthapna Navratra, Vikram Samvat 2050 and Hedgewar's anniversary, 24th March, 1993 should be declared as a public holiday and a provision should be made to declare this day as a public holiday every year.

(2) Inclusion of Rajasthani language in the Eighth Schedule of the constitution in order to provide recognition to this language at par with other languages.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT(Ajmer) :
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

(1) Need to take over the historical fort 'Taragarh' in Ajmer constructed by Chauhan rulers and developed by the last Chauhan ruler prithviraj Chauhan, under the purview of Department of Archaeology for its conservation, resurrection and development as a historical monument.

(2) Need to forestall the retrenchment of employees in the mills run by the N.T.C. in bewar and to increase their installed capacity for smooth functioning of these mills.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN(Kishanganj) : Sir, I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Discussion on the establishment of a States Reorganisation Commission with a view to create smaller States based on socio-cultural homogeneity, economic viability and administrative efficiency.

2. Discussion on the reorganisation of the police machinery and the formation of a national policy on its composition and deployment, and social control thereon.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR(Bareilly) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

(1) " Deletion of the Section 30(2) of the Registration Act, 1908 and Amendment to Section 26.

(2) Necessary amendments to the urban Ceiling Act, 1976 to safeguard the interests of farmers in Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI(Jhansi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

(1) Discussion regarding taking necessary steps to develop the Raja Mardan Singh fort, having significance with reference to the freedom struggle, located in talbehat, Lalitpur Janpad in Uttar Pradesh as a tourist spot.

(2) Discussion regarding setting up a Women Science Degree College in Jhansi Janpad in Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH(Aonla) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

(1) Discussion regarding restoring 30th June as the last date for the recovery of loans from farmers in Uttar Pradesh as Usual.

SHRI SHIBALLAV PANIGRAHI(Deogarh) : Sir, I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

[Sh. Shiballav Shiballav Panigrahi]

1. Discussion of deep conspiracy to destabilise out country and its economy , with the powerful bomb blast at Bombay and Calcutta and threat to our internal security.
2. Regarding report of the Expert Committee. specifying the criteria for identification of socially and educationally backward classes.

MR. SPEAKER: The house stands adjourned to meet again at 2.15.

13.14 hrs.

The lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.23 hrs.

The lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at twenty-three minutes past Fourteen of the clock

[MR. DEPUTY -SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) : Sir, I am on a point of order. Today is Friday and we have our Private Members' business. Normally the time for Private Members' Business is from 3.30 to 6.00 p.m. however today's List of Business shows it from 4.30 to 7.00 p.m.

Sir, as you are aware, the private members' time is an important time and it is sacrosanct that it should not be encroached upon at any time. On many occasion when the Government wants to transact some business, the House sits after Six o' Clock and sets up the business. But here, what has been done today is that our Private Members' time which starts at 3 30 p.m. has been shown as 4.30 p.m. without the permission of the House. And when I tried to

find out , I found here that in 1980 there had been a observation by the Deputy-Speaker-you are also, Sir, the Deputy-Speaker. Now I will read that observation. The Deputy - Speaker says on 19th December 1980:

" Now, before we take up the Private Members' Business I have to inform the House that as agreed upon in the Business Advisory Committee, we are going to sit up to 9.00 p.m. today. We take up the Private Members ' Business up to 6.00 p.m. Afterwards we will take up the Legislative business- Statutory Resolution and Other Bills."

So, Sir, this is an observation which very clearly indicates that on the day the House was to work up to Nine O'Clock in the night. This matter was also discussed in the Business Advisory Committee, while this time of 3.30 to six O'Clock for Private Members' Business was taken up correctly. Now, here we see, Sir, that our time has been taken to 4.30 p.m. Now , if Government wants to have their business , they should ensure that proper quorum is maintained. For that purpose, Sir, the Private Members time is being shifted from 3.30 p.m. 4.30 p.m. That is not as per the rules and that is not as per the spirit of the rules because I know there is one rule 26 which indicates that is should be taken up on the last two and a half hours. That is Rule 26. but , Sir, its spirit will be taken into consideration and the Ruling in 1980 which I have just now read to takes into account the spirit of the Rule and that spirit should be maintained. Otherwise again the next Friday the same thing is going to come . So, we would be losing this. We are extending cooperation to the Government by working one hour more. The has been decided and certainly we will work, Sir, Not at the cost of the private members' Business. I seek your Ruling, Sir, and you protect our rights. That only can be done. At no place, at no time it was decided that the Private Members ' business should start at 4.30 p.m. It was not at all decided and what was not decided earlier, how it can come , as you see?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR(Barh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue raised by the hon. Member Shri Ram Naik is a very important issue. So far as I remember during the last session of the Tenth Lok Sabha itself, I do not remember the exact date, the Private Members' Business was taken up at 3.00 p.m. and it lasted till 5 p.m. The hon. Member might have been somewhere in his constituency or miser have any other engagement at that time, this important issue was not brought to the notice of this august House. When he pointed out and referred to the ruling, it struck my mind and I thought it proper to raise it here so that you may kindly give your ruling in this regard.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH(Deoria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise an equally important issue. Today hon. Shrimati Maliniji, Shri Anil Basu, Mahtoji and myself visited Badarpur where houses of hundreds of poor people are being demolished just for the reason that the hon. Prime Minister is to pass through that area while going to attend the Congress session. Bulldozers are still into action in that area. People have been rendered homeless, their houses are being looted. You should definitely give your ruling in this regard. I know that your ruling will be in the right perspective because the time allotted for Private Members' Business should not be curtailed at any cost. You are yourself admitting it. I need not say much about it because I know your intention, your ideas & sentiments and personality. Therefore, I hope that while giving your ruling you will mention that the rights of private members and their time will not be curtailed at any cost. Availing this opportunity I want to submit that you may call it a use or misuse of your generosity I want to tell in the interest of the poor that the Government should make a statement on it, because in front of that land and building the Government, the D.D.A., too have its own land. If it is essential to broaden the road from security point of view, the land of D.D.A. should have been used for this purpose. There is no of taking the land of poor people and devastate them.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that it is ultimately up to the House to decide, but we thought that the continuity would be maintained. I understand the background behind that. There was an attempt to have continuity of time so that we could finish some business. There is a point of view in what they say that the Private Member's timing is normally not moved aside. Of course, I would like to make it clear that there is no cut in the amount of time, but there is shifting of time. But at the same time I would like to take the opportunity to bring it to the notice of the House that we have certain time constraint, a substantial time constraint. By the end of the month, by the 31st, because of the recess also that we have from 1st onwards right up to the 19th due to IPU Conference, we have many Bills replacing the Ordinances to take up for consideration and passing. We have the Railway Budget, we also have the Appropriation Bills and there is, unfortunately, the deadline of timing before us, that is, the 31st of this month. With regard to the timing of the Private Members' Business, it is upto the Chair to decide, Sir, if the Opposition is so insistent on it. The only thing is, the break will inconvenience all of us; it is not the Government alone which will suffer, but the House as a whole.

You would recollect, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Leader of the Opposition had, when I was placing on the Table of the House the copies of the Ordinances and the Statements, mentioned about too many Ordinances coming up and I had, in my reply, categorically said that seven of those Ordinances are actually replacement or repromulgation of the Ordinances which could not be passed during the last Session. I do believe that if we do not do our business,

[Sh. Rangarajan Kumaramangalam]

that is, the legislative business and tend to do everything else, then we would land up in a situation where our whole House, inclusive of the Government - I speak not on behalf of the Government at all, at the moment, but as a Member of this House, would be in trouble.

Sir, from the Government side, I do appreciate their point of view. It is not that their point of view is irrelevant or totally out of context. But we have a problem; it is not the problem of the Government alone, but the problem of the House itself. As best as the House thinks, we are agreeable to that. It is ultimately the decision of the House that matters; it is not the decision of the Government.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is there any hurdle for you?

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: There is only one hurdle and that is, the continuity will break. For example, at the moment, we have this Gold Bill now which has come over from yesterday. Now, we are expecting Atalji's speech on it and after Atalji's speech, that has finish to and there is Wildlife Bill which is a very simple one. If all of us can apply our minds, we can pass all the business. Really, there is no hurdle it is only an undertaking.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I upgould the problem of order raised Shri Ram Naik and others and we will stick to the original timing, as far as the Private Members' by Business is concerned.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what about my suggestion? Is the Government ready to consider it generously?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You ought to

have raised this matter during Zero Hour where the Government could have responded. Now we cannot ask the Government to reply to that.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: The Government should come out with a statement in this regard. Please direct the Government to do so. The Government should consider our suggestions and make a statement on it on Monday.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can just meet the Concerned Minister and the Minister will certainly solve the problem.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we take up further discussion on item nos. 13 and 14. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

14.34 hrs

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE
DISAPPROVAL OF GOLD BONDS
(IMMUNITIES AND EXEMPTIONS)
ORDINANCE, 1993

AND

GOLD BONDS (IMMUNITIES AND
EXEMPTIONS) BILL - COND.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I rise to welcome the Gold Bonds (Immunities and Exemptions) Bill, 1993.

There was no need to promulgate the ordinance for this purpose. For the last two years it was being suggested in this House that for solving the present economic crisis, a scheme should be formulated for utilising the gold accumulated by people. But the Government does not adopt correct time, if it does, it take such steps half-heartedly and fearfully. In the last year's budget, NRIs were

allowed to bring gold with them. In our country, a large quantity of gold is acquired through smuggling. India has become the biggest market of gold in the world but people do not leave the lust for gold. There is always rush at jewellers shops ornaments have become a necessity in marriages. Gold is in demand. We are not mining gold, in past we were mining it but for name only sake because commercially it is not profitable. So, we are not going further in this direction and this is correct also.

In South Africa, and America and Russia, mining of gold is done on a large scale and it is brought in our country stealthily. Therefore I had suggested to you to permit NRIs to bring gold and you have done a right thing by giving this permission. At that time, I had told Government that 15 per cent duty is quite high, it should be reduced. But Government at that time had not accepted it, but later on, it was reduced to 7 1/2 per cent. The Government had estimated to receive 35 tonnes of gold up to March 31, 1993 and my estimate was of 150 tonne. Both the estimates have been proved wrong as the country received 120 tonne of gold in first eleven months of the year by which Government earned a foreign exchange of Rs. 350 crores and country got gold worth Rs. 2, 700 crores.

Now the Government has brought this Gold Bond Scheme. My desire was that both the tasks should be done side by side but the Finance Minister had some difficulties in this regard. I do not know about the difficulties. Now Government has brought this Gold Bond Scheme and in this scheme also, Government has not taken bold decisions. Government hopes to acquire 300 tonne of gold, but on what basis? Today how much gold this country has 7500 tonnes? I think India has 10,000 tonne of gold and according to the statistics of foreign countries, we have got about twenty thousand tonne gold. Today poor man also keeps gold. He keeps it in a bundle of cloth somewhere in box with safety. We should not think of that gold because he has kept it for his difficult times.

Although the price of gold is not increasing throughout the world and it will not increase in future. In India also, the gold loving people should be told to overcome the lust for gold as gold is now less in demand and the ways of bringing gold stealthily are being curtailed. They should be told to utilise their gold in such a way by that they earn money as well as help the nation. This Gold Bond Scheme is for this purpose only and it has good intentions but on what basis Government have estimated only 300 tonne of gold? Is Government not willing to involve common people with this movement? Will this movement be a movement of Government and bureaucracy? It should be made a movement of the people.

When I had suggested this Gold Bond Scheme, I thought that it would turn into a national movement. Our country is in deep economic crisis. We are in the grip of foreign debt. Because of this debt only, we are being forced to accept certain terms and condition. Sometimes it seems that they are against our policy of self-reliance and our self-respect. In such a time if you have decided to involve people in solving this economic crisis, they should have been offered attractive terms and conditions. If people give their gold to the Government, what they will get in return is not attractive enough. Last time I had given some suggestions in this regard, yesterday my friends have also given some suggestions. Now as the Finance Minister has come, I would like to say that this is not the work of Government alone but the involvement of common people is a must. There is a need to get the trust of the people. Therefore I had suggested that Gold Council for national prosperity should be formed. Non officials should also be included in the Council Cooperation of opposition should also be sought. It should consist of the representatives of industrialists, farmers and common people. This council should have fifty members who should appeal to the people. This will create a new trust in people. They will have trust that this gold has been taken for the welfare of the country and this will be returned. In this scheme, we have told people to deposit the gold in banks. Excuse

[Sh. Atal Bihari vajpayee]

me, banks have lost trust and there is a need for improving the functioning of banks. Of course, banks have to be brought in the picture.

You should have appealed to the people directly. I was hoping that for this scheme Finance Minister will make an appeal on the television and not through the budget alone. The Prime Minister could have done this. Why are we not able to sufficiently involve the people and enlist their corporation as the severity of the economic crisis demands? Why are we not making efforts in this regard?

There should be a council of 50 people, who should give a call to the people to give their gold for the sake of prosperity of the country because the gold and its biscuits lying idle in their houses, vaults are not going to serve any purpose. Its cost will not increase but on the contrary it is likely to come down. The prices of gold are falling now-a-days. People should be encouraged to deposit more and more gold and for that purpose some incentives should be offered to them. Gold can be given in exchange of Gold. This is one option. You can ask the people. But I am in favour of fixing a maturity period of ten years. Bonds should be allotted for a period of ten years and people should be told that they would get the interest on the value of gold after ten years. If they want their gold back, they have this option, but if they do not want, Government should offer them an attractive alternative. I have proposed three options in this respect.

[English]

Conversion of that gold into land

[Translation]

The prices of land are reaching sky high, land is becoming very costly. The prices would further escalate. People would prefer to buy land after five years or ten years. Government can promise to allot a site to

them in stead of returning gold. Government possesses a huge area of land in cantonment area. How much land is required for Defence purposes. Government may retain the area required for defence purposes and give the remaining surplus land to the people on attractive terms. Has the Government pondered over the proposal?

[English]

Conversion into shares of profitable public sector companies

[Translation]

I have already given the details. Some of the public sector companies are doing every well. It is wrong to think that whole public sector is sick, so it should be done away with. Our party does not agree with this concept. Of course some alternative arrangements should be made for those industries which are running in loss. But some of our public sector companies are doing so well that they compete with the best of the multi-national companies. They are earning high profits. People can buy their shares. People who deposit gold should have the option to buy the shares of such companies. I have proposed three options. For the convenience of the Finance Minister I read them out in English:

Option No. 1 Encashment of the gold bonds into Indian rupees at 12 per cent interest per annum. The value of gold to be determined at its international price and the conversion into rupee being made at the official rate of exchange.

Option No. 2 Exchange of gold the bonds into portion of urban land from the Central Government pool whose value to be equivalent to the amount payable.

Option No. 3. Exchange of gold bonds into equity shares in large and successful private sector Indian companies to be sold to the investors by the financial institutions, the value of such shares being equivalent to the amount payable under option No. 1.

[Translation]

Government has made big investment in private companies also. The shares of these companies can also be allotted in lieu of gold. If any such scheme is envisaged I think it is not impossible to collect two thousand tonnes of Gold. People would have to be motivated. It would have to be made a public movement. All of us may have political differences but we all want to make India debt free. To do so people would have to be told that they should give their Gold some options are offered to them. Three months period has been prescribed. Why? After the expiry of that period, the time limit proposed is very short. Even the terms are not attractive. For the first time when this scheme had been envisaged, it had been done with the same motive. But at that time the atmosphere in the country was good. Excuse me, but it is true that it is not good at present. Politics of confrontation is going on in the country but there are some issues which should be solved by rising above party politics and encouraging the people for depositing more and more gold.

If the Government does not constitute a council with a composition that is able to generate faith among the people, then people have other option also to put it in bank lockers. A legislation would be enacted, but some of the people would opt for keeping their Gold in banks and the objective would not be achieved.

