

Tenth Series, Vol. XLI, No. 31

Friday, May 19, 1995  
Vatsakha 29, 1917 (Saka)

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES** **(English Version)**

**Thirteenth Session**  
**(Tenth Lok Sabha)**



*(Vol. XLI contains Nos. 31 to 40)*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
**NEW DELHI**

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**Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates  
English Version**

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**Friday, May 19, 1995/Vaisakha 29, 1917 (Saka)**

<u>Col./line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
115/18 132/3 (from below)	IN	OF
132/13 (from below)	SHRI V.SOBHANADREESWARA RAO	SHRI SOBHANADRESWARA RAO VADDE
140/14	SHRI CHEEDI PASWAN	SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN
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In this Debate	THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE	THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

*Friday, May 19, 1995/ Vaisakha 29, 1917 (Saka)*

*(The Lok Sabha met at Five Minutes Past  
Eleven of the Clock)*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

#### Trade Deficit

\*621 SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) the value of imports, exports and trade deficit during each of the last three years including 1994-95 in rupees, dollars and SDRs,

(b) the percentage-trade deficit forms of the exports and the imports during the above period,

(c) the names of countries with which trade balance has been negative consistently for the last three years, and

(d) the rate of inter-annual growth of exports and imports during 1994-95 as compared to the preceding year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House

#### STATEMENT

(a) The value of imports, exports and trade deficit during last three years in rupee, dollars and SDRs are given below

	(Rs Crores)		
	Imports	Exports	Trade Deficit
1992-93	63375	53688	9687
1993-94	73101	69751	3350
1994-95(P)	88705	82338	6367
	(US \$ Million)		
1992-93	21882	18537	3345
1993-94	23306	22238	1068
1994-95(P)	28251	26223	2028
	(SDR Million)		
1992-93	17063	14455	2608
1993-94	16665	15901	764
1994-95(P)	19372	17981	1390
	(P) Provisional		

(b) Trade Deficit as percentage of exports and imports during 1992-93, 1993-94 & 1994-95 is given below

	Exports	Imports
1992-93	18 0	15 3
1993-94	4 8	4 6
1994-95	7 2	7 7

(c) The major countries with which trade balance has been negative consistently during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 are Belgium, Germany Federal Republic, Iran, Korea Republic, Malaysia, France, Australia, Kuwait, Nigeria, Canada and Saudi Arabia. Disaggregated trade data for 1994-95 full year are not yet available.

(d) Provisionally estimated annual growth of exports and imports during 1994-95 over 1993-94 are as under

	Percentage Growth in Terms of		
	Re	US \$	SDR
Export	18 4	18 3	13 4
Imports	21 8	21 7	16 7

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN Mr Speaker, Sir we have here with us a very interesting set of figures which shows that the trade deficit is rising and it is rising because while both exports and imports are rising, the imports are rising at a faster rate than the exports are. The Government had last year and some years back announced a policy that apart from export promotion we should also try to have a degree of import contraction. Now, it is obvious that export promotion is not as effective as it should be nor is the import contraction and that is why this trade deficit is rising.

I would like to know from the hon Minister, Mr Speaker, about the exact policy of the Government with regard to import and or contraction of imports because I believe that there is tremendous pressure now on the Government to open the doors of the country even to imports of consumer goods, and perhaps consumer durables, from developed countries freely into the Indian market.

SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM Sir, there is no policy of import contraction in 1991-92 because of serious balance of payments problems and very low foreign exchange reserves, we deliberately had to resort to import contraction and there was import contraction of about 4 billion dollars in 1991-92. The policy as stated in our Export-Import Policy Book laid on the Table of this House is to promote exports and to facilitate imports which will promote exports as well as promote industrial production in the country.

Sir, we are aware that the growth rate of imports is slightly higher than the growth rate of exports, but it is

not an alarming difference. In fact, we do not think that the trade deficit is alarming. The trade deficit is a very small proportion of G D P. It works out in 1994-95 to approximately 0.8 per cent. The current account inflows are exceedingly healthy. It is the current account deficit which will eventually determine the health of the economy and the current account deficit for 1994-95 is less than half a per cent of G D P.

Therefore, Sir, the policy of the Government is to promote exports and exports are growing at a healthy rate of 20 per cent in dollar terms in 1993-94 and provisional estimate of 18.3 per cent in dollar terms in 1994-95. Imports are growing this year at 21 per cent, but last year they grew at a much lower rate. I think the growth rate of imports and exports is quite satisfactory and we will keep a very close watch on the trade deficit.

**SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN** Mr Speaker, Sir the hon. Minister has spoken half the truth. In terms of the G D P, of course, the trade deficit is very low, but in terms of exports and imports it is nearly 7 per cent and that I would not think is a very insignificant figure. But, I am encouraged by the assurance by the hon. Minister that he will try to take care of the trade deficit.

As far as the export promotion is concerned, if the Minister were to consult his handbook, he would find that the Government has announced a number of incentives for exports applicable to export houses and to major exporters. The general complaint is that these facilities and these incentives are not being implemented as effectively and as expeditiously as they should be. That affects the credibility of these schemes and in fact, shall we say, erodes the trust of the export trade in the assurances of the Government. Sometimes the facilities are denied, sometimes they are delayed, sometimes exporters are forced into litigation, sometimes even after court orders are passed against the Government, the orders are not implemented. For example, the recent orders of the Delhi Government with which the Minister must be very familiar.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will monitor the performance of the schemes relating to export incentives such as those relating to advance licencing or time bound disposal of applications or the working of the grievances committee, and assure that these incentives and guarantees are implemented in a streamlined manner so that they in fact do not consume time and that they do not affect the sense of trust that the export or the trading community must develop in the machinery of the Government, if the trade is to flourish.

**SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM** With your permission if I may respond to the first comment which the hon. Member made, it is a way of looking at things like how much of our imports are covered by exports. In 1990-91 75 per cent of our imports were covered by exports. The hon. Member will of course say 25 per cent is the deficit as a proportion of the exports. But look at what we are covering now. In 1993-94 and 1994-95,

In two years, we are covering approximately 93 per cent of our imports by exports. That is why you say 7 per cent is the deficit. It is a way of looking at it. Is the tumbler half empty or half full? I would say it is more than half full now.

As far as the incentives are concerned, it is a general criticism and I am not denying that there have been some lapses. I am sure there have been some cases where things have not moved very fast, but overall I must pay tribute to the Ministry and the officials and the Minister who was in position in the last two years. Otherwise how would exports have grown at 20 per cent and 18 per cent in dollar terms? Yes. Today we have in a place monitoring system, an MIS system which brings directly on line the data from the four major port offices for advance licencing. By the end of June, we will have figures on EPCG as well as SIL. I would invite the hon. Member to visit my office, I can demonstrate to him how the data is on line every day on advance licencing. In a couple of months we should have data on line on EPCG as well as SIL.

[Translation]

**SHRI MOHAN RAWALE** Mr Speaker, Sir, the issue relating to sugar imports was discussed at length last year. I would like to ask the hon. Minister through you that should the public sector incur losses while making imports? Sometime, you ask the STC to import and sometime to export.

**MR SPEAKER** Does it arise out of the original question?

**SHRI MOHAN RAWALE** This question relates to actual exports and imports.

**MR SPEAKER** It depends on the quantum of imports.

**SHRI MOHAN RAWALE** The Government does not allow STC to export. They allow private parties. In case STC is allowed to export, the losses will come down and rates of sugar can also be maintained. This is what I want to ask through you.

**MR SPEAKER** Mr Rawale, this does not arise out of the original question.

**DR SATYNARAYAN JATIA** Mr Speaker, Sir it appears from the continuous foreign trade imbalance that the quantum of imports is much more as compared to the quantum of exports. We find adverse effect on our country because of this continuous imbalance. This causes devaluation of rupee as well. It becomes very difficult to hold price line because of domestic and international pressure. In view of this, we should resort to imports only when it is essential and unavailable and on the other hand, make more and more opportunities available for exports in order to maintain foreign trade balance. It is said that we are providing more opportunities for exports but effective steps are not being taken to encourage them. Therefore, I would like to ask

the hon'ble Minister, through you, whether he would take certain measures to curtail imports and promote exports? If it is not done so, the situation may not go out of hand.

MR. SPEAKER : This has already been answered in the original reply. You can repeat the same,

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, let me say once again that the policy is to promote exports actively and aggressively and to facilitate imports which will go for export production as well as for enhanced production in the domestic market. So long as the country is dependent for raw materials, for components, for capital goods and import intensity is approximately 40 per cent or so, even for our export production, it is not proper and perhaps it is not even wise to contract the imports consciously. We must carefully monitor imports. But imports must be facilitated because imports have a direct impact on exports as well as domestic production.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : One of the reasons which affected the growth of our exports is this. A large volume of traditional items were exported to the erstwhile Soviet Union and the various Republics of the Soviet Union. And after the disintegration of Soviet Union, the exports of traditional items like spices, coir, tea and various such other items have been affected very much. What steps are being taken by the Government to re-establish these exports to the erstwhile Soviet Republics where Trade Protocols have been signed with the newly independent States? What steps are being taken for adequately compensating this loss?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Our trade with the Soviet Union then approximately accounted for about 15 per cent of our exports. The break-up of the erstwhile Soviet Union, of course, caused a major set back to our trade. Now, so far as Russia is concerned, after protracted negotiations, we have entered into an agreement with the Russian Government under which we have to export commodities, that is they have to import certain commodities to the value of about Rs.3,000 crore per year, which is called the Rupee Debt Repayment Agreement. Now, despite this facility, the Russians have not been able to place orders or establish letters of credit and utilise this amount fully. I do not have the figures for Russia with me but last year I think finally the exports to Russia under the Rupee Debt Repayment Agreement fell a little short of Rs.3,000 crore. This year, after the exchange of visits at the highest level - at the Head of Government level - the Russians and the Indians have identified four commodities of mutual interest where they will earmark some of this credit for payment. The items are tea, tobacco, soyabean extract and drugs and pharmaceuticals. Yesterday, the Russian Ambassador told me that he has received instructions that letters of credit will be opened and orders will be placed in the next few days. I have reviewed the matter again this morning. We are ready. As soon as the Russian orders come through, our people will export.

Regarding the remaining part of the rupee debt repayment, we are actively pursuing the matter and finding ways and means. But I must tell hon. Members that there is another track, that is the hard currency track, in which our exports to Russia are growing. It is not as though our exports to Russia are not growing.

As far as our exports to other Republics are concerned, some of them are in serious financial difficulties. With four Republics, I think - I am speaking from memory - we have extended small credit limits to jump start or kick start exports to those countries. But all these things will take time because they are in serious financial difficulties.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister, while illustrating the policy of import, twice said that import concessions, among other things, are intended to see to it that such imports do help in export generation. May I know how do the consumer durables such as television tubes, etc. help in export generation?

Can you tell me whether this could have been easily stopped because in our country we are already having a big development in this side?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, in respect of a particular commodity, it is difficult for me to give accurate figures. But broadly speaking, our colour picture tube capacity in this country is not adequate to meet the colour picture tube demands of the colour television industry. What does colour television industry do? Colour television industry produce not only for the domestic market, but also for the export market. To the extent that the CPT capacity is inadequate to meet the CPT demand, CPTs will have to be imported. The colour television industry provides employment. It produces for the domestic needs; it also produces for exports.

I can send the figures to the hon. Member explaining the mismatch between demand and supply, the exports which have taken place and the domestic demand. ... (Interruptions) I cannot give figures offhand for each commodity. ... (Interruptions) We export black and white TV in large numbers; we also export some colour televisions. I cannot give numbers offhand because I do not have the numbers for each commodity.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Sir, the Minister has replied in one of the supplementary answers indicating better performance of the Ministry by saying that though there is a gap, it is 93 per cent full, etc. Bridging the gap of seven per cent also, I suppose, is the intention of the Ministry. Now, this gap can be bridged either by reducing the imports or by increasing the exports. Now, two things are happening. With the liberalisation of imports, you are doing large scale imports. Therefore, you have to resort to export items which are of common use items by which the common man is being affected and therefore the prices are escalating.

I want to know from the hon. Minister that in order to bridge this gap, have you carried out any deliberate and conscious exercise either to reduce the imports of unnecessary items or have you identified those areas of export which do not affect the common man or the prices which are related to the common man. If so, what has been the result and if not, why not?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I thought on our trade policy, there is a very transparent statement of trade policy. We made one on the 4th of July 1991; we made one on the 13th of August 1991. The Export-Import policy of 1992-97 is perhaps the most transparent, clear document on policy. Now, our policy, as I said earlier in answer to a supplementary, is to promote exports as well as to facilitate imports. Now, how do we bridge this gap of seven per cent? We bridge this gap of seven per cent by allowing export growth to be quite healthy at about 18 to 20 per cent. The Planning Commission wants growth to be about 16 per cent in value terms. We did not achieve it in the first year. But in the second and third years, we have done better than 16 per cent. There is, I might say with great respect, a misapprehension about imports; imports are necessary in order to facilitate exports and in order to help domestic production. Now, we are not exporting only traditional items. In fact, I would join issue with the suggestion made that because of exports, the prices are going up. That is not correct. The 34 items that we have identified as 'extreme focus items' are all items where there is value addition. Many of them are manufactured products and many of them are engineering products, software, etc. Yes. Some items which are consumed in this country are also exported. But as I said, our first obligation is to meet the domestic demand. We export surpluses — where the surpluses are identified. We allow export only if it does not affect the domestic price. But even our farmers require good prices and good prices will be available only if a part of the production is exported out of this country.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is significant increase in import-export deficit. I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that in order to promote exports, he should give more subsidy to handloom industry and increase production. In addition to this, we can increase exports of quality rice. The Government should grant more subsidy to farmers on fertilizers to encourage them to increase the production of rice of good quality so that we may be able to export the same in larger quantity. I would like to know the reaction of the hon'ble Minister to this suggestion?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I have no difference with any of the suggestions made.

[Translation]

### FERA Violation Cases

+  
\*622 SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of cases of violation of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 detected during 1994-95 and during the current financial year so far;

(b) the number of persons arrested in these cases and the number of persons already released on bail; and

(c) the present status of the proceedings against them?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The Enforcement Directorate detected 5680 cases of violation of various provisions of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 during 1994-95 and 270 such cases in the current financial year (upto 10.5.1995).

(b) During 1994-95, 364 persons were arrested out of whom 362 have been released on bail. In 1995-96 (Upto 10.5.1995) 29 persons have been arrested; 21 of them have been released on bail.

(c) The proceedings against the parties are at different stages namely, investigation, issue of show cause notices, initiation of adjudication proceedings and filing of criminal complaints.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question was that how many cases of violation of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 have been detected during 1994-95 and during the current financial year so far? In reply to this question, the hon'ble Minister has given certain figures. It has been stated therein that 5680 cases were detected in 1994-95 and 270 such cases have been detected in the current financial year (upto 10.5.1995). During 1994-95, 364 persons were arrested, out of whom 362 have been released on bail... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is alright, you need not read all this.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether the persons released on bail, were granted bail straightaway or they were kept in jail also?

MR. SPEAKER : No, it is not like that. The bail is granted by the court and thereafter, the person is released.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY : Sir, violation of FERA is a serious crime as it has direct bearing on our economy. This crime is not committed by the poor but by the traitors. The increase in the incidents of crimes



relating to foreign exchange is natural because of increase in foreign investments and entry of foreign companies. The officers and other employees concerned have also become corrupt. Because of this, such crime can prove more dangerous. I would, therefore, like to know from the Government whether they are taking some effective steps to prevent such crimes?

[English]

MR SPEAKER He is not satisfied with the action taken. He is asking: Are you going to do something to improve it?

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY Sir, I would like to just inform the hon. Member that I have already replied to it in my main reply. We have detected and registered 5688 cases, we have started investigations but due to lack of evidence, we have dropped about 1439 cases, we have issued show cause notices in respect of 1508 cases. As regards pending investigations, we have not dropped those cases. There are about 2733 such cases.

Regarding inflow of foreign investment, I do not understand how it is related to FERA violations. If the hon. Member has any specific instance, he can write to the Ministry and we will definitely examine it.

MR SPEAKER Have you got second Supplementary?

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY Mr Speaker, Sir, this is not the question of any individual but it is a general one.

MR SPEAKER Alright.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE Mr Speaker, Sir, it has been revealed in international probe that the money transaction that takes place in Hawala racket is used in causing bomb blasts, engineering riots and terrorist activities. I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister whether any investigation has been done to find out from the persons arrested in connection with Hawala rackets as to how have they utilised the amount received by them through these transactions? Whether it has also been enquired whether these people are involved in terrorist activities or not?

Secondly, I want to know from the hon'ble Minister whether special courts would be set up to deal with economic offences relating to Hawala activities on the lines of special courts set up to deal with terrorist activities under TADA?

[English]

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY Sir, I agree with the hon. Member. The *hawala* racket is a clandestine operation and the violation of the FERA and this money, in many of the cases, is used for terrorist activities also.

In March 1991, the Delhi Police received information about the terrorists of Jammu & Kashmir Valley that they have been in the possession of certain documents and also they are receiving a large sum of money through

*hawala* market. The Delhi Police had registered the case in March 1991 and then the case was taken up by the CBI for further investigations.

MR SPEAKER He wants to know whether you are going to have special courts for the economic offences.

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY Yes, Sir, During the course of this investigation about the terrorists' funding, it was revealed that *hawala* channel was used for sending money to the terrorists from UK to Kashmir Valley.

MR SPEAKER Mr Minister he wants to know whether you are going to have special courts to deal with economic offences.

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY Sir we have already established some special courts in some cities to try these economic offences.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE Sir I do not know whether he is aware of this. I have a suspicion that the Finance Minister may have a hand in this, and maybe, in the marginal manner, the Commerce Minister also has to cover the trade deficit.

There is an interesting story had link up about which he has to tell me - whether he is aware of it.

In the share market we are aware that the financial foreign investment institutions have heavily invested and they have lost heavily in the course of last two months. The Finance Minister may have succeeded in retaining some of the hot foreign exchange within the country. Now this amount - which the financial foreign investment institutions have brought into our country and we have been, in a manner, able to confiscate by forcing the prices down in the share market - is going back to foreign countries and coming back as GDR not German Democratic Republic - it is Global Deposits Receipt. This is one of the route through which it is taking place. Is the Minister aware of any such developments or is there any violation of FERA noted in such cases?

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY Sir so far we have not noticed any violation regarding these transactions.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE He is not aware. Perhaps his senior could have known because this Minister is not intrusted in the whole game.

SHRI K P REDDAIAH YADAV I want to know through the hon. Speaker, whether it is a fact that in consonance with our liberalisation policy - economic as well as industrial policy - the Finance Ministry has liberalised the functioning of the Revenue Department, the Economic Offences Department, the Income Tax Department and such Departments, without actually functioning as they were functioning earlier?

MR SPEAKER What is meant by liberalising?

SHRI K P REDDAIAH YADAV We have liberalised the Economic Policy.

MR SPEAKER This is understood

SHRI S P REDDAIAH YADAV But now, what has happened during these three years? The Government India last year, has approved Rs 98,000 crore of foreign investments out of which we have received only Rs 3 000 crore, as actually invested in this country

Whatever money they are cornering in this country by way of contracts and so on they are sending it to other countries through other routes such as the havalas markets. And that money is being brought back as investment here

MR SPEAKER That is what exactly Shri Nirmal Chatterjee wanted to know

SHRI K P REDDIAH YADAV That means that these enforcement institutions are not functioning. Is it the policy of the Government that the Intelligence Department and the Revenue Department should not function as they were doing earlier?

MR SPEAKER In short, Mr Minister, the hon Member wants to know whether you have turned a blind eye to these offences

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY That is not correct Sir. Along with liberalisation, proper functioning of these Departments is also being ensured. In fact we have detected more number of cases in respect of income-tax evasion. In 1994-95 revenue collection is also considerably high

[Translation]

PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT Mr Speaker, Sir, the hon ble Minister has told in his answer that so many persons were arrested under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act and so many persons have been released but I want to know from him as to how many persons have been sentenced under this Act. Secondly on the one hand it is stated that one can bring foreign exchange as much as he can to augment our foreign exchanges reserve under the scheme of liberalisation and nobody would question him and on the other hand this Act is being enforced. Is it not a contradiction?

MR SPEAKER You can send him a reply to the first part of his question, in writing also

[English]

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY As regards the violation of FERA in 1993 we issued detention orders for 56 persons

[Translation]

PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT How many persons have been punished?

[English]

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY Punishment is to be decided at various levels. Ultimately, it will have to be decided by the courts of law

PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT I just want to know how many persons are punished

MR SPEAKER Information on the first aspect of his question may not be readily available with you and you may send it to the hon Member afterwards

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY I will send the information to the hon Member

MR SPEAKER You may answer the second part of his question. He says that there is a contradiction here. You want more foreign exchange. But at the same time you have these laws. How do you reconcile these two positions?

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY Both these are different issues. We earn foreign exchange through legal channels

MR SPEAKER You want to earn foreign exchange by legal imports through proper channel. Is that so?

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY No Sir. We want to earn foreign exchange through exports

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV Mr Speaker Sir, there are a number of cases of violation and people provide information also. The Government makes arrests and takes action against them. Thereafter an attempt is made on the life of the informers. I want to know whether Government has devised any way out to protect the informers or they propose to do something else in this respect? How many such cases have come to their notice? We read in the newspapers that the informer had to face murderous attack and Government does not provide him any security whether Government would introduce any legislation and take certain measures to protect them?

[English]

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY Sir, normally, the informer gets his right. I may inform that we have a mechanism in the Department of Enforcement to give protection to such informers

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI Mr Speaker, Sir, it appears from the figures given by the hon ble Minister that 5680 cases were detected in 1994-95 and 270 cases in the current financial year and similarly 29 cases were detected upto 10.5.1995. I would like to know about the persons who have not been released on bail. Whether they are still lodged in jail or any action is being taken against them?

MR SPEAKER The persons who have not been released on bail, you can rest assured, they are all in jail

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI What is the position disposal of these cases. How many cases are disposed of in a month and in a year. He has stated that witnesses do not come forward. It is understood that the

smugglers, who are arrested, purchase the witnesses. Whether your Department has received similar complaints?

[English]

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY Sir, only in such cases where there is lack of evidence, we have dropped those cases. Regarding 1994-95, out of 5,680 cases, we have issued show cause notices for about 1,506 cases. The cases which are pending investigation are about 2,733. We are taking all steps. Also, I would like to say that these investigations normally in the first stage, require minimum six months to be completed.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK Mr Speaker, Sir, out of 364 persons, 362 persons have been granted bail. Only 2 persons could not get bail. It is quite possible that they might have not applied for it or they might have died. This reveals that in the cases of economic offences bail is granted without any difficulty. I would like to know whether Government propose to amend the law to ensure that the bail is not granted so conveniently in serious cases like economic offences as happens in the criminal cases when someone is charged with committing a murder?

[English]

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY Sir, bail is granted by the judicial courts. Even after the bail is granted, we do not stop the investigations.

MR SPEAKER There are different aspects of it.

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY We proceed with the investigations.

SHRI RAM NAIK They go out of India.

#### USAID for Pollution Prevention

\*623 DR K V R CHOWDARY Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the US Agency for International Development has signed an agreement with the Government and the Industrial Development Bank of India to launch a Greenhouse Gas Pollution Prevention Project to assist India in its efforts to clean the environment,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the total cost of the project therefor?

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

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House

#### STATEMENT

An Agreement was signed on 10th April, 1995 between Government of India, Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for the Greenhouse

Gas Pollution Prevention Project (GEEP) costing US \$ 108.53 million. The objective of the project is (i) to reduce emissions of greenhouse gas in per unit of electrical energy generated by increasing energy productivity in thermal power generating plants and introduce commercially viable Efficient Coal Conversion (ECC) technologies and (ii) to encourage the use of Alternative Bagasse Cogeneration (ABC) technologies in sugar industries. The project also envisages assistance to beneficiaries who design their plants for dedicated usage of alternative biomass fuels. The project will be implemented by IDBI, Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC). A total grant assistance of US \$ 19 million will be extended by USAID under this project.

DR K V R CHOWDARY Sir, I am very happy that an agreement has been signed on 10th April between the Government of India, the IDBI and the United States Agency for International Development for the Greenhouse Gas Pollution and they have been spending about more than US \$ 106.53 million.

Sir, there is no doubt that Carbon di-oxide is the top greenhouse gas pollutant. But Methane comes next to Carbon di-oxide because it is a bacterial decay pollutant of organic matter and is the main component of natural gas. Methane is thirty times stronger than carbon di-oxide in global fittings and in affecting the chemistry of the atmosphere.

Sir, Asia is responsible for 20 per cent of the world's greenhouse gas emission because Methane is discharged by cultivation. According to UNDP this level is expected to increase to 35 per cent by 2025 A.D. Such a significant increase would be harmful for all forms of life on earth. About 12 per cent global warming is attributed to

MR SPEAKER Please ask a question. If you go to the technical matters, it will be difficult for the Minister to answer. I do not know whether he is a scientist or not. If he is a scientist, he would understand. Ask about the policies, not the technical aspects as Methane, Carbon di-oxide, its effects on global warming and things like that.

DR K V R CHOWDARY Sir, more thrust is given for carbon di-oxide only, but not for methane. That is why, I am asking this question.

MR SPEAKER So, you would like to know whether the Government is going to do something about that also or not. Please make the question understandable and brief.

DR K V R CHOWDHARY What steps the Government is taking to give more preference to the Methane gas produced in Asia?

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY The United States Agency for International Development have identified this project. They have signed this

agreement for a specific purpose Regarding the Methane gas they may have to come with a separate proposal

DR K V R CHOWDARY The United Nations Framework Convention of Climatic Changes have not been able to decide how and when to reduce the emission of Green-house gases There is a little disagreement that excessive emission of Green-house gases, mainly Carbon Dioxide and Methane, will raise the global temperature from 1.5 degree centigrade to about 4 degree centigrade during the next century It is difficult to justify inaction on this count as the cost of ignoring the problem will be borne by the future generation May I know from the Minister the steps taken to contain the emission of these gases?

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY Sir, this question does not relate to my Ministry It should be addressed to the Ministry of Environment

MR SPEAKER I do not know whether poets will be able to put a question on this!

DR SATYNARAYAN JATIYA Sir, I am basically a Science student

MR SPEAKER In that case I will allow you to ask a question

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTARCHARYA Sir, I am going to ask a question about the agreement It is said in the answer that the total cost would be US dollar 106.53 million out of which the total grant assistance of US dollar 19 million will be extended by USAID As per the residue of the project how will it be paid for? Is the Government of India going to give a matching grant to it or is part of the cost going to be through the import of technology, machinery and equipment etc? If it is so if there is going to be import of equipment in foreign exchange as part of the programme, what percentage of the total aid would be spent in import of such equipment? part (c) of my question is Has the Government undertaken any study to find out as to whether this equipment will be suitable in the context of our country or whether it would have been more cost effective to use indigenous technology for the purpose?

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY Sir, first of all I wish to inform the hon Member that the Government of India is not sharing this project The entire USAID assistance for this project is about 19 million dollar It is in the form of grant Out of this total grant assistance, 10.5 million dollar is intended as the investment support assistance and the remaining 8.5 million dollar is for technical assistance training and other such activities This project is being implemented by the IDBI, Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency and National Thermal Corporation

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA I asked about the import of equipment

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY I do not have such details We have signed the agreement only recently

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA You know the details of the agreement and whether the agreement involves import of equipment or not, if so, whether this equipment is suitable for our country or not

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY That will be decided by the Executive Director of IDBI and representatives of the Ministry

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA But you have already signed the agreement

MR SPEAKER You can collect the information and send it to the hon Member

[Translation]

DR SATYNARAYAN JATIYA Mr Speaker, Sir, they generate electricity based on Coal Due to use of coal as has been stated in the Green House Gas Pollution Prevention Project, a lot of pollution takes place So attention must be paid towards this aspect Now this project involves an expenditure of US \$ 106.53 million but we are getting a grant of \$ 90 million only which means Rs 50 crore I want to know that how are we going to utilise this amount of Rs 50 crore? Will it be utilised for NTPC or State Electricity Board? The grant is that of Rs 50 crore and complete project costs is 106 million dollars One of the objectives of this project is to enhance production capacity of coal in order to generate more power Therefore, what type of device is likely to be installed to process the coal and to make it more productive so as to assess the efficacy of the project?

MR SPEAKER It is Green House Gas Pollution Prevention Project

DR SATYNARAYAN JATIYA In order to control Green House gas coal is processed so that emission of this gas may be reduced to minimum extent Therefore I want to say that Silver Ash precipitator should be installed to reduce the coal ash

MR SPEAKER The poetry means to say maximum in minimum words

DR SATYNARAYAN JATIYA I want to know as to where and how this project is likely to be implemented?

[English]

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY Sir I have already said that the total cost of the project is about US \$ 106.53 million The US Aid assistance being given is about US \$ 19 million The IDBI is contributing about US \$ 77.8 million and US \$ 9.6 million is contributed by NTPC The project is to be spread over seven years

The main objectives of this project are (1) to stimulate and sustain private sector investment in sugar

mills using alternative bagasse by biomass growth-generation technology, (2) to lower the cost of capital for promoters to design their plants for dedicated use of alternative biomass fuel, (3) this is in the area of coal, Sir, to support development of an institution for promoting deficit management of coal-fired power plants and to facilitate commercialisation of advance coal conversion technologies for sharing the benefits with Indian utilities.