Our Finance Minister has brought this proposal after a deep study of the matter. Now he should neither lose courage nor hesitate in taking action and should work to make it a national movement. I would like to give this assurance that we are ready to support the Government. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA (Hassan): Sir, with your kind permission I would like to make a few comments on the so called Ordinance which is going to be enacted today in this very House.

I was fortunate to hear the views of hon. senior-most leader Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee about this gold bond scheme.

In the Statement of objects and Reasons, the Government has said that they will introduce a Gold Bond Scheme to mobilise the idle gold resources of ordinary citizens to supplement official reserves and that the proposed Gold Bonds will not attract income-tax.

All immunities have been given. But is this Scheme going to attract the ordinary citizens of this country or attract the tax evaders who, all along cheated the Government during these 45 years? And we are going to give all the immunities to such people? This is a sort of bonanza to those patriots, those country lovers! Now they are going to invest to build up this nation's economy, to solve the economic crisis now being faced by the country by the wrong economic policies!

I am unable to really concur with the view by our senior most leader, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. I have got the highest regard for him. I know him through and through. I beg to differ with his views. The whole scheme is only to help the black money holders to convert it into white money. It is nothing beyond that. Let me be very plain. We have been in the past introduced several such schemes to attract this black money, giving certain concessions to use that black money for development activities.

The hon. Finance Minister is known for his integrity. He is an expert in so far as the field of economy is concerned. I do not want either to question his integrity or to question his efficiency or his knowledge particularly in the field of economics. Let me be very plain on this issue.

I would like to ask you; How much money did it generate previously when we had announced the Voluntary Disclosure Schemes of 1965 and 1975 or the Special Bearer Bonds in 1981, the Amnesty Scheme in 1985-87, the National Housing Bank

[Sh. H.D. Devegowda]

Scheme in 1991-92 and earlier to that the Tyagi Disclosure Scheme of 1951? Let me be fair. I do not think much has been generated from that what the Government has expected from these bonds that had been announced in those days. Even today, let me be very plain about it before the scheme is going to be launched, you have taken the decision to bring an Ordinance, that is, on 30th of January, 1993, thinking that it is going to generate something before the House sits. Whatever may be the reasons, I do not want to go to the real genuineness of the Government. Why have they brought it so suddenly when the House was expected to meet on the 24th of last month?

Here, on the NRI's contribution, what has been done is certain benefits were given by the Government in the previous Budget. Our senior leader was telling that Rs.2,500 crores of foreign exchange was generated because of the benefit that had been given last year. Today the foreign exchange reserve is, according to your own figures, 5.26 billion dollars. In my opinion, this is not a real foreign exchange earning that was made due to our export improvement. This is only by borrowing the money from the financing institutions. We have transferred that money to that account and 5.26 billion dollars foreign exchange is there today. I would like to ask a straight question to the hon. Minister. You have given a guarantee in this Ordinance or in this Bill that after five years you are going to return the gold with Rs. 40 interest or whatever the other benefits you are intending to give. In case, at that time, the foreign exchange position is not so favourable to us, will you be able to give back the gold? I would like to ask this question to you. To tide over the situation of the economic crisis, this was thought over in 1990-91 and you had announced in 1992 Budget to implement this Gold Bonds Scheme. Suppose, after five years, whatever gold that you are going to collect or you are going to get through this scheme, in case, during the next five years if your foreign exchange position, what you have anticipated, is not going to

improve, then in what way is it going to help whether it is 300 tonnes or 400 tonnes of 10000 tonnes? I do not want to anticipate according to my whims and fancies. Let us come to the conclusion. If you are not going to earn foreign exchange to the expected limit, how are you going to repay back or to release this gold back to the gold bond owners? Kindly clarify this position. If your objective is to tide over the situation and improve your foreign exchange position, whenever it is necessary by pledging this gold into foreign banks then you must see that the crisis that we are facing now today is going to be overcome by our development activities. In my opinion, it is not going to give or is not going to yield that much of results as what you are anticipating. Today, it is not relevant. In 1991, the situation is totally different. In 1992, it was totally different. And today, whatever may be the others comments on your going before the World Bank and accepting all conditionalities and borrowing money, your foreign exchange position has improved, for the time being.

This Gold Bonds Scheme is not at all going to be a major contributing factor. The contributing factor was when you had gone before the World Bank or the IMF and borrowed the money to tide over the situation. As I have already said it is not so relevant in today's position.

Sir, let all of us apply our minds. Can we not overcome certain defects in our taxation laws to tide over this black money racket in this country? The white money is being defeated by the black money which has been generated by the failure of the executive authorities or who are implementing the taxation laws, that has been passed by this very same House.

Sir, I would like to ask one more question and I put it to the hon. Finance Minister. Can you not think over to bring in a comprehensive legislation to plug all these loopholes, where the tax evaders have got their own way? Today, the Tax Department is only there meant for harassing. Those people who have no political influence or those

people who have no bureaucratic influence, they are not going to get any benefit from this. I am very clear in my mind. All those people who have got the patronage of politicians - I am not going to generalise it, some of the politicians who have got connections with these big houses or the big industrialists or the big businessmen - their interests - the tax evaders interests - are being safeguarded and the bureaucrats also are cooperating. Let me be plain on this. The small people are not at all going to get any benefit by this.

Sir, we are all sitting here for the last two years and how are we going to contribute to the valuable time of the House, for improvement of the nation's economy or for solving the problems that we are facing today? We are spending most of our time for various other reasons.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, your goodness also come from the rural area. Our senior most leader, Shri Vajpayee, said that his estimation is that about 10,000 tonnes of gold is there in this country. In whose hands it is? How much gold have you got? You might have got about ten acres of land. I am sorry, you are the Deputy Speaker and I have got the highest regard for you, but can I ask you, as farmer how much gold have you got in your house? I do not know. Any of the Members of Parliament who come from the rural areas, how much gold have they got in their houses? Then, where is this 10,000 tonnes of gold being held? In whose custody is it there? It is with the tax evaders, and it is the black money. The people who have generated black money, the mafia gang, they have got the support of some of the vested interests in this country. It is a manace because they are destroying the economy of this country. Sir, are we so helpless? Are we so incompetent to put an end to this type of racketeering? The underground mafia gang is destroying the nation's economy today and we have all become only silent spectators. We have all become helpless and we are showing our helplessness. I am very sorry about the whole idea which - gives this scope through this Gold Bonds Scheme. It helps to convert the black money into white

money. It is nothing more than that. It is not all going to improve the situation and if you expect that something more is going to come for the development of the country, then I feel sorry for the same.

One of the expressions used was "patriots". The tax evaders, the underground mafia gang which is destroying the nation's economy, if we call them as the real patriots, then the dictionary meaning must be rewritten. I am very sorry to use this harsh language. I am saying this with much agony and anger and I am really sorry at the way in which the things went on for the last 45 years, whoever was in office.

15.00 hrs

At the end, I would request the hon. Finance Minister who has got his own vast knowledge about the financial matters as far as economy is concerned, to try to look to the areas where loopholes are there in various laws. In his Budget speech, he has said that, any person could hold a house without the wealth tax. Earlier there was a ceiling limit of Rs. 15 lakhs. Today, he has said that there was no ceiling limit; even if a person constructs a house worth Rs. five crores, he can have the exemption. It is for whose benefit? I would like to ask this question. If a person constructs a single house worth Rs. two crores, he can have all the exemptions. This is the way in which we are going to safeguard only the interests of the affluent sections of the society and not the real poor people or the middle class people or the low income category of people. They have come here only for safeguarding their own interest.

So, I would request him to kindly look into the matter. Last time in the Budget speech, he has categorically assured this House that he would try to review the entire taxation structure. What Chellaiah Committee Report has said? Not even an iota of interest has been evinced by the Finance Department when they have announced this Gold Bond Scheme. I am sorry to say this. I will not take much time of the House because I will speak on the general discussion

[Sh. H.D. Devegowda]

on the Budget. But in this connection, I would only request him not to give this type of concession to the anti-social elements or those who have accumulated wealth, gold or whatever it may be and such people should not be given the benefit of converting their black money into white money. When he brings a comprehensive legislation, let him kindly apply his mind.

With these words, I thank the hon. Deputy Speaker for having given me the opportunity and conclude.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members who have participated in the discussion. Most of the hon. Members have questioned the delay in the introduction of the Scheme and the need for an ordinance.

Sir, it may be recalled that the Finance Minister in his Budget speech for the year 1992-93, has indicated that the Government would introduce a Gold Bonds Scheme to mobilise dead gold reserve to supplement the official gold reserve; and certain proposals for mobilising the gold were under the consideration of the Reserve Bank of India. It was finally decided to issue the Gold Bonds as Government Bonds. By the time the legislation and the proposed Scheme could be finalised, last Winter Session of the Parliament was already over. So, this was the genuine reason for the delay. Hence, the President promulgated the ordinance on the 31st day of January 1993; and today we are seeking to replace the ordinance.

A senior Member of this House, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, welcomed this Scheme and he has suggested several measures. But, in principle, he has agreed with the Scheme, with what we have brought in the Government. But as he has suggested, we have to adopt this method as a national movement. As you see from the Bill, we have a limited scope. Suggestions are welcome.

This is for a limited period as already the subscription has started. It is only for three month and we can extend that also.

In addition to this he said that the scheme is not that attractive. He has suggested that in lieu of interest which the Government proposes to pay, land should be given or a site should be given to the subscriber.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Urban land and not rural land.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: That is why I said 'site'.

Even in the case of public sector undertakings, he has suggested a way. We have agreed in principle for disinvestment. Whenever the public sector undertakings are doing very well, they should also try to subscribe to these gold bonds. These bonds should be convertible shares in the public sector undertakings and very good private companies. As you have already stated, we have come with a limited scope and a limited purpose. If at all this scheme works out well, we will definitely come out with a more comprehensive scheme and suggestions in the interest of the country.

One vital point he has also mentioned is that the five-year term is very less and it should, at least, be ten years. We remember that earlier the Government of India had floated gold bonds on three occasions. Gold bonds were floated in the year 1962 at an interest rate of 6 1/2 per cent. It was valid for 15 years. Subsequently, gold bonds were floated in 1965 at 7 per cent. It was for 15 years. We paid back both of these not in gold but we paid back in cash. But the response was not good. In the case of 1962 Gold bonds, we could collect only 8.62 tonnes. Against gold bonds of 1965, we could collect 3.2 tonnes. Subsequently, the Government floated the National Defence Gold Bonds, 1965. Even that was for 15 years. We could collect only 13 tonnes. In this case, whatever gold was subscribed, we returned the gold with interest. Because the duration increased,

sometimes the subscriber is not interested in investing also. The amount of interest that we gave in the earlier cases, I can say, was also not that attractive. But in the present case, we are giving Rs. 40 on each gramme and the value of the gold would also appreciate.

Another senior Member of this House, Mr. Devegowda, has suggested that it is only helping the black-money hoarders. The Government is very firm in tackling the black-money.

At all costs and with all might and firmness, we have tackled the situation and we are continuing to do it. We have strict laws and we are strictly following whatever is permissible under laws. You can also see that the generation of black money is mainly due to smuggling of gold and silver. Secondly, it is due to tax evasion and you may remember and the House is well aware of it that recently, we have permitted legal import of gold which has picked up very well. So far, we have collected 127.82 tonnes with a duty collection, in foreign exchange, of nearly Rs. 288 crores. It is really a good response. Even in the case of silver, it is very encouraging and more than that, I would like to give the figures about smuggling. Smuggling has come down by more than 50 per cent. In 1990 - 91, gold smuggled was 5.8 tonnes, 1991-92 it was 4.6 tonnes and in 1992-93, upto January, it was only 1.8 tonnes. You can see that smuggling has considerably come down and even the domestic price of gold has also come down. I can assure that this is one of the economic measures to check black money and to prevent smuggling. We are sincerely attempting to do it. We have made a beginning and we will continue to do it. Mr. Devegowda has pointed out that earlier schemes have not worked well and that the Government could achieve nothing under the voluntary disclosure scheme. This is no ture. Under the voluntary disclosure scheme, in 1975, we could earn about Rs. 746 crores and in 1981, under the bearer bonds scheme, we could earn Rs. 964 crores. This is not a small amount. We have used this amount

for the development of the country.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: If the hon. Minister could yield, I would like to say something. I do not want to take his valuable time. Your own agency, that is, Wanchor Committee has given Rs. 1 lakh crores as estimate of black money and the estimate of various other committees is that black money ranges from Rs. 75,000 crores to Rs. 1 lakh crores. This is the estimation given by your own Government agencies. And the collection is Rs. 500 to Rs. 600 crores.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: Sir, in the present situation, I do not want to comment on the reports of committees. I would only like to stick to this Bill.

As I have stated, several Members have participated in the discussion. I would just like to refer to one or two important points made by them. The Mover of the Statutory Resolution, Mr. Bhargava has asked as to why ornaments are not accepted. This is impracticable and this will lead to several complications between the investors and the Reserve Bank, has the purity of the gold has to be assessed by the Reserve Bank and the RBI should be convinced about this. It is not practicable. He has even suggested that the time limit has to be extended. As I have explained, urban site is to be an incentive. A senior Member of this House, Shri Sharad Dighe has suggested that the minimum limit of subscription should be lower. Let us say that the minimum limit of 5000 grams is fixed at 100 grams. The Reserve Bank estimate was that there would be 75,000 tenderers.

If it is fixed at 100 grams, the assaying process itself will take more than three years and therefore it is not practicable. This can perhaps be reviewed after the scheme progresses.

I have already stated that black-marketing and smuggling have come down considerably. Shrimati Malini Bharttacharya has argued about the delay in coming

[Sh. M.V. Chandrashekara Murthy]

forward with this proposal. I have already explained why the ordinance as been promulgated and why it is done at this stage....

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA (Jadavpur): My question was about haste and not about delay.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: I stand corrected.

SHRIMATI MALINI BATTACHARAYA: I have also questioned the necessity of such a measure, which you have not explained. Apart from helping the owners of blackmoney, what else are you hoping to gain by this Bill?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: The main objective of this Bill is to supplement the available gold reserves in the country. Shri Sharad Dighe and Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya have argued that at present we have got 350 tonnes of gold reserve and it is sufficient to bear the burden of the Reserve Bank of India for further transactions.

SHRI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA: These are not my words. This has been taken from the Budet Speech of Shri Manmohan Singh. He himself stated that we have comfortable reserves.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: We do not have sufficient gold reserves at present. The main objectives of the Bill to supplement the reserves. This scheme has some advantages. As per the imagination of Shri Atal Bihar Vajpayeei, there is a huge amount of 1,000 tonnes of gold available in the country. I do not go to that extent. Even if we can secure 200 tonnes, with the interest payable, in five years it would be Rs. 800 crores. Therefore, it can benefit the exchequer to the tune of nearly Rs. 5,500 crore. This is not a small amount. Even if the estimate is much lower, say 100 tonnes, we can still get Rs. 2,750 crore.

More than these advantages, we can use these additional gold reserves for raising at a cheaper rate and repay obligations carrying higher interest rates. With these words, I appeal to the Member who have moved the Statutory Resolution, to withdraw it and support the Bill in the interest of national development.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Bhargava, time at your disposal is very short. So, please be brief.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I regret to say that I would not have mind it if the hon. Minister had disapproved of what I submitted but I am very much aggrieved that the hon. Minister did not approve the submission of a person like Shri Vajpayee, at whose inspiration this bill as been introduced and the country could be saved from the crisis.

Shri Vajpayee is a leader of national stature. It is true that the gold which the Government propose to collect is always in the custody of ladies and they keep it in lockers or at other safe places.

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA (Jugargh): It is a sarcastic remark.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: When a girl is to be married, the mother is the most worried person. I am saying this because it is a difficult task to convince them. I did my best to convince my wife but all in vain. We tried to convince with the logic presented by the hon. Minister but all efforts proved unfruitful. Now, I can tell the hon. Finance Minister that they would fail to convince ladies to deposit their Gold. I can claim that they would not agree. So, would like to State that it impossible to convince ladies to part with their ornaments and deposit them. I welcome the Bill but at the same time would like to State that Shri Manmohan Singh, while presenting the Central Budget on Feb.. 29, 1992 had an-

nounced a scheme of exemption on bringing five kg. of Gold from abroad. At that time the Government was not able to pay the loans nor the interest. There is no difference of opinion on the fact that government has introduced the Bill very late. You would yourself admit that on previous occasions also such steps were taken which did not yield good results. Here I would like to say that if this scheme is to be made successful the people will have to be motivated. Our Ex-Prime-Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri did the same during Indo-Pak war. Kindly let me conclude.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes you have to conclude by 3.30 P.M.

[English]

You have already said all these things.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: I would like to submit that if the sentiments of the people are awoken and it is made a public movement then people would deposit their gold. Exactly this had been done by the Ex-Prime Minister and ladies had given their ornaments without expecting any benefit. That is why country could face Pakistan and China in war.

My submission is that such a feeling has not been created and time is not opportune for the purpose. Moreover, people do not have faith whether their gold will be returned or not. Even this feeling could not be created so far. Hence, Shri Vajpayee ji's suggestion about constitution of gold Bond council and deletion of four points from the Bill should be accepted to the hon. Minister has not accepted it. Through you I would like to request the hon. Minister that he should also accept the suggestion regarding deletion of those four points and come out with an attractive gold Bond scheme in the House. Alongwith this it is essential to extend the time.

Through you I would like to submit that at present more than 30 thousand crore kilogram gold is in the private hands in India, which is the largest quantity in the world. Besides this non-resident Indians in Britain have also a handsome quantity of gold with them. I would like to say that when there 30 thousand crore kilogram of gold is in the individual hands in India, its better utilization is possible only when the government accept, the suggestion regarding deletion of those four point, which the Hon. Minister have mentioned in his reply. I would like to oppose this Ordinance because this government wants to rule the country through ordinacnes and I think that this Bill has not included all these things but I am not opposing the spirit behind this Bill. We all have welcomed this Bill and the proposals put forth by our leader Shri Vajpayee ji before you are every important. Therefore, I do oppose the Bill but would like that after including all the suggestion given in this regard the government should come out with a more comprehensive Bill at a later date. That comprehensive Bill may be introduced at any time in this session itself. With this request I conclude and thank you for giving me time to express my views.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY -SPEAKER: Now, I put the resolution of Shri Girdhari Lal Bargava to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That this House disapproves of the Gold Bonds (Immunities and Exemptions) Ordinance, 1993 (Ordinance No. 22 of 1993) promulgated by the President on the 31st January, 1993.

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the consideration motion.

There are three amendments to the consideration motion moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bargava, Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat and Shri Dau Dayal Joshi.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put amendments No. 2, 5 and 9 to the consideration motion moved by Sh. Girdhari Lal Bhargava Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat and Shri Dau Dayal Joshi to the vote of the House.

Amendments Nos. 1, 5 and 9 were put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER; Now, i shall put the consideration motion to the vote of the use..

The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for certain immunities to the subscribers of the Gold Bonds and for certain exemptions from direct taxes in relation to such Bonds and for matters connected therewith or incidents thereto, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY- SPEAKER: Amend-ments by Shri Syed Shahbuddin not present

The question is:

"That Clauses 2 to 6 Stand part of the bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 6 were added to the Bill

MR. DEPUTY SPEKAER: The question is;

"That Clauses 1, the Enacting Formula, the Preamble and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula, the Preamble and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The ques-tion is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane) : When I raised a point about the Century Rayon gas leakage, there was a direction from the Speaker that the Minister concerned should make a statement about it. Now the Minister is here. I request him to make a statement. This point was raised day before yesterday.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): If the House has no objection, the hon. Minister is willing to make a statement.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Private Members' Business has to be taken up at 3.30 P.M. When you wanted to postpone it, the hon. Members took a very serious objection. Now it shall have to be taken up at 3.30 P.M. Now, the hon. Minister is ready with a statement.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): What about the division on this Bill, Sir? *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Over.

(Interruptions)

SHRISOMNATH CHATTERJEE: When I asked for a division, how can it be passed (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The whole thing was over.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: No, no. We have asked for a division. We are waiting for that. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If the House agrees, the hon. Minister can make statement.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Has the Bill been passed?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: How.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nobody demanded any division at the proper time.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Let the tape be played. We had asked for a division. How can it be over? (Interruptions)
Let the tape be played. (Interruptions)

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): This Bill has been passed.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): What is happening?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: If this is their attitude, I do press for a division. Kindly play the tape. I have a right to press for a division. How can that be denied? Without my consent, how can you deny it? If this is the attitude of the ruling party, I press for a division. Kindly play the tape. If you have not heard us, kindly check it up. This is not the way. I am not going to give up

my right. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): I am on a point of order. Whether you have heard them or not, you came decide. But, at 3.30 P.M. you had earlier announced that the Private Members' Business would start. Let us start it. In the meanwhile, if you want, you can check it up and all that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I was waiting for the division. As you had called me, I thought that the voting would be on Monday, because the Private Members' Business time was started. I do not mind. Let the Private Members' Business be taken up. But the voting must be on the Bill on Monday. Let it be on Monday; I do not mind it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us check it up if any lacuna had crept in.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Kindly check it up. I leave to you to decide. But kindly see that our rights are not taken away.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: O.K. The Hon. Minister wants to make a statement. Is it the desire of the House that he should make a statement just now or after the Private Members' Business is over?

SHRI RAM NAIK: You first take up the Private Member's Business.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: So, we shall take up the Private Members' Business. The hon. Minister will make a statement afterwards.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI KAMAL NATH): I am ready to make it just now if House agree.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. Minister is ready to make a statement. But, at the same time, the hon. Members want that the Private Members' Business should be started.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: I raised a point regarding gas leakage at 3.25 P.M. At that time, I was told to wait. Now, I request the Minister to make a statement.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: You only mentioned that. Do not confuse.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): It has been decided in the Business Advisory Committee that time to take up Private Member's Bill is 16.30 hrs. You have upheld the point of order and agreed to take up Private member's Bill at 15.30 hrs. Now after that if you take up any other business, you will violate your own ruling.. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : O.K. We shall take up Private Members' Business.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): Sir, four Members of this House visited the demolition spot within the Muncipal area of New Delhi. Hundreds of houses are demolished in the name of the Prime Minister.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Basu this is a Private Members' Business. You are fully aware that you wanted to take up Private Members' Business at 1630 hrs. but the whole House agiated on that. Now how can you take up any other subject?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No other subject can be taken up now.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONIC AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVEL-

OPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINITSRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMAR-MANGALAM): By the end of the day, I will ask the concerned Minister to come and keep the House informed.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: And stop those demolitions.

SHRI ANIL BASU: In the name of Prime Minister they are doing that *(Inerruptions)*

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: How do you expect the Government to respond? We will send somebody and get the report. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU: This is an extraordinary situation. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You yourself took a very strong objection when we wanted to postpone the Private Members' Business. You cannot have double standards. You should have one stand. How can you take away the right of the Private Members? You do one thing, you call on the Minister.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, no it is not fair.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHHAN SINGH (Dleoria): We are just coming from there. People are being beaten on the roads. The bulldozer is still operating there.... *(Inerruptions)* Partialiity is being done in this regard. A plot of an M.P. of Congress is also there. An M.P. belonging to the Congress has unauthorised occupied land there but structure on that is not being demelished. Only the poor are being uprooted.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU: They are defaming the hon. Prime Minister... *(Inerruptions)* Who is responsible for it?... *(Interruptions)*

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Seventeenth Report

[Translation]

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISRA (Bihar): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Seventeenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bill and resolutions presented to the House on 17th March, 1993."

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Seventeenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and resolutions presented to the House on the 17th March, 1993."

The Motion was adopted

RESOLUTION RE. CREATION OF NEW STATES OF UTTARANCHAL AND VANANCHAL - *CONTD.*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up further consideration of the Resolution moved by Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona regarding creation of new States of Uttaranchal and Vananchal.

Shri Sriballav Panigrahi to continue his speech.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, two weeks before on 5th March, we were having discussion on the Resolution moved by Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona for creation of two new States - Uttaranchal and Vananchal. The names are not so significant. The agitationists who are demanding separate States call them either Vananchal or

Jharkhand. So, in that way the name is not significant.

The difference between the 5th and today that there is a vigorous movement going on in Bihar demanding for creation of a new States that is Jharkhand. That movement, unfortunately, has turned violent - lives have been lost, of rain have been derailed, transport of mineral ore has been affected in that portion of Bihar. Admittedly violence run counter to the ethos of democracy, to the principles of democracy and violence and democracy cannot go hand in hand. But, unfortunately, violence has erupted, the movement has turned violent.

The highlight or significance of our freedom movement was non-violence. Non-violence was the moving spirit of our freedom movement led by Mahatma Gandhi. The agitationists set fire to a police station at Chowri Chure as cause of non-Cooperative. Nobody knew or in 1921 movement expected that the movement would gain of much momentum at that point of time. The people were hopefully looking forward that probably the days of freedom, achievement of independence was round the corner. At that point of time because violence interrupted Gandhiji, to the surprise of all, gave a call or made an announcement withdrawing the movement.

So, it is time that the House should also feel concerned about the growing violence particularly when the atmosphere is not congenial in our country on so many counts. I am not going to refer those things. Since December, the climate in our country is full of hatred.

The violence that we had at that time is still very much there.... (*Interruptions*). Yes, in Bombay also. This is very much there. The threat to our internal security is looming large today. This is not a happy situation for a country like ours. I had made it clear at that time that in principle I am for smaller States and it is time it carve out some new States looking to the genuine demands of the people. To meet the legitimate aspirations of

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

the people, some new States should be carved out. Such new States must be administratively sound and economically viable. Just for the sake of creating States, we cannot create States. The States so created should not be parasites. So, we have to carefully look at it from the economic consideration. The smaller States are administratively more manageable, better manageable and would be more participatory also. From the point of view of economic.

15.46 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

policy also that becomes easier. As you know, Sir, sometimes largeness of States causes law and order problem. Crimes go on unabated. So, from that point of view also creation of smaller States would be in the interest of law and order and would contain crimes. The small States have so many advantages. While forming States social and cultural affinity of the people of the regions also, has to be taken into consideration.

Jharkhand is a very old movement. It has passed different phases. Government of India, as we understand, have taken serious note of it. They have entered into discussions. The Home Minister has had parleys with the Jharkhand leaders. He has also talked to the Chief Minister of Bihar. As you know, Sir, the free and frank observation of the hon. Union Home Minister on Jharkhand also evoked a controversy. The demand is very clear and not only the Government of India, even State Government, of whichever party they may be, and all political parties also should take cognisance of these things that whatever these demands originate, they originate mainly because of exploitation. The origin lies in exploitation of and negligence shown to particular area, community, etc. So, it should be an eye-opener. All concerned should

learn adequately from all that is happening and there ~~should~~ sincere endeavour by all concerned to see that there is no exploitation of any kind at any level. All genuine and legitimate aspirations of the people should be met and as far as possible.

We have recently passed the Urban bodies Bill and the Panchayati Raj Bill which have provisions to give more power to the power to the people. I would say that - with greater emphasis - that it is the time for greater decentralization and greater autonomy also for different areas.

There is a demand for Uttaranchal comparing of eight hill districts. The U.P. Vidhan Sabha has also passed a resolution unanimously. They feel neglected. There are very beautiful areas in this Himalayan region. There are so many places of unique tourist importance and also pilgrim centres like Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri, Jammuotri etc. This is a land of beautiful places, places of natural beauty. Our age old culture is associated with it. We should also respect the feelings of that area. We have to take cognisance of their feelings. We have to consider that aspect. Everything possible should be done to assuage the feelings of the tribals of Bihar and also people of hill areas of U.P.

I was saying about this last time also. We have our grievances in different parts. In Western Orissa and in Koraput - which is in South of Orissa - there are similar situations. These tribal areas are neglected. There is Vidarbha issue in Maharashtra, Chota Nagpur in Bihar, Teelengana in Andhra Pradesh, Saurashtra in Gujarat and like that other places also. There are places where people feel neglected. There has not been much of development there in the fields of health, education, roads, in communications, economic development and also regarding location of industries, providing employment and other things. Naturally all attempt should be made to see that overall development of all regions of all areas of the States are made. That should be ensured. Also there should not be any scope for the

people of different areas to feel aggrieved. That should be an ideal situation. That way I would say that looking at the present climate it is probably not ideal the time. Considering the present position I do not see that they are without any basis or justification. But at the same time if all these are now considered at this juncture it may open up a Pandora's Box. We should see whether that in the interest of the country at this hour. This is my point.

I want to place some of these points before the august House for consideration. All the grievances should be looked into. The Sarkaria Commission has also dealt about this problem in some depth. It is time that some sort of agency should be formed to study and go into this aspect and come out with concrete suggestions.

In this connection would like to refer to the editorial in yesterday's edition of the Times of India wherein they have mentioned about the Jharkhand issue. I quote :

"The spate of FIRs, obviously, cannot go on for so long while the leaders of the nation overcome their fear of State reorganisation and are coming out for smaller, more manageable, more participatory and more democratic State - Jharkhand. It should be given adequate autonomy even constituted as a sub-State.

I underline the word 'sub-state'.

I continue to quote :

within Bihar to begin with, as a significant reassurance of these people that the issue are processed in all seriousness".

Like that sub-States within Bihar, sub-States within Uttar Pradesh - to start with it can be something like this. It can also be the solution. But I do not find any sense in some people even some people in authority or some leaders opposing this demand in toto, I think that is prompted by small consideration, selfish consideration, narrow consideration and even some do not mind calling it

a secessionist movement. It is never so. How can it be? A movement demanding the creation of a State within the Indian federation can never be called a secessionist movement. I cannot be equated with such demand and that difference we have to understand if people feel neglected and other considerations are also there. What did the SRC do in mid-Fifties? They also have not done adequate Justice to all areas of the country. We in Orissa also have our own grievances about the recommendation of the SRC which submitted its report in 1956. So, that way, Sir, it is time that without further delay at least some arrangement should be made so that greater autonomy is given to the people of all the areas.

With these words, Sir, I conclude.

SHRI MAHABENDRA SHAH (Tehri Garwal). Mr. Chairman, to recapitulate I may point out that the Resolution passed by the Lucknow Assembly was some time in May 1991 and thereafter, on the floor of this House this issue was taken up again and again and the reply that was received from the Home Minister was that he had sought clarification from the U.P. Government. This was some time in December 1991 and I understand, the reply was received some time in March 1992 and now it is March 1993. Therefore, I think the Resolution that is being considered by this House is the correct Resolution and the timing was quite correct as we have patiently waited for one year for a response from the Home Ministry. The Home Ministry had asked for certain clarifications and some of the clarifications, I think, were irrelevant and I would like to ignore them. For example, they had asked for what is the area and population of the districts. I do not know how it had become relevant. So, I am only trying to touch upon some of the relevant clarifications that they had sought. The Centre had asked for the basis for the separate State and the reply received was that Uttaranchal was a sensitive area, was prone to natural calamities, had a large number of educated unemployed

[Sh. Maabendra Shah]

ment persons and 70 per cent of the population was below the poverty line. They have also tried to educate the Home Ministry about the scenario of the Himalayan range. They pointed out that in the Himalayan Range except for the J.P. Hills there are many varied types of States and it is only Utamchal which did not have a State. And, therefore, similar aspiration existed by the Uttaranchalies.