#### Export of Muahrooma

\*624. SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of mushrooms exported and the foreign exchange earned there from during each of the last three years, country-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the export of mushrooms in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT-II

(a) The total quantity of mushrooms exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during the years 1992-93 and 1993-94 and 1994-95 (April -Dec. '94) are as under :

	Qty : In MTS Value : Rs. in Crores	
	Qty.	Value
1992-93	3442.45	20.86
1993-94	4892.43	23.94
1994-95 (April-Dec.'94)	4955.26	34.72

(Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta)

Country wise details are given in the Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India (Annual Number) published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, copies of which are available in Parliament House Library.

(b) Steps taken to boost the export of mushrooms *inter-alia* include :

(i) Providing financial assistance for :

(a) establishment of spawn laboratories, compost pasteurisation and processing facilities,

(b) setting up special airconditioned chambers for storage of mushrooms,

(ii) Interest subsidy on loans for plant and machinery,

(iii) Providing training to farmers for mushroom cultivation;

(iv) Import of mushroom spawn culture by Export Oriented Units (EOUs) allowed without permit,

(v) Extension of benefits available under the scheme of 100% EOU/Export Processing Zones to the Agriculture sector including mushrooms,

(vi) Providing financial assistance for improved packaging, strengthening of quality control and promoting export of identified products through brand promotion campaigns,

(vii) Arranging Buyer Seller Meets and participation in international fairs/exhibitions

SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any incentives are being offered for export of mushroom under the new liberalised policy of the Government of India. Part (b) of my question is: Is the Government thinking of setting up an Export Promotion Council for facilitating the exporters of mushroom? If so, what are the details?

SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, apart from the general incentives available to all exporters on all export items, there are special schemes for development of mushrooms. There is one scheme by APEDA which provides grants for development of infrastructure and services, for post-harvest infrastructure, for packaging development, for market development, for survey feasibility and consultancy service. There is another scheme by the National Horticulture Board which grants assistance subject to a maximum of Rs 1 crore at low interest rates. There is a third scheme known as the Central Sector Scheme which is a plan scheme of the Horticultural Division of the Ministry of Agriculture which provides 100 per cent assistance for increasing productivity in production of mushrooms.

Sir, there is no proposal to set up a Mushroom Export Promotion Council. In fact it is now covered

MR. SPEAKER : It is covered by the Ministry of Agriculture.

SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM : It is covered by APEDA, the Agricultural Products Exports Development Authority. There is no proposal to set up a separate council.

SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has any idea to form a Mushroom Board to safeguard the interests of growers and exporters?

MR. SPEAKER : He has replied to that question.

DR. B.G. JAWALI (Gulbarga) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have read recently that the British industrialists are coming forward for 100 per cent buy-back arrangements. On the one hand we are trying to help our farmers for their promotion and education and on the other hand we are trying to get other bigger multinational industries with 100 per cent buy-back arrangements. This is an anomaly.

Secondly, on the one hand you are saying agriculture, green-house, export promotion, 100 per cent buy back and so on for earning foreign exchange in a liberalised economy and on the other hand, just now, the Minister of State for Finance has said that they are getting out of the complications regarding environmental pollution and they are having another project to import or get all the assistance from the foreign agencies. How will they prevent pollution from the other side? I want to know whether there is any coordination for solving the complication that has been already created. Simultaneously how will he handle both these problems?

SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM Sir, with great respect to the hon Member, I would like to say that I am unable to understand what the contradiction is. Sir, if buy-back arrangements are being entered into, it is good for the country. We will have an assured market for the enhanced production that takes place in the country. I have information here which says that a number of companies in the Netherlands, Italy, Thailand, and USA have come forward to offer technical collaboration and perhaps some of them have also taken equity stake in Indian companies. Some of these companies have entered into buy-back arrangements. Buy-back arrangement, I think, is good for the producer because he has an assured market.

Secondly, Sir, one must look at the consumption pattern of mushrooms. We are not a major producer of mushrooms nor are we a major consumer of mushrooms. The major consumers of mushrooms are Germany, USA, France and Sweden, Norway and UK are fairly small consumers which means we need to orientate our exports towards markets where there is a large amount of consumption. If one gets a buy-back arrangement with any company in these countries, I would submit, Sir, it is good for the producer here and not bad as he sought to suggest here.

DR B G JAWALI They are creating environmental pollution and all those things.

SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM Sir, I will not be able to answer in any technical detail. But I am absolutely sure that when we allowed permission for an EOU to be established for mushroom cultivation, one has to observe environmental laws and get clearance from the State Environment Board, if there is water pollution.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV Mushroom is one of the food items after prawn which is very popular in western countries. But our production is surprisingly low and our export is also very low. In view of this, many European countries have lately shown great interest in buy-back arrangements. But one difficulty is that they have given certain proposals that they want to develop the farms here and they want to develop the storage capacity but they want land on a long term lease

and the Government has not been able to take a policy decision on that. That is coming in the way of materialising this buy-back arrangement.

Will the Minister take necessary steps and expedite these matters so that our farmers in those areas which are good for producing mushrooms can take advantage of this interest which has been shown in our country?

SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM Sir, the hon Member is absolutely right. Land is a vital input for mushroom cultivation and mushroom industry. I am happy to tell him, that 44 proposals for 100 per cent export-oriented units with such foreign investment have been approved.

And the figures that I have, show that all of them are under various stages of implementation in various States. Apparently the State Governments are providing land for mushroom cultivation and if there is any constraint in any State, I am willing to write to the Chief Minister.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

### Internal Debt

\*625 SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI  
PROF SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the amount of internal debt on Union Government has increased continuously for the last few years,

(b) if so, the amount of internal debt at the end of the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 separately

(c) the percentage that this amount constitutes of the annual G D P,

(d) whether the Union Government have also made repayment of this amount of debt during these years,

(e) if so, the total amount of loan repaid during these years separately, and

(f) the year-wise total amount of debt taken by the Union Government during the said years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY)  
(a) and (b) The internal debt and other liabilities of Union Government in the last three years have been as under

(Rs in crore)		
1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (RE)
3,59,355	4,30,323	4,90,701

(c) The percentage of internal debt and other liabilities to the GDP was 51%, 55% and 54% in the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 respectively

(d) and (e) The repayment of internal debt and other liabilities (excluding discharge of 91 days Treasury Bill, Reserve funds and deposits not bearing interest and suspense transactions) amounted to Rs 34151 crore, Rs 58482 crore and Rs 56778 crore in the year 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 respectively

(f) The additional internal debt and other liabilities taken by the Central Government net of repayments amounted to Rs 41,941 crore, Rs 70,968 crore and Rs 60,378 crore in the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 respectively

[English]

### Credit Policy

\*626 SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI  
SHRI R SURENDER REDDY

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the main features of the new credit policy announced by the Reserve Bank of India recently

(b) the shortcomings and lacunae of the policy that had come to the notice and weighed in favour of framing the new policy,

(c) the objectives likely to be achieved through the new policy,

(d) whether the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Non-Banking Finance Companies have expressed their reservations over the new measures to curb credit, inflation and contain money expansion and price rise in the country,

(e) if so, the details thereof, and

(f) the reaction of the Government/RBI thereto?

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

(a) The salient features of the monetary and credit policy for the first half of 1995-96 announced by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 17th April, 1995 are a one percentage point increase in the maximum term deposit rate, introduction of a loan system for delivery of bank credit by bifurcation of the existing cash credit limits of large borrowers into a "cash credit component" and a "loan component", reduction in credit to finance companies from banks/financial institutions, a ban on bridge loans against public issues and changes in export credit refinancing. The policy also outlines the details of the Rural Infrastructural Development Fund (RIDF) consortium for Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and Scheme for Financing Primary Weavers Co-operative Societies by commercial banks, measures which were earlier announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech on March 15, 1995

(b) RBI has reported that the credit policy has been framed against the background of the monetary and credit developments in the last two years including the price situation during the financial year 1994-95

(c) A key objective of the monetary and credit policy is to reduce the inflation rate

(d) and (e) As per reports in the Press, the major Chambers of Commerce and Industry have *inter-alia* expressed apprehension that the higher cost of credit implied by the rise in the maximum term deposit rate and the restraints on credit arising from the curb on credit to non-banking financial companies and the ban on bridge loans would adversely affect the growth of industry

(f) RBI has reported that the credit policy is so framed as to ensure that all genuine credit requirements of the economy are met. The Policy is under continuing review and modifications will be made therein taking into account emerging developments in the economy

[Translation]

### Setting up of Industrial Parks

\*627 SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether industrial parks have been set up at different places exclusively for import and export in the country,

(b) if so the places where such parks have been set up during 1994-95, State-wise

(c) the details of proposals for setting up such parks in future,

(d) the total number of units set up in these parks and the number of those units rendered sick upto March, 1995 and

(e) the value of the imports and exports in percentage made by these units out of the total value of the country's imports and exports made during each of the last three years and the targets fixed for 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) and (b) A Centrally Sponsored Export Promotion Industrial Parks (EPIP) Scheme has been formulated to assist State Governments in establishing infrastructural facilities for export oriented production. Upto now, such parks have been approved to be set up in Dhandari Kalan (Punjab), Ambarnath (Maharashtra), Baddi (H P), Sitapura (Rajasthan), Hoodi (Karnataka), Kakkannad (Kerala), Kundli (Haryana), Surajpur (U P), Gummidipoondi (Tamil Nadu), Pashamylaram (Andhra Pradesh), Savli (Gujarat), Hajipur (Bihar), Durgapur (West Bengal) and Byrnihat (Meghalaya)

(c) The Scheme envisages the establishment initially of one EPIP in each State. Setting up of more parks in future will depend upon proposals received from the State Government.

(d) and (e) As the Scheme was launched in 1994-95 and development of the parks is only in the initial stages, it is too early either for units to be set up or to assign export targets in 1995-96.

#### Shortage of Aircraft in AI and IA Fleet

\* 628 SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a shortage of aircraft in the fleet of Air India and Indian Airlines,

(b) whether these airlines are unable to carry passengers due to the shortage of aircraft, and

(c) if so, whether the Government have considered to purchase new aircraft and the names of the countries from which the aircraft are proposed to be purchased and the price of the new aircraft alongwith the time by which these new aircraft are likely to be purchased?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) While Indian Airlines has adequate aircraft capacity, Air India is facing capacity constraint.

(b) Air India's route network has been planned keeping in view the available aircraft capacity and the economic viability of the routes. To meet the capacity shortfall, aircraft capacity has been wetleased.

(c) Air India has signed an agreement with Boeing Airplane Company of USA for acquiring two Boeing 747-400 aircraft at an estimated total project cost (including spare engines, spares etc.) of Rs 1137.70 crores. These aircraft are likely to be delivered in July and August 1996.

#### Master Plan for Development of Tourism

\*629 SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH  
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM

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

(a) whether each State Government has formulated master plan for the development of tourism and submitted these to the Union Government

(b) if so, the names of such States which have submitted their master plan to the Government, and

(c) the amount of Central assistance sanctioned by the Government to each State Government for the implementation of master plans, separately?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b) Draft Master Plans on Tourism have been received from the States

of Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and from Union Territory of Pondicherry.

(c) The above States have to finalise their Master Plans. There is no scheme for Central assistance to the States for implementation of their Tourism Master Plans.

#### Development of Backward Areas Through Banks

\*630 SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have issued any directive to the Nationalised banks to pay special attention towards development of backward areas,

(b) if so the details thereof

(c) whether the Government are aware of the violation of the said directive by certain banks,

(d) if so the details thereof, and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

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

(a) to (e) The Branch Licensing Policy of the Reserve Bank of India takes care of the needs of regional development. The aim of the branch licensing policy 1985-90 was to achieve a population coverage of 17000 (as per 1981 Census) per bank office in the rural/semi-urban areas of each block in the country as also to eliminate wide spatial gaps in the availability of banking facilities so that a bank branch was available generally within a distance of 10 Kms. Considering the peculiar features in hilly/tribal areas and sparsely populated and other backward regions, the population criterion was brought down to 10,000 per bank office in such areas. The adoption of service Area Approach (SAA) for rural lending, under which each bank branch in rural areas was expected to cover 15 to 25 villages, also ensured that the banking needs of every village in the country, including those in backward areas, was adequately taken care of. In the period 1990-95, it was felt that there was no need for evolving any branch expansion programme with targets like population coverage. The need for a moderate number of additional bank branches in rural areas, hilly/tribal/sparsely populated areas and other backward regions to cater to the banking needs in such areas was left to the judgement of individual banks. While doing so, the banks were advised to give due weightage to the special needs of hilly/tribal areas. Proposals of the banks which conform to the above norms and which are recommended by the concerned State Government are considered favourably by the Reserve Bank of India.



[English]

### Commercial Loan

\*631. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU .  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Firms seek \$ 1 5-b commercial loans for non-power sector" appearing in the Economic Times, dated March 9, 1995;

(b) if so, whether the Government have carefully screened the requests for external commercial borrowing,

(c) whether such increase in external commercial borrowings is likely to lead to erosion of foreign exchange in the long run, and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to safeguard national interests?

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

(a) and (b). The news item captioned "Firms seek \$ 1 5-b commercial loan for non-power sector" in The Economic Times dated March 19, 1995 highlights the surge in the demand for external commercial borrowings by Indian corporates in 1994-95 and provides information on the revisions in the guidelines for external commercial borrowings announced by the Ministry of Finance towards the end of February 1995. Requests for external commercial borrowings have been screened and approved in the context of conformity with the parameters announced in these guidelines.

(c) and (d). The guidelines for external commercial borrowings envisage the stipulation of an annual ceiling on approvals consistent with prudent debt management and the need to impart an impetus to industrial development and growth. The ceiling on approvals, and therefore the level of new borrowing commitment, is reviewed from time to time in the context of the emerging balance of payments situation

### wet Leasing of Aircraft

\*632. SHRI RABI RAY .  
SHRI P. KUMARASAMY :

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'IA, AI may wet lease aircraft appearing in the Economic Times dated January 21, 1995;

(b) if so, whether the Government have allowed or propose to allow the Air India and Indian Airlines to hike their capacity by wet leasing of aircraft,

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the details of the agreement, if any, for wet leasing of aircraft signed by AI/IA so far and the routes on which these aircraft are likely to put into operation?

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

(b) and (c). Air India/Indian Airlines are free to decide on wetleasing aircraft capacity to meet demands for additional capacity, for this Government approval is not necessary.

(d) Indian Airlines has not wet leased any aircraft. Details of wetlease arrangements entered into by Air India during the current year are as follows

Company	Period	Types of aircraft
(1) M/s Caribjet	Dec. 1994 to Dec. 1995	A310
(2) M/s Aeroflot	May, 1994 to May, 1995	IL62
(3) M/s Emery	May, 1994 to April, 1995	DCB/73F Worldwide (freighter)
(4) M/s Southern Air Transport	June, 1994 to May, 1996	DC8/73F (freighter)

Wet leased aircraft have been deployed on the following routes :

Bombay/Nairobi/Bombay

Bombay/Dar-Es-Salaam/Durban/Johannesburg Dar-Es-Salaam/Bombay

Bombay/Madras/Kuwait/London/Kuwait/Madras/Bombay.

Bombay/Madras/Kuwait/Paris/London/Paris/Kuwait/Madras/Bombay

Bombay/Delhi/Singapore/Delhi/Bombay

Bombay/Delhi/Moscow/Delhi/Moscow

Delhi/Moscow/Delhi

India/Europe/USA (freighter operations)

### Decline in Export of Tea

\*633 SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA  
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA .

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the export of tea to European countries like US, UK and Germany has declined during 1994-95 in comparison to 1993-94;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the total quantity of tea exported to these countries during the above period, country-wise,

(c) whether the decline in export has caused hardship to the exporters; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of tea to these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Quantum of exports of tea to USA, UK and Germany

during 1994-95 are estimated to be higher as compared to 1993-94, as would be borne out from the following figures :

Quantity in Million KGS Value in Rs. Crores

Year	U.K.		Germany		U.S.A.	
	Qty	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1994-95 @ (April to February)	29.51	158.43	7.13	87.52	5.22	38.01
1993-94 @ (April to February)	25.45	142.58	6.37	77.69	3.81	42.28

@ Based on the figures of shipment licence issued for export by Tea Board

(c) and (d). Do not arise. However, in order to improve our market share in Europe and USA promotional campaigns for Indian tea are undertaken from time to time through Tea Board's offices at London, Brussels and New York. Steps taken in this direction include participation in trade fairs/exhibitions; media campaign to increase consumer awareness of the various unique characteristics of Indian tea and media campaign to popularise Indian tea through the Tea Board marketing logo. Tea Board have also undertaken brand promotion schemes to popularise classic Indian teas abroad and also have launched a Darjeeling and Assam Logo campaign in U.K.

#### Money Credit Scheme for Soap Industry

\*634 SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have assessed the impact of the Money Credit Scheme for excise duty on the production of minor oils for use in soap industry,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the revenue sacrifice made during the last three years due to this scheme, and

(d) the beneficiaries of the scheme and the amount of benefit derived by each beneficiary during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) to (c) Notification No 46/89-CE (NT) dated 11 10 1989, as amended, provides for credit of money equal to Rs 1000/- per tonne in respect of rice bran oil and Rs 2800/- per tonne in respect of other specified minor oils, if the same have been used in the manufacture of soap.

It has been reported that the credit of money thus taken during the last three years, in terms of the Notification, was of the order of Rs. 16.26 crores in 1992-93, Rs 19.36 crores in 1993-94 and Rs. 16.51 crores in 1994-95. The scheme essentially seeks to

provide incentive for greater use of minor oils as well as for encouraging their production by the domestic industry.

The credit of money is available to all manufacturers of soaps whether they are in the large scale sector or in the SSI sector and irrespective of whether they have the refining capacity within their own factory or they get it done from outside on job-work basis.

It has been reported that during the past three years the consumption of minor oils specified in the Notification has shown an upward trend in line with the objective thereof. The quantity of minor oils consumed in 1992-93 was 1.48 lakh tonnes, in 1993-94, 1.58 lakh tonnes and in 1994-95, 1.51 lakh tonnes.

(d) Details in respect of beneficiaries of the scheme are given in the attached Statement.

#### STATEMENT

S. N.	Name of the Collectorate	Name of the Unit	Financial Year	Money credit Utilised for payment of duty on soap (Rs in lakhs)
1	Bombay-III	M/s Vora Soap (I) Limited	1992-93	3.65
			1993-94	2.35
			1994-95	Nil
2.	Rajkot	M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd	1992-93	3.45
			1993-94	1.28
			1994-95	5.56
3.	Nagpur	do	1992-93	209.71
			1993-94	199.19
			1994-95	174.88
4	Guntur	M/s. Jocil Limited	1992-93	25.52
			1993-94	48.71
			1994-95	32.05

1	2	3	4	5
5	Trichy	NII	NII	NII
6	Madurai	M/s. Naga Oils Mills	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	5.90 9.45 NII
7	Jaipur	NII	NII	NII
8	Belgaum	NII	NII	NII
9	Vadodara	NII	NII	NII
10	Patna	NII	NII	NII
11	Bolpur	NII	NII	NII
12	Bombay-I	M/s Hindustan Lever Ltd.	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	277.34 284.44 106.44
13	Bhubne- shwar	M/s Utkal Soap Products	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	12.90 15 70 17 93
14	Meerut	M/s Garden Perfumes(P) Ltd M/s Hindustan Lever Ltd	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95 1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	2 27 2 54 2 77 42 77 64 28 80 04
15	Hyderabad	NII	NII	NII
16	Indore	M/s Godrej Soap Ltd M/s Pee Cee Casma Ltd	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95 1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	20 14 47 67 67 34 NII 3.37 1 38
17	Visakha- patnam	NII	NII	NII
18	Pune	M/s. Tata Vashisti and Detergents Ltd	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	2 34 lacs 2 09 lacs 16 02 lacs
19	Bombay-II	M/s. Godrej Soaps	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	83 60 lacs 75 01 lacs 88 13 lacs
20	Goa	NII	NII	NII
21.	Madras	M/s S.S D. Soaps Detergents M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95 1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	1.91 lacs 0 97 lacs 0 77 lacs 20 28 lacs 40 44 lacs 24 79 lacs
22.	Cochin	M/s Tata Oil Mills Co. Ltd. Ernakulam (Merged with M/s Hindustan) M/s Tata Oils Mills Calicut (Merged with	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95 1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	68.89 lacs 108.21 lacs 54 75 lacs 25 49 lacs 36.07 lacs 23 39 lacs

1	2	3	4	5
		M/s Hindustan) M/s Pankaj Soaps and Chemicals, Cochin	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	0 19 lacs 0 36 lacs 0.26 lacs
23	Surat	M/s Vegetable Vitamin Foods Co Limited	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	14 00 lacs 8 00 lacs 2.00 lacs
24	Delhi	M/s Sri Ram Foods and Fertilizers Industries M/s Naulakha Eng Works	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95 1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	4 97 lacs 6.09 lacs 4 59 lacs 0.94 lacs 0.12 lacs 0.02 lacs
		M/s Goramal Harlram	1992 93 1993-94 1994 95	NII 2 01 lacs 16 64 lacs
25	Calcutta-I	M/s. Hindustan Lever Limited M/s Calcutta Chemical Co Limited	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95 1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	278 00 lacs 317 00 lacs 165 00 lacs 7.00 lacs 33 00 lacs 40 00 lacs
26	Jamshed- pur	NII	NII	NII
27	Bangalore	M/s Quality Soap Ind M/s Wipro Ltd	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95 1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	0 19 lacs 0 29 lacs NII 22 75 lacs 34 96 lacs 38 41 lacs
		M/s Karnataka Soap and Detergents	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	22 90 lacs 29 31 lacs 12 84 lacs
28.	Rajpur	M/s KN House Hold Product	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	3 00 lacs 4 16 lacs 3 03 lacs
29.	Auranga- bad	M/s Colgate Palmolive (I) Ltd M/s Wipro Ltd	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95 1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	37.76 lacs 51 07 lacs 20 03 lacs 29 08 lacs 17.24 lacs 3 10 lacs
30	Calcutta- II	M/s Kusum Product	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	10.52 lacs 12.76 lacs 19 20 lacs
31.	Allahabad	NII	NII	NII
32.	Kanpur	M/s Durga Sewa Samiti	1992-93 1993-94 1994-95	NII NII 1 84 lacs

1	2	3	4	5
	M/s. Pratlbha Chemicals	1992-93	0 31 lacs	
		1993-94	1 23 lacs	
		1994-95	0 65 lacs	
	M/s Pee Cee (I)	1992-93	Nil	
	(Soap and Chemicals)	1993-94	5 59 lacs	
		1994-95	4 39 lacs	
	M/s Pee Cee (I)	1992-93	Nil	
		1993-94	2 76 lacs	
		1994-95	2 35 lacs	
	M/s Hindustan Lever	1992-93	133 66 lacs	
		1993-94	149 72 lacs	
		1994-95	107 84 lacs	
	M/s Gangeo Soap Works Ltd	1992-93	27 73 lacs	
		1993-94	0 35 lacs	
		1994-95	0 10 lacs	
33 Chandigarh	M/s Bakemans, (I) (P) Ltd	1992-93	31 89 lacs	
		1993-94	32 01 lacs	
		1994-95	57 04 lacs	
	M/s Hindustan Lever Ltd	1992-93	86 52 lacs	
		1993-94	53 21 lacs	
		1994-95	140 71 lacs	
	M/s Organic Chemical Oils	1992-93	Nil	
		1993-94	3 67 lacs	
		1994-95	15 67 lacs	
	M/s Hindustan Lever Ltd	1992-93	9 17 lacs	
		1993-94	44 55 lacs	
	Malorketia	1994-95	43 12 lacs	
	M/s Oswal Fats and Oil	1992-93	18 10 lacs	
		1993-94	57 10 lacs	
		1994-95	28 81 lacs	
34 Ahmedabad	M/s Ranjit Soap Factory Baroda	1992-93	Nil	
		1993-94	Nil	
		1994-95	0 37	
	M/s Hindustan (I) Ltd	1992-93	16 76	
		1993-94	10 79	
		1994-95	1 56	
	M/s Nirma Ltd Mandali	1992-93	63 60	
		1993-94	106 34	
		1994-95	116 79	
	M/s Gujarat Soaps Ltd	1992-93	0 91	
		1993-94	Nil	
		1994-95	Nil	
35 Coimbatore	Nil	Nil	Nil	
36 Shillong	Nil	Nil	Nil	

#### MONEY CREDIT SCHEME

Year	Credit Utilised for Duty Payment (Rs in lakhs)
1992-93	1625 64
1993-94	1935 78
1994-95	1650 98

#### Trade with Myanmar

\*635 SHRI LAETA UMBREY Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether any Border Trade Agreement has been signed between India and Myanmar,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether any Border Trade points between these two countries will be opened along the borders of Mizoram, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh in future

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) to (e) A Border Trade Agreement was signed between India and Myanmar on 21 1 1994. The agreement provides for trade between India and Myanmar through the land route between Moreh in Manipur and Tamu in Myanmar and between Champai in Mizoram and Hri in Myanmar as also other places that may be notified by mutual agreement of the two countries. Under the Agreement border trade is to be conducted in freely convertible currencies or in currencies mutually agreed upon by the two countries including through counter-trade arrangements. The traditional exchange of locally produced commodities between people living along both sides of the Indo-Myanmar border as per the prevailing customary practice including the barter mechanism is also allowed to continue under the Agreement. The agreement provides for conduct of border trade through Champai in Mizoram as well as other places which may be mutually agreed upon.

#### Acquisition of Property by I.T. Department

\*636 DR LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA  
MAJ GEN (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA  
KHANDURI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of residential/commercial properties impounded and acquired by the Income-tax authorities on the ground of lower consideration shown in the sale documents during the last three years, State-wise,

(b) the premium received by the Government on the public auction of these properties in the respective years,

(c) whether Public Accounts Committee has made any recommendations to streamline the scheme,

(d) if so, being taken by the Government for implementation of these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) and (b) The details of the number of immovable properties purchased by the Appropriate Authority of

the Income Tax Department during the last 3 financial years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 and the surplus accrued to the Government on sale of properties in this period are given in the attached statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Public Accounts Committee has given recommendations for extending the coverage of the scheme, plugging of certain loopholes noticed in the working of the scheme and making amendments in the law with a view to incorporating the principles laid down by the Supreme Court while upholding the constitutional validity of the scheme. Some recommendations on procedural points have also been given by the Committee.

(e) Some recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee have already been accepted by the Government. Some other recommendations of the Committee are receiving attention of the Government.

#### STATEMENT

S. No.	State/ Union Territory	No. of purchase orders made by the Appropriate Authority of the Income Tax Department in the Financial years 1992-93, 93-94 & 94-95	Surplus accrued to the Government on sale of properties in the period mentioned in Column (3) (Rs. in crores)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1.	Maharashtra	242	103.65
2.	Gujarat	39	4.07
3.	Bihar	4	-
4.	Madhya Pradesh	1	-
5.	Uttar Pradesh	18	0.62
6.	Karnataka	23	2.28
7.	Andhra Pradesh	4	-
8.	Kerala	2	0.56
9.	Tamil Nadu	14	0.99
10.	Rajasthan	3	0.22
11.	West Bengal	8	1.43
12.	Haryana	5	-
13.	Delhi	42	6.95
14.	Chandigarh	2	0.48

#### Rural Credits

\*637. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware that the rural credit being made available at present is much below the desired level; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to make available more credit to rural areas to increase the productivity and to activate the rural economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE : (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The Working Group of Planning Commission has estimated that the credit requirements for agriculture and allied activities in the 8th Plan would be Rs. 105790 crores. The requirements of rural credit are also reflected in the annual credit plans prepared for the districts. Credit is made available through the network of branches of commercial and regional rural banks and through cooperatives.

For the years 1992-93 and 1993-94, the disbursement of credit in rural areas is Rs. 15168 crores and Rs. 17337 crores respectively.

(b) Some important measures taken to strengthen the rural credit system are given in the attached statement.

#### STATEMENT

##### *Measures Taken to Strengthen and Streamline the Rural Credit System in the Banks*

- Advances to priority sector, which include agriculture, village and cottage industries, artisans, trade etc should be at least 40 per cent of net credit
- Advances to agriculture should be at least 18 per cent of net credit (within the overall target of 40 per cent).
- Advances to weaker sections (i.e small and marginal farmers, SC/ST, Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) beneficiaries, Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) beneficiaries etc.) would be at least 10 per cent of net bank credit (within the overall target of 40 per cent).
- Disposal of loan applications upto Rs. 25,000 within a fortnight and those over Rs. 25,000/- within 8 to 9 weeks.
- Delegation of appropriate sanctioning powers to the rural branch managers so that majority of loan applications from weaker sections are sanctioned at branch level itself.
- No collateral security should be taken by way of mortgage of land/charge on land or third party guarantee on crop loan upto Rs 15,000/- and term loan upto Rs. 10,000/ where moveable assets are created. The limit is Rs. 5,000/- where immovable assets are created.
- No margin is required for agricultural loans upto Rs. 10,000/- for short term, medium/ long term.

8. Banks were advised that with a view to promoting investment in agriculture, particularly in the high-tech areas such as aquaculture, floriculture, tissue culture, there should be at least one specialised branch of a commercial bank in each State (set up by the convenors of the respective State Level Bankers' Committee) to adequately deal with high-tech agricultural loans.

R.I.D.F. 9. A Rural Infrastructural Development Fund has been established R.I.D.F with NABARD. The contribution to this fund come from the Commercial Banks which will be required to contribute in amount equivalent to the bank's shortfall in achieving, the priority sector target for agriculture lending, subject to a maximum of Rs. 1.5 per cent of the bank's net credit. The Fund will be used to provide loans to State Government and State owned Corporations for completing ongoing projects relating to medium and minor irrigation, soil conservation, watershed management and other forms of rural infrastructure.

LINE 10. NABARD has opened exclusive line of credit OF CREDIT TRIBAL DISTRICTS amounting to Rs. 400 crores for 114 tribal districts through out the country. This line of credit is available to Cooperatives and RRBs. NABARD has earmarked Rs. 150 crores for providing refinance to banks for loans granted to SC/ST beneficiaries.

R.R.B.11. 40 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) from all over the country have been selected by GOI for comprehensive restructuring. Funds for cleansing the balance sheets of these banks as well as augmenting their liquidity are proposed to be released to these banks in the form of equity.

Coop-12. To streamline the working of the State Cooperative Institutions, NABARD has asked the SCBs and SLDBs to prepare specific development action plans. NABARD is also entering into Memorandum of Understanding with the concerned State Governments and the Apex Cooperative Institutions. It is expected that this exercise would result in better functioning of the cooperative Institutions.

13. Khadi and village industries provide crucial non-farm earning opportunities to rural population. A new scheme will be established under which the banking system will provide Rs. 1000/- crores on a consortium basis, through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIB) which will lend to viable khadi and village industry units either directly or through the State Level Khadi and Village Industries Boards (KVIBS). The Central and

State Governments will guarantee these loans by commercial banks to KVIBs and KVIBS respectively.

14. The handloom sector employs millions of poor weavers. At present, NABARD refinancing to this sector is restricted to the flow of credit through the District and State Cooperative Banks. Henceforth, NABARD will extend refinancing to commercial banks also for extending credit to cooperative handloom Institutions.

15. With a view to help small scale industry which employs 14 million workers and account for 40 per cent of total manufacturing output and 35 per cent of our exports, a Technology Development and Modernisation Fund will be established in the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). The initial amount earmarked for this Fund will be Rs. 200/- crores.

16. A National Equity Fund Scheme was established in 1987 to provide equity assistance to tiny small scale units with projects of less than Rs. 10 lakhs and located in places with a population of not exceeding 5 lakhs. It is proposed to extend this Scheme to all its small scale units irrespective of their location except for units in Metropolitan areas. The scheme, which is managed by SIDBI, will continue to be funded by the Central Government and SIDBI on 50:50 basis.

17. Adequate availability of credit from the banking system is critical for the small scale sector. The Government, in consultation with banks, has formulated a Seven Point Action Plan for improving the flow of credit to this sector. A key feature of the Plan is the setting up of specialised bank branches to serve the needs of small scale units in 85 identified districts, each with more than 2000 registered small scale units. The public sector banks will ensure that 100 such dedicated branches are operational before the end of 1995-96.

18. With a view to accelerating industrial development in the North-Eastern Region, a new North Eastern Development Bank (NEDB) is being established to finance creation, expansion of industrial enterprises and infrastructure projects in the region. The Bank will be located within the region. It will have an authorised capital of Rs. 500 crores. Initial contribution to capital will be provided by All India Financial Institutions such as IDBI, ICICI and UTI, providing scope for contribution from other investors subsequently.

### Export of Grapes

\*638. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any decline in export of grapes during the 1994-95 in comparison to 1993-94;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have fixed any target for the export of grapes during each of the last two years;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made so far including the current year; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of grapes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Total value of grapes exported during 1993-94 and 1994-95 (April to December, 1994) are as under :

Value : Rs in Lakhs.

	1993-94 (Apr. -Dec. '93)	1993-94 (Apr. -Dec.) '93)	1994-95 (April-Dec. '94)
	Value	Value	Value
(i) Fresh Grapes	3390.00	910.53	1922.00
(ii) Dried Grapes	2.72	0.98	3.46

(Sources : DGCI&S, Calcutta)

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Steps taken to boost the export of grapes *inter alia* include :

- (i) Establishment in the public/private sector of nurseries and tissue culture units.
- (ii) Expansion of area under fruit cultivation and setting up of demonstration plots;
- (iii) Providing training to farmers;
- (iv) Grant of financial assistance for establishing infrastructural and post-harvest and processing facilities, strengthening quality control, improved packaging, export promotion and market development, and promoting exports of identified products through brand promotion campaigns;
- (v) Arranging Buyer Seller Meets and participation in International Fairs/Exhibitions.

### New Scheme for Development of Tea

\*639. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tea Board has formulated any new scheme for the promotion of tea;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No Sir. However, a number of ongoing scheme are being implemented by the Tea Board for development of production and promotion of Indian tea in the overseas markets.

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

### Operation by Foreign Airlines

\*640. SHRI NURUL ISLAM :

SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL :

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

(a) the criteria being adopted by the Government to permit foreign airlines for operating flights in the country;

(b) the names of the airlines which are operating national/international flights and the number of flights operated by them in a week;

(c) the number of places amongst them where flights by Air India and Indian Airlines are also being operated;

(d) whether Indian air services are not taking full benefit of their share;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government would permit Indian Airlines to operate overseas flight involving short distances to cover up this loss;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Traffic rights to foreign airlines for international operations are granted on the basis of reciprocity, keeping in view the demands of tourism, travel and international trade.

(b) and (c). Foreign Airlines are not granted traffic rights on domestic sectors. The requisite information in regard to international operations is given in the attached Statement.

(d) and (e). Due to constraints of aircraft capacity and operating crew as well as lack of adequate traffic potential on certain routs, the Indian carriers are presently not utilising their full entitlements.

(f) to (h). Indian Airlines is already operating services to Nepal, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Kuwait, Oman, U.A.E., Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand.

## STATEMENT

*Foreign Carriers' Operation to India Frequency Per Week in Each Direction*

S. No	Airlines	Country	No. of Frequency/ Week	Whether AI is Optg. to these Countries	Whether IC is Optg. to these Countries
1	Aeroflot	Russia	7	Yes	No
2	Air Canada	Canada	5	Yes	No
3	Air France	France	6	Yes	No
4	Air Lanka	Sri Lanka	22	No	No
5	Air Maldives	Maldives	2	No	No
6	Air Mauritius	Mauritius	3	JV Partner	No
7	Air Ukraine	Ukraine	2	No	No
8	Alitalia	Italy	3	Yes	No
9	Ariana Afghan	Afghanistan	8	No	No
10	Biman Bangladesh	Bangladesh	28	No	Yes
11	British Airways	U.K.	14	Yes	No
12	Cathay Pacific	Hong Kong	4	Yes	No
13	Delta Tower Air	U.S.A.	7	Yes	No
14	Druk Air	Bhutan	4	No	No
15	Egypt Air	Egypt	1	No	No
16	EL AL	Israel	3	No	No
17	Emirates	Dubai	22	Yes	No
18	Ethiopian Airlines	Ethiopia	3	No	No
19	Gulf Air	Gulf	41	Yes	Yes
20	Iran Air	Iran	1	No	No
21	Kazakhstan Airlines	Kazakhstan	2	No	No
22	Kenya Airways	Kenya	3	No	No
23	Korean Air	Korea	1	No	No
24	K.L.M.	Netherlands	7	No	No
25	Kuwait Airways	Kuwait	10	Yes	Yes

1	2	3	4	5	6
26.	Lufthansa Airlines	Germany	13	Yes	No
27.	Malaysian Airlines	Malaysia	8	Yes	Yes
28.	Oman Air	Oman	5	Yes	Yes
29.	Pakistan Airlines	Pakistan	12	No	Yes
30.	Qatar Airlines	Qatar	3	Yes	No
31.	Royal Jordanian	Jordan	4	No	No
32.	Royal Nepal A/L	Nepal	17	No	Yes
33.	Suadia	Saudi Arabia	18	Yes	No
34.	S.I.A.	Singapore	17	Yes	Yes
35.	South African A/W	South Africa	2	Yes	No
36.	Swiss Air	Switzerland	7	Yes	No
37.	Syrian Air	Syria	2	No	No
38.	Tajikistan Int'l	Tajikistan	2	No	No
39.	Tarom	Romania	2	No	No
40.	Thal Airways	Thailand	8	Yes	Yes
41.	Turkmenistan A/L	Turkmenistan	1	No	No
42.	Uzbekistan A/W	Uzbekistan	5	No	No
43.	Yemenia AIYemda	Yemen	2	No	No
			2	No	No

## Collection of Funds through Commercial Papers by FIs

6328. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have at any stage since the issue of commercial paper in 1990 as part of the on-going reforms in the financial sector, made any appraisal of its utility;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some front-line companies recently "defaulted" on repayments of their commercial paper (CP) and inter-corporate deposits (ICD) commitments;

(d) if so, the details of these companies; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that while no specific study was undertaken by it, the guidelines for issue of Commercial Paper (CP) have been modified from time to time based on internal review of CP as a money-market instrument.

In terms of the directions issued by RBI in December 1989 setting out the guidelines for issuance of CP, a company was eligible to issue CP provided, *Inter-alia*, its tangible networth was not less than Rs. 10 crore, its fund-based working capital limit was not less than Rs. 25 crore and the rating of the CP by a recognised rating agency was not below the prescribed level. Further, shares of the company issuing CP were required to be listed on the stock exchange and the extend upto which CP could be issued was restricted to 20% of the fund-based working capital limits. These guidelines have been reviewed from time to time with a view to further widening the scope for issuance of CP in the primary market as also to provide more flexibility to companies issuing CP.

(c) RBI has reported that no reports have been received by it from banks regarding defaults in repayment of CP on due dates.

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

#### Credit to Mauritius

6329. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently offered credit to Mauritius and signed an agreement in this regard;

(b) if so, the total credit offered; and

(c) the details of the repayment schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). Government of India have extended a Government-to-Government credit of US \$ 3.2 Million (equivalent to Rs. 10 crores (Approximately) to the Government of Mauritius recently. The credit agreement to this effect was signed on 6.9.1994. The credit is repayable in 24 half yearly instalments of US \$ 0.132 Million each, starting from 1.10.1997, except for the last instalment of US \$ 0.166 Million.

#### Report on Indian Economy

6330. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Washington based Institute of International Finance (IIF) has brought out a report on Indian Economy;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Institute of International Finance has prepared a summary appraisal of India. The report notes the success of economic reforms in India.

(c) The Government have noted the support provided to economic reforms in the report.

[Translation]

#### Bank Loans to Farmers in Rajasthan

6331. SHRI KUNJEE LAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of small and marginal farmers in Rajasthan to whom loan has been given by the cooperative, commercial and regional rural banks for installation of tubewells and boring purpose during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government have received complaints regarding irregularities in providing the above financial assistance during the said period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon together with the efforts being made to check such irregularities?

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

(a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the details of loans provided to small and marginal farmers in Rajasthan by the cooperative, commercial and regional rural banks separately for installation of tubewells and boring purposes during the last three years are not available. However, information regarding the financial assistance provided to farmers by all scheduled commercial banks in Rajasthan for Minor Irrigation schemes including construction of shallow and deep tube wells, tanks, etc purchase of drilling units, constructing, deepening, clearing of surface wells, boring of wells, etc. during the last three years is given below:

Year ended	No. of A/cs	Amount (Rs. crores)
June 1991	15395	16.50
June 1992	10859	15.69
June 1993 (latest available)	10338	14.58

(b) and (c). Complaint against banks regarding irregularities in the grant of financial assistance, as and when received, are taken up with the concerned banks for remedial action.

**EPF of Beedi Workers**

**6332. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV :**  
**SHRI N.J. RATHVA :**

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the complaints regarding fraudulent deposits in the provident funds of the Beedi workers of Bihar and Gujarat due to which large scale resentment is prevailing among them;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard;

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

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):  
(a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

**Investment in Small and Medium Industries in U.P.**

**6333. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that despite the heavy investment made in Uttar Pradesh during the last one year the desired growth rate could not be achieved in small and medium scale industries of the State;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to chalk out any plan to encourage the said small and medium scale industries through the nationalised banks in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

**Cess from Bidi Workers**

**6334. SHRI N.J. RATHVA :** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the amount collected as cess as on March, 1995 from the Bidi factories situated in tribal districts of Gujarat State; and

(b) the amount incurred on the welfare for Bidi Workers during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):  
(a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]***Demands of Employees of L.I.C.**

**6335. SHRI RAM NAIK :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some demands of the employees of Life Insurance Corporation are pending since 1991;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to meet the demands of the employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY).  
(a) to (c). The major demands of the Employees' Unions of the LIC relate to (i) non-privatisation of life insurance industry; (ii) restoration of collective bargaining right, (iii) implementation of pension scheme; (iv) removal of salary ceiling for payment of bonus and (v) wage negotiation.

At present the life insurance business is the exclusive privilege of LIC under the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956 and any change in this regard requires amendment to the Act. Similarly, restoration of collective bargaining right also requires an amendment to the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956 as under this Act, only the Central Government may make rules to provide for the terms and conditions of service of the employees of LIC. No proposals to amend the Act is under consideration of the Government at present.

The LIC employees are paid ex-gratia payment in lieu of bonus on Central Government pattern. Recently the Government has approved a pension scheme and one additional increment for the Class-III and IV employees for cooperating in implementing the Corporation's computerization programme. Meaningful wage negotiations can take place only after the financial impact of these recent measures is known.

**Revised Pay Structure in Regional Rural Banks**

**6336. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the revised salary structure and other benefits as per Sixth Bipartite Agreement for workmen of commercial banks has not yet been implemented in Regional Rural Banks though the Government order dated February 22, 1991 and March 20, 1993 have categorically authorised the regional Rural Banks to extend such benefits to their staff;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). The Government of India's circular dated 22nd Feb., 1991 and NABARD's circular dated 20th March, 1993 refer to the extension of benefits on the basis of the 4th and 5th bipartite settlements of Commercial Banks to Regional Rural Bank employees. These circulars do not specifically refer to the extension of benefits of future bipartite agreements in Commercial Banks to the workmen staff of the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) The remuneration of officers and other employees appointed by a Regional Rural Bank is to be determined by the Central Government under RRBs Act, 1976.

#### Growth In Tourism

6337. SHRI A VENKATESH NAIK  
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL

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

(a) the percentage growth in tourism during the year 1992, 1993 and 1994 indicating the actual volume of tourist traffic registered, and

(b) how does it compare with the growth in global tourism during these years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b) The percentage growth of tourist arrivals in India and global tourist traffic during the year 1992, 1993 and 1994 were.

Year	Tourist Arrivals (Actual)	%Change	Global Tourist Traffic (In million)	%Change
1992	1867651	-	502.9	-
1993	1764830	-5.5	512.9	2.0
1994	1886433	6.9	528.4	3.0

#### 'EXIM' Bank

6338 SHRI DHARAMABHIKSHAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sought a Regional Office of 'EXIM' Bank in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Export Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has reported that it has not received any request from State Government of Andhra Pradesh for opening of its office in the State.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Group Life Insurance Scheme

6339. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT .  
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether an expert Committee has been set up to supervise the operation of National Social Assistance Scheme and the Group Life insurance Scheme; and

(b) if so, the composition thereof and the mam functions assigned to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) and (b). A Committee has been constituted on the 12th April, 1995 to operationalise the announcement made by the Finance Minister with regard to the National Social Assistance Scheme and Group Life Insurance Scheme in rural areas. The Composition of the Committee and the terms of reference of the Committee are given in the attached Statement I & II respectively

#### STATEMENT-I

##### Composition of the Committee

1. Shri B N Yugandhar, Secretary, Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment, Government of India	Chairman
2. Secretary Expenditure or his representative	Member
3 Secretary Welfare or his representative	Member
4 Advisor (Rural Development), Planning Commission.	Member
5 Prof S Guhan, Madras Institute of Development Studies.	Member
6 Smt Nirmla Buch, Member, PESB	Member
7 to 10 A representative each of the State Governments of Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and West Bengal	

In addition to above, for purposes of working out the details regarding the Group Life Insurance Scheme of LIC, the Committee could co-opt senior officials of LIC and Department of Insurance to assist them Similarly, officials of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare may be coopted with the work of the Committee

#### STATEMENT II

##### Terms of Reference of the Committee

(1) To work out the salient features of the new Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Social Assistance for the poor comprising of the three

components, namely, (a) old age pension, (b) lump-sum survivor benefits to rural households, and (c) provision of sustenance for pre-natal and post-natal maternity care to women belonging to poor households for the first two births

(2) To work out the eligibility criteria for persons who would benefit from these three schemes and the manner in which these criteria will be implemented and administered at the field level, especially in Panchayats

(3) To work out the details relating to the sharing of the costs between the Centre and the States, keeping in view the objectives of the scheme

(4) To work out the annual expenditure of the scheme, especially during the commencement year 1995-96 and the appropriate provisions required for its implementation

(5) To work out the modalities for ensuring the flow of funds and institutional arrangements through Panchayats for identification and prompt disbursement of these benefits, including methods of verification of claims

(6) To work out the linkages with health care and family welfare measures to those benefiting from the provision of assistance for pre-natal and post-natal maternity care

(7) To work out the detailed framework for ensuring that this scheme is properly monitored and made accountable to State Legislatures and the Parliament for distribution of benefits and their appropriate utilisation

(8) To work out the salient features of the Group Life Insurance Scheme of the LIC which will be implemented by Panchayats in rural areas in consultation with LIC

(9) Any other matter of relevance and importance connected with these

#### Transportation of Haj Pilgrims

6340 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether Air India has entered into an agreement with any other airlines for transportation of Haj Pilgrims,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the reasons for engaging other airlines for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b) Air India has wetleased B747 aircraft from M/s Tower Air, to carry about 30,864 Haj pilgrims over 70 flights in each direction between four points in India viz Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras and Jeddah at a contracted price of US \$ 14,660 400 (or approximately Rs 42 18 crores)

which covers aircraft hire, crew, all maintenance support, Hull/third party insurance and fuel Other cost of operations are to be borne by Air India

(c) Deployment of Air India aircraft, for Haj movement, would have involved large scale disruption of scheduled Air India flights, causing inconvenience to thousands of passengers

#### Kuwait-Trivandrum Air Link

6341 PROF P J KURIEN Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received representations from Indians in Gulf countries against the recent change in routes effected by Air India on its direct flight on Kuwait/Trivandrum sector

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b) A representation has been received against routing the Trivandrum/Kuwait flight via Goa

(c) When the flight was operated direct on Trivandrum/Kuwait route, the load was low From 26 03 95, Air India has re-routed the Trivandrum/Kuwait flight via Goa to improve the seat factor and provide a direct service to people of Goa

#### MMTC

6342 SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation Limited (MMTC) have diversified its activities,

(b) if so, since when and the details of the diversification programme launched by MMTC so far,

(c) the diversification activities proposed to be launched by MMTC during the remaining period of the Eighth Plan, and

(d) the target fixed under each of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) to (c) Consequent to the decanalisation of import and export of a number of items which were earlier canalised through MMTC, MMTC has initiated action for diversification of its activities into new areas such as Agro Products, Marine Products, Textiles, Leather, Chemicals, Drugs and Pharmaceuticals These activities would continue for the remaining period of the Eighth Plan and beyond

(d) No specific targets have been fixed by MMTC

### Foreign Exchange

6343 SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the official rates of foreign exchange and market rates of exchange are different,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to correct this imbalance,

(d) whether the Government contemplate restricting imports or imposing some other restrictions on money transfer,

(e) if so, the details thereof,

(f) whether the Government propose to depreciate the currency in terms of dollar particularly when the annual inflation rate continues to be fluctuating around 10 per cent, and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (c) Under the unified exchange rate system in vogue since March 1993, the exchange rate of the rupee is determined by the market forces of demand and supply. The Reserve Bank of India follows the market in fixing its buying and selling rates as well as its reference rate which is used for transactions in SDRs and with the countries in the Asian Clearing Union

(d) No, Sir

(e) Does not arise

(f) No, Sir

(g) Does not arise

### Income Tax Payees in A.P.

6344 SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey in respect of the number of income-tax payees engaged in trade and industry in Andhra Pradesh,

(b) if so, the total number of income-tax payees engaged in trade and industry as on May 31, 1994,

(c) whether all these income-tax payees have made the full payment of their income-tax dues,

(d) if not, the number of such tax payees who have not made full payment of their income-tax dues,

(e) the total amount of Income-tax dues against them,

(f) the details of these fifty industrialists and businessmen against whom the maximum amount of Income-tax is due, and

(g) the steps being taken by the Government to recover these dues?

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

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) Separate figures of Income-tax assessee engaged in trade and industry in Andhra Pradesh are not available since such classification is not prescribed in the reporting system. Culling out the information will involve perusal of lakhs of files, the efforts for which may not be commensurate with the result intended to be achieved. However, the total number of income-tax assessee of all categories in Andhra Pradesh as on 31 5 94 was 4,62,054

(c) to (e) Major portion of the tax demand is collected by way of tax deducted at source, advance tax and self-assessment tax. Whatever taxes remain outstanding are mostly disputed in appeal. Wherever the demand has become final, coercive steps are taken to recover the same. In view of the reply at (b) at pre-page, no separate statistics is available to identify assessee engaged in trade and industry against whom the demand is outstanding. However, the total income-tax arrear demand as on 31 5 94 for Andhra Pradesh Region is Rs 244 91 crores

(f) The list of fifty industrialists and businessmen against whom the maximum amount of income-tax is due as on 30 6 1994 is given in the attached Statement

(g) The cases of tax arrears are constantly monitored and wherever required, coercive steps are taken to recover the demand such as, attachment of Bank Accounts, attachment and sale of moveable and immovable properties etc. Such taxes are also being collected in instalments in some cases

### STATEMENT

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1	Coromandel Fertilizers Private Limited
2	A P State Essential Commodities
3	M/s Swastic Oil Industries
4	M/s Singareni Colleries Co
5	Indian Ocean Alginates Limited
6	National Mineral Development Corporation
7	A P Paper Mills Limited
8	A P State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited
9	A P Steels Limited
10	Duncan Tobacco Co
11	Asian Wire Ropes Private Limited
12	Rural Development Advisory Service
13	Nizam Sugar Factory
14	Hoe Leather Garments

- 15 Y Srinivas Reddy  
 16 M/s Artos Breweries Limited Ramchandrapuram  
 17 Sri DN Siva Prasad, Madamapalle  
 18 Kumar Liquors and Beers  
 19 M/s Sarvaraya Textiles, Kakinada  
 20 M/s Andhra Alloys (P) Limited Visakhapatnam  
 21 M P Industrial Development Corporation  
 22 Bharat Televisions Limited  
 23 Midwest Leasing Limited  
 24 Sri T Gopal Reddy, Nellore  
 25 S Premiatha  
 26 M/s Veljan Hydrar Limited  
 27 M/s Spartek Granites Limited Vijayawada  
 28 Water Development Society  
 29 Late Sri Uppalapati Krishnaji Rao Rep L/R Smt  
 U Leela Laxmi Kumar, Vijayawada  
 30 Sri L Narsa Reddy, Guntur  
 31 Sri V Venkat Rao  
 32 Andhra Mechanicals & Electricals Industries  
 Limited  
 33 M/s Singh Poultry (P) Limited  
 34 NB Mir Barkat Ali Khan  
 35 M/s Annapurna Distributors (P) Limited,  
 Vijayawada  
 36 L Avenir Steels Private Limited  
 37 Primus Kabsons  
 38 Ramavtar Sikaria  
 39 Rayalaseena Concrete Sleepers  
 40 M/s Marine Fisheries Private Limited  
 Viakhapatnam (Sri K J S Sethi)  
 41 Pes Engineers  
 42 M/s Kohinoor Glass Factory  
 43 M/s Drill Rock Engineering Private Limited  
 44 Boosi Vasudev  
 45 Y Rama Reddy  
 46 M/s Dredging Corporation of India Limited  
 Visakhapatnam  
 47 G S Prakasha Rao  
 48 M Raja Gopala Raju  
 49 OMC Computers  
 50 Sri Vallabh Toshniwal

**Payment of Fraudulent Claims by New India  
 Assurance Company**

6345 DR RAMESH CHAND TOMAR Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether some cases regarding payment of fraudulent claims by the New India Insurance Company Limited, Delhi Regional Office-I have come to light recently,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the details of claims paid to persons having no insurance policy in force on the date of loss/accident,

(d) the details of claims re-opened for payment in 1994-95 which were earlier rejected/closed by the Company, and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to regulate the payment of claims by the Insurance companies?

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

(a) and (b) The New India Assurance Company Limited has reported that no such case came to light recently

(c) The Company has reported that in one case, the premium cheque collected by the Company could not be realised due to improper deposit of the cheque by the Company into the Bank. The insured was not informed about the non-collection. The Company rectified the position by collecting the premium in question in cash and settled the claim thereafter

(d) The Company has reported that it is their normal practice to re-open and re-examine a claim on receipt of representation from the insurer

(e) There are already detailed guidelines/instructions/procedures to regulate the payment of claims by the Insurance Companies

**Control on Management of Blue Chip Companies**

6346 DR R MALLU  
 DR LAL BAHADUR RAWAL  
 SHRI PG NARAYANAN

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the financial institutions have evolved a policy for controlling the management of all blue chip companies where their share holding exceeds 30% of the equity,

(b) whether any consortium has been formed of financial institutions like IDBI, IFCI, ICICI, UTI and LIC to directly manage such units and select the Chairman and other operating officers,

(c) if so, the details thereof,

(d) the mode of selection of the Chief Executive of such units,

(e) whether the Public Enterprises Selection Board is also proposed to be involved therein, and

(f) If not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that the financial institutions (FIs) do not generally interfere in day to day management of private sector units. FIs have evolved appropriate mechanism to maintain effective linkage with their borrowers. An important linkage with the borrowers is the appointment of nominee directors on the Board of assisted units. FIs have evolved guidelines in respect of nominee directors. The nominee directors are expected to act in the best interest of the company and also safeguard the interest of the FI concerned.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (f). Schedule XIII of the Companies Act, 1956, as amended from time to time, deals with appointment of Managing Directors/Wholtime Directors/Managers of public limited companies

(e) There is no such proposal

#### Seminar on Bank Audit

6347. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'Bank Audit par Sangosti' appearing in the "Dainik Jagran" dated April 1, 1995 stated to have been reported that there is no scope for adjustment of Rs 1,30,000 crore in banks;

(b) if so, the facts thereof, and

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

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that as per available information with it, as on 31st December, 1994, there were 41 64 lakh entries involving Rs 92,904.95 crores outstanding in inter-branch reconciliation accounts of public sector banks covering entries pertaining to the period upto 31st March, 1993.

(c) RBI has reported that banks have, *inter-alla*, taken the following steps for speedy inter-branch reconciliation of accounts;

1 Time frames have been evolved for clearing old entries;

2. High value entries are segregated and given priority for adjustment/follow-up;

3. Entries pertaining to demand drafts are being segregated,

4 Special cells/task force have been constituted by some banks for clearing the arrears.

#### Export of Baemati Rice

6348 SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA . Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether there has been any decline in the export of basmati rice during 1993-94 and 1994-95 in comparison to export target fixed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any target fixed for the export of basmati rice during the Eighth Plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of basmati rice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) and (b) Exports of basmati rice during 1993-94 and in the period April 1994 to Jan 1995 were as under

	Qty MTs	
	Value in Rs	Crores
	Qty	Value
1993-94	536,534	1030 95
1994-95 (April-Jan )	389,497	691 10

(Source DGCI&S, Calcutta)

(c) and (d) No targets have been fixed for export of Basmati rice in the Eighth Plan period

(e) Some measures to boost the export of Basmati rice include

(i) Removal of price and quantity restrictions

(ii) Conducting publicity campaigns, sending delegations abroad, participating in international trade fairs, inviting potential buyers and arranging buyer-seller meets.

#### Export of Potato

6349 SHRI ANIL BASU . Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Government have imposed ban on the export of potatoes particularly from West Bengal,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the ban is likely to be lifted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) and (b) There is a ban on the movement of potatoes outside

West Bengal imposed by the Ministry of Agriculture on the recommendation of the Central Potato Research Institute (CPRI), Shimla to prevent the spread of potato wart disease found in parts of West Bengal.

(c) It has been suggested that the ban should be continued during the prevalence of the disease.

#### **Decline in Export of Agricultural Products**

6350 DR CHINTA MOHAN  
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of agricultural export out of the total export from the country has been decreasing constantly for the previous decades;

(b) the percentage of agricultural export out of the total export of the country during seventh and eighth decades and the average annual percentage thereof during each of the last three years, till date; and

(c) the target fixed by the Government in terms of such percentage for the end of 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). There has generally been a declining trend in the percentage of agriculture exports to total exports from the country as will be seen from the statement below :

Year	Agri exports as % of total exports
1980-81	30.7%
1990-91	19.4%
1992-93	17.6%
1993-94	18.7%
1994-95 (April-January)	16.4%

(Source Economic Survey, 1994-95)

(c) Projections in the 8th Plan document expect the agricultural exports to be 14.4% of total exports by the end of 1996-97.

#### **Export of Cotton to China**

6351 SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA . Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state .

(a) whether China has expressed its willingness to import raw cotton from India;

(b) if so, whether any contract/agreement has been signed with China in this connection;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the quantum of raw cotton likely to be exported to that country during the current financial year?

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

(b) to (d). Question do not arise.

#### **Disbursement of Funds by NABARD in Orissa**

6352. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA  
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT .

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether the National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development has stopped the disbursement of Rs. 200 crores for refinance to cooperative banks and institutions in Orissa for agriculture and investment credit of rural development;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective steps proposed to be taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has stopped providing refinance facilities to co-operatives in Orissa under all lines of credit with effect from 4 April, 1995 as the State Government of Orissa announced incentives in the form of waiver of interest to agricultural debtors who repay their principal dues fully by 30th June, 1995. NABARD had objected to this as it would adopt the financial health of the co-operative institutions and was in contravention of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the State Government with NABARD whereas the State Government had committed itself not to introduce schemes like loan interest waiver, etc.