Giving the economic clarification, the U.P. Government indicted that the benefits of funds for non-plan schemes and economic protection which have contributed to the development of other hills were denied to these area. Further more, the U.P. Government pointed out that the terai region of Uttaranchal was a natural part of the Hills and the Terai being the agricultural area was a buteress for agriculture and trade centre and hence had the potential to sustain he economy of Uttaranchal. Administrative justification was also given by the U.P. Government and they pointed out that Himachal Pradesh with less population had 68 Members Assembly while Uttaranchal with a much bigger population had 19 Member in a much bigger Assembly; and

16.00 hrs.

The people of the plains were reluctant to work in the hills and the local people were denied employment in those vacant places. They also pointed out that special problems prevailed in the hills, for example, clash of environmental development with the general development. Therefore, they recommended that the hill region had little in common with the plains and that insignificant representation in the Assembly denied them a proper voice. In fact, their voice was like a drop in the ocean.

It will be observed that the demand of Statehood is a panacean not only for the region' economic upliftment, but also for self-Government, employment and proper

representation in the Government. I have cleared the deck of the clarifications; the only thing that is left on the deck is the political consideration of the ruling party and I think, the political consideration is based on those political leaders of the party who want to project their image as leaders of a big State. Otherwise, their ego would be deflated.

Sir, the Prime Minister knows and I think, all the other parties know that during the general elections, except for the BJP, no one had in their manifesto, a separate hill State for Uttaranchal or Vananchal for that matter. Every candide in the hills had made their own such ; E k (one point) manifesto and that Ek suchi (one point) manifesto was that they also supported a separate hill State. This is not hidden from any of the parties that contested the election during that time. Therefore, it was pointed out to the Prime Minister by his own partymen after the election, and time and again to support the demand for a separate hill State. Shri Indrajit Gupta visited Tehri for his party meeting and there he supported the demand for a separate hill State. In fact, he has even introduced a Bill to that effect. The Janta Dal may have some reservations as far as Vananchal I concerned, but, I think, they have a tacit support for Uttaranchal, because I understand that in the near future, Mulayam singhji is going to have a Rath Yatra in the hills.

The Janta Party and all other parties, I hold, they have to consider the question of Vananchal.

My arguments on behalf of Utaranchal equally apply to Vananchal. In fact, I would say that Vananchal has two added advantages. One is that it is tribal area and if there can be mini, multi-tribal States in the East Jharkhand or Vananchal, deserved Statehood earlier. Similarly, their mines are potential and makes it economically viable. Therefore, on these two counts also, vananchal should have had its Statehood long ago. But now that we are considering this

Resolution, I think, both Uttaranchal and Vananchal should get their Statehood.

Uttaranchal and a separate State for Vananchal.

With these words, I support the Resolution.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Chairman Sir, the House is discussing the Resolution brought by Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona for the creation of new States of Uttaranchal are two different issues, so far a Uttaranchal is concerned all the political parties of Uttar Pradesh have supported it. Recommendation has also been made to the Union Government by the concerned State Government and the legislative Assembly has also passed a resolution supporting it. Hence there is no problem in the creation of Uttaranchal, so it should be created.

Sir, the Government of India may have certain reservations, firstly, that the creation of Uttaranchal may be the beginning of a demand for more States. But, if a demand for more there. But, if a demand genuine, if a demand legitimate, I do not see why the government should be hesitant in conceding to the demand. Secondly, they say that there can be inter-state disputes, specially regarding haring of river waters. Himachal Pradesh, has not been a source of dispute in river water distribution. But, there can be a dispute between Punjab and Haryana, but Himachal Pradesh on the one side and Haryana and Punjab on the other side, there is no dispute. So, I do not see how can Uttaranchal be a source of dispute on river waters. Therefore, that carries now eight.

Thirdly, they may be afraid of the financial liability which may increase. I would like to point out that for such region, the Government of India has provided general plan assistance in a more liberal scale both in capital loan assistance allocation and also treating a large portion of it as grants. Nevertheless I would also like to point out that the Government was prepared after special dispensation if we give up the demand of Uttaranchal. If that is the position, the financial implication has no value whatsoever.

What I have pointed out so far are infallible, if they are infallible, they should be accepted. Some people say that there could be balkanisation due to these demands. Yes, balkanisation can take place if self-government is taken forcefully. But we are demanding peacefully for a smaller State to be carved out from the bigger State. Under these circumstances, balkanisation cannot take place.

Under the circumstances, I request the whole House forget Party differences, to support us for our separate hill State of

But so far as creation of Vananchal State including Chhota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana of Bihar is concerned, it is a demand of the Bharatiya Jana Party. On the one hand there is a demand for creation of a separate state including Chhota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana of Bihar alongwith this there is also demand or creation of Jharkhand state comprising Chhota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana of Bihar, some tribal dominated areas of West Bengal, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh. Including all these 26 district there is a demand for creation of Jharkhand state, thus there are several demands for creation of Vananchal or Jharkhand. In my opinion small states should be created. Loknayan Jay Prakash Narayan and Chaudhari Charan Singh were supporters of creation of small states in the country, and several leaders of the country advocated the creation of small states for balanced development of the country. In my opinion small states should be created. But merely by dividing one or two states or creating one or two states the problem will not be resolved. The demands for creation of separate states are being raised in several part of the country, for instance, Marathwada and Laddakh. Thus there are

[Sh. Nitish Kumar]

several areas where people are demanding creation of separate states. These are such problems in many North Eastern States. In West Bengal, the problem of Darjeeling is there. They demand a separate State for themselves. There is a demand of Bodoland as well. Present, some kind of agreement has been reached, but their basic demand is of a separate State. Demand for separate States are being made in many other States also. I suggest that it will be far better to set up a States Reorganisation Commission for the formation of small States throughout the country, to settle all such issues and for the integrated development of the country, than to state all such issues separately. If a State Reorganisation Commission is set up, the structure of the State, throughout the country can be reconsidered. Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh are higher States. A demand for a separate State of Telangana has been going on in Andhra Pradesh. Likewise, Bihar is also a big State. There are many States which are geographically and population-wise very big. The demands for separate states can be considered scientifically in deference to the emotions of the people there. The decisions on this regard should not be taken under pressure because of movements in a particular State, which take a violent turn. We should try to find out solution of the problems in this regard. Many movements are led to create problems for the State and the Centre. There have been many movements which created problems.

Recently, the hon. Home Minister made a statement regarding Jharkhand movement in Bihar, which added fuel to the fire. If a responsible person like the hon. Home Minister makes an irresponsible statement on such an issue, then the statements of the people are likely to be lost definitely and it is but natural that some sort of retaliation is also there. You are talking about Vananchal. It is therein there manifested and Jharkhand is in the manifesto of some other party. Every party in Bihar is divided on this issue. There is no such party there, which is

not divided. The intention of the Central Government is also to divide the people but not to create a new State since, if they create a new State of Jharkhand, they will have to create States like Marahwara, Bodoland and Darjeeling. That is why Uttaranchal is not created even though it fulfills all the conditions for being a state. Uttaranchal has got the support of all the four, therefore it should be made a separate State under special circumstances. We also support it. But all other issues should also be considered.

You call it Jharkhand or Vananchal, it is a separate issue. The Bihar Legislative Assembly had passed a Bill unanimously and sent it to the Central Government. All the political parties are unanimous on it. Those who are spearheading the agitation in the name of Jharkhand also supported it. This Bill was passed which their support and it has been pending with the Central Government for the last two years. However, talks were held to arrive at a decision. Once again, the economic blockade is going on. This issue is once again before the Government. Fresh talks are being held on the issue. We are unaware of the nature of the discussions on the issue. There is the Government of Janta Dal in Bihar. Taking it into consideration, the Janta Dal should have been taken into confidence. All the representatives of that area should also have been taken into confidence along with all the political parties to which these representatives belong. This question is not of creating a new State. It is an issue of reorganisation of many States. Therefore, the decision should be taken only after taking all the States into confidence.

The economic viability is also taken into consideration at the time of the formation of States. It is not like that a State is formed without considering its economic viability. The economic viability should be taken into consideration at the time of the carving out a State out of Bihar. The Government will bifurcate the area rich in minerals. I fully support that the people of that area who have been exploited should

be allowed the right to have their own Government. The existing State of Bihar has an economic viability. The Centre gives grants to it. There is a formula under which the States get the grant equivalent to the internal resources mobilization. It will not be wise to bifurcate the area which provides most of the internal resources of Bihar. The people of that area should be allowed to run their Government, I have no objection to it but the people of the remaining Bihar have not committed any crime therefore, their interests should also be safeguarded. Today the internal sources mobilization of the remaining Bihar is negligible. In the whole of North Bihar, the rivers flowing from the Himalayas via Nepal cause havoc due to floods. The floods in the Ganges and the rivers of the South cause havoc in the Central Bihar. (Interruptions) We share your sentiments. Those people have been exploited during the last forty years. The soil is very fertile in the Central as well as in North Bihar. Not only in the country but also at the international level the soil of the Northern Bihar is considered to be the best. Even though it is hit either by floods or by drought and no attention has been paid to in the last 40 years. Bihar had faced injustice on two counts during the last forty years, one is that the whole of the area was left to face floods and drought and nothing was done to remedy the situation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Time for this Resolution will have to be extended as it is expiring at

16 17 hours.

Is it the sense of the House to extend the time allotted for this Resolution?

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): It is very important subject.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir, it should be extended.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS

AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): I suggest that it should be extended by one and a half hours.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time has been extended by one and a half hours for this Resolution.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: For the present it is extended by one and a half hours.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: Let us extend it by two hours.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the sense of the House that the time be extended by two hours?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Time for this Resolution is extended by 2 hours.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Kumaramangalamji, why do you speak? When the private members are asking to let it go on then why are you intervening? *(Interruptions)*

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the soil of the Northern Bihar or Central Bihar is very fertile but no attention was paid to the development of agriculture in that area. Centre has done only two things during the last forty years. One is that nothing has been done for the development of agriculture in the Northern and Central Bihar. Secondly the people of the Chhota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana areas have been exploited. There are two reasons for the pain and agony of the people there. The people who went there from Bihar or anywhere also were bereft of the feelings of services. They went there for looting and till date they have not changed. I am

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Member of Parliament from that area and I am in active politics there. Someone approaches me that he does not want to join medical services in that area and does not want to serve the suffering humanity but a police officer is ready, that he should be posted there. It means that, that is the place of much earning. The people, belonging to the police services want that they should be posted there, simply have a chance to lot the people. Secondly, the people, displaced there due to the setting up of factories were not given jobs and they were exploited. The poor tribals who have been living there since ages have been exploited and their lands were grabbed. They did not have the knowledge and awareness and that is why they were exploited and there are no two opinions they they should certainly get justice now. My submission to the Government through you is that it should provide them justice and if the people of that area a separate State then we have no objection to it. The Government must evolve a formula. No State should be divided all of a sudden. I do not know, but certainly there is anger in them. I would certainly like to submit to those who are in politics that we have living together for a long time, so in the proper to suddenly develop this much ill will for us. I do accept that the persons having vested interest are indulged in exploiting the people of Jharkhand areas, but the poor people living in rest of the areas whether falling in the Central Bihar or North Bihar are not responsible for their exploitations.

Economic viability is a must for creation of a State in that situation. If the Government declares Jharkhand to be a separate State then the rest part of Bihar would not be left economically viable and the centre will also not own any responsibility therefor. But if reorganisation of states are taken up and in that situation that area of Bihar is given the status of a separate State and the rest part of Bihar is given a status of yet another State by taking other parts also into it then the centre will have the responsibility to look after the welfare of that State.

So the economic viability has to be taken into consideration. And when then attention of the Central Government is drawn to the question of economic viability, the Government will then also consider as to how internal resources can be generated in that particular State. The amount of Central aid would also be increased in that situation and there will therefore be much Central assistance given to it. But if it is done now, then all the assistance will be stopped and an awful crisis will envelope the entire area all of a sudden.

In that situation, the violence and terrorism that are already causing concern for the Government, will spread in the rest of the areas unabated and that will go against the Centre. We should not invite such a situation. The two parts of Bihar that have hitherto been serving a two wheels of a chariot should not be allowed clash together. The Central Government has been making a perpetual effort to avoid solution of the problem and to keep it on as also to linger it. I feel that this is the motive of the Central Government. I would therefore like to submit that the opinion of all the concerned parties should be sought so that solution to the problem may be found.

The second point is that there should be a reorganisation of all the smaller States of the country. A States Reorganisation Commission should be set up all such issues should be referred to it for solution so that unity and integrity of the country may be strengthened and all round development of the backwards and of the people who are exploited may be ensured. With these words I conclude.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Resolution has got two parts. And, naturally, it is expected that we should deliberate on the two distinct parts which is contained in the Resolution. One part relates to the formation of new States and smaller States. And another part specifically suggests for the creation of Vananchal and Uttaranchal, as new States.

I know, Sir, that your State is also very much agitated over the same issue. I mean, the State of Maharashtra. In Maharashtra, there is a sustained movement for the creation of Vidharbha, as per the recommendations of the SRC and that was not implemented because of creation understanding arrived at between the leadership of Vidharbha region and Maharashtra, that is, Bombay region, as you may say.

There is also a demand for Marathwada within Maharashtra. There are demands in Uttar Pradesh not only for Uttarakhand but also for Bundelkhand or something else. There similar demands in other parts of the country also.

Therefore, whether it is desirable, whether it is advisable or whether it is feasible to have smaller viable states, is a matter for consideration and analysis in depth. Earlier, when the SRC was established, the main criteria was linguistic States. Language, as far as I understand, was the main factor.

There can be difference about it. Language and culture were the basic criteria for formation of a State; SRC considered that aspect with all seriousness. But even, after the formation of the States on the basis of language and culture, that is what we say linguistic redistribution of the States, there have been still problems lingering on. These problems are manifested in the form of the book meant for Vananchal or Jharkhand or Vidarbha or Marathwada or Bundelkhand or somewhere else. Therefore, there is a need to have a fresh look into the matter as to whether there will be another commission to go into the remaining problems or lingering problems arising out of the linguistic redistribution of the States.

So far as Jharkhand or Vananchal is concerned, rather I am very much concerned about Jharkhand, I do not mean anything else; if you want to have a separate State, it is a different thing; what would be its name would be decided by the people of that area the concept or the precession of

it, according to me, is not based on cultural or language considerations; nor it is based on ethnicity. Ethnicity has got a strong point. All over the world, today I am finding the manifestation of agitation, manifestation of political forces, emergence of political forces, division and redivision of the State or countries, on the basis of ethnicity.

Sir, excuse me; I would also say with all humility to the advocate of Jharkhand State that there is no basic question ethnicity, language or culture for the demand of the creation of Jharkhand State. The basic issue or the basic emotion or the basic sensitivity for the demand of creation of Jharkhand State is a regional disparity of development. That means, there has been a regional disparity in development; and because of the regional disparity in development, the question of having a separate State has arisen and not on the basis of language, not on the basis of culture and not on the basis of ethnicity because even if Jharkhand State is created, it will be a multi-lingual State having more than language; even if it is a separate State, it will be a multi-ethnic State; and even if it is a separate State, it will be a multi-cultural state.

Therefore, Sir it is not so simple an issue. So far as creation of the State is concerned, I do admit that there has been exploitation, that there has been backwardness; and that backwardness has been a planned backwardness; that is not the natural backwardness; that is the backwardness arising out of the blunder and loot of a section or a segment of vested interests in Bihar and elsewhere. That is the thing.