(c) NABARD has reported that the resumption of refinance facilities will be considered by it after the State Government complies with the instructions/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI)/NABARD relating to charging of interest on loans

#### **Foreign Exchange Legislation**

6353. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether RBI has proposed a liberalised foreign exchange legislation for revamping the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act to remove impediments in the proposed convertibility of the rupee on the current account and meet the legitimate concerns of foreign investors;

(b) whether any decision has been taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to bring in the legislation?



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY).  
(a) No, Sir.

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

#### Workers Strike

6354. SHRI M.V.S. MURTHY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the workers belonging various trade unions went on an indefinite strike on April 14, 1995;

(b) whether the strike cost a loss of Rs. 4 crores per day;

(c) if so, the details of the demands made by the employees; and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

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

(a) According to the available information the workers of Singreni group of Singreni collieries company limited had resorted to the indefinite strike w.e.f. 14.4.95. The strike call was given by Singreni Karmika Samakya (SIKASA) alongwith Singreni All Association Joint Action Committee (SAAJAC).

(b) The strike caused a loss in production of coal to the tune of 76430 tonnes per day and affected functioning of several coal based industries.

(c) The demands made by the employees were finalisation of Fifth National Coal Wage Agreement, pension scheme, increase of underground allowance and accommodation etc.

(d) The Central Industrial..Relations. Machinery (CIRM) of the Ministry of Labour intervened in the matter and held conciliations. After the finalisation of the Fifth National Coal Wage Agreement on 1.5.95 the strike was finally called off on 4.5.95.

#### C:D Ratio of Commercial Banks

6355. SHRI HARILAL NANJI PATEL :

SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the credit-deposit ratio of scheduled commercial banks till March 31, 1995 in Gujarat;

(b) whether it is far less than the national average ratio;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(d) the steps taken to remove the imbalance in credit deposits?

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

(a) and (b). The Dena Bank, Convenor bank for Gujarat has reported that C:D Ratio of scheduled commercial

banks in Gujarat as at the end of December 1994 (latest available) is 43.04% as against the national average of 50.92%.

(c) The main reasons for low C:D Ratio are :

(i) The registered offices of some companies availing finance are located out of Gujarat and accordingly the finance availed by them is reflected in other States

(ii) The credit absorption capacity of the poor living in the backward districts is low.

(d) The following steps have been taken to improve the C:D Ratio

(i) Higher amount of credit is being envisaged under service area credit plan.

(ii) The progress of the implementation of service area credit plan and other Government sponsored programmes is being regularly monitored/reviewed at District Level under the Chairmanship of the District Collector.

(iii) The performance is also being viewed regularly at State Level at the forum of State Level Bankers' Committee involving bankers and APEX State Government Agencies, RBI, NABARD, etc

#### Manufacturers Quota

6356. SHRI B. RAJARAVIVARMA . Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tamil Nadu Powerloom Exporters Association has requested the Government to increase the manufacturers quota from five per cent to 15 per cent;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G VENKAT SWAMY) . (a) No request has been received from the Tamil Nadu Powerloom Exporters Association to increase the Manufacturer Exporter Entitlement (MEE)

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Modernisation of Airports in States

6357 DR. SAKSHIJI Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received a proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for the modernisation of airports in the State,

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government on the proposal of the State Government;

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon and the allocations made so far in this regard;

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

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh have requested for extension of runway at Varanasi airport

(b) to (e) There is highway at both ends of runway Extension of runway is feasible only after the highway is diverted and required land is made available to Airports Authority of India for which a request has been made to the State Government

[Translation]

#### Airlink within Gujarat by Private Sector

6358 SHRI MAHESH KANODIA  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA

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

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat to introduce air services by private sector within Gujarat,

(b) if so the details thereof,

(c) whether the decision in this regard has been taken by the Union Government and

(d) if so, the details thereof and allocation made for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (d) M/s Gujarat Airways Limited, Baroda applied for Air Taxi Operators (ATO) Permit to operate in Gujarat and Maharashtra, the company was granted 'No Objection Certificate' for issue of ATO Permit and permission for import of aircraft on 15 2 1995

[English]

#### Air for Upgradation of Airport

6359 SHRIMATI DIPIKA H TOPIWALA Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have allocated Rs 46 25 crores for upgradation of airports and

(b) if so, the names of airports selected for upgradation?

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

(b) Guwahati, Agartala, Dibrugarh, Silchar, Lilabari, Imphal, Tezpur, Leh, Jammu, Kishtwar, Kargil, Rajouri, Agatti, Androth, Kulu, Shimla, Gaggal and Port Blair

#### Maintenance and Overhauling of Aircraft

6360 SHRI K PRADHANI Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether a number of aircraft of Indian Airlines have been grounded for unusually long period for the purpose of maintenance and overhauling,

(b) if so, the usual time taken for periodical maintenance and overhauling of an airbus,

(c) the details of the airbus that remained grounded alongwith the number of days during the last two years, and

(d) the cost of grounding of an airbus in terms of revenue losts to the Indian Airlines?

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

(b) The usual time taken for different mandatory major maintenance checks for Airbus A 300 and Airbus A 320 are as follows

##### a. Airbus A 300

Types of Checks	Time interval	Grounding Time Norm (in days)
C	4000 flying hrs. or 18 months	30
IL	8000 flying hrs or 3 years	45
D	16000 flying hrs or 6 years	90
<b>b. Airbus A 320</b>		
C	3600 to 3800 flying hours	30

(c) A Statement is attached

(d) The average cash surplus generated by an Airbus A 300 and Airbus A 320 aircraft per hour of flight is Rs 104,800 and Rs 85,000 respectively The aircraft operate about six hours a day

#### STATEMENT

*Details of Grounding of Airbus Aircraft for More Than 30 Days During the Last Two Years*

##### AIRBUS A 300

S No	Regn No	Period of From	Grounding To	No of days	Nature of work
1	VT-EDW	13 9 94	17 10 94	35	-Schedule Inspection + Repair
2	VTEFV	8 2 93	15 3 93	35	C-Check

1	2	3	4	5	6
		28.7.93 19.8.94	30.8.93 till date	35	Schedule Insp + Repair Frame 47 Repair (Abroad) + D-Check
3.	VT-EDX	31.3.93	28.5.93	59	Schedule Insp. + Modification of fuselage & Wings
		2.9.93	16.12.93	105	C-Check
4.	VT-EFW	25.5.93 4.11.994	5.10.93 7.12.94	134 34	IL-Check Schedule Insp. + Repair
5.	VT-EFX	28.8.93	21.10.93	55	Frame 47 Repair (Abroad)
		25.12.93	8.8.94	226	IL-Check
6.	VT-EHC	7.11.93	7.3.94	120	IL-Check
7.	VT-EDZ	1.11.93	17.9.94	321	D-Check
8.	VT-ELW	11.12.93	15.2.94	67	C-Check
9.	VT-EHD	11.3.94	7.2.95	334	IL-Check
10.	VT-EFV	19.8.94	Work in progress		Frame 47 repair plus 'D' check
11.	VT-EDW	3.3.95	28.4.95	57	'C' Check
12.	VT-EDY	21.9.94	31.1.95	133	'C' Check

## AIRBUS A 320

S. No.	Regn. No.	Period of From	Grounding To	No. of days	Nature of work
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	VT-EPQ	21.1.93 7.8.94	12.3.93 till date	50	C-Check
2.	VT-EPP	21.3.93	11.5.93	41	C-Check
3.	VT-EPM	3.5.93	8.8.93	98	C-Check + 4 yrs. sampling + CPCP
4.	VT-EPH	22.7.93	3.11.93	101	C-Check + 4 yrs. sampling + CPCP
5.	VT-EPO	24.8.93	20.12.93	119	C-Check
6.	VT-EPL	8.11.93	7.1.94	61	C-Check
7.	VT-EPR	20.1.94	10.4.94	81	C-Check
8.	VT-EPT	1.3.94	10.5.94	71	C-Check
9.	VT-EPE	15.3.94	17.7.94	125	C-Check + 4 yrs. sampling + CPCP
10.	VT-EPB	25.3.94	19.8.94	148	C-Check + 4 yr. sampling + CPCP

1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	VT-EPF	16.7.94	25.9.94	71	C-Check + 4 yr. sampling + CPCP
12.	VT-EPC	15.10.94	28.11.94	45	C-Check + 4 yr. sampling + CPCP
13.	VT-EPK	26.9.94	7.12.94	80	C-Check + 4 yr. sampling + CPCP
14.	VT-EPJ	7.8.94	21.3.95	227	'C' Check
15.	VT-EPO	7.1.95	16.2.95	41	Scheduled Inspection
16.	VT-EPH	3.3.95	8.4.95	37	'C' Check

#### Code of Conduct for NBFIs

6361. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in June, 1994, the Government have framed certain rules and regulations for non-banking financial institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to ensure strict observance of the above guidelines; and

(d) the details of the institutions which have failed to observe these guidelines and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). In June 1994, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have issued prudential norms to Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) with net owned funds of Rs. 50 lakhs and above and registered with RBI.

(c) and (d). RBI has reported that the registered NBFC are required to submit to RBI half-yearly returns as at the end of March and September showing compliance with the prudential norms duly certified by their auditors. The scrutiny of the return and, where necessary, inspection of the NBFCs will reveal whether the NBFC concerned is complying with the prudential norms or not. This position will be known only after the scrutiny of the first return relating to 31st March, 1995, which is required to be submitted by 31.5.95.

[Translation]

#### Child Labour

6362. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned a scheme of Ra. 850 crores to eliminate child labourers; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b). An allocation of Rs. 34.4 crores has been made in 1995-96 keeping in view the call made by the Prime Minister on the Independence Day of 1994 to eliminate child labour in hazardous occupations altogether by the year 2000 A.D. largely by activities modelled on the National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs). A major activity undertaken under the National Child Labour Policy, 1987 is establishment of special schools to provide basic needs like non-formal education, vocational training, supplementary nutrition etc., to children withdrawn from work. It has been estimated that an amount of Rs. 850 crores would be required for this purpose.

[English]

#### Involvement of Financial Institutions in Private Companies

6363. SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been formulated for financial institutions to interfere in management of private sector companies in case of disputes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that the financial institutions (FIs) do not generally interfere in day to day management of private sector units. FIs have evolved appropriate mechanism to maintain effective linkage with their borrowers. An important linkage with the borrowers is the appointment of nominee directors on the Board of assisted units. FIs have evolved guidelines in respect of nominee directors. The nominee directors are expected to act in the best interest of the company and also safeguard the interest of the FI concerned.

### Capital Accumulation

6364. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rate of capital accumulation is satisfactory in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the achievements made in this regard during the last three years;

(c) the trend of capital inflows during the current year and its likely impact of money supply and inflation; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to increase the rate of capital accumulation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). As per the latest information available from the Central Statistical Organisation the capital accumulation as measured in terms of gross domestic capital formation as a percentage of gross domestic product at current market prices are as under :

1991-92	1992-93(P)	1993-94(Q)
23.6	22.0	20.4

(P) Provisional estimates; (Q) Quick estimates

(c) As per the latest information available, the total capital inflows were US \$ 3758 million during April-September, 1994-95. However, the figures for foreign investment inflows are available for the year 1994-95. These were US \$4678 million. The phenomenal increase in foreign capital inflows during the second half of 1993-94 and the first half of 1994-95 had a major impact on monetary expansion in 1994-95. This coupled with shortfall in the supplies of certain commodities contributed to high inflation rate in 1994-95.

(d) For aggregate investment to grow it is imperative to improve the parameters which have a bearing on investment behaviour. These include reduction in corporate and personal taxes, extension of MQDVAT to capital goods, reduction in tariffs on import of capital goods and inputs used in their production, liberalisation in technology imports and foreign investment regime, delicensing in industry, macro economic stability and confidence in the economy. The various economic reform measures undertaken so far are expected to have a favourable impact on these parameters and will speed up the process of capital accumulation in the economy.

### Sick Textile Mills in Gujarat

6365. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned some amount for revival of sick textile mills in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total amount sanctioned so far; and

(c) the time by which the sanctioned amount is likely to be released.

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY) : (a) No, Sir. Ministry of Textiles has not sanctioned any amount for revival of sick Cotton/Man-made Fibre Textile Mills in Gujarat.

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

### Operating Agency for Sick PSUs

6366. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :  
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the PSUs in which Industrial and Financial Corporation of India was appointed operating agency by BIFR during the last three years;

(b) whether the IFCI has since submitted the detailed revival report on each of the cases;

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that Industrial Finance Corporation of India Limited (IFCI) was appointed Operating Agency (OA) in respect of 16 public sector undertakings (PSUs). The names of the PSUs are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (d). BIFR has reported that out of the above and on the basis of OA's reports, two revival schemes have been sanctioned, cases of four PSUs have been recommended for winding up to the concerned High Court after considering all relevant facts and circumstances and draft scheme circulated in respect of one PSU. In one case BIFR formed the prima facie opinion, after considering all relevant facts and circumstances, that the company cannot be revived and a notice was issued to show cause why the company should not be wound up. While in respect of two PSUs OA's report has been received by BIFR, in case of one PSU the OA has been asked to prepare a revised report. BIFR has further reported that OA's report is awaited in respect of four PSUs and in one case OA's report is not yet due.

### STATEMENT

*Names of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) in which IFCI was appointed as the Operating Agency by BIFR.*

1. Devagiri Textile Mills Limited, Maharashtra
2. Kalameshwar Textile Mills Limited, Maharashtra
3. UP Carbide and Chemicals Limited, Uttar Pradesh
4. Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Limited, Uttar Pradesh

5. British India Corporation Limited, Uttar Pradesh
6. AP Steel Limited, Andhra Pradesh
7. UP State Spinning Company Limited, Uttar Pradesh
8. Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited, West Bengal
9. NTC (APKK&M), Bangalore, Karnataka
10. NTC (UP) Limited, Uttar Pradesh
11. Punjab Spinning and Weaving Mills Limited, Punjab
12. Indian Turpentine Resin Limited, Uttar Pradesh
13. UP State Textile Corporation, Uttar Pradesh
14. Uptron India Limited, Uttar Pradesh
15. Punjab Power Packs Limited, Punjab
16. Swadeshi Mining and Manufacturing Company Limited, Uttar Pradesh

#### Japanese Aid

6367. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :  
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a Japanese delegation visited India in the month of March, 1995 to discuss provisions of aid to India;
- (b) if so, the main points discussed;
- (c) whether any agreement between India and Japan was reached;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the projects for which this aid is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):  
(a) A Japanese delegation on Economic and Technical Cooperation visited India from 26th March-2nd April, 1995.

(b) The delegation discussed with Indian authorities matters concerning the Japanese official development assistance (ODA) policy, the economic situation and development strategies of India, procedural aspects of processing ODA projects and priority areas for taking up ODA projects.

(c) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

#### Workers in Hazardous Industries

6368. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any special attention is given to the labourers working in hazardous industries in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether these labourers are provided with special medical facilities or a lump-sum amount is added to their salary for the purpose;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the time by which such a provision is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI PA SANGMA):  
(a) to (e). Provisions exist in the Factories Act, 1948 requiring the occupier to take special measures for the safety and health care of workers engaged in hazardous processes. Disablement/death due to employment injury in specified hazardous industries are compensable under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 and the Employees State Insurance Act, 1948. The ESI scheme provides for cash benefits in the contingencies of sickness, maternity and employment injury in addition to full medical care in kind.

#### Tripartite Committee

6369. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the special Tripartite Committee constituted to consider the impact of the new Industrial Policy on Labour has since submitted its report;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to implement the recommendations made by the committee?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):  
(a) to (c). A Special Tripartite Committee was constituted by the Ministry of Labour on November 12, 1991 to consider the impact of the New Industrial Policy on labour and other related matter and make appropriate recommendations. In its first meeting held on 21.12.93 the committee decided to revive Tripartite Industrial Committees in respect of those industries where sickness is endemic for suggesting remedial and preventive measures.

Based on the decision of the Special Tripartite Committee, the following six industrial committees, viz. Industrial Committee on Cotton Textiles, Jute Chemicals, Engineering, Electricity (Generation and Distribution) and Road Transport were revived.

The Special Tripartite Committee and the six Industrial Tripartite Committees have been discussing issues relating to sickness in Industries, industrial restructuring and problems faced by the workers. Their recommendations are duly conveyed to the concerned administrative Ministries for implementation. This is a continuous process.

#### Production of Coffee

6370. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is possibility to achieve the target of production of coffee in the country fixed during 1995;

(b) if so, the target fixed in this regard and the extent to which it is likely to be achieved;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The production target of 2,25,000 tonnes fixed for 1995-96 is expected to be achieved.

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

[English]

#### Export of Engineering Items

6371. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the engineering sector exports registered increase in 1994-95 in comparison to the 1993-94; and

(b) if so, the details thereof in terms of its percentage with its value?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Exports from the Engineering Sector in value term, as per Engineering Export Promotion Council, have increased to Rs. 8245 crores (Provisional) during 1994-95 (April '94-February '95) against Rs. 7300 crores during the corresponding period of 1993-94, registering a growth of 12.9%.

#### Consultation with State Governments on Exim Policy

6372. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN :  
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have consulted the State Governments before announcing the EXIM Policy;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have received any request from the State Governments in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (f). Review of the Export & Import Policy is a continuous and on-going process and changes are made from time to time, as and when considered necessary, keeping in view the representations/suggestions received from different sources including State Governments.

[Translation]

#### Child Labour

6373. SHRI N.K. BALIYAN :  
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey regarding educational standard of child labourers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme to make child education mandatory in order to abolish the child labour in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Data on child labour is maintained on the basis of census of India. No separate survey is conducted for this purpose.

(d) to (f). A major activity undertaken under the National Child Labour Policy, 1987 is establishment of special schools to provide basic needs like non-formal education, vocational training, supplementary nutrition etc., to children withdrawn from work. An allocation of Rs. 34.4 crores has been made in 1995-96 to eliminate child labour in hazardous occupations altogether by the year 2000 A.D. largely by activities modelled on the National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) under the scheme of the National Child Labour Policy.

**Beneficiaries of Debt Relief Scheme**

6374. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of farmers and rural artisans benefited so far under Debt Relief Scheme, State-wise;

(b) the funds released for Bihar and Orissa from January 1, 1994 to April 30, 1995 and the amount yet to be paid under the above scheme; and

(c) the time by which balance amount is likely to be released?

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

(a) Information in respect of the State-wise number of farmers and rural artisans benefited under Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990 is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c). As on 31.3.1995, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has released an amount of Rs. 521.611 crores and Rs. 150.760 crores to Bihar and Orissa respectively towards the claims of the cooperatives in these States, by way of grant and loan under the ARDR Scheme. NABARD has reported that the claims of banks in Bihar and Orissa have already been settled in full, as per guidelines.

**Joint Stock Companies**

6375. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :  
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the funds released by the joint stock companies during the last year;

(b) the details of the manner in which the Government have kept control over such companies;

(c) whether some irregularities have been found in this regard,

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) the action being taken by the Government to regulate these companies properly?

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

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

[English]

**External Loan**

6376. SHRI RATILAL VARMA :  
SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE :  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :  
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :  
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the total internal and external loan during the last three years and at the end of first six months of the financial year ended on March 31, 1995, separately;

(b) the head-wise details of the amount paid as interest by the Government on these loans during the said period separately;

(c) the percentage of the total amount of interest paid during above period constitutes the GDP of the respective years; and

(d) the amount of foreign exchange deposited by the non-resident Indians in various financial institutions of the country during the said period and the details of the interest payable on these amounts?

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

(a) The total public debt and other liabilities of the Central Government including external debt on Government account at the then prevailing exchange rates were Rs. 480467 crore, Rs. 558421 crore and Rs. 632872 crore for the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95(RE) respectively.

(b) and (c). The details are as under .

(Rs. in crore)

Interest payment	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (RE)
Internal debt and other liabilities	27546	32971	39890
External debt	3529	3724	4110
<b>Total</b>	<b>31075</b>	<b>36695</b>	<b>44000</b>
<b>% to GDP</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>

(d) Outstanding balances under various NRI deposits (as at the end of September, 1994 inclusive of accrued interest) were as under :

(U.S.& mn)

1. Foreign Currency Non-Resident (FCNR) Accounts	8279
2. Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Banks) Scheme (FCNR(B))	2395



3. Non-Resident (External) Rupee Accounts (NR(E)R)	4191
4. Non-Resident (Non-Repatriable) Rupee Deposit (NR(NR)RD)	2068
5. Foreign Currency Ordinary Non-repatriable (FCCN)	9
6. Foreign Currency (Banks and other) Deposits (FC(B&O)D)	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>16947</b>

#### Double Taxation Agreement with Belgium

6377. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY :  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Belgium have signed a bilateral double taxation agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether both the countries identified several new areas of economic co-operation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent upto which both the countries are likely to be benefited in improving the business and trade during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An agreement for avoidance of double taxation was signed between India and Belgium on 26th April, 1993. The Agreement is intended to encourage bilateral flow of technology, investment, trade and services between India and Belgium.

The Agreement provides for taxation of business enterprises of one country in the other only if a permanent establishment is maintained in that other country. It also provides for lower rates of taxation of investment incomes such as dividends and interest and on royalties and fees for technical services.

The Agreement also provides for exchange of information between the two countries, in particular for the prevention of fraud or evasion of taxes. A Mutual Agreement Procedure has been evolved so that tax disputes could be settled through this procedure.

However, the Agreement is yet to enter into force as it has not yet been ratified by Belgium.

(c) to (e). A meeting of the Indo-Belgian Joint Commission held in March, 1995 identified certain areas for bilateral co-operation. These are energy, telecommunications, agro industry, engineering, electronic goods, chemicals and automotive components.

It is not possible at this stage to assess the extent upto which business and trade are likely to improve during 1995-96. However, India's exports to Belgium in

dollar terms increased by 22.74 per cent in 1993-94 and by 15.31 per cent during 1994-95 (upto January, 1995) as compared to the same period in the previous year.

[Translation]

#### Domestic Flight Named "UP AIR"

6378. SHRI RAM PAL SINGH :  
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

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

(a) whether any domestic commercial flight named 'U.P. AIR' has been launched by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh recently;

(b) if so, the names of the States proposed to be linked with above flight; and

(c) the names of other States which are likely to launch such flights?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). M/s U.P. Air Services Society, which has been promoted by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, have been permitted, pending issue of scheduled Air Transport Operators's permit, to operate F-27 aircraft with effect from 21.4.1995 to 23.7.1995 on certain routes connecting the following stations to meet the tourist demand :

Delhi, Lucknow, Kulu, Varanasi, Muirpur, Gorakhpur

(c) No such proposal has been received from other States.

[English]

#### Tata Singapur Air Taxi Service

6379. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain objections have been raised against the Tata Singapore Air Taxi Services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) In order to ensure safety, security and orderly growth of air transport operations, it is not possible at present to allow import of aircraft by Air Taxi Operators and other applicants who wish to start air transport services. However, applications for import of aircraft having seating capacity of about thirty seats are being considered. Proposals involving larger aircraft including that of Tata-Singapore Airlines, can be considered only after additional infrastructure has been developed.

### Women Labour Cells

6380. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of women labour cells functioning in Maharashtra and U.P.;

(b) the details of the achievements made so far after the implementation of women labour cells under the planned scheme;

(c) whether the said cells are functioning throughout the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RA. SANGMA):

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

### More Entry Point by International Airline

6381 SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA :

SHRI K. PRADHANI :

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

(a) whether a few international airlines have requested for more destinations and entry points in India for their aircraft without extending similar concessions to Air India in their native countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a few international airlines have also sought permission for operation of more flights;

(d) whether the Indian Government have also requested for similar permission from other countries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the foreign aviation authorities in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). Yes, Sir. Exchange of traffic rights is negotiated with the respective Governments on bilateral basis keeping in view the demands of traffic and reciprocity of opportunity and benefit.

### Contingency Fund

6382. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of advances made from the Contingency Fund of India during 1994-95; and

(b) the details of the contingencies for which the said advances were made?

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

(a) The advances sanctioned from the Contingency Fund of India which were recouped to the Fund through the supplementary grants in 1994-95 are as follows .

Advances from CFI (Rs. in lakhs)	Recouped through Supplementary Grants
1543.21	I batch (August '94)
83391.10	II batch (December '94)
12051.00	III batch (March '95)

(b) A Statement is attached.

### STATEMENT

*Purposes for which Advances from Contingency Fund of India were Sanctioned in 1994-95*

S No	Date of sanction	Ministry/Department	Purposes	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	26.5.94	Industrial Development	For making payment in satisfaction of Court decree	42.81
2.	27.6.94	Science & Technology	Same as above	0.40
3	7.7.94	Commerce	For assistance to Export Inspection Council and Export Inspection Agencies for implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme	1500.00
Total (Recouped to the CFI through the Supplementary Grants, I batch)				1543.21

1	2	3	4	5
4	5.9.94	Welfare	For setting up of National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation	1000.00
5	21.9.94	Textiles	For payment to Jute Corporation of India for price support operation in Jute	1200 00
6.	26.9.94	Health	For meeting expenditure under National Plague Control Programme	2000.00
7.	27.9.94	Education	For providing grant assistance to Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan	100.00
8.	29.9.94	Commerce	For expenditure on the Commission Constituted for Study of Issues concerning Protection of Labour Rights and Related Matters	87.00
9.	4.10.94	Science & Technology	Same as at S.No. 1 above	1.00
10	11.10.94	Rural Development	For implementation of MPs Local Area Development Scheme.	79000 00
11.	19 10.94	Atomic Energy	Same as at S.No.1 above	3 10
			Total S No 4-11 (Recouped to the CFI through Supplementary Grants, II batch)	<u>83391 10</u>
12.	1.2.95	Commerce	For grant assistance to Coffee Board for implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme.	390 00
13.	1.2.95	External Affairs	For grant assistance to Indian Council for Cultural Relations.	451 00
14.	7.2.95	Commerce	For payment of subsidy under the scheme of Export Promotion & Market Development.	11210.00
			Total S.No. 12-14 (Recouped to the CFI through Supplementary Grants, III batch)	<u>12051 00</u>

### Export of Gold and Silver by MMTC

6383. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation Limited (MMTC) has emerged as the largest precious metal trader in the country,

(b) if so, the total quantity of gold and silver exported by MMTC during each of the last three years, till date;

(c) the details of other agencies dealing with the export of gold and silver; and

(d) the performance of those agencies during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) . (a) Yes, Sir. MMTC is the largest importer and supplier of gold and silver to exporters of jewellery in the country. MMTC also imports gold and silver using Special Import Licences for supply to the domestic market.

(b) Does not arise as MMTC exports gold jewellery and not gold/silver.

(c) Other agencies like SBI and Handloom and Handicrafts Export Corporation function as nominated agencies for import and supply of gold and silver to exporters of jewellery and do not export these precious metals

(d) Does not arise

### Financial Aid to SSI by NSIC

6384 SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH . Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'NSIC Financial Services launched to aid small units', appeared in the Hindustan Times' dated September 14 1994,

(b) if so, the fact thereof,

(c) whether the above scheme is in operation in Delhi, and

(d) if so, the criteria adopted alongwith other details for aiding the entrepreneurs?

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

(a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

[Translation]

### Value of Rupee

6385 SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI . Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether the purchasing power of rupee has rapidly decreased during the last one year,

(b) if so, purchasing power of rupee at present (on the basis of Consumer Price Index of Industrial Workers, 1982, and

(c) the purchasing power of rupee during 1984 on the above basis?

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

(a) and (b). The purchasing power of rupee (measured as a reciprocal to the Consumer Price Index for industrial Workers (CPI-IW) with basis 1982=100) dropped to 34.13 paise in March 1995 from 37 45 paise in March 1994.

(c) The purchasing power of rupee on the above basis was 84 75 paise in 1984.

[English]

### Import of Sugar by MMTC

6386 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL . Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to the news item captioned "MMTC's sugar deal raises eyebrows" appearing in 'The Economic Times', New Delhi on April 13, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(c) the losses, if any, which the Government has decided to subsidise in this deal; and

(d) the manner in which it is proposed to dispose of this sugar and the total price differential proposed to be allowed for supplies that were meant for Public Distribution System?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM), (a) Yes, Sir

(b) to (d) Pursuant to Government's directive to MMTC to purchase sugar on forward contracting for the Public Distribution System, MMTC Transnational Private Limited, MMTC's subsidiary in Singapore has contracted a quantity of 1 55 lakh MT of sugar during the fiscal year 1994-95 for shipment during the fiscal year 1995-96. The sugar will be sold through the Public Distribution System at prices determined by the Government.

[Translation]

### Export of Engineering Sector

6387. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the targetted growth rate in exports of engineering sector has been achieved during 1994-95,

(b) if so, the details of target fixed and the achievement made during the above period;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor,

(d) whether any target has been fixed for 1995-96;

(e) if so, the details thereof, and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to boost the exports of engineering sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) . (a) to (c). During 1994-95 (April'94-February'95) exports from engineering sector have tentatively registered a growth rate of 12.9% over the corresponding period of 1993-94, as against the targetted growth rate of 12%

(d) and (e) For the year 1995-96 tentatively a target of Rs. 11620 crores has been indicated for the engineering sector exports

(f) Promotion of exports has been the constant endeavour of the Government. Measures taken to boost exports include various incentives under the Export-Import Policy including Duty Exemption Scheme, Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, Special Import Licences etc., Duty Drawback Scheme, exemption under section 80HHC of Income Tax Act, assistance from Market Development Fund and making available deferred credit and line of credit to facilitate exports. In addition, a new scheme called Engineering Products Export (Replenishment of Iron & Steel Intermediates) Scheme has been notified by the Government on 13.9.95. Engineering goods exporters also received promotional support under the various activities of the Engineering Export Promotion Council.

#### Bank Loans to Entrepreneurs in U.P.

6388 SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of entrepreneurs in Uttar Pradesh given bank loans during the last three years;

(b) the number of educated unemployed persons whose names were recommended by the District Industrial Centres but have not been given the loan so far, and

(c) the time by which all the eligible persons are likely to get the loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) to (c) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the loans sanctioned by banks under the scheme for providing Self Employment to the Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) and the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) PMRY which was launched on 2nd October, 1993 is aimed at providing employment to the educated unemployed youth. SEEUY has since been subsumed with PMRY with effect from 1st April, 1994. The

information about the number of applications received and sanctioned under PMRY in the State of Uttar Pradesh for the years 1993-94 and 1994-95 (upto February 28, 1995) is indicated below :

Year	No of Applications recommended	No. of Applications sanctioned
1993-94	12,691	3,995
1994-95 (upto Feb 28, 95)*	42,365	13,459

\* Provisional data furnished by State Bank of India, Convenor, State Level Bankers' Committee for the State of Uttar Pradesh

Banks are under instructions to dispose of loan applications upto a credit limit of Rs 25,000/- within a fortnight and those for over Rs 25,000/- within 8-9 weeks. Reserve Bank of India/Government have advised the banks to dispose of the applications within the prescribed limits.

[English]

#### Reopening of Ambari-Falakata Aerodrome

6389. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government propose to reopen Ambari-Falakata Aerodrome in Jalpaiguri,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (c) The airstrip at Ambari-Falakata belongs to a private party. Due to lack of demand from airlines, Airports Authority of India has no plan to develop a new airport in Jalpaiguri.

[Translation]

#### Bird Hit incidents

6390 SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the number of incidents of bird hits took place during the year 1993-94;

(b) the extent of loss suffered as a result thereof, and

(c) the steps being taken to check recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) The number of incidents of bird hit during 1993-94 was 132.

(b) The losses suffered as a result thereof by various operators were about Rs. 336.34 lakhs

(c) Airfield Environment Management Committees have been set up at each airport to take steps for prevention of bird strikes. Action plans have been formulated at major airports for combating the bird menace. Airport authorities have taken measures like levelling of operational areas, construction of effective drainage system to prevent water logging, planting of dhub grass, pigeon proofing of buildings, installation of incinerators and scaring of birds, etc. in order to reduce the sources of bird attraction to airfield areas.

[English]

#### Air Link with Industrial Developed Towns

6391 SHRI HARIN PATHAK . Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Union Government propose to air link with industrial towns in view of multinational companies having agreed to set up their units in such towns,

(b) whether some of the State Governments have committed to provide such infrastructural facilities to new entrepreneurs; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) . (a) Airlinking of any new point is a decision to be taken by the airlines concerned.

(b) and (c) Central Government has no information on any such commitments made by the State Governments

[Translation]

#### Bank Branches in Gujarat

6392 SHRI KASHIRAM RANA . Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) the branches of public sector banks in Gujarat, bank-wise;

(b) the bank-wise, amount deposited in these banks during the last three years, the amount sanctioned to the farmers and the amount actually distributed;

(c) whether nationalised banks have achieved their targets fixed for sanctioning and distributing such loans;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard, and

(e) the total amount recovered from the farmers during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Bank-wise number of branches of public sector banks in Gujarat are given in the attached Statement-I

(b) Bank-wise amount of deposits in these banks during the last three years is given in the attached Statement-II. Amount disbursed to farmers is given in the attached Statement-III.

(c) and (d). The credit plan targets and disbursement of the nationalised banks as a whole during the last three years was given as below :

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Target	Achievement
1992-93	58741.61	68041.05
1993-94	62284.30	63166.96
1994-95	75929.59	40275.05

(e) The total amount recovered from farmers by all the banks in Gujarat during 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93 was as under :

(Rs in crores)

Year	Demand	Recovery
1990-91	1146	659
1991-92	1208	534
1992-93	1345	734

#### Statement-I

##### Branches of Public Sector Banks in Gujarat - Bankwise

Name of the Bank		No. of branches
1.	2.	3.
1.	Allahabad Bank	22
2.	Andhra Bank	5
3.	Bank of Baroda	650
4.	Bank of India	211
5.	Bank of Maharashtra	31
6.	Canara Bank	29
7.	Central Bank of India	214
8.	Corporation Bank	20
9.	Dena Bank	545
10.	Indian Bank	38
11.	Indian Overseas Bank	51
12.	Punjab National Bank	78
13.	Punjab and Sind Bank	7
14.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	18
15.	Union Bank of India	168

1	2.	3
16	United Bank of India	14
17	UCO Bank	77
18	Vijaya Bank	26
19.	Syndicate Bank	43
20	State Bank of India	434
21	State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	6
22	State Bank of Hyderabad	4
23.	State Bank of Indore	7
24	State Bank of Mysore	33
25	State Bank of Patiala	4
26	State Bank of Saurashtra	314
27	State Bank of Travancore	1
Total		3020

## STATEMENT-II

## Bank-wise Deposits in Gujarat State

(Rs in lakhs)

Name of the bank	Sept 94	March '94	March '95
1	2	3	4
1 Allahabad Bank	9642	8808	4723
2 Andhra Bank	5786	5691	3571
3 Bank of Baroda	537706	512453	416454
4 Bank of India	2280007	217518	181880
5. Bank of Maharashtra	15054	12077	10360
6 Canara Bank	39028	38050	26008
7 Central Bank of India	130569	117699	104841
8 Corporation Bank	31175	37254	21269
9 Dena Bank	197358	180634	148560
10 Indian Bank	32581	26225	45096
11 Indian Overseas Bank	41034	35711	29006
12 Punjab National Bank	56764	54078	42287
13 Punjab and Sind Bank	3422	1605	1420
14 Oriental Bank of Commerce	19829	20152	15725
15 Syndicate Bank	29702	28603	25651

1	2	3	4	5
16	Union Bank of India	97429	86243	72920
17	United Bank of India	8471	7890	5181
18	UCO Bank	30057	28122	28824
19	Vijaya Bank	21178	20443	15083
20	State Bank of India	349384	322736	287795
21	State Bank of B and J	1796	2363	1804
22	State Bank of Hyderabad	2937	2609	2080
23	State Bank of Indore	4534	4303	3229
24	State Bank of Mysore	973	733	941
25	State Bank of Patiala	5758	3543	1409
26	State Bank of Saurashtra	168422	163110	131483
27	State Bank of Travancore	631	631	316
Total		2069207	1939284	1627916

## STATEMENT-III

## Loan Disbursed to Farmers in Gujarat during Last 3 years

(Rs in lakhs)

Name of the bank	Sept 94	March 94	March 95
1 Allahabad Bank	10 41	20 33	27 03
2 Andhra Bank	-	-	-
3 Bank of Baroda	6675 50	8583 08	7806 75
4 Bank of India	1807 11	2390 32	2468 95
5 Bank of Maharashtra	42 08	84 09	84 66
6 Canara Bank	1 08	4 39	3 89
7 Central Bank of India	1026 02	1280.11	1261 95
8 Corporation Bank	42 68	66 78	51 16
9 Dena Bank	2727.74	3970.28	3034.88

1	2	3	4	5
10. Indian Bank	94.99	234 64	287.34	
11 Indian Overseas Bank	174.65	187 54	1127.72	
12. Punjab National Bank	66.42	72.84	84.74	
13. Punjab and Sind Bank	4.98	0 04	-	
14 Oriental Bank of Commerce	3.13	112 95	11.81	
15 Syndicate Bank	63.29	103 43	73 01	
16 Union Bank of India	1183 56	1909 48	1417.70	
17 United Bank of India	0.14	79.38	0 16	
18 UCO Bank	119.76	299 24	295.92	
19 Vijaya Bank	57.42	23.58	43.46	
20. State Bank of India	3800.04	4666.17	2554.00	
21 State Bank of Saurashtra	7673 87	6485 41	4911 14	
<b>Total</b>	<b>25574 87</b>	<b>30574 08</b>	<b>25046 27</b>	

[English]

#### Prices of Tea

6393 SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state .

(a) the reasons for the wide difference between auction and retail prices of tea; and

(b) the steps in the interest of domestic consumers taken by the Government to reduce the retail price of tea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Retail prices of loose tea or packet tea are higher than auction prices as the tea from the auction stage reaches consumers at the retail level after passing through a number of intermediate stages such as wholesalers, packagers retailers, etc., each of which adds to the cost

(b) Government does not regulate prices of tea. Prices, both at auction and retail level, are determined by demand and supply. Tea Board, however, regularly monitors prices of tea and has taken steps to make available tea in economy packs in the retail market either through producers own channel or through the National Consumer Cooperative Federation (NCCF).

#### Natural Dyes for Textiles

6394. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to encourage the use of natural dyes in textiles sector; and

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

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

(b) With a view to promote natural dyes, National Handloom Development Corporation Limited (A Government of India Undertaking) has taken various steps to encourage the use of Natural Dyes in Textile Sector. This includes encouraging production of Natural Dyes, creating awareness in the Textile Sector about the benefit of Natural Dyes by making use of various publicity measures like organising Workshops, Seminars, arranging Exhibitions etc.

To encourage and promote use of natural dyes NHDC, Textile Committee and other Research associations have drawn up systematic Plans. NHDC has taken lead in this field by having perfected the "coverage" and "sourcing" of natural dyes. Following aspects are covered in the coverage,

#### Coverage :

1. Identification of suitable sources for natural dyes.
2. Determination of dye percentage from natural grinded/extracted dye material.
3. Standardisation of application procedure on to different fibres;
  - a. Sample
  - b. Batch dyeing
4. Evaluation of fastness properties.
5. Production/development of shade cards
6. Cost analysis, etc.

#### Sourcing :

The NHDC in association with leading experts and research association has developed some eco-friendly natural dyes. These are :

Name	Colour Produced
Manjith	Red
Barberline	Yellow
Tesu/Palas	Orange
Lac dye	Purple and mouse grey
Indigo	Blue
Acadia Catechu	Brown

At present work on standardisation of above natural dyes are going on at National Research Laboratory for conservation and Indian Lac research Instt.



Further to propogate use of natural dyes, NHDC, Textile Committee and Research Association are organising training programme at different Centres of the Country. Initially the said training programme has been arranged by the NHDC in association with Weavers Service Centres at Khekra (Meerut) U.P. Panipat (Haryana), Delhi and Bagru (Rajasthan)

#### Indo-Turkish Joint Commission

6395. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether Indo-Turkish Joint Economic Commission held its meetings in New Delhi recently,

(b) if so, the subjects discussed and the outcome of the meetings;

(c) whether any agreements were signed; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof, agreement-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) . (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Apart from trade issues, cooperation in sectors such as railways, petroleum, agriculture, transportation, tourism and communications was also discussed. As a result of bilateral discussions, an MOU was signed under which the Turkish side would explore the possibilities of direct negotiations between India Railway Construction Company Limited (IRCON) and Turkish Railways for executing the Izmir suburban section electrification and signalling scheme together with its associated works. To consider the prospects of importing buffalo meat from India, the Turkish side also agreed to send a delegation for assessing the health of live-stock and the processing facilities

[Translation]

#### Passbook System in Banks

6396. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Government propose to eliminate the passbook system in all the nationalised banks, and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) and (b). Indian Banks' Association have reported that there is no proposal, at present, to discontinue/eliminate the passbook system in nationalised banks. However, in computerised branches, generally, computerised statements of accounts are issued in lieu of passbooks even for savings bank accounts.

[English]

#### W. T. O

6397 SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether all formalities and legal procedures to become an active member of WTO have been completed, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) and (b) The conditions required to be fulfilled for original membership of the WTO are laid down in Article XI of the Agreement Establishing the WTO Article XI (1) provides as follows

"The Contracting Parties to GATT 1947 as of the date of entry into force of this Agreement and the European Communities, which accept this Agreement and the Multilateral Trade Agreements and for which Schedules of Concessions and Commitments are annexed to GATT 1994 and for which Schedules of Specific Commitments are annexed to GATS shall become original Members of the WTO"

There are obligations which flow from the various agreements annexed to the WTO Agreement and members are required to fulfill these obligations as and when they arise

India is a founder member of GATT 1947 By ratifying the Agreement Establishing the WTO we have accepted the Multilateral Trade Agreement alongwith the Schedules of Concessions and Commitments Having met these requirements India has become a founder-member of the WTO

[Translation]

#### Foreign Debt

6398. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the amount of foreign assistance received during 1993-94 which is not to be returned, and

(b) The names of the countries who have given such assistance ?

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

(a) The total amount of foreign assistance (grants) received during 1993-94 is Rs 885 Cr

(b) The above assistance is provided by Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, U S A EEC and IBRD. The above information have been published annually in the External Assistance Brochure, copies of which are placed in Library of the House

[English]

### Banks Loans in Gujarat

6399. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of loans advanced by various banks in Gujarat to rural areas during 1994-95 upto April, 1995; and

(b) the percentage of loans advanced as compared to the aggregate deposits in the banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the balance of outstanding credit and deposits as at the end of September, 1994 in respect of all Scheduled Commercial Bank branches in the rural areas of Gujarat was Rs. 1362.45 crores and Rs. 3179.88 crores respectively. The credit deposit ratio upto the end of September, 1994 was 42.8 per cent.

### Production of Cotton Yarn

6400. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the production of cotton yarn in the country during 1993-94 and 1994-95,

(b) out of which the quantity set aside for handloom sector during the above period;

(c) the quantity utilised by the handloom sector during the above period;

(d) the reasons for not fully utilising the said quantity by the handloom sector; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to increase production of cotton yarn during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) The production of cotton yarn in the country was as under :

Year	Production of Cotton Yarn (including small scale sector) (in million kgs.)
1993-94	1697 00
1994-95 (current estimates)	1655.00

(b) Hank yarn produced, in obligatory varieties, (not less than 90% cotton or viscose fibre including cotton blends and/or their waste) packed and set aside for

handloom sector during the above period was as follows :

Year	Hank Yarn produced (in million kgs.)
1993-94	502.91
1994-95 (estimated)	500.11

(c) and (d). The quantity of hank yarn for utilisation by the handloom sector delivered during the above period was as follows :

Year	Hank yarn produced (in million kgs.)
1993-94	469.27
1994-95 (estimated)	459.00

The handloom sector being of a highly decentralised nature the exact figures of utilisation by the sector cannot be ascertained, however, it can be assumed that the entire hank yarn delivered was utilised in the handloom sector.

(e) The steps taken by the Government to increase the production of textiles, including cotton yarn are as under :

- (i) Removal of restriction on creation and expansion of capacity subject only to locational guidelines.
- (ii) Doing away with requirement of licensing except in cases of 100% E.O.U.s; units set up within 25 kilometers from the periphery of a city of more than one million population as per 1991 census and if it is not situated in an area declared by the State Government as industrial areas before 24th April, 1991; units involving foreign collaboration units producing items reserved for SSI but investment exceeding SSI ceiling etc
- (iii) Measures to ensure availability of materials to the industry through policy intervention whenever necessary (such as allowing import of cotton with zero rate of duty under OGL).
- (iv) Permitting import of textile machinery under OGL and reduction in duty on such machinery imports.

### Investment by U. T. I. in Telco

6401 SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Investor's Guide of the Economic Times dated April 24, 1995 regarding investments made by UTI in Telco;

(b) the quantum of loss suffered by UTI in the deal and the circumstances leading to such a massive loss at the cost of public funds,

(c) whether UTI is again buying Telco shares at a price level of Rs 500/- each,

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, and

(e) the remedial steps proposed to be taken in regard thereto?

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

(a) Yes, Sir UTI has, however, stated that they did not undertake the transactions reported in the Economic Times dated April 24, 1995

(b) Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above

(c) UTI has not recently bought TELCO shares in the market at a price of Rs 500/- per share

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of answer to (c) above

#### Currency Fluctuation

6402 SHRI TARA SINGH Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware about currency fluctuation in the world markets,

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to evolve some mechanism to protect the globalising developing economies from their adverse fall out, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) In a regime of floating exchange rates, which is the exchange rate regime followed by most countries today, currency fluctuations take place because of demand and supply factors. The volatility of exchange rates has been deliberated in various international fora in which India plays a significant role. At a commercial level, various techniques of managing foreign exchange exposure such as forwards contracts and swaps are available.

#### Bonded Labour

6403 SHRI PC THOMAS Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) the number of bonded labour identified and rehabilitated during each of the last three years, State-wise,

(b) the number of bonded labour in the country yet to be rehabilitated; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the total eradication of bonded labour in the country?

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

(a) and (b) Since inception of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, 2,51,424 bonded labourers have been identified upto 31 3 1993. The State-wise break up is given below

State	Bonded labourers identified upto 31 3.1993	Bonded labourers rehabilitated during		
		1992-93	93-94	94-95 upto Feb.'95
Andhra Pradesh	36,289	905	855	1,102
Bihar	12,986	71	364	235
Karnataka	62,708	1283	774	86
Madhya Pradesh	12,804	157	83	-
Orissa	49,971	12	31	43
Rajasthan	7,478	231	149	7
Tamil Nadu	38 886	695	241	-
Maharashtra	1,382	-	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	27,489	70	-	-
Kerala	823	-	-	-
Haryana	544	-	-	-
Gujarat	64	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,51 424</b>	<b>3424</b>	<b>2497</b>	<b>1,473</b>

Out of 2,51,424 bonded labourers identified and released, only about 6000 bonded labourers are still awaiting rehabilitation

(c) The Government have accorded the highest priority to total eradication of Bonded Labour System throughout the country and towards this end have been undertaking all out campaign in concert with the State Governments. The State Governments have been advised to conduct periodic surveys for identification of bonded labourers. The identified bonded labourers are rehabilitated in a time bound manner through fixation of annual targets and close monitoring by the Government.

#### Schemes for NTC Workers

6404 SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the rehabilitation of NTC workers opting for voluntary retirement,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b). A rehabilitation Fund with a corpus of Rs. 50.00 crores has been envisaged for the purpose of training and re-deployment of workers of NTC who have availed of Voluntary Retirement Scheme. Schemes have also been formulated to enable the rationalised workers to set up powerlooms/reeling units. A production incentive of 25% to 33% of the capital costs of the schemes is provided after the looms/reeling units are run successfully for 6 months to make the venture more profitable. Till date under the scheme, 1043 looms have been delivered to 404 workers

(c) The scheme is a continuing one

#### New Tourism Policy

6405 SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA . Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted a new tourism policy to the Union Government which gives major thrust to the development of tourist centres in the State by involving the private sector including NRIs,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the financial assistance provided or proposed to be provided to the State Government for implementing the policy?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise

#### New Air Routes

6406 DR K.D. JESWANI Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have introduced new routes in view of congestion of air traffic and to reduce the consumption of fuel,

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) whether the new routes have been introduced for both domestic and international flights; and

(d) the estimated annual saving likely to be made as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. During the period 1991 to 1994, 12 new domestic and three new international air routes have been established.

(d) Estimated annual savings on account of these new routes is estimated at Rs. 14.90 crores.

[Translation]

#### Production and Export of Tea

6407. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN . Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of tea produced/exported during 1994-95;

(b) whether the Government have removed the restriction imposed on the export of tea leaves/powder as well as revised the export-duty on tea;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the prices of tea leaves/powder are going up in the domestic market;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and its present price in the domestic market as compared to the price that prevailed during 1994; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to regulate the prices of tea and to make available tea leaves/powder at competitive rates in the domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Quantity of tea produced and exported during 1994-95 has been as follows .

Production in Million Kgs.	Exports in Million Kgs
737.39*	149.76*
*Estimated	

(Source : Tea Board)

(b) and (c). There are no restrictions on export of tea including instant tea (tea powder) Also, there is no export duty on tea exports.

(d) and (e). Consumption of instant tea as a beverage in the Internal market is negligible as compared to overall consumption of tea. Retail prices of instant tea are therefore not monitored by the Tea Board. A Statement indicating retail prices of consumer preference medium variety tea in major cities of the country during the year 1994 and 1995 (upto April) is attached.

(f) Government does not regulate prices of tea. Prices of tea are guided by the factors of demand and supply. Tea Board, however, monitors regularly prices of tea. Steps have also been taken by the Tea Board to make available tea in economy packs in retail market either through producers' own channel or through National Consumer Cooperative Federation (NCCF).

## STATEMENT

*Retail Prices of Consumer Preference Medium Variety Tea in different Major Cities in India during 1994 and upto April 1995*

State/ City	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
<b>Calcutta</b>												
1994	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00
1995	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00								
<b>New Delhi</b>												
1994	64.00	64.00	64.00	64.00	64.00	64.00	64.00	64.00	64.00	64.00	62.00	62.00
1995	62.00	62.00	62.00	62.00								
<b>Madras</b>												
1994	65.00	65.00	65.00	60.00	65.00	70.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00
1995	75.00	75.00	75.00	80.00								
<b>Trivandrum</b>												
1994	60.00	60.00	62.00	60.00								
1995	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	62.00	62.00	62.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00
<b>Lucknow</b>												
1994	84.00	84.00	84.00	84.00	84.00	84.00	80.00	84.00	84.00	80.00	80.00	80.00
1995	84.00	84.00	84.00	84.00								
<b>Bombay</b>												
1994	80.00	74.00	74.00	74.00	74.00	74.00	74.00	80.00	85.00	85.00	85.00	85.00
1995	85.00	85.00	85.00	88.00								

**Urban Cooperative Banks in Maharashtra**

[English]

6408. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether some proposals for establishing Urban Cooperative Banks in Maharashtra are pending for approval with the Union Government;

(b) if so, details; and

(c) the time by which a final decision in the matter is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). The registration of Urban Co-operative Banks is done by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies of the State Government with prior clearance from Reserve Bank of India (RBI). RBI have reported that as on 30th April, 1995, they had received 7 proposals from Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Maharashtra. Of these, 53 proposals had already been cleared for registration.

**Payment of DA**

6409. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the additional dearness allowance of the employees impounded during the Emergency days is yet to be paid back to a section of the employees.

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the Government have decided to pay back in full the amount to the employees, and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (d). The additional dearness allowance impounded was to be repaid in five equal annual instalments and the final instalment fell due for cash payment in July, 1980. Stray cases, if any, where repayment has not been made are settled as and when a claim is received.

### D.A. to Pensioners

6410. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS ·  
SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government pensioners do not get the Dearness Allowance or Interim relief at the same rate admissible to serving employees;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to give D.A. at the same rate and to grant Interim relief to the pensioners; and

(d) if so, the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

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

(a) to (d). The Fourth Central Pay Commission had recommended that dearness relief on pension should provide full neutralisation of price rise to the Central Government pensioners drawing pension upto Rs. 1750/- p.m., 75% to those getting pension between Rs. 1751/- and Rs. 3000/- and 65% to those getting pension above Rs. 3000/- subject to marginal adjustments. The recommendations made by the Fourth Pay Commission were accepted by the Government. Accordingly, Central Government pensioners get dearness relief on pension against price rise twice a year, viz. in the months of January and July.

Based on mutual agreement between the staff side and the official side of the National Council of the Joint Consultative Machinery (JCM), interim relief was sanctioned to the Central Government employees w.e.f. 16th September, 1993. The benefit has not been extended to the Central Government pensioners.

### Foreign Promoters

6411 DR R MALLU Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have assessed the role of foreign promoters in existing industrial units,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Government have given different treatment to Indian promoters and foreign promoters and financial institutions also have different yardsticks for them

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) the reasons therefor?

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

(a) No Sir

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) It has been the consistent policy of the Government that the Financial Institutions should act independently in their best commercial interests. However, the Indian promoters are treated differently from foreign promoters in a number of ways by Government. Illustratively, Investment by foreign promoters in Indian Industry is subject to an approvals and regulatory mechanism administered by the Reserve Bank of India and the Government of India, which is not applicable to Indian promoters.

### Cases with BIFR

6412. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH · Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the composition of BIFR and the terms of its reference;

(b) the number of cases received by BIFR during each of the last three years, including current year so far and the cases out of them disposed of finally, year-wise;

(c) the total number of cases pending as on date and the time likely to be taken for their clearance; and

(d) the efforts being made to make BIFR more effective?

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

(a) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) was set up under section 4 of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA), to exercise the jurisdiction and powers and discharge the functions and duties conferred or imposed on it by the said Act. Under Section 4(2) of the SICA, the BIFR shall consist of a Chairman and not less than two and not more than 14 other Members.

(b) BIFR has reported that the number of references received, registered and disposed of during 1993, 1994 and 1995 (Upto 30.04.1995) were as under :

	1993	1994	1995
1. References received	223	296	69
2. *References registered	152	193	22
3. Disposed out of (2) above	100	45	-
4. Disposal during the year including cases registered earlier but excluding those reopened/remanded.	232	275	77

\* The difference between (1) and (2) above is accounted by cases where registration was declined and those which remained under scrutiny.

(c) and (d). The total number of cases registered with BIFR since its inception and upto 30.04.1995 was 1661, out of which 1223 cases were disposed of. BIFR has reported that it is not feasible to make a realistic estimate as to when all the references registered with it as on 30.04.1995 would be finally disposed of. However, every effort is being made by BIFR to expedite disposal of the references registered with it.

#### Assistance from Japan for Auto-part Exports

6413. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of countries to which automobile spare parts are being exported at present;

(b) whether assistance from Japan has been taken in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the target fixed for automobile spare parts exports during 1995-96 and 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Some of the major countries to which automobile parts are being exported include USA, Australia, Egypt, Germany, Singapore, U K., Indonesia, Sri Lanka and the Netherlands.

(b) and (c). No specific assistance has been taken from Japan to increase the exports of auto components from India. The Automotive Component Manufacturers Association of India (ACMA) has, however, entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Japan Auto Parts Industries Association (JAPIA). The broad objectives of this MoU are :

- (i) to regularly exchange market information;
- (ii) to assist in organising industry delegations to visit both countries; and
- (iii) to assist each other for participating in exhibitions, fairs, Buyer Seller meets, Seminars etc.

(d) During 1995-96, a tentative growth of 16% over previous year has been envisaged for export of engineering goods which includes automobile parts.

#### Financial Assistance to Small Scale Industries

6414. SHRI RAJ NARAIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes sponsored by the Government and adopted by the nationalised commercial banks for providing assistance to unemployed youths and other entrepreneurs for setting up small scale industries;

(b) whether any of such scheme is also applicable to women entrepreneurs;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether separate credit facility has been provided for women entrepreneurs;

(e) if so, the details thereof with the limit of the financial assistance and the details of credit assistance provided to them during the last three years;

(f) whether some new scheme are also likely to be introduced during 1995-96; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated therefor?

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

(a) to (e). Under the various employment generation schemes formulated by the Government and implemented by the banks, viz. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) for the educated unemployed youth and Schemes of Urban micro Enterprises (SUME), loans are granted for trade service and industrial ventures. Public Sector Banks extend loans to women for Self-employment as a part of their priority sector lending programmes. Under the PMRY scheme launched in October, 1993 women are to be given preference. Under SUME, 30% of the funds meant for the scheme are to be utilised for women beneficiaries. Under SUME scheme women beneficiaries are entitled to subsidy amount of Rs. 5,000/- as compared to Rs. 4,000/- for general category. Accordingly maximum loan amount including subsidy is Rs. 20,000/- for women beneficiaries as compared to Rs. 16,000/- for general categories. Loans for projects costing upto Rs. one lakh are admissible under the PMRY scheme. The data reporting system does not generate information separately either for small scale industries or for women beneficiaries under these schemes.

(f) At present no such proposal is under consideration.

(g) Does not arise.

#### Rural Infrastructural Development Fund

6415. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to establish a new Rural Infrastructural Development Fund within NABARD from this financial year.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the loans given/proposed to be given by the Fund to various State Governments and State owned corporations for their ongoing projects, State-wise?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Rural Infrastructural Development Fund (RIDF) will be of Rs. 2000 crores. All India Scheduled Commercial banks, other than Regional Rural Banks and the newly established private sector banks, which have not reached the sub target of 18 per cent of net bank credit in respect of agricultural finance are required to contribute to the RIDF an amount equivalent to the shortfall in achieving the aforesaid sub target, subject to maximum of Rs 15 per cent of net bank credit. The resources in the RIDF will be used by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for grant of loans to the State Government and /or corporations/bodies owned by State Governments for rural infrastructure projects relating to minor/medium irrigation, soil conservation, watershed management, etc. Loans will be disbursed by NABARD from out of the Fund after the projects to be financed are cleared.

[Translation]

#### Air Link of Rajkot, Vadodra and Bhavnagar

6416 SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has submitted a proposal to air link Rajkot, Vadodra and Bhavnagar with Nagpur, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Madras and Delhi; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Certain proposals have been received from the Government of Gujarat and others for providing more airlinks to the various airports in Gujarat Indian Airlines is, however, not in a position at present to introduce more domestic services going to constraints of operating crew availability and commercial and operational limitations. Private domestic scheduled operators are free to operate to any of the 93 listed airports

[English]

#### Wage Bill of Nationalised Banks

6417 SHRI J CHOKKA BAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the wage bill of the employees of nationalised banks is in commensurate with the growth rate,

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the remedial steps proposed to be taken thereon; and

(c) the profit earning rate of nationalised banks at present in comparison to their wage bill and the terminal benefits being paid to the bank employees at present?

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

(a) to (c) The pay and allowances as also terminal benefits for award staff (clerical and subordinate cadre) and officers in the public sector banks are governed by the Bipartite Settlements/understandings reached from time to time by Indian Banks' Association (representing the banks' managements) and representatives of workmen unions and Associations of officers. The settlements are common to the banking industry and the wage bill is not necessarily in proportion to the growth rate of each of the banks in terms of its business. For the same reasons, there is no linkage between profitability and the wage bill especially when several banks are incurring losses.