I know that you will not give me time and I also do not want to take the time of the House on this. But here is a document which describes in vivid, how the Jharkhand area has been exploited by certain segment of the vested interests. Only for the information of some of friends, here, I would quote the figure which is available with the Bihar Government itself. The economic backwardness of the region has

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been brought home there. It says:

"This region, that means the 12 districts of Bihar which is generally known as Jharkhand area, contributes over 70 per cent of the total revenue of Bihar." (*Interruptions*)

Is it 16 or 12? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA (Kanpur): In Santhal Pargana there are 16 districts. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Any way, in the case of Santhal Pargana, there has been division and sub-division. I mean, Jharkhand area. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No personal discussion please.

SHRI CHITA BASU: Jharkhand area contributes about 70 per cent of the total revenue of the united Bihar State. So far as the resource transfer to that region is concerned, it does not exceed 20 per cent. Why? (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mohan Singh, you are going to speak. Why do you now make observations by sitting only?

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Therefore, this is a glaring example of exploitation. The value of the Total agriculture production of entire Bihar comes to Rs. 1, 165.92 crore and the share of these 16 or 12 districts in the Jharkhand area comes to only Rs. 172.59 crore. that is, only 6 per cent of the total agricultural production of the State. Of the total net irrigated area, the Jharkhand region has got 1.06 lakhs hectares as irrigated area out of a total of 11.19 lakhs hectares. And dams are being created there. Many projects are also being created.

Then, there are many other things- al-

ienation and exploitation. I will give only one example and I will finish on that point. The total number of electrified villages in Bihar is 49,444 and the number of electrified villages in Jharkhand region is only 10,791, although 50 per cent of the production is from that region.

So far as land alienation cases are concerned, the tribals have been alienated from their land. So far, 90,847 cases were submitted. 44,000 have been allowed, that is, permitted to be gone into. 34,000 have been dismissed and 13,000 have been pending. Land has been restored in 2,994 cases only out of 90,000 cases of alienation of tribals from land. Only 3,000 cases have been successfully contested and land has been resorted to the original tribal owner. Therefor, these are glaring examples of regional disparity and fearless exploitation of the tribals and loot and plunder by a section of the administration-all those people who matter. Therefore, I again reiterate my conclusion by saying that it is not the question of ethnicity, culture, language but it is the question of the removal of regional backwardness and question of justice and equality. Therefor, I reiterate my view that this should be considered from that point of view. I feel that, at the present moment, for the times being, a regional autonomous conical is an appropriate mechanism within the united Bihar State for rapid and satisfactory economic and social development of the region. for the of case, there should be statutorily guaranteed financial resources from the center and there should also be statutorily sanctioned, statutorily fixed resources transfer from the State. The main grievance is that there is no transfer of resources from the State Headquarters. The grievance is even if some resource is transferred to the State by the centre, the appropriate proportion does not go the Jharkhand area and therefore, there should be an autonomous council which should be guaranteed with wide powers of administration and legislatives business and also guaranteed with statutory financial resources both from the centre and State. This can be the resonable, rational and

satisfactory solution to the Jharkhand problem which is before us for the last six decades. But the centre has got a role to pay. I have got a cutting before me but I shall not quoted from it. But Mr. S.B. Chavan had told the Lok Sabha on 2nd December last that the centre was not averse to the formation of the separate Jharkhand States. Mr. Chavan had told here on 2nd December last that the Centre is not averse to the creation of Jharkhand State provided West Bengal agrees, Bihar agrees, Madhya Pradesh agrees and Orissa agrees. This is the way how they want to drive with a wedge between people of different States only to maintain their political supremacy or political reign or hegemony. So far as West Bengal is concerned West Bengal has made its position clear saying that not a single block.

is on the basis of population. In East Purulia and Midnapore districts, more than ten per cent of their population is constituted by tribal population. Orissa Government has made its position clear to the Centre. It is a compact area where the advises or the Scheduled Castes constitute at least a sizeable population. Therefore, even disturbing West Bengal, even bifurcating Bihar and even disrobing the State of Orissa is not for the idea of speedy and satisfactory economic and social development of that area. My friend is very much angry with us because of Darjeeling Gorkha Hills Council. Sir, there might be certain defects and certain shortfalls but in a country like India, where a vast population is a tribals and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, there must be autonomous regions. They must have the widest possible administrative and legislative powers and financial resources to fulfil the hopes and aspirations because they are the people who are Indians. There are many of us who have come from outside India also and we should not forget that historic aspect. Therefore the Centre should be very clear in their ideas and programmes. They should encourage somebody in Darjeeling and they should not encourage some forces in Jharkhand area. If they do so, they would

be disturbing the stability of the country thereby. For this purpose, I would appeal to the Government that they should have a policy formulated on these issues. And I take the opportunity to appeal to the people who are engaged in Jharkhand Agitation not to indulge in such activities because in this way they are creating certain misunderstanding among the people of Bihar and West Bengal. I also warn that they are increasingly taking resort to violence. This is an issue which can be settled through dialogue, consultation, discussion and mutual understanding. Therefore, there should not be negative approach from the advocates of the Jharkhand Agitation and they should see to it that the matter is solved in a peaceful manner through dialogue, through reasoning, and through arguments for the greater interest of the people of different States and more than that, in the supreme interest of our nation.

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am deeply grateful to you for giving me a chance to speak on this very important Private Members' Resolution. I would like to make it clear straightway that I support this Resolution and the creation of both Uttaranchal as well as Vananchal. In fact, Mr. Chairman Sir, I would venture to go a few steps further

I think Sir, a time has come when we, on all sides of the House, must seriously consider the question of setting up a second States Reorganisation Commission. I am conscious of the fact that the first States Reorganisation Commission set up in 1956 created a lot of turbulence and many problems all over the country. For some three years, all other activity came to a stop. We were all busy fighting with each other over districts, sub-divisions, talukas and vilages.

Nevertheless, over the last 35 years, a situation has grown whereby fresh demands have cropped up in to different parts of the country for separate states. We have seen how Assam has now come to be split in as many as five to seven States. We now

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call that region as the areas of the Seven Sisters. There was a time when we only spoke about the viability of Assam and firmly ruled out creation of any other State.

Sir, we have these demands and particularly the demand for a Jharkhand State for many years now. We have also had demands in the past for a separate State of Vidarbha, for a separate State of Surashtra and for a separate State of Uttarakhand which is now called as Uttaranchal. Sir, we have these demands made from almost all parts of the country. Therefore, I do think that it is time that we seriously think of a second States Reorganisation Commission. And I would strongly urge that the Government should not reject this immediate demand for these two States of Uttaranchal and Vananchal, out of hand. These are demands which deserve serious consideration.

Sir, it was my privilege to pay some role in the creation of the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council. Initially, Sir, as you are aware, there was a demand for a separate State of Gorkhaland. Eventually, we worked out a formula whereby a separate autonomous district council was created and this district council and supposed to be something short of a full-fledged State. The Darjeeling model was at that time acclaimed on all sides and, I must confess, I too personally thought that it held out hope and answer to the problems of many parts of the Country.

In fact, as you are aware, the people of Laddakh who felt exploited by Srinagar for decades came forwards and demanded a Darjeeling model autonomous council for Laddakh. Linkewise, I thought at one state that similar councils could find and answer to the demands and requirements of Vidarbha; demands and requirements of Saurashtra and demands and requirements of many other areas. But, Sir, we must seriously consider whether this autonomous council can be a model.

I regret to say that our own experience in Darjeeling has been far from happy. My good friend Shri Chitta Basu strongly recommended an autonomous council for Jharkhand. But, Sir, my own experience of the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council has left me with one distinct impression that this model will not work so long as it is implemented in the manner in which the West Bengal Government is implementing it. To be honest, Sir, the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council Accord has not been implemented by the West Bengal Government and its Chief Minister, Shri Jyoti Basu either in letter or in spirit. In fact, to be honest, the implementation has been virtually a fraud on the Accord. And, so long as we cannot get this kind of a model to work efficiently and honestly, there is no point in trying to work out similar autonomous councils. I will give only three examples to show how this Accord has not worked.

It will shock you to know that as of today the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council faces a financial blockade from the state Government in Calcutta. Sir, an amount of Rs. 37.16 crores which was sanctioned by the Centre to the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council has been blockaded by the West Bengal Government. This amount was given to the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council for the year 1990-91 to 1991-92. But this amount of Rs. 37.16 crores has been used up by West Bengal.

When the accord was being hammered out, the Leader of the Gorkha National Liberation Front wanted Centre assistance and Central funds to be made available directly to the autonomous council. The West Bengal Government protested and said, "If you are going to start giving funds directly it would give the Council. The status of a separate State." I then put forth a compromise formula and that formula was happily accepted. I proposed that Central funds meant for the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council be routed through the West Bengal Government but the West Bengal Government should only function as a Post Office. Yet, Sir, what has happened?

As I Just told you, Rs. 37.16 crores of our fund have been blockaded and used up by the West Bengal Government. In fact, today is the 19th of March. There are only 11 days left for this financial year to end. Yet not a single paise has been passed on to the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council for the year 1992-93. Consequently the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council has been virtually forced to pull down its shutters.

This was ideas and excellent model. It was a model which received compliments from the former President, Shri R. Venkataraman when he visited Darjeeling. He said at that stage that this was a model which should be accepted and applied all over the country. Alas! however, this has not worked because there is a great deal of double talk and deception by from Calcutta. Unless that ends, it cannot work. Therefore, we must seriously think as to what is the way out.

In my opinion there is only one way out and that is to go in for more States. In my humble opinion what the country needs is not 25 large States what we really need are 50 smaller States instead of these 25 larger States which should not be made on the linguistic, cultural or even ethnic basis. Jharkhand movement has been there for a large time and I think a they have a very strong claim.

Once upon a time you will recall we had united Punjab. Nobody wanted to touch united Punjab. I, as a Punjabi, was also opposed to any break-up of Punjab. So Haryana was demanded, it was said, "Haryana is not viable, Haryana is a barren area and it will be a total wasteland. It will be great difastar." About Himachal, too when Himachal people wanted to go out, we were not prepared to let them go. But once Himachal was given statehood, it has flourished Haryana has also flourished.

Therefore, experience has shown that if you go in for smaller States, the smaller States are likely to flourish a lot. The reason

why they are likely to flourish is simple. There is a tendency in almost all the States Capitals to treat certain areas as colonies and exploit them and plunder them and indulge in reckless pursuit of personal and party aggrandisement. Therefore, what we really have to do is to think in terms of smaller States, more States. Even as I recommended a second States Reorganisation Commission, I strongly suggest that we should not delay moving in the direction of a separate State for Jharkhand and a separate State for Uttaranchal.

It has been my view for a long time that U.P., for instance, needs to be cut up into four separate States. We know how Western U.P. and more so eastern U.P. have suffered. Several administrative steps were taken. At one stage, for example the Chief Secretary's secretariat, a mini secretariat was even set up in Meerut in addition to what you had in Lucknow. It did not work because these things will not work. Therefore, I strongly recommended that we must go in for smaller States.

In this context, I shall conclude after making one more point. Even as I recommended many more smaller States, I humbly make another constructive suggestion. Instead of having all of the States of one kind, we should seriously think in terms of what was done immediately after Independence. Instead of having one category States we should think in terms of two to three category States as was the the situation immediately after Independence. That is, we should have Part A States with full powers as we have, now, then part B States with certain limited powers and Part C States which could be in the nature of Union Territories.

This has to be done because there is a tremendous amount of reckless exploitation of certain areas within various states. Reckless plundering that is going on. Large areas in various States are being treated as colonies. Therefore, if we are to give our people, particularly our exploited people, a fair deal, I think, it is time to take a fresh look

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their chair.

at our political map and think in terms of many more States than just 25. Thank you.

[Translations

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jhanabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the discussion on the issue of Uttaranchal-Vananchal that is going on at the moment gives me an impression that the discussion has slit into two groups. On the one hand there are people who support and making of the separate State while on the other there are people who oppose it. Not I would like to know through you that if a separate State is really made then what is the justification for it and if it is not made then again what is the justification for that.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, India is a vast country. Earlier India was divided into many parts. This House should those who are responsible for verification of India into a vast country (*Interruptions*) Mr. Chairman, Sir, now efforts are being made to divide India into many parts. Who are making such efforts? The reason for it is discontentment. A country disintegrates when discontentment develops. A family however small, many be of five members only, too is liable to disintegration. When the head of the family is dishonest, then the house is bound to be divided, otherwise it is not so. If the head of the family is honest, the family remains united for generations to come. Today I must say that the demand of separate States can be attributed to the long rule for the Congress party. The people of the country actually do not understand this fact. No political party has ever ruled anywhere in the world for so long a period as the Congress party had an opportunity to rule the country for such a long period. And its rule has been based on favouritism. It has ruled the country by dividing the people in groups like backwards, forwards and Harijans. They have never thought of the interest of the country as a whole, they have always cared more for chairs. They have ruled with the primary concern of protecting

Such a big national party that has ruled the country and that has the credit of providing leadership during national movement, joined hands with the regional party of Tripura to jointly rule the State. So they intend to divide Tripura also? If a regional party that is formed somewhere, is given importance then raises a demand for separation. This is what has been happening.

Secondly, I would like to say that when I was a Member of the Legislative Assembly, I used to read in the newspapers that the fight in Telangana is with Mr. Chenna Reddy. There was a violence for a long time. Was Telangana given the status of a separate State? so far it has not been given the status of a separate State. We all know how that issues was dealt with. We have also witnessed the agitation in Darjeeling. Why were the Bodo agitation and Jharkhand agitation held? Agitations are held only at the places where the Government did no development. Some people of the places where development was not done by the Government, came forward, formed organisation and started awakening the people. The example of simmering discontent is there before you. People are talking of the Jharkhand party. I wanted to know whether development can be ensured if Jharkhand is given the status of a separate State? Mr. Subodh Kanti Sahay is the leader of that party. Mothers go to work taking their children on their backs. Does this mean development? Suraj Mandal is also one of their leaders. The name Suraj Mandal is a synonym of a big plant. He does not belong to a Scheduled Tribe. I would like to ask whether he is the same Suraj Mandal who was the right hand of Laloo ji. He might have earned millions of rupees. I am stating the truth and I am saying it with honesty. But what changed in four months that Mr. Subodh Kant Sahay was made the leader of the party. Who has done all this? The Congress party is responsible for it because the Congress party allowed Chandrashekhar ji to rule the country for four months Millions of rupees

were grabbed by a handful of persons in those four months. I am in this House since 1984. The question is who is responsible for the ruining the country. What would have happened if the power rested with the Congress party? But they cannot tolerate being out of power for a longer period. The congress party has this weakness that if the stays away from power for 5-10 years then no one will remain with this party. All will go to death bed. This weakness that if it stays away from power for 5-10 years then no one will remain with this party. All will go to death bed. This is the condition of the Congress party.

What I want to say is that if the Congressmen work honestly in the villages then everything can be O.K. There is division in the villages under congress ruled states. Development is done on the basis of caste every where. If a drain has to be made in a particular village and if the M.L.A. of that area belongs to a forward caste then he would get the drain made in the area inhabited by the forward class people and if the M.L.A. belong to some backward community, then the drain would be constructed in the area inhabited by the backward class people. Now I want to ask whether this is painful to the need by people or not. Whether the need by people will suffer or not. You can honestly think that if there are double standard of development in the same village, then people will have a general feeling that their Government is not doing well and that government should go out of power.

17.00 hrs.

The facility of hand pumps is provided, Government has the require money. The system weakens when the laws are violated. Everything breaks when laws are broken. I would not mention the name of the Chief Minister who is no more. He broke the rules. It was decided by the Selection Committee as to where the hand pumps would be bored and what should be the criterion of population of an area for providing a hand pump. But this right has been given to the M.L.A. That is why things are

in a mss and the whole amount is spent. There are many other things, But who will investigate into all those matters. There is no difference between the rule of the State Government there and the rule by a Congress Government in a State. Health Centres have been opened in the villages inhabited by the upper caste people and besides, there is also the facility of additional P.H.Cs. But there are several villages inhabited by the people belonging to the backward classes who have to go seven-eight kilometers away in some different district for buying medicine....(Interruptions) Let me again come to the Jharkhand issue. The Government is bent upon dividing the villages as well. An inquiry can reveal thaulasnds of such incidets in our constituency itself that an M.L.A. gets additional P.H.C. or its sub-centres opened in the villages where the people of his caste dwell in larger number. Roads are also constructed on the same consideration. Shri Chitta Basu asks even now with much emphasis as to how this all happened. Why is there the demand for a Separate Jharkhand State? The long rule of the Congress Party has been based on favouritism. I have said several times over that if charistians were not there, we could not have even a single literate persons from the Scheduled Tribes. There are persons who have changed their religion to hold big posts. But they are not able persons. We see the persons placed on high posts who are all converts. They taken Organ or something else with their name. Ultimately why is it so. The Government is responsible or all that. The Government least bothered about the incident of religious conversion. After all that conversion is for the sake of development. After undergoing conversion of religion, they are sending their children for schooling. When they belong to the Scheduled Tribe area, they make maximum efforts to get their children admitted to schools even through they are M.L.As or M.Ps. What will be your answer to it? If Jharkhand state is formed, what will happen then. If you run the country with honesty and with the feeling of patriotism, then nobody will demand separate

[Sh. Ramashray Prasad Sing]

Jharkhand State but in the absence of equal development, you what to divide the country into pieces. Hon. Minister for Home affairs has said that Shri Laloo has spoken about it. This is a central issue, therefore he should not have spoken. The Center said....(Interruptions) it should have been done there. The one who heads the Government in the state is called Chief Minister. He should have said that it had not been given the desired level of development, we are going to give the desired level of development, we are going to give it that level.....(Interruptions) They will have to work honesty or its development, which has not been done till date.

They have enacted a number of legislations but their land was bought by the property dealers and they auctioned the same. You even enacted a law for this purpose but did not implement it. Who had got it auctioned. The same Tikku who goes from here and charges interest, who is sitting there as well as here also.... (Interruptions) It is not a question of Suraj Mandal alone. The questions is why Suraj Mandal is leading this movement. You go to rancho and see for yourself that officers as well as politicians and contractors have built forts for themselves. They have grabbed the nation's assets. If we form Jharkhand, these people will make merry. Suraj Mandal and Shibu Soren may acquire how high positions but poor people are not going to benefit from it. Therefore, I want to say that if you actually what to do anything for the welfare of the poor, then you must do something for their development. It am not as leaned as Shri Chitta Basu but the fact is that their development is not done properly. Had there been equal development, then there would not have been this movement and other problems related to it. The development there is so unequal that somebody is very rich and somebody is very poor.

They ruled the country for forty years.

Had the people removed them after five years, then it would not have happened. The people of the country committed a great mistake which is leading to the disintegration of the country.

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI (Nainital): Mr. Chairman, Sir, a proposal has been put forward that a separate Uttaranchal state may be formed and Vananchal may be set up. During the last election in U.P., Uttaranchal was an issue. Specially the issue of Uttaranchal reached every nook and corner of the remotest places. This demand was initially raised in 1952. Since then, this demand has been raised in some form or the other. But after 1952, the Congress ruled the State and it was the ill fortune of this Uttaranchal region that four Chief Ministers hailed from region. Interestingly, three Chief Ministers hailed from hilly areas and the fourth Shri Chandra Bhanu Gupta was from the plains but he contested from Ranikhet and assured the people there that all round development will be made. I would like to say that whatever development took place there was during the rule of Pt. Govind Ballabh Pant as some schemes were launched at that time. After that hon. Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna became the Chief Minister who thought himself to be a mand from hilly areas. I can still remember that he contested a bye-election of Lok Sabha from Dehradun and that time he was not in the Congress but.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why do you discuss these personalities by taking names?

Translation]

SHRI BALARAJ PASSI: It is related with that.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not go on taking names. You discuss the principles.

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: The people there elected a leader, who made them believe that when he became the Chief Minister, this area would be developed. A persons from National district of Uttar Pradesh who became Chief Minister four times and held the portfolio of a Minister at the Centre three or four times. The people of hilly region voted in favour of the Congress for forty five years with the belief that the fate of this areas as well as the fate of the youth would change. Even the Britieshers did not develop This area in the Planned manner because they need men for their army and home Guards, Therefore, they did not want to develop this area. The Congress also adopted this policy for 45 years. They people of this region thought that this region would develop and the youth of this region would become self-reliant but nothing of this short happened. The Congress also did not let the youth awaken because in it did so, the youth would have ecome vigilant about his rights. I would like to ask the Government as to what did the Congress do for Uttaranchal during the last 45 years? It gave nothing except backwardness, poverty and destitution.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in 1971 Himachal Pradesh was part of Punjab. No the people of Uttaranchal are jealous of Himachal Pradesh which is quite natural Because Uttaranchal has more population and more area than that of Himachal Pradesh. At the time of formation of a state 50 per cent population was below the poverty line, which has been reduced to 25 per cent at present. The people of Uttranchal saw this change taking place there. When Himachal Pradesh was part of Punjay, it did not get its due share. Schemes were planned but were limited to Punjab only. When in 1971, Himachal Pradesh came into being, the people changed their luck through hard wok. The way Himachal Pradesh has Identified its Circumstances and worked to achieve progress can also be adopted in case of Uttranchal.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is ill fortune of the people of Uttaranchal that the person from plains who does not have any knowledge about hilly areas it made a Minister for the development of hilly areas. This has happend many times. What else can be more funny> I would like to ask whether the Minister whoever had held office at that time, was aware of the geographical situation of the hills? Was he aware of the conditions of roads? do not want to mention the name of the Chief Minister of the previous Government. When the matter of drinking water problem of Pithorgarh area was taken up with him, he asked his Secretary, whose name I do not want to mention, to look into the matter. He said a Grant of Rs. 5 lakhs was being released for instaling hand pumps there. What a fun? I would like to ask how schemes are chalked out as it was not a practical scheme.

There is a place by the name of Ramgarh in Nainital district. I visited that place after elections as the people of that area voted for me in elections. They had resentment which they had been having for the last forty five years because the person. against whom I was elected, had remained Chief Minister of the state four time. He had also been a Minister at the Centre for many terms and is also respectable leader of our area. But even then people elected me with a hope and belief. The only reason was that though he used to make his point strongly, nobody listened to nim. The foundation stone of a cold storage has been laid at that place known as Ramgarh. I was alkyd by the people why this could storage was being constructed , I told them that it was meant for their development, they said that it would serve the interest of those officials and bureaucrats who had submitted this scheme. I asked whether they would not keep apples and potatoes in the cold-storage? They replied, "Mr. M.P., apple grows where in the season when it does not Grow any where else, neither in Himachal not in Kashmir. If they kept their apple in cold-storage, then they would suffer loss in compassion to apple from Himachal and Kashmir as nobody will prefer their apple to

[Sh. Balraj Passi]

the one from Himachal and Kashmir." Similarly, 'pahari' potato grows there, which is much sought offer in Delhi. That too grows there in off-season, Now that plans are formulated that their produce should be kept in cold storage. Such impractical schemes are formulated by people sitting in Delhi and Lucknow. I myself met the Chief Minister in this connection. Ultimately that Rs. 1.5 crore scheme was abandoned.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I can mention not one but a number of such impractical schemes. Land in the hill areas is very fertile. We are competent enough to carry out development works in our area. in our area not only number of revolutionaries and saints were born but the poets of the prominence of Sumitranandan Pant were also born. While on a vilst to Almora, the birth-place of the great poet, if you get a chance to stay in the Rest house you will find that nobody can enter the building from the main gate, You will wonder at architectural design of the building. The way leading to the main entrance of the building is closed and the brckside will has been demolished to make way for the entrance. Architectural design was made in Lucknow on the promise that it should be East facing. However, it was not taken care of the fact that even hills are sometimes blocked by hills and the building was constructed. When hall of the construction woke was over the question of the main entrance became a riddle. Entrance was constructed at the backside since the hillock faced the building. Such impractical schemes are being formulated in Uttranchal. Though we raise our voice against all these things, but it seems to be of no avail. After 45 years of independence the B.J.P. came into the power in Uttar Pradesh. People of the area whole heredity had voted in favour of the B.J.P. and out of 19 Assembly seats my party won 15 seats on the plank of Uttranchal. What else can be a better omen then the election of 4 BJP MPs from the area on the plank of Uttranchal. Only as a gesture of goodwill and to honour the sentiments of Uttranchal people.

the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly by a majority vote passed a resolution in favour of the formation of Uttranchal and forwarded it to the centre. What is the fate of this proposal? I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Home Affairs, that in the past in response to the question regarding the formation o Jharkhand State, he replied that no such proposal had been received from the State Government, but on the other hand when the Government of Uttar Pradesh forwarded to the Centre a proposal highlighting the circumstances for the formation of Uttranchal why it is not being examined? I remember the day and the year not the date, but on that day I was in Almora. the Government of Uttar Pradesh headed by Shri Kalyan Singh could not announce the formation of Uttranchal, but on that day made an announcement that a separate secretariat for Uttranchal will be set up at Almora. Foundation stone for the same was also laid that very day. The then Minister of Finance came to lay the foundation stone. Many a hon. MPs and MLAs were present on the occasion. A special stage was constructed and the people were in high spirits. People were in festive mood that the days of hardships are over. Unfortunately, that very day the statement of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs appeared in the press that Uttranchal was not being formed for the present.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that the people of my area are peace loving and patriotic. To take on the challenge of the enemise of the country revolutionaries came forward from this area and even the soldiers for this area go to face the enemy in the battle field so as to successfully defend the country's borders. Demand for Uttranchal is not being raised to serve our narrow parochial interests, But to successfully defend the country from foreigners, as whole of the Uttranchal region shares borders with foreign country. Our borders will not be safe if the youth of the country is in low spirits. The issue of the low spirits of the youth of the region comes up when the youth stay back in the area. All the children

after High School migrate to Delhi in search of employment because they cannot remain a mute spectator to the starving conditions at home. It is very unfortunate that even after BA and MA the youth fail to get employment there. Last to last year Government held an interview at Tanakpur in the Nainital district for the post of Bus Conductors. Unfortunately even for that post the youth of the area were not selected. We were satisfied that if our youth are not competent enough to be IAS and PCS officers, at least they can hope to become bus conductors, but now it seems even this is not destined. 85 per cent youth of the plains were selected through that interview. There could be nothing more unfortunate than this. Through that interview 60 per cent vacancies were filled up by the youth of the district of the then Chief Minister of the State.

Even now in the recruitment in Police in Pithoragarh district 60 per cent of the vacancies are filled by the youth of Etawah district. Recruitment in Police takes place in Pithoragarh but the youth of a place as far as 500 kms away, are selected while the youth of that area are not selected. So, how can the fortune smile on them? They are simply idling away their time.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh respecting the feelings and sentiments of the people of the area has conferred upon us the status of the hill cadre. The Government of my party was determined enough to implement it and had also taken a vow in this regard so as to create maximum avenues of employment for the youth of the area.

Mr. Chairmen, Sir, there can be nothing more unfortunate than the fact that though there are hospitals and schools, but the doctors and teachers are not being appointed. Even when the doctors are appointed they never join duty. Immediately one day after joining their duty they proceed on leave and through the influence of some officer or the Chief Minister try to get transfer in the areas in the plains. Even no the

hospitals and the school are without adequate staff. Immediately after appointment they get themselves transferred.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, therefore, I would like to request you and whole House that in view of the peculiar problems of the hill area this proposal should be accepted. There can be some difference of opinion regarding Jharkand. However, as Shri Paswan stated last week that there is no difference of opinion regarding Uttaranchal. Members of other parties had also said the same thing. Therefore, this proposal regarding Uttaranchal should be passed unanimously today itself. So that we can tell the innocent people of our area that better days are now again round the corner.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (KISHANGANJ): MR. Chairman, Sir, we have been debating this Resolution from many angles. I think, there is a general consensus that today we need smaller States and in fact, apart from Uttaranchal and the question of Jharkhan, we have taken cognizance of the demand for smaller States from various parts of the country. It has been suggested that the time has come now to establish a new States Re-organisation Commission with proper terms of reference which would take into account, not only the question of languages, but also various other parameters including the experience of development since we became free.

Sir, I would like to place some information before you. We have here the report of the 1991 census. We have got the basic population and area figures for every State and Union Territory. The Union consist of 24 States and 7 Union Territories. The total population of the country is of the order of 839 millions. Now, the biggest State, Uttar Pradesh accounts for 16 per cent of the population. The tow biggest States, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar account for 26.8 per cent of the population. If you take the first three, that is to say, including Maharashtra, the total comes to 36 per cent of the population. Take the next one, West Bengal, four

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States together come to 44 per cent and take the first five States including Andhra Pradesh, that is, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh, together these five States give us 52.3 per cent of the total population of the country.

Sir, I will not give you more figures, but I have gone up to the 12th. You add one more State, it brings another 10 per cent, add another two States, it means another 15 per cent and within 12 States and among you have 90 per cent of the population of the country. NOW, these are the major States, the giants are the first five States. If you take the area figures, the only exception in that pattern are, West Bengal and Kerala which have got very high density. But, otherwise again we find that the first five States, that is, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh cover nearly 36 per cent of the area of the country and that way, these 12 States cover 85 per cent of the area and 90 per cent of the population.

Unfortunately, over this period for various reasons we have created micro States. So, we have a picture, unfortunately, in our country where we have giants, on the one side and pigmies on the other. We have got big States and then we have got not small States, but micro States.

Micro States have been created because of certain compulsions or political circumstances, because we did not have a formula before us, because we did not have a total vision before us, because we did not have a completed plan before us and therefore as and when we came across a problem and when we were pressed very hard, the only solution found was, to create a micro State. So, on the one hand, we have States like Uttar Pradesh with a population of 140 million people and here in our very country, we have got a State like Sikkim with 4 lakh people; we have got Mizoram with 7 lakh people and we have got about

half-a-dozen States with each one of them having a population below 1 million.

Therefore, Sir, we have now a federation, a federation of giants and pigmies; a federation of big States and micro States. Can this federation survive? Do we not benefit from experience, draw some lessons from the experience of the Soviet Union, from the experience of Yugoslavia? I personally feel, Mr. Chairman, that one of the distabilising factor in any federation is the vast dichotomy between the big and the small, between the giant and the pigmy. Then what happens? The federation is no longer a true federation: the federation tends to be dominated by the big ones, by the giants, by the big States. Therefore, there can never be a balance relationship; there can never be an equality of relationship; there can never be justice in inter-State relationship or in the relationship between the Centre and the States.

That is why, I think, we should draw some conclusion from the experience which is right before us. The Soviet Union in my opinion disintegrated because the biggest chunk, the Russian State was more than half in population and in area and the others were very small States. Similarly, in Yugoslavia, Serbia dominated the entire Yugoslavia and all the other States were extremely small compared to that. Therefore, I think, there is very good reason that we should try to re-organise our polity in a manner where though we cannot have absolute equality but we can have some degree of comparative equality among the various constituents of the Union.

The other aspect is, we have adopted it as a national ideal the policy of decentralisation and autonomy. Decentralisation and autonomy, if they are practised in the right spirit and with sincerity and did not merely apply to Centre-State relations but to the relations between the State and the districts, the relations between the district and the blocks, and the relations between the blocks and the various gram panchayats, then perhaps the fair rate would

work. As it was pointed out here, there is vast disparity in the level of development. Even in small matters as was pointed out, in the construction of roads, in the location of local schools, in the establishment of the local health centre, in the alignment of the local power line and in the alignment of the local drainage system, there is an in-built discrimination and injustice and that cannot be cured under the present system at all. Unless you bring democracy, unless you bring decision-making power right down to the smaller level, it cannot be cured. Therefore, I believe that there should be smaller states and there should be smaller districts. Within a smaller district, we should have manageable blocks and we should have gram panchayats with real powers transferred to them. Then only, we should be able to tackle this question of disparity in development.