#### Identification of Airports for Privatisation

6418 SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether an Inter-Ministerial group was constituted to identify airports for privatisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the backdrop in which the group was constituted;

(c) whether any report was submitted by the group so far, and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### Regional Rural Banks

6419. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :

DR SAKSHIJI :

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU :

SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the Regional Rural Banks functioning in the country, State-wise together with the names of their sponsored banks and the total deposits and working capital thereof, separately;

(b) the number of officers and staff working therein;

(c) the number of the beneficiaries by these banks during the last three years, State-wise;



(d) the amount of the loans disbursed and recovered by these banks during the above period year wise and State wise

(e) whether the Government have received complaints in regard to irregularities in these banks during the above period

(f) if so the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard and

(g) the steps being taken by the Government to make them more effective?

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

(a) and (b) A List giving the number of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) functioning in the country their total deposits working capital and the number of officers and other staff working therein as on 31 3 94 is given in the attached Statement-I A list of sponsoring banks and the number of RRBs sponsored by them is given in the Statement II

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

(e) and (f) The reporting system in Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) as well as RRBs does not generate information on the number of complaints about the functioning of RRBs in general or their branches in the country The RRBs are to function under the general supervision and guidance of their Board of Directors and in line with the guidelines issued by NABARD/RBI as well as Government The complaints as and when received at various levels including Government are looked into by the management of the RRBs concerned or by the sponsor banks or NABARD as per the requirement of the situation The remedial measures are taken by the competent authority after such inquiries are completed

(g) RBI and NABARD have taken measures to strengthen the RRBs and a package of measures was announced in December 1993 49 RRBs out of total of 196 RRBs in the country have been identified for comprehensive restructuring Experience with these 49 RRBs will guide the approach in later year to other RRBs Further RBI has allowed in January 1995 RRBs to make investment of their non-SLR surplus funds in specified profitable avenues including the credit portfolio of their sponsor banks through non-risk sharing participation certificates to be issued by the latter

### STATEMENT-I

Statement Showing Statewise Number of Regional Rural Banks their Total Deposits, Total working Funds as on 31 03 1994 and the Total number of Officers and other Staff Working in them

(Amt in Rs Lacs)

S No	Name of State	No RRBs	Total Deposits	Total working Fund	Total No of officers staff
1	Haryana	4	30748 40	35292 17	1684
2	Himachal Pradesh	2	11713 35	12786 49	615
3	Jammu and Kashmir	3	12226 94	13200 34	1147
4	Punjab	5	14487 74	17801 45	801
5	Rajasthan	14	45665 65	53228 78	4409
6	Arunachal Pradesh	1	628 27	799 77	67
7	Assam	5	16478 48	19543 39	2021
8	Manipur	1	387 59	764 88	106
9	Meghalaya	1	5080 32	5457 88	188
10	Mizoram	1	2000 11	2375 17	175
11	Nagaland	1	162 68	274 24	33
12	Tripura	1	8157 55	11357 03	705
13	Bihar	22	109948 14	123386 53	7934
14	Orissa	9	37031 53	52727 87	4136
15	West Bengal	9	63402 12	72129 84	5184
16	Madhya Pradesh	24	63913 92	74529 88	6434
17	Uttar Pradesh	40	246276 33	295666 15	14840
18	Gujarat	9	16839 88	23006 86	1690
19	Maharashtra	10	22376 56	30685 76	2575
20	Andhra Pradesh	16	72548 49	107478 36	5889
21	Karnataka	13	57732 39	86054 47	5912
22	Kerala	2	21096 95	36049 36	2631
23	Tamil Nadu	3	9673 10	13467 19	1107
Total		196	869176 48	1088063 86	70333

**STATEMENT-II**

**Statement Showing the Names of Sponsoring Banks and the Number of Regional Banks Sponsored by them**

S.No.	Sponsor Banks	No. of RRBs Sponsored by them
1.	State of Bank of India	30
2.	State Bank of Indore	1
3.	State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	3
4.	State Bank of Hyderabad	4
5.	State Bank of Mysore	2
6.	State Bank of Patiala	1
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	3
8.	Allahabad Bank	7
9.	Bank of Baroda	19
10.	Andhra Bank	3
11.	Bank of India	16
12.	Bank of Maharashtra	3
13.	Canara Bank	8
14.	Central Bank of India	23
15.	Corporation Bank	1
16.	Dena Bank	4
17.	Indian Bank	4
18.	Indian Overseas Bank	3
19.	Punjab National Bank	19
20.	Punjab and Sind Bank	1
21.	Syndicate Bank	10
22.	Union Bank of India	4
23.	United Bank of India	11
24.	UCO Bank	11
25.	Vijaya Bank	1
26.	Bank of Rajasthan	1
27.	J and K Bank Ltd.	2
28.	Uttar Pradesh State Co-Operative Bank Limited	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>196</b>

**Misuse of Currency Notes**

6420 SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government are aware of the trade of preparing garlands with currency notes of different denominations after shaping them in various floral designs and selling these garlands at prices ranging 20 per cent to 40 per cent above the value of currency notes;

(b) if so, whether this twisting of currency notes into floral designs involves any offence under Prevention of Imports to National Honour Act 1971, the National Emblem Act or any other law;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken to stop trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY). (a) to (d). Use of currency notes for making flower designs in the garland is not an offence under any law of the land.

**Cargo Planes**

6421. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL . SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM :

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

(a) whether adequate number of cargo planes are provided to the exporters in the country for sending exportable items to foreign countries; and

(b) if not, the steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) . (a) and (b) Adequate cargo capacity to meet the demand of the export trade is being provided by both Indian and foreign airlines under the open sky policy for cargo.

**Retirement Benefits of U.T.I.**

6422. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN . Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce any Retirement Benefits Plan for the employees of the Unit Trust of India,

(b) if so, the salient features thereof, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Government does not have any proposal to introduce retirement benefit plans for the employees of UTI, as UTI has its own pension scheme.

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

[Translation]

**Reward to Informers**

6423 SHRI LALL BABU RAI .

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether there is any provision to give reward to the informers or to the staff concerned as per the value of the goods seized/recovered;

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) the reasons for such a low amount of reward being given for the recovery of narcotics/drugs,

(d) whether any reward is given by the Government for the recovery of arms and ammunition, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir Informers and Government servants are eligible for reward upto 20% of the value of goods seized except in respect of gold silver and narcotics where the rewards are on the basis of purity and weight Actual amount of reward granted depends on the accuracy of information and risk undertaken in collection and working out of information

(c) The prescribed rates of rewards for narcotics are in relation to the estimated value of narcotics in the illicit market in India and are not considered low

(d) Yes, Sir

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above

[English]

#### Coffee Auction

6424 SHRI ANNA JOSHI Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Sixteenth Common Coffee Auction fixed by the Coffee Board was postponed

(b) if so, the reasons therefor

(c) whether any such auction had earlier been postponed,

(d) if so, the details thereof and

(e) the time by which the said auction is likely to be fixed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) Yes Sir

(b) The 16th Common Auction scheduled for 3 8 94 could not be conducted as the permit holders, particularly the exporters, did not participate in the Auction to mark their protest against alleged delay in the issue of Export Permit by the Coffee Board The domestic market dealers also joined them

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir the 15th Common Auction scheduled for 20 7 94 had also to be postponed since the permit holders, particularly the domestic market dealers prevented the conduct of Auction as a make of their protest against the rise in domestic coffee prices reflected in the high reserve price fixed by the Coffee Board for that Auction based on international prices

(e) The 15 and 16th Common Auctions which were earlier scheduled to be held on 20 7 94 and 3 8 94 had to be postponed but were rescheduled and held on 27 7 94 and 10 8 94 respectively

#### Export of Flowers

6425 SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether export quality flowers are grown by some States and Union territories,

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) whether Indian export of flowers is very low in the international market,

(d) whether Sikkim has large potential of export quality flowers,

(e) whether the Government propose to take some special measures for increasing the export of flowers in 1995-96, and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) to (c) Some important states growing export quality flowers are Karnataka Maharashtra Andhra Pradesh and Kerala However, India presently has a small share in the world trade of flowers

(d) No study has so far been undertaken to assess the export potential of Sikkim in floriculture products The UNDP assisted project on floriculture being implemented by APEDA would however study the possibilities of growing orchids on a commercial scale in the North East including Sikkim

(e) and (f) The steps being taken by the Government to boost the export of flowers *inter-alia* include

(i) Providing financial assistance for development of infrastructure such as refrigerated/insulated vans and setting up of pre-cooling/cold storage units,

(ii) Establishing five wald-in-type cold storages for export consignments awaiting clearance

(iii) Streamlining and simplification of plant quarantine procedures for expeditious clearance of cargo,

(iv) Concessional customs duty on specified goods required for Green Houses

(v) Making available the benefits of duty free imports under the Export Oriented Units/ Export Processing Zones Schemes to units engaged in floriculture and permitting sale of 50% of their production in the Domestic Tariff Area

(vi) Implementation of a UNDP assisted Project on Floriculture for enhancing production and exports of cut flowers Some of the activities to be undertaken in this project include advising entrepreneurs on production of flowers preparation of crop manuals undertaking market surveys and providing market information, and

(vii) Participation in international fairs/exhibitions

### Transfer Policy in U.T.I

6426 SHRI B L SHARMA PREM Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the female employees are being promoted and transferred on all India basis at par with their male counterparts in RBI, IDBI and IFCI,

(b) if so the details thereof

(c) whether the above transfer policy for female employees is also in vogue in UTI and

(d) if not the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to adopt a uniform policy in all the above institutions?

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

### Action Taken on Report of J.P.C

6427 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 2674 on March 31 1995 and state

(a) the outcome of the investigation made by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in the matter of the irregular investments of Air-Indias funds and

(b) the follow-up action being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b) Investigation report from Central Bureau of Investigation is awaited. Necessary follow up action will be taken after receipt of the investigation report

### Visit of American Treasury Secretary

6428 SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK  
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the subjects discussed/agreed during the recent visit of Treasury Secretary of America to India

(b) whether any discussion regarding privatisation of Indian insurance Companies was also made during the visit and

(c) if so the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY)  
(a) to (c) During the visit of the US Treasury Secretary to India from 17th to 20th April 1995 the focus of discussions related to strengthening of economic and commercial relations between India and USA. Issues concerning the importance of multilateral funding agencies were also discussed. The current policy

initiatives and the environment which was conducive to investors and would facilitate enhanced investments in the country was also recognised. The extensive opportunities for increasing US investments particularly in the core infrastructure sectors were highlighted during discussions. In the light of discussions, it was accepted that both countries would continue to work closely with each other to promote further private investments from USA to India, as also to strengthen bilateral economic and commercial relations.

### Recruitment of Executive Trainees in LIC

6429 SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of executive trainees recruited, with cadre-wise break-up by the Life Insurance Corporation of India during 1992-93 and 1994-95

(b) the procedure for the direct recruitment, and

(c) the number of vacancies announced, the number of applications received, the number of persons admitted to the written test if any, the number of persons selected and the time gap between the date of announcement and the date of selection cadre wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY)  
(a) LIC does not have a cadre called Executives Trainees however it recruits probationary Assistant Administrative Officers in the lowest cadre of Officers through direct recruitment. Details of recruitment made to this cadre during the last three years are given below

Year	Nos
1992-93	265
1993-94	245
1994-95	Nil

(b) The recruitment is made on the basis of the overall performance of a candidate in a competitive examination consisting of a written test and interview

(c) The information is as under

	1992-93	1993-94
No of vacancies announced	250	250
No of applications received	135519	135562
No of persons admitted to the written test	86265	86812
No of persons selected	324	314
Date of announcement	26 1 91	19 12 92
Date of selection	15 6 92	04 10 93
Time gap between announcement and selection	About 17 months	About 10 months

### Deposits in Public Sector Banks

6430. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the total amount of deposits in public sector banks as on March 15, 1995 and March 31, 1995;

(b) whether the deposits in the public sector banks reduced sharply in the first fortnight of 1995-96 fiscal year,

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure that the banks do not resort to manipulation of deposits at the end of a fiscal year?

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

(a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the total amount of deposits of public sector banks as on 17th March, 1995 (15th March, 1995 figures not available) and 31 March, 1995 are as under :

Deposits	
17 3 1995	31 3 1995
Rs. 356188 13 Crores	Rs 372559 14 Crores

(b) and (c) The deposits have declined by 0.94% in the first fortnight of 1995-96 fiscal year. The reasons are not readily available.

(d) The RBI has advised all the commercial banks (in 1989 itself) to ensure that the banks do not resort to manipulation of deposits at the end of the fiscal year,

### Chief Income Tax Commissioner's Conference

6431 SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an annual Conference of Chief Income Tax Commissioners was held recently in Delhi on April 16, 1995,

(b) if so, the details of the participants, subjects discussed, suggestions made by the participants and the decisions taken at the Conference, and

(c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to implement the decisions taken at the aforesaid Conference?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. An all India meeting of the Chief Commissioners of Income-tax was held on 17th and 18th April, 1995 at New Delhi.

(b) All Chief Commissioners and Directors General of Income-tax as well as other senior officers in the

Central Board of Direct Taxes had participated in the meeting. Broadly, the following main subjects were discussed :

- (i) Review of Action Plan, 1994-95 and finalisation of Annual Action Plan, 1995-96,
- (ii) New Scheme of Block Search Assessments,
- (iii) Monitoring of Tax Deduction at Sources,
- (iv) Computerisation/modernisation in the Income Tax Department;
- (v) Presumptive Tax Scheme, and
- (vi) Assessment Procedure etc.

The main suggestions made and decisions taken thereon are as under :

- (i) Record management and house keeping should be prime area of Action Plan, 1995-96,
- (ii) Reporting of correct arrear position,
- (iii) Constitution of Inspection teams for overseeing house-keeping task;
- (iv) Stress on 25% cash collection out of the current demand and 20% out of arrear demand;
- (v) Under the new procedure for Block Search Assessment, the search assessment in respect of searches conducted on or after 17 7 1995 would be completed as per procedure being finalised,
- (vi) Issue of instructions for allotment of new Permanent Account Numbers all over the country and attachment of PAN forms to all return forms
- (vii) Continuation of Presumptive Tax Scheme
- (viii) Continuation of existing guidelines for the current year also for selection of cases for scrutiny, and
- (ix) Immediate identification of 50 offices for upgradation as ideal offices by the Chief Commissions of Income-tax

(c) Most of the recommendations/decisions have been accepted and necessary steps have been taken for their speedy implementation.

### Foundation for Social Action

6432. PROF UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether I.C.I.C.I is setting up a 'Foundation for Social Action',

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

(c) the details of the financial status of the foundation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Limited (ICICI) has reported that while no final decision has been taken, an idea has been mooted that ICICI should have a "Foundation for Social Service".

#### Exclusion of India from EC Member Countries

6433 SHRI D VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether industry and trade circles in India are concerned over the exclusion of India from the revised EC member countries,

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

(c) whether India's exclusion from GSP has greatly affected our trade and industry, and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) and (b) The new GSP scheme of the European Union entered into force on 1st January, 1995. The scheme is valid for a period of four years i.e. from 1st January, 1995 to 31st December, 1998. The scheme is applied to most products falling within chapters 25 to 97 of the Harmonised System.

The scheme presently applies to 145 countries and 25 territories. The list of beneficiary countries includes India.

An important feature of the new GSP scheme is 'graduation'.

Under the new scheme, countries with a per capita GNP of over US\$ 6000 in 1991 will, in sectors where they have achieved a high degree of trade specialisation, get only 50% of GSP benefits with effect from 1st April, 1995 and will be excluded from GSP benefits in these sectors altogether w.e.f. 1st January 1996. As regards countries with per capita GNP of less than US \$ 6000, they will also get, in sectors where they have achieved a high degree of trade specialisation, 50% of GSP benefits w.e.f. 1st January 1997 and will be excluded from GSP benefits altogether from 1st January 1998.

As regards sectors where there is no high degree of trade specialisation, these benefits will continue.

The graduation mechanism will also apply to beneficiary countries whose exports of products covered by GSP in a given sector exceed 25% of all beneficiary countries' exports to the Community in that sector. For the concerned countries and sectors thus identified, preferential access will end from 1st January 1996.

(c) and (d) India has not been excluded from GSP so far. The impact of the EU's new GSP scheme on our exports will be moderated by the fact that our principal

competitors will be equally affected. The trade statistics for January 1995 show that our exports to EU during the period have increased substantially over the same period in 1994.

#### Factory Act, 1948

6434. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for some amendments in the Factory Act, 1948 and Trade Union Act, 1957; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) The Government of U.P. has suggested some amendments in the Trade Union Act, 1957 and the Factories Act, 1948 which have since been examined. While the suggestion regarding the Trade Union Act, 1957 has been included in the Amendment bill which is already before the Parliament, in view of the existing provisions in the Factories Act, 1948, amendment therein was not considered necessary.

#### Air Linked Cities

6435. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the names of cities which are air-linked, State-wise,

(b) the names of cities which are proposed to be airlinked during the next three years, and

(c) the steps being taken to expedite the proposed air linking?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The names of cities which are airlinked, State-wise is given in the attached Statement.

(b) and (c) At present Indian Airlines have no plans to introduce services to any new station on the domestic network due to operating crew constraints as also commercial reasons. Private domestic scheduled operators are free to operate to any of the listed 93 airports.

#### STATEMENT

State		Cities
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad Visakhapatnam Tirupati Vijayawada

1	2	3
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Tezu Zero
3	Assam	Dibrugarh Guwahati Jorhat Silchar Tejpur North Lakhimpur
4	Bihar	Patna Ranchi
5	Delhi	Delhi
6	Goa	Goa
7	Gujarat	Ahmedabad Bhavnagar Bhuj Jamnagar Rajkot Vadodara Surat Kandla Keshod Porbander
8	Himachal Pradesh	Kulu Shimla Gaggal
9	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu Leh Srinagar
10	Karnataka	Bangalore Mangalore Hubli Belgaum
11	Kerala	Cochin Trivandrum Calicut
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal Gwalior Indore Khajuraho Raipur Jabalpur
13.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad Bombay Nagpur Pune Kolhapur
14	Manipur	Imphal
15	Meghalaya	Shillong
16	Mizoram	Alzwal
17	Nagaland	Dimapur

1	2	3
18	Orissa	Bhubaneswar
19	Punjab	Amritsar Ludhiana
20	Rajasthan	Jaipur Jodhpur Kota Bikaner Jaisalmer
21	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore Madras Madurai Tiruchirappalli
22	Tripura	Agartala
23	Uttar Pradesh	Agra Lucknow Varanasi Kanpur Dehradun
24	West Bengal	Bagdogra Calcutta Behala
	Union Territory	City
1	Andaman and Nicobar	Port Blair
2	Lakshwadeep	Agatti
3	Chandigarh	Chandigarh

[*Translation*]

#### Internal Debt

6436 SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI  
SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the rate of interest paid on internal debt taken by the Government is constantly increasing

(b) if so, the average of this rate of interest at the end of 1991-92 and during 1994-95 separately,

(c) whether the Government have made assessment of the financial losses incurred due to the increase in the rate of this interest

(d) if so, the extent of additional loss suffered by the country during the year 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95, year-wise, and

(e) the reasons for the constant increase in the rate of interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY)  
(a) and (b) The weighted average interest rate of market

borrowing was 11.78%, 12.46%, 12.62% and 11.87% in the years 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 respectively.

(c) to (e) Upto 1991-92 Government was borrowing at the pre-determined fixed interest rates. However, from the year 1992-93 Government borrowings are at market related rates decided at the auctions conducted for the purpose. There is, therefore, no loss to the Government.

[English]

#### Extension of Promotion of Capital Goods Scheme

6437 SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether the extension of promotion of capital goods scheme in the services sector under revised EXIM policy likely to benefit the hotel industry also,

(b) if so, the ways and means thereof,

(c) whether the capital equipment is the single largest component of the total import in the hotel industry,

(d) whether these hotels were otherwise importing these equipment against their import entitlement of 10% of their foreign exchange earning, and

(e) the extent upto which the hotel projects have taken advantage of revised norms of capital goods under chapter VI of the revised norms?

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

(b) The benefits which accrue to the hotel industry under the EPCG scheme is, savings in the customs duty. Instead of normal duty the hotel industry is required to pay only 15% of the cif value as customs duty. This is related to the export obligation which is four times the FOB value of goods to be fulfilled in a period of five years. There is another option open to the hotel industry in this scheme under the new EXIM policy, where if the cif value of the goods to be imported is Rs 20 crores or more no duty is to be levied. However the export obligation is six times of the cif value to be fulfilled in 8 years the date of issue of import licence.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Apart from the EPCG Scheme these hotels were otherwise importing this equipment against their import entitlement of 10% of their foreign exchange earnings and they were also using the second option under the project imports where goods were imported for new projects as well as substantial expansion of existing hotels at a basic duty of 35% plus CVD (Countervailing duty).

(e) In the last one year the hotels earning foreign exchange imported equipment totalling the cif value of Rs 54.02 crores under the EPCG scheme. The existing hotels as well as new hotel projects which are assured of future foreign exchange earnings are taking the benefit of EPCG to import capital equipment required for their hotels.

[Translation]

#### Technical Drawbacks

6438 SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR  
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'Loophole blocks rupees 1,000 crores abroad appearing in daily Pioneer dated December 30, 1994,

(b) whether any memorandum has been received by the Government regarding technical drawbacks in certain documents,

(c) if so, the details thereof,

(d) whether the Government have established any mechanism at international level to remove the difficulties being faced by Indian exporters,

(e) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of the countries where this mechanism exists and the mediums through which it helps in removing problems being faced by Indian exporters, and

(f) the number of cases solved through this mechanism during 1994-95 alongwith the details of the countries where these cases have been solved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) yes, Sir

(b) and (c) No such memorandum has been received in the Ministry of Commerce.

(d) to (f) While no such formal mechanism has been set up specific problems of Indian exporters requiring intervention are taken up with our Missions abroad on case to case basis.

[English]

#### Loans to U.P. by NABARD

6439 DR SAKSHIJI Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the amount of funds provided by NABARD to Uttar Pradesh during the last two years and the current year, so far, scheme-wise,

(b) the number of beneficiaries, and

(c) the amount of loan recovered so far?

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

(a) National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) provides refinance facilities to various agencies under schematic lending. The details of purpose-wise disbursements made by NABARD under



schematic lending to Uttar Pradesh during the last two years and the current year are given in attached Statement

(b) and (c) NABARD has reported that details regarding the number of beneficiaries and the amount of loan recovered are available not with NABARD but with financing institutions

#### STATEMENT

*Purpose-wise Details of Refinance Extended by NABARD under Schematic Lending in Uttar Pradesh during the Years 1993-94 and 1994-95*

(Rs in lakhs)

Purpose	1993-94	1994-95
I Minor Irrigation	10867	14641
Land Development	-	4
Plantation/Horticulture	193	392
Farm Mechanisation	10574	9557
Dairy Development	2532	2169
Fisheries	137	104
Forestry	391	151
Bio-Gas	19	15
Poultry	38	79
Sheep/Goat/Piggery	1354	168
IRDP	16520	18612
Non-Farm Sector	2045	1477
Others	-	1711
<b>Total</b>	<b>44670</b>	<b>47077</b>

II During the current financial year NABARD has disbursed refinance of Rs 843 lakhs upto 30th April, 1995

[Translation]

#### Top Tax Payers in the Lucknow Region

6440 SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the names of those twenty five persons who have paid highest Central Excise duty and Income tax in Lucknow circle during the last three years,

(b) the amount paid by them and the amount outstanding against them during the same period and

(c) the total amount of Excise duty and Income-tax collected from the said area during the above mentioned period?

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

[English]

#### Tie up to Tata Group with Singapore Airlines

6441 SHRI RABI RAY Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any tie up proposal of Tata group with Singapore Airlines,

(b) if so the details thereof,

(c) whether there are also proposals for more foreign airlines to go in for equity participation with Indian domestic airlines, and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b) Tata Singapore Airlines (TSA) has proposed 40 per cent equity participation by Singapore Airlines and permission to operate 7 aircraft in the first year. The number of aircraft are proposed to be increased progressively to 20. TSA has not been granted permission to establish a domestic airlines so far

(c) and (d) M/s Ultima Assets and Investment Pvt Ltd (Indotik Airlines) has proposed 25 per cent foreign equity participation by M/s Iceland Air. M/s Choice Airlines has also proposed 40 per cent foreign equity by M/s Maersk Air Ltd Denmark

Their proposals for grant of permission to establish domestic airlines have not been approved so far

[Translation]

#### Investment by SCBs and CCBs

6442 SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on December 16 1994 to Unstarred Question No 1649 and state

(a) whether the report of the Study Group constituted by the NABARD in October 1992 has since been submitted,

(b) if so the main recommendations thereof and

(c) the action taken thereon?

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

[English]

#### Incentive to Private Air Taxi Operators

6443 SHRI LAETA UMBREY Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether any special incentives have been provided to the private Air Taxi operators and travel agencies operating in remote and hilly areas

(b) if so the details thereof

(c) if not, the reasons therefor

(d) whether any co-ordinated efforts have been taken up with various ministries for infrastructural development in those remote and hilly areas,

(e) if so, the details thereof, and

(f) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b) No, Sir

(c) Normal incentives available to airlines and approved travel agents are considered sufficient

(d) Yes, Sir

(e) The infrastructure is being upgraded at the following airports located in hilly and remote areas Guwahati, Dibrugarh, Silchar Jorhat Tezpur, North Lakhimpur (Lilabari) Imphal Dimapur, Agartala, Leh, Srinagar Jammu, Kargil, Kishtwar Rajouri, Shimla, Gaggal and Port Blair

(f) Does not arise

#### MOU between NABARD and Orissa Government

6444 SHRI K PRADHANI

SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development has signed or propose to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Orissa to strengthen the cooperative banks in the State,

(b) if so, the details thereof and

(c) the amount of financial assistance proposed to be provided by the NABARD under the said agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) Two Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) have been signed by Government of Orissa Orissa State Cooperative Bank/Orissa State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Bank Ltd with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

(b) The Memorandum of Understanding lay down specific measures for improving viability, profitability, recovery performance and streamlining of organisational matters of the cooperatives

(c) NABARD will provide refinance and consider contribution to the share capital as per norms and consider providing support for human resource development and technological upgradation subject to satisfactory compliance with the terms of MOUs

#### Poverty Alleviation Programme

6445 SHRI RAM KAPSE Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether IFAD has given permission to undertake a project involving Rs one hundred and fifty crores aimed at supplying finance to people below poverty line in Chandrapur, Yeotmal Pune and Nanded of Maharashtra State, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) and (b) Government of India has obtained a loan of US \$ 29.2 million (Rs 90.5 crores) from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) on 1-6-93 under Maharashtra Rural Credit Project (Ln No 325-IN) The balance project cost of Rs 60 crores is being met by the State Government The project is being implemented initially in four districts of Maharashtra viz Yeotmal, Chandrapur Pune and Nanded The projects objectives are (i) to improve the provision of financial services to the rural poor by the commercial banks, (ii) to make a large majority off rural poor bankable clients and (iii) to promote through the creation and operation of Self-help groups, savings mobilisation as the basis for lending to rural people in the project area

#### GDR Floating

6446 DR R MALLU Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Indian companies have been allowed to float GDRs in foreign markets on condition that the proceeds are not brought back into the country without prior notice,

(b) if so, the reasons for enforcing this stipulation, and

(c) the annual servicing burden in foreign exchange of the GDRs issued till now under this new guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) and (b) Yes Sir In terms of the guidelines issued by the Government on October 28, 1994, companies issuing GDRs would be required mandatorily to retain the Euro-issue proceeds abroad to be repatriated as and when expenditure for the approved enduses (including upto 15% earmarked for general corporate restructuring uses) are incurred This will enable companies to tap markets abroad for approved purposes while also avoiding monetary expansion as a consequence of Euro issue inflows in advance of the need for funds

(c) Dividends on the underlying Ordinary Shares would represent the annual servicing burden on account of GDRs issued by the Indian companies Such payments would depend on the performance of the individual companies and the rates of dividend declared by them

**Export of Iron-ore**

6447 SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the export of iron-ore during the remaining period of the Eighth Plan,

(b) If so, the achievements made in this regard so far, and

(c) the details of programme drawn up by MMTC in this regard for the remaining period of the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) and (b) Iron ore exports have been around 31 million tonnes annually in the last two years. It is expected that the same level of exports would be maintained during the remaining period of the Eighth Five Year Plan

(c) MMTC is expected to maintain its current level of exports during the remaining period of the Eighth Five Year Plan

[Translation]

**Handloom Development Programme**

6448 SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM  
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR  
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR  
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have formulated any welfare Schemes exclusively for the weavers of tribal dominated and backward areas under the handloom development programme

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the time by which these welfare schemes are likely to be fully implemented?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G VENKAT SWAMY) (a) All the Welfare Schemes being implemented by the Government for the benefit of handloom weavers are available to the weavers of tribal dominated and backward areas

(b) The Government of India is implementing the following scheme for the welfare of handloom weavers,

- (i) Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme,
- (ii) Group Insurance Scheme,
- (iii) Thrift Fund Scheme, and
- (iv) Health Package Scheme

(c) All the welfare Schemes are being implemented on a continuing basis. Under these schemes, funds are released to the State Governments/Union Territories on the basis of the proposals received from them

[English]

**Tourism Project of Gujarat**

6449 DR AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the number of projects for promotion of tourism in Gujarat State approved during the Seventh Five Year Plan and the amount sanctioned therefor,

(b) the places where these projects were proposed to be implemented,

(c) the names of the projects which have been completed and the expenditure incurred on each project so far and

(d) the time by which the remaining projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) The Central Department of Tourism sanctioned 17 project/schemes amounting to Rs 237.29 lakhs for development of tourism in the State of Gujarat during the Seventh Five Year Plan

(b) to (d) The details of the projects/schemes sanctioned year-wise with names of the places, amount sanctioned and amount released are given in the attached Statement. The projects/schemes are executed by the State Government of Gujarat and completion of the sanctioned projects is the responsibility of the State Government

**STATEMENT****Projects/Schemes Sanctioned during the Seventh Five Year Plan-Gujarat**

		(Rs. In lakhs)		
S No	Name of the Project/Scheme	Year of sanction	Amount sanctioned	Amount released
1	Haveli cottages at Ahmedpur Mandvi Beach	1985-86	21.02	15.6
2	Cafeteria at Dwarka	-do-	6.28	5.00
3	Cafeteria at Somnath	-do-	5.00	4.50
4	Const. of 25 beach cottages Nargole, Bular district	-do-	30.17	25.00

1	2	3	4	5
5	Yatri Niwas at Dakor	1985-86	41.20	35.00
6.	Wayside facilities at Limbdi	-do-	6.46	5.50
7.	Highway facilities at Ankleshwar	1986-87	35.84	33.00
8.	Mini buses for Sasangir	-do-	13.00	13.00
9.	Promotion of fairs and festivals	-do-	6.38	6.38
10	Cafeteria at Patan	1987-88	4.25	3.50
11	Cottages at Tithal	1988-89	12.62	11.00
12.	Construction of dormitories at Pavagarh	-do-	14.76	13.76
13	Kite Festival, Ahmedabad	-do-	3.50	3.50
14.	Construction of 5 'A' type and 'B' type cottages at Saputara Hill Resort	1989-90	15.00	10.00
15	Wayside amenities at Rajkot	-do-	16.50	5.00
16	Kite Festival	-do-	4.25	4.25
17	National Youth Mela	-do-	0.10	0.10
Total			237.29	193.49

#### Tax Relief to Senior Citizens

6450 DR LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :  
MAJ GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI :  
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Government have formulated any

scheme for allowing special tax reliefs to senior citizens in respect of Income-tax and Wealth tax;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to broad-base the tax reliefs for senior citizens in view of the rising cost of living and to cover medical expenses also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) Yes, Sir, only under the Income-tax Act.