I would like to make one point. We are all conscious of the existing disparities and injustice. But I would like to say one thing in favour of the decision maker. Some of it may not be deliberate. I cannot accuse the decision makers of *mala fide*. Some of it arises from the very nature of the situation. How can a man sitting in Lucknow or for that matter, a decision-maker sitting in Patna understand the agony of the people in a far corner of Bihar, in the North or South of Bihar? It is impossible. I once asked a U.P. Chief Minister: "You have got 60 districts. Can you recall the names of all the districts?" And then I asked him, one other question: "The district officer is the key man there. He is the man on whom you depend if there is any crisis. Do you have any mental picture of the capacity and capability of that man sitting out there? Can you possibly have it?" That applies not only to the Chief Minister but it applies to every Department head also. Can the Agriculture Minister analyse which agriculture officer is good; how good he is? It is impossible. But if you have got a smaller State in which you have about ten to fifteen districts and when an important programme or project is there, in the morning it self, the Minister concerned can ring up all the 15 officers of the

department and find out, check, monitor and control the progress of that project. That is what is done in Haryana. That is why, development is faster. That is why, bureaucracy is not careless. That is why, bureaucracy is always on its toe that the people's representatives and the Ministers concerned are always there to monitor them and to control them. That is why, smaller States are developing faster than the bigger States. That is one good reason.

The biggest States by not developing faster as the rest of the country are instead of being an advantage to the country—proving themselves to be a drag. If you take any parameter, the number of illiterates, the infant mortality rate, per capita income consumption of energy, the national average goes down not because of smaller State but because of the biggest State. The average per capita development level is much lower in the biggest States. Therefore, there is no doubt at all, experience has proved that if we have smaller State, our development would be faster. It will be far more under the control of the people; it shall be closer to the people; it shall reflect the aspirations of the people; it shall respond to the people and it shall be answerable to the people. The people's representatives who are there on behalf of the people would keep an eye and they would be able to exert themselves and to guide development in a more effective manner.

Therefore, I feel that there cannot be any piecemeal solution. I am not opposing Uttaranchal. I am one of the supporters of Uttaranchal. I have signed many petitions in favour of the creation of Uttaranchal. But I must also say that every major State in the country has got regions which speak to us through their sense of solidarity and through their psycho-social unity. That is not an antithesis to national unity. National unity must be based on this regional unity, on this regional solidarity. They cannot be divorced from each other and, therefore, when I hear of Avadh or Brijhoomi or Bundelkhand or Jharkhand or Magadh from where I come

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and whose history was the history of India for 500 years and when I hear of Mithila, these are all names which cannot be ignored. For that matter, in Maharashtra, Vidarbha; Marathwada, Konkan; even in small Kerala, there is the history Malabar. Even in Tamil Nadu, there is a difference between Koramandal and the rest of Tamil Nadu and Madurai, the seat of a great empire. In Andhra Pradesh, we have Telengana and we have . These regions were not artificial formations They were historical formations and they had certain cultural identity. They had a certain built in human solidarity and development depends on tapping that sense of humanity, solidarity, that consciousness of community, the consciousness that we share our agonies and our triumphs and our difficulties as one community and, therefore, unless it is a very small community, a macro community that must be fitted into this picture of decentralisation and unless these States must respond to the claims of history, human solidarity there cannot be any piecemeal solution. There has to be a National Consensus which should take into account all these factors of history, and geography, of language and culture, of the state of development and the various economic factors that are there.

When we think, for example, of Uttar Pradesh, we have Western Uttar Pradesh which it has a built in socio-economic milieu and we have Eastern Uttar Pradesh, part of which is Bhojpur. Bhojpur was not only in Uttar Pradesh but also in Bihar. Why cannot there be a Bhojpur State? Why cannot Bhojpur have a status as a language just as Rajasthan claims a status of its own? Why cannot Bhojpur have a common destiny as a constituent of this great Union of ours? Thus it may even require cutting across the present boundaries of the States, not merely reorganise a State but reorganise the map of India, cutting across the present boundary lines.

People have said about river waters

and boundaries. But the river waters have always been there. The change in the political map of India will not affect the distribution rules. It depends upon our national wisdom that we frame the rules for the exploitation of our river waters in a manner that both the upper riparian and the lower riparian gets a fair deal and that applies equally to all the States through which a particular river system passes and, therefore, that cannot possibly be cited as an argument against the idea of reorganisation.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (Jhansi): Please say something about Jharkhand.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: In the case of Jharkhand, I was listening very carefully to Shri Chitta Basu. There is a dichotomy in that situation. One aspect is the question of having a tribal State. There is no question at all that the tribal people have been exploited but it is my view that in the Jharkhand State, as is being claimed by the proponents of the Jharkhand movement, the tribal people shall continue to be dominated and continue to be exploited by the non-tribals.

I am totally in favour of having a tribal majority State. Tribal majority districts, but added to that, tribal majority blocs which are contiguous, added to that the tribal majority panchayats which are contiguous, should form a State in which the tribal will see that he has come into his own, that he is the master of his soil, that he is running the State in his own interest, that he does not depend on any outsider or any non-tribal element to come and show them the way, but it has to be a tribal unity. Therefore, as far as Jharkhand is concerned, there is no such thing as a Jharkhand nationality. But there is something called tribal consciousness and that tribal consciousness must be given expression in the form of a tribal majority State. But then comes the catch. It is not only a question of Bihar. In fact, Bihar has just two districts now which have got a tribal majority. The

real tribal districts now are in Orissa and in Madhya Pradesh and I think there has to be a meeting of mind at least among these three States, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa in order to create a tribal majority State so that the tribal majority region which was divided by the British, some in Bihar, some in Orissa and some to Madhya Pradesh, can all be united and find a destiny of its own.

I feel that a States Reorganisation Commission is the need of the moment. It must be established before any further bitterness penetrates or permeates our polity. It should be given enough time. There is no hurry. It should be given a clear mandate. It should be given a clear set of criteria based on national consensus and then we should work out a new map of India based on equality and justice, to all our people and to all our regions and to all our cultures and to all our languages, taking into consideration the question of administrative efficiency, the question of economic viability as well as the question of geographical contiguity.

I believe that the Federation should consist of States of roughly uniform size, roughly 15 million to 25 million people, roughly 10 to 15 districts and, I am sure, if that comes about, the progress of the Union itself shall be much faster than it is so far because then it will tap the total energy of the masses which remain latent today and which has not yet flowered.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): The Resolution before the House is for the creation of new smaller States and, especially Uttaranchal, comprising the hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh and the Adivasi belt of Bihar and Vananchal of Jharkhand State comprising the tribal areas..

AN HON. MEMBER: Is it proper for a speaker who has just spoken to leave the House? I am on a point of order. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. CHARLES: Of Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please.

SHRI A. CHARLES: I do feel that the demand for the creation of the above States deserves serious consideration.

17.43 hrs

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *In the Chair*]

However, it should not be forgotten that religion, caste, language, regionalism are very sensitive issues and any decisions taken on this issue shall be taken after very careful consideration and after arriving at a consensus of all the political parties and especially the affected people of the concerned area.

I was closely listening to the speakers for the last one hour. One of the hon. Members, on the other side, was accusing the Congress for not forming these States and accused the Congress that even though the Congress was in power in several States, these regions were totally neglected.

This is only to gain political advantage out of a sensitive issue. After all, we have paid much because of religious fundamentalism and the price we are paying today is that several parts of the country have been blasted. (*Interruptions*). Sir, this is the saddest thing. Even within the House, some of the political parties cannot understand what the feelings of an ordinary layman of this country are. *The Times of India*, in its issue dated 11.02.93, has a small news item: "JD supports the formation of Uttarkhand". One small paragraph reads like this:

"According to observers, the Janata Dal's announcement must be viewed in the context of its long term political strategy. The Janata Dal had no other option, as no party can survive in the region without supporting the cause of a separate hill State. Interestingly, during Mr. Singh's tenure as Prime

[Sh. A. Charles]

Minister, the Janata Dal had ignored the Uttarkhand issue."

Sir, this is the political aspect of the issue which I have been trying to highlight and not that I am against the formation of the State. My friends on the other side unnecessarily need not worry about it.

We all know that always smaller units are very easy to administer. There is a beautiful book titled "Small is beautiful", written by Hue Maker. They teach the ethos of Gandhi's rural India. So, we are all for fulfilling the hopes and aspirations of the people of the tribal area, of small groups who have the same cultural and religious background.

Sir, India is the largest democracy in the World. And our great success is that we were able to nourish and mature our unity in diversity. But now, the security and survival of the nation is being challenged. So, at this time, preserving the unity and integrity of the country is what is most needed.

Sir, immediately after the independence, the greatest challenge or the greatest problem that faced the country was; How the country could be consolidated? You know, there were more than 500 kingdoms and the real problem was how to consolidate all these kingdoms under one central rule. And thanks to the wisdom and the leadership shown by our great leaders, that the whole country was consolidated and reorganization of the States took place.

Sir, it is true that language was the main basis of the reorganisation of the States in this Country. But, there were other factors also, such as historical, cultural, social and economical

Kerala is an example. At the time, when we got independence in 1947, I come from Trivandrum. It was the capital of the Travancore State. After a few years, the next neighbouring State of Cochin, which was a sepa-

rate autonomous Kingdom was added to Travancore; and Travancore and Cochin were together for sometime. And thereafter, some parts of Madras, known as Malabar - three revenue districts - were again added to this State, forming the present Kerala State, on the basis of language. But quite unfortunately, Kanyakumari district which was culturally, emotionally, economically, tied to Kerala was separated on the basis of language and was given to Tamil Nadu. The cultural ties of Kanyakumari with Kerala is more than what it is with Tamil Nadu. So, the Keralites have been demanding that Kanyakumari should be given back to Kerala again.

1749 hrs.

[MR. SPEKAER in the Chair]

I do not think whether any Tamil Nadu M.P., is here. But quite reasonably, the people of Kanyakumari district are now demanding, saying that their ties are with Kerala and not with Tamil Nadu because in every nook and corner of the Kanyakumari district, when you go and see, people there speak in Malayalam. They still know Malayalam Language. I was there, in charge of an election work in that district.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Will you permit me, Shri Charles? If this is the argument, then surely Dubai will become part of Kerala.

SHRI A. CHARLES: Kindly excuse me. I am just voicing the aspirations of the people of my neighbouring State. If you have any objection, I am prepared to withdraw and I do not stand in your way and trouble you. I am just trying to convince you that there were factors other than language at the time of the reorganisation of the States. Now, we know that the Sarkaria Commission has gone into the full details of the Centre-State relations. I feel that at the time of independence, the need of the hour was a very strong Centre because our country was born as a

new nation. I think, now the time has come when we have to have a rethinking on how the administration of every region has to be strengthened.

Regional imbalance is the main cause of all the trouble of this country. Even within a State, as the previous speaker has said, there are many regions which are totally neglected. So, I request that the whole concept of the reorganisation of the State has to be re-examined and wherever possible, small States, smaller units, autonomous regions shall have to be formed; and they should be given the democratic process of administration. Their hopes and aspirations will have to be fulfilled. More autonomous, in the lowest level can only help the country to grow. That is the main policy of the present Government also in bringing forward the Panchayati Raj Bill. If the Panchayati Raj legislation is implemented every part of our country, every citizen of this country will get an opportunity to get his demand fulfilled.

Shri Inderjit has said that there can be different types of States; like Part A, Part B, Part C States, I am totally opposing that. There can be no discrimination after giving some power to the State. Every State, big or small, is equal; and I feel that there is a very strong case, as one of the front bench opposition Member was saying, for creating more states from UP and such other bigger states. On principle I am for the creation of small States and I do support the spirit of the Resolution. But I think, this is not the way, this is not the time to pass the Resolution and get two States born. On the other hand, unanimously the whole House can look into this question and can take a decision as to how many States can be newly formed, not only Uttaranchal and Vananchal. There are other smaller groups, tribal areas and certain regions which, geographically could not continue in the same States. So, a new attempt can be made for the total reorganisation with the concept of a smaller States. With that view in mind, I request the hon. Member to withdraw the Resolution for the time being and let us join together. We will

be with you for the formation of these two States; we will be supporting you. But, have a largest view of the whole nation and let us come to a common understanding. Thank you.

MAJ GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Resolution for creating separate Vananchal and Uttaranchal States. An extensive discussion has already taken place on the issue and almost all the hon. Members have agreed that the demand is justified. Some of the hon. Members have laid some conditions and also given several suggestions. However, all of them have agreed that development has not taken place in these areas and injustice has been done to them till this day. The foremost thing to think is why the need to make them spearhead State has arisen. Due to lack of time I would concentrate particularly on Uttaranchal though I do support the same demand with regard to 'Vananchal' equally.

The most important reason for it is the lack of development. What is the position of development in Uttaranchal region even after 45 years of independence. Some of the hon. Members have touched this point and I would like to render more information in regard to it. At the time of independence the *per capita* income in the hilly areas of this region was among the first ten districts of other regions of the country and today after 45 years of independence the people of this area are the last in the list. This is the development that has taken place after 45 years of independence. So far as the people living below the poverty line are concerned, more than 70 per cent of the total population of this area lives below poverty line even today.

As regards to industry, seven out of the eight districts are 'Zero' industry areas. A few days back I had sought information to this effect from the Planning Commission. Seven districts are extremely backward from the point of view of industrial development. No industry has been set up in these dis-

[Maj Gen. Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri]

tracts even after 45 years of independence. What type of thinking is this? This attracts our attention towards the attitude in this country regarding the development policy being adopted in the country.

So far as the problem of unemployment is concerned, the Government may not realise that how serious the problem of unemployment is there. Educated youth do not want to stay there in our hilly areas today. All of them have migrated to plains and wandering in search of job. Only the aged persons, women and children or the school going students are left. On the other side, it is an irony that more than half of the posts in schools, hospitals and other places are lying vacant. On one side there is widespread unemployment whereas on the other side a large number of posts are lying vacant. It is because of the fact that the life being tough in hilly areas people do not want to go there. People show their willingness to go there just to get the appointment but after remaining there for only three or four months they seek transfer from there on the pretext of illness or go on long leave. Today, the situation in the schools is critical. The working strength of the teachers in the colleges and schools there is less than 50 per cent. Similar situation prevails in other departments. The officers are posted to hilly areas on the basis of three P's till today i.e. promotion, punishment and probation. Recently another 'P' has been added to it and that refers to 'Paisa'. People go to hills to earn money. They misuse the money allocated for the development of those areas and become wealthy. The Government can well imagine to what extent resentment is prevailing among the people of that region.

So far, as the development is concerned, electricity, water, hospitals, schools and roads are in such a deplorable condition there that the Government cannot visualise the actual position without going to that area. The people of our constituency the place where Ganga and Yamuna flows - do not have even drinking water. The Government have

figures of the villages having facility of drinking water but all these figures are fictitious. People do not get drinking water there. Aged persons, women and children have to fetch water throughout the day.

18.00 hrs.

They have to cover a distance of 4-5 kms. in that hilly area that take the entire day. Despite this they do not get adequate drinking water. As regards to electricity, very few villages are electrified and among those also most of the villages do not get proper supply. Bills prepared by computers are dispatched to them which are wrong or exaggerated. They get the supply only for half an hour and sometimes it is cut for weeks together. The condition of hospitals is such that it takes a complete day to reach a hospital. Sometimes the ailing or pregnant women die even before reaching the hospital. As regards to roads, projects have been lying pending for which the Government has not given clearance for the last 10-12 years. But there is no one to pay attention. Due to lack of development the people have lost faith in the Government machinery. The problem of development of this region is somewhat different from that of other regions due to the different topography, climate and the socio-economic conditions and culture of this area. Therefore, the people sitting in Lucknow and Delhi who make the policies for those areas cannot realise their problems. Just now, the hon Member speaking prior to me stated that when the problem of drinking water is so acute there, then the officials should have ordered to install the hand-pumps in the hilly areas. A number of such schemes are prepared but the people of those areas feel sorry about the manner in which their problems are being dealt with and feel pity on the people who make such schemes. These things are creating feelings of discontentment among their minds and strengthening their demand for a separate State.

My next submission is that as to why there is a demand for 'Uttaranchal' as a separate State. If we look at the map of India

there are separate States through out the Himalyan range from Jammu Kashmir to eastern region. Uttaranchal is the only exception. We any being with Jammu-Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Assam and Nagaland and 'Seven sisters' have been made separate States. Then why discrimination with Uttaranchal only? Why 'Uttaranchal' cannot be made a sepearate State. It is justified by every aspect. Several hon. Members of the House have opposed the idea on the plea that it would not be viable. It is a wrong propagada that it will not be viable to make it as a separate State. I would like to make two submissions. First, that which ever State have been made so far after independent no objection was raised regarding their viability. States were formed, their development took place and gradually they became viable. Uttaranchal as a separate State is very much viable and we do have our resources. But they are being misused. As it has been pointed out with regard to 'Vanchal' there resources that region are being used at other places. We have human resource and an hon. Member belonging to our area has stated that a large number of people are in the army from our area and as the hon. Members know that after getting retired at early age a large number of disciplined persons are rendered unemployed, their services are not being utilized.

We are rich in forest wealth and benefits thereof ae being engaged by the enforce country even today. Not only forest wealth, we have medicinal herbs in abundance but hash have not been utilied till today because the people at Delhi and Lucknow do not have enough time to look into such matters. As regards water I have already submitted that the Ganga and Yamuna rives which originate from our area are providing water to the whole of the country. It has the potential of setting up so many micro hydel schemes which can provide electricity not only to State but to many areas of the country but that has not been utilised upto now. Today nobody has adequate funds to invest there. There is largest potential of wind Energy in the region. If wind energy

can be tapped properly in Uttranchal, it can remove the scarcity of energy in the entire country.

But nobody has thought over it till date. We do not have time for these things. Similarly, the atmosphere is conducive for animal Lusbandry and agriculture. For other things also the surroundings provide large scopes, high attitudes and a clean environment for setting up various other centres for the development of the area.

Not only pilgrims but also tourists of various kinds visit out tourist spots. The area can be developed a lot for this purpose. We do not have resource crunch. What we lack is will power which should be utilised properly and with a good intention. Today the Congress Party does not have good intentions. Its only intention is to exploit through its power. The Government wants to exploit as easily as possible and take away the funds outside The local areas and it is not concerned for the necessities and development of local people.

I will give only three examples of how Uttaranchal is suffering due to its not being declared a separate State. The first one is that the Planning Commission has fixed certain norms as to how much funds should be provided to Uttranchal and other hill-areas. It has fixed norms to receive aids from the Planning Commission. The basis is 65 per cent population, 20 per cent performance and 10 per cent of other things. On the basis of these norms we should be given more than Rs. 400 crore, but we are given Rs. 180 crore only. When I raised this issue in the Parliament I was told that the amount of Rs.180 crores is a just amount and the balance amount should be sought from the State. The population of Himachal Pradesh is 51 lakh where as that of our State is 59 lakh. But our State is allocated an amount of Rs. 180 crores Himachal Pradesh gets Rs. 350 crore.

This kind of injustice is being meted out to us only because ours is not a separate State and we are suffering economically for

[Maj] Gen. Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri]

this reason.

The second issue is related to industries. Just now the hon. Minister of Finance stated in his Budget proposal that we was providing tax-holidays for five years for setting up new industries in backward areas. This has been stated by him in his speech. He has provided tax-holidays to new industrialists and entrepreneurs for five years in the North-East, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Goa, the Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar, Dadra-Nagar Haveli, Daman-Diu, Lakshadweep and Pondichery but there is no mention of Uttaranchal in it. met the hon. Minister of Finance and asked him as to why he did not give concessions to us, because out of 8, 7 districts fall under zero industry area. Thereupon he said:

MR. SPEAKER: You may continue next time please.

MAJ. GEN (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Thank yo Sir.

MR. SPEKAER: I have specially come to the Chair to make a special request to the hon. Members. We have seven Ordinances to be approved by the House. After that, we would like to discuss the Railway Budget and then we would like to have general discussion the general Budget. Then, before 31 March, we shall have to pass the Vote an Account. These ordinacnes are also time bound and I am told that they have to be passed before 4th April. We are not going to work from 1st April to 19th of April. We have time constraint. So, I have to request you to please cooperate in seeing that these Ordinances are passed. You can make speeches, but concise and very terse. At the same time, let us divide the time availble to all the Members together. Some Members can speak on some subjects which are nearer and dearer to their heart's desire. and some others can speak on some other subjects. If we do this, it should be possible to finish the work. Unless we pass two or

three Ordinances at least a day, when we next meet, we will not be able to complete the agenda.

AN HON. MEMBER: Today?

MR. SPEAKER: Not today of course. Today we will do something, There is is one Ordinance on Wildlife Protection. We may complete it today.

So, please bear this in mind and cooperate.

Mr. Bharagava please.

18.10 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE. DISAPPROVAL OF THE WILD LIFE (PROTECTION) AMENDMENT ORDINANCE

AND

WILD LIFE (PROTECTION) AMENDMENT BILL

[Translation]

SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): I beg to move, " That this House disapproves of the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Ordinance, 1993 (Ordinance No, 7 of 1993) promulgated by the President on the 2nd January, 1993".

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI KAMAL NATH): I beg to move,

"That the Bill further to amend the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the Bill has a very limited ambit and is aimed at facilitating adherence to the stipulations laid down by this august House in terms of Section 38 H of the Wild Life

(Protection) Act, 1972 that no zoo will be operated without being recognised by the Central Zoo Authority established in terms of Section 38 A of the said Act. The wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act, 1991, had provided that all the zoos operating in the country on the date the relevant provisions came into force, could operate without recognition for a period of 6 months. Thereafter, only those zoos which had put in the application to the Central Zoo Authority for recognition could be allowed to operate till the rejection of the application.

The said provisions of the Act came into effect on February 4, 1992. All the zoos were, therefore, expected to submit their application to the CZA before 4th August, 1992. The rules for recognition of zoos which laid down the norms and standards of animal maintenance and format of application etc. were finalised by the CZA only by August 4, 1992 and, therefore, the zoos could not submit the applications within the stipulated period laid down in the Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act, 1991. To enable the zoos to submit their applications and not become illegal in terms of provisions of the said Act, it was decided to extend the period for which the zoos could operate without recognition from 6 months to 18 months.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order, I should have been allowed to complete my speech and then the hon. Minister should have started his speech. In my opinion it would have been better that we should have spoken together.

MR. SPEAKER: Not like this

SHRI KAMAL NATH: I have already finished half of my speech.

SHRI GIR DHARI LAL BHARGAVA: I spoke about disapproval of the Motion. The Ordinance should be disapproved to elicit people's opinion on it and the hon. Minister

should make a statement after all the speakers have finished their speeches.

MR. SPEAKER: You had to explain any this much is your Resolution as to why the Ordinance should not have been issued. You have done that.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: No, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not done.

MR. SPEAKER: The what did you do?

SHRI GIR DHARI LAL BHARGAVA: I only made a submission that I was moving my Resolution.

MR. SPEAKER: I thought that you have finished your speech

SHRI GIR DHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not like this, How can I speak without your permission?

MR. SPEAKER: I will give you time to speak. In a case of a Resolution, first you have to spell why you are moving the Resolution. Then you have to say that this law is not enough. The I will allot you time to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: You should speak afterwards. Now, you continue.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: In other words, the zoos have now to submit application to the Central Zoo Authority before August 4, 1993 and can operate without recognition and without submission of application upto this date.

I am aware, Sir, of the observations that you have made in regard to issue reluctant to resort to this measures of enactment. However, in the present case since the Central Zoo Authority could not accept applications from zoos which in terms of the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act, 1991 were operating without legal sanction, it was imperative that the extension of the time limit was brought into effect immediately and hence the enact-

[Sh. Kamal Nath]

ment was made through an ordinance on October 23, 1992.

Sir, a Bill to replace this ordinance was introduced in this august House on November 27, 1992. It could not, however, be taken up for consideration in the 5th Session of the 10th Lok Sabha.

Since the provisions of this ordinance were required to be continued, after the House were prorogued, an ordinance was issued on January 2, 1993. The present Bill seeks to replace the said ordinance.

Sir, the question of wildlife conservation is very vast and different aspects of it are very basic to preservation of nature and eco-systems. Several aspects of this question, including the serious depletion of our biological heritage and the continuing threat to wildlife from poaching and encroachment and the difficulties experienced by people who are dependent on the forest for their daily needs have been raised by hon'ble Members on the floor of this House and by eminent conservationists, sociologists and voluntary workers outside. It would not, however, be appropriate or even practicable to consider the question of wildlife conservation in all its aspects at this juncture in the context of the present Bill which is under consideration of the House mainly because the ambit of the present Bill is extremely limited and is only to meet a procedural technical requirement.

I, would, therefore, not go into the general question of wildlife conservation and conned to the House that the Bill to further amend the Wildlife (Protection) act 1972 may kindly be taken into consideration.

MR. SPEAKER: Motions moved:

"That this House disapproves of the Wild Life (protection) Amendment Ordinance, 1993 (Ordinance No. 7 of 1993) promulgated by the President on the 2nd Jaury, 1993".

"That the Bill further to amehd the Bill Life-(Protection) Act, 1972, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of amendments to the motion for consideration are given by certain hon. Members.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of electing opinion thereon by the 17th August, 1993." (1)

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOWER(Hapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

"that the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 18th August, 1993"

(Interruptions) (12)

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all it is a matter of happiness that hon. Minister Shri Kamal Nath has introduced this Bill in this House and with regard to the intention with which the Bill has been introduced I would like to submit that the Bill speaks of development of national parks and sanctuaries and for the sake of information I may tell you that there are fifty two national parks and three hundred and saventy two sanctuaries. More than one lakh population has been living within the jurisdiction of the eighteen national parks and hundred sanctuaries. A number of colonies exist inside the ten kilometer area of most of the national parks or sanctuaries. I would like to submit that the people who are living in the area of twenty out of 45 national parks and 128 sanctuaries not only graze their cattle there but also have their houges and have their forest resources in the same area, they also have their problems related with religious matter. I would like to know the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in view of this amendment regarding the rights

of the people who are residing within the areas of national parks and sanctuaries. Is the Government allotting them alternative sites? How much compensation would be paid to the people who had constructed their houses there? Government has mentioned Nothing in this regard in this Bill although provisions have been made for people living in urban areas. Those people have their ancestral houses there. I would like to submit that the Government should allow them to live there and fix the responsibility regarding the protection of forests and wild life. In that case, neither any outsider should be given mines on lease nor land should be allotted to any political leader in sanctuaries. If due to some reason the Government is unable to do so then the ancestral rights of the people living there should also be safeguarded. They have a right to live there, so Government should pay compensation to them.

MR. SPEAKER: This is a very simple Bill. This Bill has been introduced with a motive to give an opportunity to get the names of those people registered who could not do so before the stipulated closing date. Nothing more than that.

English]

There is just one clause. This is not like this. That is why we are unable to complete the business. This amendment itself relates to just extending the time, nothing more than that.

Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: But I was making a humble request regarding the problems of the people living in forests.

MR. SPEAKER: If you would start a discussion in such detail, then we would not be able to conclude the discussion on the Wild Life Bill or the Environment Bill. Kindly say whether the time limit should be extended or not.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: I would like to submit that deforestation is going on unchecked. As a result environment is not being protected and we are facing other problems. Further, deforestation should be stopped and at the same time, the ancestral rights of the people living there should also be safeguarded.

MR. SPEAKER: Excuse me, Mr. Bhargava, it has no connection with the Bill.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Sir, I am submitting in the same context.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry to obstruct you. This is just to extend the time. Please understand this authority was created and the applications had to be given to the authority before the time; and that time has expired; and they are extending the time; that is all. You are a very senior legislator.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Sir, I obey your order and would conclude within two minutes. My submission is this that if the present trend of deforestation goes unabated, then neither there will be any rainfall nor we would be able to check pollution. When there are no forests, there would be no forest animals. So it is very essential to encourage plantation and check deforestation in hilly areas. My request to the hon. Minister is that it is only when there are forests, there would be rivers then 'Kamals' (Lotus) would bloom and Kamlanjhi is our Minister. Therefore, the blooming of 'Kamal' would be symbolic of the prosperity of BJP. Ultimately the forests have direct relation with us forests with river, rivers with the lotus and lotus with BJP.

I would like to urge the Government that the present trend of deforestation should be stopped and the problems of the people associated with the sanctuaries should also be resolved. These people should be al-

[Sh. Girdharilal Bhargava]

lowed to live there so that the environment is protected and sanctuaries are properly developed. I hope the hon. Minister would pay attention towards this fact. In view of paucity of time, with these words, I conclude.. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It has got only so much part..

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Doria): Sir, we are in a mood to pass it.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would express my views on the amendment, then other Members of my party would speak.

MR. SPEAKER: No, today no one is going to speak.

Please understand, I would have allowed you to speak but we have to pass seven ordinances, then we have to discuss Railway Budget also. General Budget has to be passed and on 31st March, 1993 vote on account is also to be given otherwise functioning of the Government would be in jeopardy.. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House disapproves of the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Ordinance, 1993 (Ordinance No. 7 of 1993) promulgated by the President on the 2nd January, 1993."

The Motion was negated

MR. SPEAKER: Now there are amendments to consideration motion. I am putting Amendment No. 1 moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava to the vote of the House.

Amendment No 1 was put and negated

MR. SPEAKER: Now I put Amendment No. 12 to the consideration motion moved

by Shri Ramesh Chand Tomar, to the vote of the House.

Amendment No 12 was put and negated.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 be taken into consideration."

The Motion was adopted

MR. SPEAKER: Now the House will take clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill

The Motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clauses, 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.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this was the last listed Bill for today.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, this was the last listed Bill for today, please protect our rights..

(Interruptions)

SHRI KAMAL NATH: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

Monday..(Interruptions)

"That the Bill be passed."

The Motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: Now we take up next item.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please safeguard and rights. You had said that today only this Bill is to be taken up. Other Bills would be taken up on Monday. So kindly adjourn the House till Monday.

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand, there are very small Bills and seven ordinances only.

SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I appreciate your concern in this regard. Please do not take up further business and adjourn the House till 11 A.M. on Monday.

MR. SPEAKER: Please Mr. Bhargava, we can take one more Bill.

SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you said that next Bill would be taken up on Monday. You are the protector of our rights. I would request you that no more Bill should be taken up today and the House should be adjourned till

MR. SPEAKER: You are not understanding what I am saying. If you say, I will adjourn the House. Please understand that there are so many other Bills.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: You yourself had stated that today only Wild life Bill would be taken up

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He is not understanding what I am saying.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Please understand, we would do it on Monday.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, we would do it on Monday.

[English]

The House stands adjourned to meet again on Monday, the 22 March, 1993 at 11.00 hrs.

18.31 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, the 22nd March, 1993/ Chaitra 1, 1915(Saka)

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