(b) Under section 88B of the Income-tax Act, a 40 per cent rebate from tax is allowed to senior citizens having income not exceeding Rs. 1 lakh.

(c) and (d). The relief is considered adequate and there is no proposal at present under consideration of the Government to modify it.

#### Value of Rupee

6451 SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMIAH . Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the value of rupee has declined against the European currency during 1994;

(b) if so, to what extent it has fallen in 1994 and in January, 1995, month-wise;

(c) the main reasons for the decline, and

(d) the extent of the adverse consequences of the decline in rupee value?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The monthly average value of the Indian Rupee in terms of the major European currencies during 1994 and in January, 1995 is given in the attached Statement.

(c) The exchange rate of the rupee is determined by demand and supply conditions in the foreign exchange market.

(d) The movement of the exchange rate of the rupee vis-a-vis major currencies has not adversely affected the trade and payments of the country.

#### STATEMENT

Table

Rupee per unit of Foreign Currencies (Monthly Average Rates)

Months	Pound Sterling	App(+)/ Dep(-)	Deutsche Mark	App(+)/ Dep(-)	Netherlands Guilder	App(+) Dep(-)	Swiss Franc	App(+) Dep(-)	French France	App(+)/ Dep(-)	Belgium France	App(+)/ Dep(-)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Dec 93	46.7849		18.3504		16.3634		21.4227		5.3585		0.8786	
Jan 94	46.7970	-0.0250	18.0053	1.9167	16.3847	1.7327	21.3357	0.4078	5.3002	1.1000	0.8669	1.3496
Feb 94	46.4871	0.6666	18.0784	-0.4049	17.1472	-8.1963	21.5624	-1.0514	5.3293	-0.5460	0.8778	-1.2417
Mar 94	46.7971	-0.6624	18.5310	-2.4471	16.5047	3.8928	21.9351	-1.6991	5.4419	-2.0691	0.9001	-2.4775

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Apr 94	46 4942	0 6515	18 4810	0 2754	16 5233	-0 1126	21 8360	0 4538	5 3996	0 7834	0 8981	-0 2214
May 94	47 1676	-1 4277	18 9261	-2 3518	16 8837	-2 1346	22 2167	0 7136	5 5330	-2,4110	0 9206	2 4436
Jun 94	47 8267	-1 3781	19 2448	-1 6560	17 2007	1 8429	22 8540	-2 7886	5 6435	-1 9580	0 9364	-1 6882
Jul 94	48 4890	-1 3659	19 9639	-3 6020	17 8240	-3 4970	23 7470	-3 7605	5 8354	-3 2885	0 9701	-3 4707
Aug 94	48 3883	0 2123	20 0214	0 2872	18 8675	-0 2334	23 8026	-6 2396	5 8546	-0 3279	0 9733	-0 3306
Sep 94	49 0444	-1 3418	20 2300	-1 0351	18 8675	1 1169	24 3343	2,1850	5 9225	-1 1465	0 9807	-0 7530
Oct 94	50 3967	-2 6835	21 3726	-5 3424	18 4295	-1 9642	24 6968	-1 4678	6 0303	-1 7876	0 0033	2,2510
Nov 94	49 8302	1 1369	20 3974	4 7810	18 1845	1 3473	24 2182	1 9762	5 9359	1 5903	0 9909	1 2451
Dec 94	48 8625	1 9805	19 9609	2 1868	17 8545	1 8483	23 6430	2 4329	5 8049	2 2567	0 9718	1 9648
Jan 94	49 3578	-1 0035	20 4685	-2 4799	18 3064	-2 4685	24 4356	-3 2436	5 9339	-2 1739	0 9961	-2,4361

[Translation]

### Reward Money

6452 SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether smuggled gold valuing rupees 10 crores, 39 lakhs approximately was unloaded at Gagali village on the eastern coast of Karnataka in 1988,

(b) whether an award of rupees one crore and 10 lakhs was rewarded in lieu of giving clue of this smuggled gold,

(c) if so, the names of the officers to whom this amount was rewarded, and

(d) the actual value of this smuggled gold seized?

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

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

### Term Deposit A/Ce in U.P.

6453 SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of term deposit accounts and the total amount deposited therein in each nationalised bank of Uttar Pradesh and also the total amount deposited under other accounts as on March 31, 1995,

(b) whether savings in term deposits is more popular in the cities in comparison to other modes of savings, and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

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

(a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that the total number to Term Deposit Accounts in all public sector banks in Uttar Pradesh as at the end of

March, 1993 (latest available) were 12255550 and the amount deposited therein was Rs 1261445 lakhs. The total amount deposited under other accounts was Rs 1075485 lakhs

(b) and (c) The data base of RBI does not generate the information called for

### Spare Parts of Aeroplane

6454 SHRI BALRAJ PASSI Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated to manufacture spare parts of aeroplanes and for their overhauling in the country,

(b) if so the details thereof,

(c) the amount of foreign exchange likely to be saved on this account, and

(d) the time by which the scheme is likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (d) M/s Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) have been manufacturing some aircraft components in India. HAL have also entered into agreement with M/s Airbus Industries of France and M/s Dornier of Germany to manufacture certain components for Airbus A320 aircraft and Dornier DO-228 aircraft respectively. However, it is difficult to quantify the savings in foreign exchange expenditure since most of the spare parts are supplied through the aircraft/engine manufactures and their authorised agents. Overhauling of components is generally done by the airlines in conformity with the requirements laid down by the DGCA.

### Amendment to Lawe Relating to S.S Is

6455 SHRI RATILAL VARMA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to amend certain laws governing the small scale industries, and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

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

#### DEBT Relief Scheme in Rajasthan and U.P.

6456 SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of farmers, rural craftsmen and SC/ST people benefited under the Debt Relief Scheme in U.P. and Rajasthan,

(b) the amount of financial aid given to Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan so far under the above scheme,

(c) whether any amount of the said financial aid is yet to be released, and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) Under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990, 51.45 lakhs (approx.) beneficiaries in the State of Uttar Pradesh and 20.16 lakhs (approx.) in Rajasthan were provided debt relief. Category-wise information is, however, not available

(b) to (d) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that as on 31.3.1995 it has released an amount of Rs. 638.014 crores and Rs. 311.457 crores to Cooperative Banks in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan respectively by way of grant and loan under the ARDR Scheme. Similarly, Rs. 99.96 crores have been released to RRBs in Uttar Pradesh and Rs. 73.22 crores to RRBs in Rajasthan. NABARD has reported that claims of Cooperative Banks and RRBs in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have been finally settled as per policy guidelines. RBI has reported that funds to Commercial Banks were not released State-wise, but claims preferred by individual public sector banks have been settled as per policy guidelines

#### Delay in Issuing Handbook of Procedures

6457 SHRI V SREENIVASA PRASAD Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Delay in issuing handbook of procedures irks exporters" appeared in 'Pioneer' dated April 21, 1995,

(b) whether the delay in issuing handbook of procedures has affected exporters at large,

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to issue handbook of procedures in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) to (d) The revised edition of the Hand-Book of Procedures, Vol. I 1992-97, has since been brought out on 30.4.1995. Since the previous Handbook of Procedures Vol. I in so far as it was not inconsistent with the Export-Import Policy as amended on 31.3.95 continued to be applicable till 30.4.1995, exporters were not adversely affected on this account

#### Inflation Rate

6458 SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has set up market operations to curb inflation,

(b) if so, the progress made in this direction, and

(c) the net result in curbing inflation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) to (c) In the recent years the Reserve Bank of India has been undertaking open market operations to regulate the growth of liquidity in the system. These operations are expected to help, *inter-alia*, moderate the rate of inflation in the economy

Deceleration in inflation rate is visible from the beginning of the current financial year. The rate of inflation (provisional) based on changes in the wholesale price index stood at 8.6 per cent on April 29, 1995 as against 10 per cent on March 25, 1995 and 11.8 per cent on April 30, 1994

#### Production of FCV Tobacco in A.P. and Karnataka

6459 SHRI V SOBHANADREESWARA RAO Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) the estimated production of FCV tobacco in the country particularly in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka during 1994-95 and 1995-96,

(b) the likely production in other tobacco producing countries such as China, Zimbabwe, U.S.A. and other countries during the above period, country-wise, and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure better price to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) The estimated production of Virginia Tobacco in the States

of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka for the year 1994-95 and 1995-96 are as under

	(Million Kgs )	
	Karnataka	Andhra Pradesh
1994-95	25 00	82 00
1995-96	25 24*	-**

\* Crop size of virginia tobacco fixed by the Tobacco Board

\*\* Crop size of virginia tobacco yet to be fixed by the Tobacco Board

(b) The estimated production of virginia tobacco in some of the major tobacco production countries during 1994-95 are given below. Data of production for the year 1995-96 is not available

	Country	(Million kg )
1	China	2688
2	Zimbabwe	171
3	USA	424
4	Philippines	39
5	Brazil	336
6	Argentina	78

(Source USDA December 94 - January '95)

(c) Steps taken by the Tobacco Board to ensure better prices to the farmers include, *inter-alia*

- (i) Planning and regulation of production of tobacco to match demand and supply
- (ii) Implementing various developmental and extension schemes to improve the quality and yield of tobacco
- (iii) conducting auctions to ensure accurate weighment, classification and competitive prices,
- (iv) negotiating with tobacco trade for fixation of Minimum Guaranteed Price for Flue Cured Virginia Tobacco, and
- (v) advising farmers through training programmes/meetings/publicity to adopt improved varieties and package of practices recommended by the Central Tobacco Research Institute

#### Export of Dyestuffe

6460 SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) the countries where the dyestuffs are in good demand, and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of dyestuffs and create new market for its exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) Countries where the dyestuffs are in good demand are Bangladesh, Belgium, China Taipei, France, Germany, Hongkong, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Netherlands, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, UK and USA

(b) Dyestuff is identified as an Extreme Focus Group of Items. The steps taken by the Government in this regard include liberalisation of the policy and procedures, provision of market development assistance and other promotional measures through the Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals & Cosmetic Export Promotion Council (CHEMEXCIL), including for exploration of new markets

[Translation]

#### Investment in Nicaragua

6461 SHRI RAMPAL SINGH  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Nicaragua has invited India to make investment in their country,

(b) if so, the areas for which offers to make investment has been made, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) and (b) During a recent visit of H E Ernesto Leal Sanchez, Minister of External Relations of Nicaragua to India, he invited Indian industrialists to invest in his country. The areas indicated for investment included telecommunications, tourism, timber, transportation, sea food, agro industry, mining and energy

(c) Government welcomes and encourages such investments which are governed by the policy on overseas investments

#### Import of Sugar by STC and MMTC

6462 DR MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA  
SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd and the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd had made deals in the international market during 1995 for supply of sugar in June and July through forward contracts,

(b) if so, the total quantity of sugar contracted and the details of price thereof;

(c) the reasons for which import of sugar was felt necessary despite the possibility of sufficient production of sugar during 1994-95 and 1995-96 in the country;

(d) whether the prices of sugar in the International market for the month of May have declined in comparison to the price of sugar of alleged deal; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the extent of losses likely to be incurred by both these organisations due to the recent decline in the price of sugar in the international market as well as in the domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) to (e). Yes, Sir. Pursuant to Government's directive to purchase sugar on forward contracting, STC and MMTC taken together have so far contracted a quantity of about 4.05 lakh tonnes of sugar at an average C & F price of about \$ 429 PMT. The import is for the Public Distribution System

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir, Commodity prices fluctuate depending upon the demand and supply. Since the import is for the public Distribution System, the question of losses does not arise.

[English]

#### S.E.B.I.

6463 SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA · Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether Securities and Exchange Board of India has taken up a major organisational restructuring,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the other steps proposed to be taken to regain public confidence in this prime institution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) Organisational restructuring is being done continually by SEBI so as to equip itself to the changing requirements of the capital market. Towards this objective, SEBI recruits people of relevant experience and imparts requisite skills to existing personnel

#### Adventure Tourism

6464 SHRI HARIN PATHAK · Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Government are aware about adventure tourism becoming popular amongst the Indian and foreign tourists; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to encourage adventure tourism?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) · (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Government of India provides financial assistance for the development of adventure tourism such as

mountaineering, trekking, camping, water sports, mountain biking, aero sports, etc. depending on specific and complete proposals received from the State Govts. During 1994-95, Department of Tourism has released funds to the various State Govts. to the tune of Rs. 176.15 lakhs for new and continuing projects of adventure tourism

#### Setting up Key Infrastructure Projects

6465. SHRI M.V.V.S MURTHY :  
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the British Board of Trade is working out at tripartite strategies for setting up key infrastructure projects in India ;

(b) whether the strategy involved British companies getting together with the Japanese trading houses for setting up projects in India;

(c) whether any agreement in this regard was reached;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which the trade between the two countries is expected to be further improved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir The British Department of Trade and Industry is working on a trilateral initiative involving Japanese and British investment in projects in India.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise

(e) The additionalities in trade between India and these countries can be estimated only after the size of investments and the conditionalities attached thereto are finalized

#### Joint Venture between STC and Coffee Board

6466. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (STC) plans to enter into joint venture with the Coffee Board for marketing of coffee in the foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether STC contemplates to enter into other manufacturing joint ventures also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.



(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. STC is contemplating entering into joint ventures with a view to strengthening its supply base of exports in the fields of floriculture, horticultural products, marine products, processed foods, consumer items, leatherware, gems & jewellery, textiles, engineering goods, software, drugs and pharmaceuticals etc.

#### Board of Financial Supervision for Banks

6467. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA :  
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :  
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Board of Financial Supervision (B.F.S) set up by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), has mooted an off-site surveillance of commercial banks;

(b) if so, the composition thereof and the broad features of this prudential supervisory reporting system; and

(c) the extent to which it is likely to check the banks indulging into scams like the ones witnessed recently and enable the R.B.I. to monitor the regulatory compliance of its supervisory authority, besides focussing the commercial banks' attention on sensitive areas such as asset quality and risk considerations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):  
(a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have introduced an off-site Surveillance System (OSS) to strengthen supervision over commercial banks.

(b) The OSS consists of 12 returns (10 at quarterly and 2 at half yearly intervals) to be filed by the banks with the RBI in two stages. The first tranche of 7 returns has already been introduced with effect from 28th February, 1995.

(c) The off-site reporting system will provide information on areas of prudential interest and will help to throw early warning signals which can be examined further through on-site inspections. The new reporting system will also strengthen the Management Information System (MIS) within the banks themselves since it will provide the banks with comprehensive information on key areas like capital adequacy, asset quality etc. on an ongoing basis.

#### Foreign Institutional Investors

6468. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether foreign institutional investors registered

in Gujarat are facing severe technical problems in the form of custodian service and in the area of settlement, and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for removing the technical problems faced by these foreign institutional investors?

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

(a) and (b). Foreign Institutional Investors are registered centrally with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and not on a regional basis or state-wise. In the initial stages of investing in India, FIIs faced difficulties in obtaining efficient Custodial Services, as considerable paper work was involved in share transfers and very few custodians were catering to the needs of the Custodial Services of FIIs. The situation has, however, considerably improved with Government and SEBI having taken measures to reduce the extensive paper work through the introduction of Jumbo Transfer Deeds to handle bulk transfers of shares and the provision of a facility of consolidated payment of Stamp Duty by Banker's Cheques where bulk transactions occur. Additional Custodial Services are also being provided by new market entrants.

#### Reduction in Tobacco Crop in Karnataka

6469. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tobacco Board has given any direction to farmers of Karnataka to reduce the tobacco crop;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has instructed the Tobacco Board not to insist upon the farmers to reduce the crop; and

(d) whether the Tobacco Board have made any plan to purchase the entire production of tobacco being grown by the farmers in the State particularly in Mysore District?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The Tobacco Board has not reduced the authorized crop size in 1995-96 of virginia tobacco for Karnataka.

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

(d) The Board has not proposed to purchase tobacco but makes requisite arrangements for the marketing of authorised virginia tobacco grown in Karnataka including Mysore district.

### Employment Opportunities

6470 SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) the number of workers in the organised sector in Gujarat,

(b) whether the employment opportunities have come down in the organised sector in Gujarat and

(c) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI PA SANGMA)

(a) As per the Quick Estimates the number of workers in the organised sector (i.e. all establishments in the public sector and non-agricultural establishments in the private sector employing 10 or more workers) as on 31.3.1994 in Gujarat was 1696.6 thousand

(b) and (c) No Sir During the year 1993-94 the increase in the number of workers in the organised sector in Gujarat was around 1.54%

### Economic Offences

6471 SHRI TARA SINGH Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) Whether the Government have a proposal to have bilateral pacts with some of the foreign countries to curb economic offences and

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof including the targets to be achieved?

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

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

### Voluntary Retirement Scheme in R.B.I.

6472 SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has introduced a scheme for voluntary retirement of the employees,

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented, and

(d) the steps being taken for its quick implementation?

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

(a) No Sir

(b) to (d) Do not arise

### Bombay Urban Infrastructure Project

6473 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) Whether the Ministry of Urban Affairs, and Employment has forwarded to the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance a proposal of the Government of Maharashtra on Bombay Urban Infrastructure Project (BUIP) for World Bank assistance

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the actions taken so far thereon?

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

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Urban Development had forwarded a proposal called Bombay Urban Infrastructure Project prepared by the Govt of Maharashtra on 1.9.94 for posing it to the World Bank for possible funding. The objectives of the project are to improve the overall capacity of the municipal services, urban infrastructure and to promote environmental protection. The estimated cost of the project is Rs 2608 crores. The main components of the project are

- (1) Institutional Development including Urban Development Fund and Technical Assistance
- (2) Urban Infrastructure Development
- (3) Energy Distribution
- (4) Environmental Protection

(c) The proposal was forwarded to the World Bank on 8.9.94. The comments of the World Bank have been conveyed to the Govt of Maharashtra and the response from Govt of Maharashtra thereon is awaited

[Translation]

### Free Trade Zones in Maharashtra

6474 SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) the details of Free Trade Zones in Maharashtra

(b) whether the Government propose to establish new Free Trade Zones keeping in view the increase in volume of export from Maharashtra,

(c) if so the details thereof and the time by which these zones are likely to be established, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) to (d) An Export Processing Zone is functioning at Bombay, Maharashtra. Keeping in view the availability of funds and the need to optimise infrastructural facilities in the existing Export Processing Zones, there is not proposal

at present for the Central Government to set of new zones in the country. However, export processing zones can also be established by the State Governments or the joint/private sector.

#### **New Branches of Insurance Companies**

6475 SHRI N J RATHVA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the criteria for opening new branches of Insurance Companies

(b) whether Government propose to open some new branches of insurance companies in the country with special reference to Gujarat especially in tribal areas, and

(c) if so, the details thereof location-wise?

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

(a) The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and the General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) have reported that new branches of Insurance Companies are opened taking into account the business potential financial viability, and premium and cost considerations

(b) The LIC and GIC have reported that no such proposal is under consideration

(c) Does not arise

[English]

#### **Loans to Agricultural Sector**

6476 SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT  
SHRI PARAS RAM BHARADWAJ  
SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the total agricultural loan sanctioned during the last three years by the nationalised banks and the cooperative banks towards crop loan, medium-term loan for rescheduling loan and for the purchase of implements and the amount outstanding as on March 1995, State-wise with special reference to the State of Maharashtra,

(b) the amounts outstanding on these accounts during the last three years at village level, societies level, district level and apex level as on March every year during the above period, State-wise, and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to reduce the incidence of cost-push effect due to higher rate of interest and other expenses on account of input-prices, energy and irrigation charges?

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

(a) to (c) The information is being collected and to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House

#### **Equity in Public Sector Units**

6477 KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have decided to offer its equity in the public sector units at a fixed price to the common investor and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) and (b) Yes sir While Government have taken an in principle decision to disinvest shares in select PSUs through fixed price offer to retail investors the details of offering will be worked out at the relevant time with reference to prevailing market conditions PSU's own plans to issue new shares and other factors

#### **Foreign Loans for States**

6478 SHRI J CHOKKA RAO Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether most of the States are obtaining foreign loans for developmental works like irrigation projects power generation projects and are expending their regular income on non-plan expenditure like salaries etc

(b) if so, whether the State Governments are responsible for the repayment of the said loans and

(c) the quantum of loan obtained by the Andhra Pradesh State so far from different foreign agencies?

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

#### **Border Trade Policy**

6479 DR KRUPASINDHU BHOI Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have reviewed and revised its border trade policy,

(b) if so the details thereof

(c) the border trade policy of the Government with Nepal,

(d) the principles being adopted in the matter of border trade with China and Bangladesh

(e) whether the Government have established border trade with Pakistan and some other border countries

(f) if so, the details thereof, and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). There is no border trade policy as such. Arrangements for border trade have been worked out only with China and Myanmar, aimed at reviving and promoting traditional trade across the border for meeting the local requirements.

(c) There is open border and virtually free trade with Nepal; hence no border trade policy with Nepal is necessary.

(d) The border trade with China was resumed in 1991-92, on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, for the exchange of mutually agreed commodities, by the residents along the border.

(e) and (f). The Border Trade Agreement with Myanmar, signed on 21.1.94, provides for border trade to be conducted through Moreh in Manipur and Champai in Mizoram, for exchange of locally produced commodities, by people living along both sides of the border, as per the prevailing customary practice including barter, or in freely convertible currencies. Accordingly, border trade with Myanmar was operationalised via Moreh from April 1995, in 23 mutually identified commodities.

(g) Arrangements for border trade with neighbouring countries are formalised on the basis of tradition, need, and mutual agreement.

#### Facilities to Tourists

6480. SHRI NURUL ISLAM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to provide more facilities to the tourists particularly for their lodging, boarding and transportation in the North Eastern States including Assam,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount allocated by the Union Government for the purpose during each of the last three years and how much of it has actually been spent, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b). The Department of Tourism GOI extends financial assistance to the State Governments for augmentation of tourist accommodation facilities, based on the specific proposals, received from the State Governments, depending upon their merits, inter-se priorities and availability of funds and the guidelines of the schemes

(c) The details of the projects/schemes with amount sanctioned for the last three years, Statewise in seven North-Eastern States including Assam for augmentation of tourist accommodation facilities are given in the attached Statement.

#### STATEMENT

Projects/Schemes Sanctioned during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95

S.No	Name of the project/scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
<b>ARUNACHAL PRADESH</b>		
1.	Tourist lodge at Ziro	7.98
2.	Tourist lodge at Debon	7.98
3.	Tourist lodge at Pangling	7.98
4.	Tourist lodge at Daprijo	7.98
5.	Tented accommodation	9.35
6.	Publicity support	7.00
7.	Tourist hut at Miao, (Daban)	4.65
8.	Tourist hut at Yembung	4.65
9.	Tourist hut at Raga	4.65
10.	Tourist hut at Bame	4.65
11.	Tourist hut at Bhalukpong	4.65
12.	Tourist hut at Ziro	4.65
13.	Purchase of tents for setting-up tourist camps	17.50
Total		93.67
<b>ASSAM</b>		
1.	Pilgrim Cottage at Kamakhya	27.09
2.	Tourist lodge at Bardaloni Bird Sanctuary	14.00
3.	Wayside facilities at Kalain	11.73
4.	Purchase of angling equipment	4.40
5.	Water sports equipment for River Brahmaputra	5.56
6.	Tented accommodation	15.88
7.	Tourist cottages at Hajo	24.35
8.	Tourist resort at Biswanath Ghat	15.45
9.	Tourist lodge at Tinsukhia	23.54
10.	Tented accommodation at Kaziranga, Manas and Bholukpang Umronse	14.77
11.	Tourist complex at Haflong	27.79
12.	Tourist complex at Rajiv Gandhi Wild life Sanctuary, Orang	25.20
Total		209.76
<b>MANIPUR</b>		
1.	Tourist lodge at Keirao	9.83
2.	Tourist lodge at Lamdan	9.83
3.	Tourist lodge at Base camp, Shiroy	9.83
4.	Cafeteria and Jetty at Sendra	7.05
5.	Cafeteria and Jetty at Phubala	7.05
6.	Purchase of mountaineering equipment	9.71
7.	Purchase of mountain bicycles	1.06
8.	Publicity support	4.88
9.	Kut Festival	7.00

1	2	₹
10.	Tourist complex at Tharon Cave in Tameglong dist.	11.92
11.	Tourist lodge at Seriou	10.91
12.	Tourist complex at Thongam Mondam in Thoubai dist.	10.91
13.	Tourist complex at Ukhrul	10.91
14.	Publicity support	0.85
15.	Assistance for production of publicity materials	4.00
Total		115.74
<b>MIZORAM</b>		
1	Tourist lodge at Lawngtlai	20.72
2	Tourist cottages at Chhlahtlang	7.29
3.	Cafeteria at Tiabung	8.57
4.	Cafeteria at Tawipui	8.97
5.	Chapchar Kut Festival	2.15
6.	Tourist lodge at Khawbung	22.07
7	Tourist lodge at Chaltlang	17.91
8.	Tourist lodge at Darzo	10.34
9.	Tourist lodge at Thenzawl	10.83
10.	Tourist lodge at Kamala Nagar, Chawngte	13.25
11	Tourist lodge at Changsil	10.09
12.	Chapcharkut Festival	3.89
13.	Tourist complex at Sangau (Chhintulpui dist.)	18.68
14	Tourist lodge at Tamdli	17.54
15.	Para sailing	10.25
16.	Tented accommodation	5.02
17.	Purchase of Trekking equipment	5.00
18.	Chapchar Festival	3.60
Total		195.97
<b>MEGHALAYA</b>		
1.	Tented accommodation	9.77
2	Nongkerem Dance Festival	1.85
Total		11.62
<b>NAGALAND</b>		
1.	Expansion of accommodation facilities at tourist lodge at Mokukchung	7.17
2.	Cafeteria at Tsutsung	4.69
3.	Rock climbing equipment for Mount Jotsu, Japfu, Bulubaze, Tiyi and Saramati	6.97
4.	Printing of posters	5.00
5.	Cafeteria at Mhalio Peseyie Lake (Dimapur)	14.36
6.	Tourist lodge near Shilloi Lake	8.72
7.	Assistance for production of publicity materials	5.00
Total		51.91
<b>TRIPURA</b>		
1.	Yatrika at Agartala	20.10
2	Cafeteria-cum-Tourist Bungalow at Coconut Island in Dum-boor	10.47

1	2	3
3.	Cafeteria at Nehru Park, Agartala	4.93
4.	Tourist lodge at Gandacherra	17.03
5.	Tourist bungalow at Kumarghat	27.75
6.	Construction of Cafeteria at Mandir Ghat	3.39
7.	Cafeteria at Kamala Sagar	6.02
8.	Tourist lodge at Pillak	4.40
9.	Cafeteria near Unakoti Rock	4.40
10.	Hand gliding equipment	12.06
11.	Tented accommodation	18.98
12.	Water sports equipment for Damboor	8.77
Total		136.20

[Translation]

**Loan to SSIs By Public Sector Banks  
in U.P. and A.P.**

6481. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL .

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) the amount of loans provided to small scale industries by Public Sector Banks in Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh in particular and to other States in general during 1993-94 and 1994-95; and

(b) the financial position of small scale industries in the above State in the matter of repayment of banks loans as compared to other States?

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

[English]

**Child Labour**

6482. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL . Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state .

(a) the estimated number of child labour engaged in (i) notches and fireworks factories in Sivakasi, Tamil Nadu, (ii) the glass and glass bangle factories in Ferozabad; (iii) carpet and sari embroidery factories in Varanasi and Muzapur and (iv) there hazardous jobs as on the eve of the declaration of the Prime Minister's action plan to abolish child labour from hazardous jobs;

(b) the number of child labour has since been freed from hazardous jobs, area-wise and how many of them have been resettled in alternate jobs or sent for straining or education; and

(c) the effective steps the Government contemplate to take in this direction?

**THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI PA SANGMA)**

(a) It is estimated that 20 lakhs children are engaged in hazardous occupations. Separate industry wise figures of children engaged in different hazardous occupations is not maintained.

(a) and (c) National Authority for the Elimination of Child Labour (NAECL) has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Union Labour Minister to tackle the problem of child labour. The NAECL has adopted a plan of action titled Identification, Release and Rehabilitation of Child Labour to tackle the problem of child labour in the country. Briefly it calls for a convergence of services and schemes of the Central and State Governments at the implementing level. The District - to effectively handle the identification and rehabilitation of child labour and stricter enforcement of relevant laws. This plan of action has been sent to all States/UTs for adoption. Government is presently engaged in the process of preparing a major action plan to eliminate child labour in hazardous occupations which is estimated at 20 lakhs. The Planning Commission has already earmarked an outlay of Rs 34.40 crores for the year 1995-96 to enable the Government to launch the scheme in this regard. The year 2000 is the target for the elimination of child labour in hazardous occupations.

[Translation]

**Development of Tourism in Maharashtra**

6483 SHRI DATTA MEGHE

SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL

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

(a) the Central assistance provided to Maharashtra for the development of tourism during each of the last two years

(b) the names and location of tourist spots developed in Maharashtra with the Central assistance during the above period

(c) the details of the tourism projects pending clearance from Union Government till March 1995 and

(d) the steps taken to clear the pending projects?

**THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)** (a) Based on the proposals received from the State Government of Maharashtra the Central Department of Tourism sanctioned 28 projects/schemes amounting to Rs 546.25 lakhs during the last two years viz 1993-94 and 1994-95 for development of tourism in the State

(b) The details of the projects/schemes sanctioned with amount and their locations are given in the attached Statement

(c) and (d) All the projects/schemes submitted by the State Government of Maharashtra which were found complete and in accordance with the guidelines have been sanctioned

**STATEMENT**

*Projects/Schemes Sanctioned during  
1993-94 and 1994-95*

S No	Name of the project/scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs in lakhs)
1	2	3
<b>MAHARASHTRA</b>		
<b>1993-94</b>		
1	Construction of tourist complex (Sea side cottage) at Ganapatipule, dist Ratnagin (Konkan Circuit)	26.27
2	Construction of tourist complex at Matheran Hill station, dist Raigad)	16.39
3	Construction of tourist complex at Mahabaleshwar (hill station, dist Satara)	23.46
4	Construction of tourist complex at Fardapur (dist Aurangabad)	24.25
5	Construction of beach cottages at Harihareshwar, Srivardhan, dist Raigad, Konkan circuit	24.88
6	Construction of tourist complex at Kunkeshwar, Taluk Deogar, Sindhudurg dist	24.80
7	Construction of Lake View Resort at Bhandardara, Akola Taluk, Ahmednagar dist	27.00
8	Construction of wayside facilities at Mahed Raigad dist, Konkan circuit	7.33
9	Upgradation of Golf Course, Bombay	35.61
10	Upgradation of Golf course, Pune	48.00
11	Purchase of 6 nos of water scooters alongwith 10 HP OBMS (20+35)	4.67
12	Purchase of 100 nos of self-contained tents for Shiroda and Mathpur	12.80
13	Purchase of water sports equipment	20.54
14	Ganesh Festival	7.33
15	Publicity Support for Ajanta, Ellora Guide Book	5.48
<b>Total</b>		<b>309.11</b>
<b>1994-95</b>		
1	Tourist complex at Gaganbawd	25.0
2	Wayside amenities at Kudal	6.85
3	Tourist complex at Panhala	25.02
4	Tourist complex at Tarkarli	23.21
5	Tourist complex at Vijaydurg	23.21

1	2	3
6	Tourist complex at Washim	23.65
7	Purchase of Boats	27.13
8	Purchase of Caravan	32.40
9	Purchase of two seater Hover Craft	27.00
10	Purchase of Five Seater Hover Craft	10.80
11	Assistance for Ganesh Festival	5.00
12	Elephanta Festival	2.37
13	Publicity support	5.48
Total		237.14

[English]

#### Facilities to Small Scale Sector for Exports

6484 SHRI PC THOMAS  
SHRI CHEEDI PASWAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to provide facilities to the small scale and cottage industries sectors to increase export of the country,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) if not, the reasons therefor,

(d) whether the Government have made any assessment of the contribution made by these sectors for increasing export during the last three years,

(e) if so, the details thereof,

(f) whether the amended Exim Policy could improve our exports in the field of above sectors,

(g) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which it will improve, and

(h) the effective measures being taken by the Government to protect these sectors, boost the export of software and hardware sector and to make improvement in their present condition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) and (b) Government is providing a number of facilities, such as, organising exhibitions of selected export-worthy SSI units at Government expenses, conducting training programmes on packaging for exports in various parts of the country to acquaint SSI exporters of the latest packaging standards/techniques, arranging technical and managerial consultancy to SSI manufacturers/exporters.

(c) Does not arise

(d) and (e) Available information on contribution of SSI Sector in increasing exports is as follows

	(Rs Crores)		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Export from SSI Sector	13883	17785	2307
Total Exports	44042	53688	69751
% Share	31.5	33.1	36.3

(f) and (g) Revised Export-Import Policy gives equal opportunity to small and medium scale exporters in granting status of Export House/Trading House Star Trading House/Super Star Trading House which is decided on the basis of export performance level small scale industries are given double weightage on NFE or f o b earned by exports of products manufactured by small scale industries for the purpose claiming the eligibility status. As per new provisions introduced in the revised edition of Hand Book as on 30.4.95, 1% extra SIL will be permitted to exporters of SSI, Handloom and Handicraft Products including hand knotted carpets silk products and sports goods provided export of these products is more than 50% of their total exports.

(h) Implementation of the amended EHTP and STP Schemes notified by Government on 30.4.95, and various other provisions of the current EXIM Policy are expected to give boost to export of software and hardware. Export incentive in terms of Sec 80 HHC and 80 HHE for hardware & software has been continued for 95-96 also.

#### Smuggling of Heroin

6485 SHRI PRAKASH V PATIL Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item published under the caption 'Indian Chemical Feeding Heroin boom in Pak in the Indian Express dated January 21, 1995, and

(b) if so, the steps being envisaged to tackle the menace?

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

(a) Yes Sir

(b) Acetic Anhydride a precursor chemical for manufacture of heroin and methaqualone has been declared as a 'Controlled Substance under the NDPS Act and a regulation order has been issued to regulate the manufacture distribution sale imports exports, and consumption of acetic anhydride. Controls have been imposed on the movement of the chemical within 50 kms of Indo-Pak border and 100 kms of Indo-Myanmar border under the Customs Act. Import and export of acetic anhydride has also been regulated.

Instructions have been issued to all the enforcement agencies to maintain utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the stringent provisions contained in NDPS Act. Training is being imparted to officers to improve their effectiveness. Vehicles and communication equipments have been provided. A part of Indo-Pak border has been fenced. Following quantities of acetic anhydride have been seized (in litres) :

1993	1994	1995 (Up to 30.04.95) (Provisional)
19,758	47,740	3,284

#### Banks Dealing in Foreign Exchange

6486. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the number of banks dealing in foreign exchange is very small in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government contemplate to increase the number of branches of such banks or to give permission to some other banks to deal in the foreign exchange;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that at present 81 banks have been authorised to deal in foreign exchange. The foreign exchange transactions are undertaken by more than 21000 branches of these banks

(c) to (e). The licence to deal in foreign exchange is granted to a bank as a whole and banks are free to designate their branches to undertake foreign exchange business without obtaining branchwise approval from RBI. Depending on the volume of business, branches are added or deleted by the respective banks

#### External Commercial Borrowing

6487. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have simplified/modified the procedures of seeking external commercial borrowing; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (b) No, Sir Under existing procedures, approvals

for short term borrowings of upto one year final maturity are granted by the Reserve Bank of India and approvals for all other external commercial borrowings are granted by the Ministry of Finance.

#### Compensation to Families of Deceased Employees of Banks

6488. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether employment or financial assistance has been provided to the dependents of the employees of the public sector banks who were killed/injured in bank dacoities in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years,

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

#### Foreign Consultancy Services

6489. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy or guidelines to promote foreign consultancy services at the cost of Indian consultancy services sector;

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

(c) the details of the growth rate of Indian consultancy services during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the Government propose to remove such guidelines in view of adverse affect on Indian Consultancy Services Sector;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Foreign exchange earnings on account of export of consultancy services including computer software and growth rates during the last 3 years are as under :

(In Rs. crore)		
Year	F.E. Earnings	Growth Rate
1991-92	720	
1992-93	831	15%
1993-94	1369	64%
1994-95	1700 (estimated)	24% (Source : FIEO)

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



[Translation]

**Studies by SEBI**

6490. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :  
SHRI SURAJ MANDAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any initiative to improve/simplify the existing settlement system in the shares market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):  
(a) and (b). The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has been continuously working for a quicker settlement system in securities trading, and through its efforts the stock exchanges in general have started following a seven day settlement cycle in cash shares.

[English]

**Indebtedness**

6491. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI :  
SHRI P. KUMARASAMY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the indebtedness of the nation has increased to such an extent that it has to pay @ Rs. 214 crores per day or approximately Rs. 9 crore per hour during 1993-94;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a situation to have arisen;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to bring down this heavy rate of interest on the nation; and

(d) the position on (a) above during 1994-95 and 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):  
(a) and (d). The total public debt and other liabilities of the Central Government have increased at the rate of Rs. 214 crore per day in 1993-94. However, in the year 1994-95 (RE) and 1995-96(BE) it is likely to increase at a lower rate of Rs. 204 crore and Rs. 161 crore per day respectively.

(b) Additional borrowings are resorted to for meeting the gap between total expenditure and revenue receipts plus non-debt creating capital receipts.

(c) Interest burden can be curtailed only through reduction of fiscal deficit. In the current year, efforts would be made to contain the fiscal deficit at the budgeted level.

**WB/IMF Loan**

6492. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the various loans received by the Government from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank during each of the last three years; and

(b) the principal amount and interest repaid so far?

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

(a) The total amounts of foreign loans received from World Bank and IMF by Government during the last three years are given below :

	(in Rs. Crores)		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
IBRD	1974	2826	1683
IDA	3407	2083	3100
IMF	2436	4096	820

(b) The details of principal amount and interest repaid to World Bank and IMF are given below :

	(in Rs. Crores)					
	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
IBRD	1795	1896	2216	1938	2372	1987
IDA	479	338	548	358	608	383
IMF	890	448	817	654	412	810

**Unemployment Allowance**

6493. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the States which have a scheme for payment of monthly unemployment allowance to unemployed educated youth with the cut-off educational qualification, State-wise;

(b) the rate of allowance, State-wise; and

(c) the estimated number of beneficiaries as on April 1, 1995?

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

(a) to (c). The information is being collected from all the States/UTs and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Dispute between ITC Management and BAT Industries**

6494. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the dispute between BAT industries of U.K. and ITC management; and

(b) if so the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government or by the various financial institutions concerned to settle the issue?

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

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that in case of disputes between promoters and professional management of an assisted company, the financial institutions (FIs) take appropriate action having regard to the interest of the company, track record of the professional management and the nature and content of the dispute without sacrificing the interest of the FIs. However, in accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst banks and in conformity with provisions of statutes governing public sector banks and financial institutions as also the provisions of Public Financial Institutions (Obligation as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983, the information relating to individual constituents cannot be divulged.

#### RRBs in Tamil Nadu

6495 SHRI P KUMARASAMY Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the details of regional rural banks functioning in Tamil Nadu alongwith the names of their sponsoring banks,

(b) the amount of deposits received and loans advanced by each of these banks during 1993-94 and 1994-95

(c) the amount of profits earned/losses suffered by each of these banks during the above period, and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the functioning of those banks?

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

(a) There are three Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) functioning in the State of Tamil Nadu. Their names and the names of their sponsoring banks are as follows

Name of RRBs	Name of sponsoring banks
Adhiyaman Grama Bank	Indian Bank
Vallalar Grama Bank	Indian Bank
Pandyan Grama Bank	Indian Overseas Bank

(b) and (c) The details of loans advanced, deposits received and the amount of loss incurred by these banks during the year 1993-94 are as under

Name of the Bank	Deposits	Disbursement	Loss incurred
Adhiyaman Grama Bank	958 15	686 05	65 89
Vallalar Grama Bank	885 05	245 65	16 01
Pandyan Grama Bank	7829 90	5244 15	525 91

The figures for the year 1994-95 are not available

(d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have taken measures to strengthen the RRBs and a package of measures were announced in December, 1993. 49 RRBs out of a total of 196 RRBs in the country have been identified for comprehensive restructuring. Experience with these 49 RRBs will guide the approach in later years with respect to other RRBs. Further in January, 1995 RBI has allowed the RRBs to make investment of their non-SLR funds in specified profitable avenues including the credit portfolio of their sponsor banks through non-risk sharing participation certificates to be issued by the latter.

The 49 RRBs taken up for comprehensive restructuring in the country include one RRB i.e. Vallalar Grama Bank from Tamil Nadu.

#### Capital Restructuring and Joint Venture by S.T.C.

6496 SHRI R SURENDER REDDY Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd (S.T.C.) has submitted any capital restructuring programme to his Ministry,

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the proposals received and the total capital/equity involved in the restructuring and diversification,

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

(d) whether the State Trading Corporation has also proposed to launch a number of joint ventures with the proceeds of the capital restructuring, and

(e) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) to (c) Consequent upon the decanalisation of import and export of a number of items hitherto canalised through S.T.C., the Govt. have been reviewing the need to reorient it in a manner consistent with the liberalised economy and a competitive environment. As a part of reorienting the trade activities of S.T.C. in the prevalent liberalised environment, S.T.C. is in the process of formulating proposals for capital restructuring and diversification.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir S.T.C. proposes to enter into a number of joint ventures with a view to strengthening its supply base of exports for which it has received certain project proposals from entrepreneurs who wish to enter into joint ventures with it in areas like floriculture, aquaculture, steel horticulture, drugs & pharmaceuticals etc.

#### TDMF of SIDBI

6497 SHRI D VENKATESWARA RAO  
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether SIDBI has decided to introduce a

technology development and modernisation fund with crores of rupees to help the small scale units to strengthen their export capabilities,

(b) if so, the main features thereof and the details of the modalities worked out therefor, and

(c) the time by which the scheme is likely to come in force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) to (c) Yes, Sir Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has, April, 1995, introduced a Technology Development and Modernisation Fund Scheme (TDMFS) for providing direct financial assistance to small scale industrial (SSI) units in order to strengthen their export capabilities. The corpus of the TDMFS is Rs 200 crores. The eligibility criteria for assistance under the TDMFS *inter alia* include

- (i) SSI units including ancillary units which go in for modernisation/technology upgradation, the outlay on land and building should not exceed 25% of the outlay on modernisation/technology upgradation programme
- (ii) The units should be in operation atleast for a period of three years
- (iii) Units which are already exporting their products or have the potential to export atleast 25% of their output by adopting the modernisation scheme, and
- (iv) Units which are not in default to institutions or banks

#### Population Covered by a Bank Branch

6498 DR KVR CHOWDARY Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the average population covered by a bank branch in Andhra Pradesh, and

(b) the All India average of population covered by a bank branch?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that the average population covered by a bank branch in Andhra Pradesh as well as the All India Average of population covered by a bank is 10,000 (as per 1981 census figures)

#### Pay Scale of ITDC Employees

6499 DR SAKSHIJI Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether revision of pay scales of the employees of India Tourism Development Corporation is under the consideration of the Government,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir The proposal to revise pay scales and other allowance under IDA pattern in respect of ITDC Headquarters employees is under consideration of the Government

(c) It is not possible to indicate the precise time frame within which a final decision will be taken as many agencies of Govt are involved

#### Review of Shrimp Farming Scheme by MPEDA

6500 PROF UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether NPEDA possess the necessary infrastructure to analyse the impact of the pollution cause by MPEDA sponsored shrimp farms in Andhra Pradesh,

(b) if so the details thereof,

(c) whether MPEDA conduct any regular review of the impact of shrimps farming on a year to year basis

(d) if so the details thereof, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) to (e) MPEDA as well as other agencies in the field such as the State Department of Fisheries and the Brackish water Farmers Development Agency are promoting aquaculture in Andhra Pradesh

The Government of Andhra Pradesh the State Pollution Control Board the Central Institute of Brackish Water Aquaculture (CIBA) and MPEDA are monitoring the situation at field level. MPEDA also sponsored a study by the National Environment Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) to assess the impact of shrimp farming and recommend measures for environmental protection. The study has come out with suggestions and a design for environment management in aquafarms including effluent treatment systems

The Government of Andhra Pradesh have initiated action for educating shrimp farmers on the need to control environmental hazards and is in the process of finalizing legislation for regulating aquaculture activity in the State

#### Textile Training Institutions

6501 DR AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) The number of the textile training institutions, particularly handloom textiles, for cloth-wearing/dyeing/printing and designing being run by the Govt at present,

(b) The total number of trainees who get training in these institutions every year.

(c) Whether the Government propose to start more such institutes in the near future, and

(d) If so, the details thereof State-Wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G VENKATSWAMY) (a) The Govt of India, Ministry of Textiles, office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms is running FOUR Indian Institutes of Handloom Technology at Guwahati, Salem, Varanasi and Jodhpur These Institutes are conducting 3 Years Diploma Course in Handloom Technology The two Institutes at Salem and Varanasi are also conducting one year Post Diploma Course in Textile Chemistry

(b) The intake of students in these Institutes is 157 and the allotment of seat to various states in the four Institutes is as under

Guwahati Institute		Salem Institute	
1 Assam	8	1 Kerala	7
2 Meghalaya	2	2 Tamil Nadu	18
3 Manipur	8	3 Pondicherry	4
4 Tripura	4	4 Karnataka	18
5 Nagaland	2	5 Andhra Pradesh	12
6 Arunachal Pradesh	2	6 Goa	1
7 Mizoram	2		
8 Sikkim	1		
	<u>29</u>		<u>60</u>
Varanasi Institute		Jodhpur Institute	
1 Uttar Pradesh	13	1 Madhya Pradesh	8
2 Bihar	3	2 Punjab	2
3 Orissa	7	3 Haryana	2
4 West Bengal	5	4 Delhi	3
5 Himachal Pradesh	3	5 Rajasthan	9
6 J & K	4	6 Gujarat	3
7 Maharashtra	8		
	<u>43</u>		<u>25</u>

(c) No, Sir

(d) Does not arise

[Translation]

#### Uniform Sales Tax

6502 SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK  
SHRI BOLIA BULLI RAMAIAH

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have taken up with the State Governments the issue of an uniform sales tax regime in the country,

(b) if so, whether a single slab of taxation has been proposed to woo the investors in India as, well as to provide a problem-free investment in the country and

(c) the reaction of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY)

(a) to (c) With a view to rationalise taxation at the State level, a conference of State Finance Ministers was held on May 27 1994 to discuss tax reforms at the State level In the Conference there was unanimity on the need to harmonise the rates of sales tax The Conference resolved to constitute a Committee of State Finance Ministers to go into the various aspects of tax reforms including harmonisation of the rate structure

[English]

#### Prudential Norms for Nominee Directors

6503 SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have directed its nominee Directors on Bank Boards to ensure that bank managements adhere to the prudential norms laid down by the RBI,

(b) if so, whether any directive has been issued to the nominee Directors of the Bank Boards and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (c) Reserve Bank to India have laid down prudential norms for all scheduled Commercial Banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks) in April, 1992 This has been brought to the notice of all the Government Directors on the boards of public sector banks

[Translation]

#### Garments Export

6504 SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) whether the quality of readymade garments exported to other country is checked,

(b) if so, the name of the agency that checks the quality,

(c) the criteria for assessing the quality at the time of conducting such checks?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise

#### Reservation in U.T.I.

6505 SHRI RATILAL VARMA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in Class III, IV and in

officers grade in the Unit Trust of India and the date since when these posts are lying vacant, and

(b) the reasons for not filling these posts so far and the time by which these are likely to be filled up?

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

(a) UTI has stated that they currently have a backlog of vacancies reserved for SCs and in officers, class III and IV level as follow

Cadre	SC	ST
Officer's class I	7	2
Class III	37	71
Class IV	29	14

(b) UTI has indicated that it has been unable to fill up the backlog due to non-availability of suitable candidates. It has, however, already taken steps to fill up the backlog by undertaking special recruitment drives in all zones of the country

[English]

#### Guidelines for Small Investors

6506 SHRI V SREENIVASA PRASAD Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India has a proposal to issue fresh guidelines for small investors

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the details of companies found floating the directives of the SEBI in regard to public-cum-right issues, and

(d) the further action contemplated by the Government in this regard?

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

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

#### Deets of States

6507 SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE  
DR P VALLAL PERUMAN

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Tenth Finance Commission has recommended a scheme to write-off-State's outstanding debts to Centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) The time by which the scheme is to be brought into force?

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

(a) and (b) The Tenth Finance Commission has recommended debt relief to States as under

(i) Scheme for *general debt relief* for all States linked to fiscal performance. In this scheme the improvement of fiscal performance of States has to be measured by comparing the ratio of revenue receipts (including devolution and grants from the Centre) to total revenue expenditures in a given year with the average of corresponding ratio in the three immediately preceding years. The debt relief recommended by the commission is in the form of a certain percentage of repayment falling due in each year of the period 1995-96 to 1999-2000 being written-off. Only those repayments as pertain to fresh central loans to the States during 1989-95 and as outstanding on 31st March, 1995 has to be covered.

(ii) *Specific relief* for all special category States, and three other States, viz Orissa Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, which are characterised by high fiscal stress. For these State Commission has recommended writing off of 5 per cent of repayment due with respect to fresh Central loans given during 1989 and outstanding on 31st March, 1995. The Commission has also recommended that this scheme should also include the loans consolidated, on the recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission, relating to the liabilities of Union Territories graduating to Statehood (viz Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Goa)

(iii) Write-off of 1/3rd of the repayment of principal falling due during 1995-2000 on special term loans advanced to the Government of Punjab

(iv) Write-off of loan for payment in respect of helicopters purchased by the Government of Arunachal Pradesh under special arrangement

(v) In addition the Commission has recommended that the Central Government should additionally write-off debt equivalent to the debt retired by the States by disinvestment of its equity. However, this has to be limited to 20 per cent of the equity investment of the States as on 31st March 1995

(c) the orders in respect of the scheme for general debt relief has to be issued yearwise from 1996-97 onwards. The orders in respect of relief on account of retirement of debt from the proceeds of disinvestment of equity holding of State Government will be issued as

and when any proposal is received from the State Governments. The order for writing-off of amounts in respect of other schemes will be issued during the current financial year.

#### Import of Yarns

6508 SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have given permission to import certain fibre and yarns under open general licence

(b) If so, the details thereof,

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G VENKAT SWAMY) (a) In order to ensure adequate availability of fibres/yarn in the country import of these items is allowed freely under the existing Export Import Policy and no specific permission of the Government is required for import of these items

(b) and (c) Does not arise

#### Budget Deficit

6509 SHRI MANORNAJAN BHAKATA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether International Monetary Fund (IMF) has asked India to cut budget deficit

(b) if so the details thereof

(c) whether the IMF President has recently remarked that implementation of economic reforms has slowed down in India

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government there to, and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to speed up the reform process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) to (e) Reducing the fiscal deficit has been at the heart of Govt's strategy of macro-economic stabilisation and reforms launched in July 1991. After the initial successes in fiscal consolidation a slippage occurred in 1993-94 and the pressure on deficit continued in 1994-95. The Finance Minister in his speech to Parliament while presenting the Union Budget for 1995-96 has stated that we must contain our fiscal deficit through determined action so that the reform program remains on track and our basic objective of development with social justice is ensured. The Managing Director of the IMF also echoed the same view at a press conference in April 1995 on the eve of IMF Interim Committee meeting. Government is taking steps to consolidate the gains of reform program in the areas of trade, taxation, financial sector, capital market, industrial policy and delivery system for social services.

#### Flights from Jabalpur

6510 SHRI HARIN PATHAK Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether Indian Airlines and Vayudoot flight from Jabalpur have been cancelled,

(b) if so the details thereof, and

(c) the steps being taken to resume the flights?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir Indian Airlines/Vayudoot have withdrawn its services from Jabalpur due to commercial and operational constraints

(c) at present Indian Airlines/Vayudoot have no plans to resume its services to Jabalpur

#### Investment in Turkey

6511 SHRI M VYS MURTHY Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether India has been invited to invest in Turkey in various sectors including textile and manufacturing sectors,

(b) whether a Turkish business delegation visited India in January, 1995,

(c) whether any agreements between India and Turkey has been signed, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) Turkey offers equal opportunities to foreign investors including Indian entrepreneurs. Such investment can be in the textiles or any other manufacturing sector

(b) Yes, Sir A business delegation accompanied the Turkish President during his visit to India in January-February '95

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir An agreement for Avoidance of Double Taxation and another on Cooperation in Tourism were signed between the two Governments during the Turkish President's visit

[Translation]

#### Margin Money Scheme

6512 SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) the number of weavers covered under the Margin Money Scheme for destitute weavers during the last three years State-wise, and

(b) the grant released by the Union Government under this Scheme during the above period, State-wise?

**THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G VENKAT SWAMY) (a) and (b) A Statement is attached**

S No	Name of the State	Number of destitute weavers covered during last 3 years	Grant released during last 3 years		
			(Rs in lakhs)		
			1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	Andhra Pradesh	5630	3 00	72 60	4 50
2	Assam	5900	38 00	40 00	19 00
3	Bihar	8059	18 00	25 50	55 09
4	Gujarat	316	-	1 46	2 06
5	Himachal Pradesh	452	2 20	2 27	2 44
6	Jammu & Kashmir	469	-	3 19	1 50
7	Karnataka	2158	-	19 08	2 50
8	Kerala	2499	7 72	9 53	18 75
9	Madhya Pradesh	3814	1 85	0 50	38 79
10	Maharashtra	150	-	1 00	1 00
11	Manipur	7950	-	13 00	66 50
12	Mizoram	820	-	-	8 20
13	Nagaland	50	-	-	0 50
14	Orissa	6650	50 50	29 50	19 50
15	Punjab	201	-	1 08	0 50
16	Rajasthan	55	0 10	-	0 50
17	Sikkim	304	-	-	3 04
18	Tamil Nadu	3819	1 00	38 19	22 64
19	Tripura	800	-	1 00	8 00
20	Uttar Pradesh	5338	10 10	21 64	27 44
21	West Bengal	250	-	5 60	0 50
<b>Total</b>		<b>55 684</b>	<b>132 47</b>	<b>285 04</b>	<b>299 95</b>

[English]

**Refinancing of Banks for Rehabilitation of N.T.C Workers**

6513 SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether SIDBI and NABARD have decided to provide easy refinance facility to banks for rehabilitating the workers of NTC option for voluntary retirement

(b) if so, the terms and conditions thereof,

(c) whether the refinancing facility has been extended to fund old and second hand machinery also,

(d) if so, the details thereof and

(e) the nature of monitoring mechanism developed for this specific purpose?

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

**Audit Team of U.T.I.**

6514 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether an audit team headed by Shri M P Chitale has been set up by the Unit Trust of India to undertake thorough audit of UTI's operations, and

(b) if so, the details thereof and its terms of reference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) and (b) UTI has indicated that in January, 1995 the audit firm of M/s Chitale & Co were requested by UTI to conduct a detailed review of policies, procedures and practices of the Trust and make suggestions in respect of UTI's operations relating to investments and investor services. The terms of reference for the review are

(a) to assess the performance and compliance of UTI vis-a-vis the provisions of the Unit Trust of India Act, 1963, the Unit Trust of India General Regulations 1964 and SEBI Guidelines wherever applicable

(b) to check the observance of the investment norms laid down in the Act or Regulations or by the Board of Trustees or the Executive Committee of UTI, or under various schemes as per the provisions of the respective schemes,

(c) to check the business spread given by UTI to brokers,

(d) to review, comment and make suggestions on the investment related market practices followed by UTI

(e) to review, comment and make suggestions on the investor servicing practices followed by UTI for schemes serviced by UTI itself, and

(f) to review comment and make suggestions on the policies, practices and procedures followed by UTI for monitoring Registrars and Transfer Agents (RTAs) in respect of the schemes entrusted to RTAs

[Translation]

**Setting up of Tobacco Auction Centre in Maharashtra**

5815(H) SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the tobacco growers of Maharashtra for setting up of any tobacco auction centre in Maharashtra and provide them remunerative prices for their produce;

(b) if so the details thereof and

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

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise

[English]

#### Textile City

6516 SHRI N J RATHVA Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government propose to establish any textile city in the country

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

(c) the funds sanctioned/proposed to be sanctioned for the purpose and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G VANKAT SWAMY) (a) to (d) The Government has no proposal for setting up any Textile City in the country. However the Apparel Export Promotion Council which is an Autonomous body under Ministry of Textile was proposed to set up a Textile city in Andhra Pradesh. The details are being worked out by AEPC with the State Government of Andhra Pradesh.

#### Outstanding Bridge Loans

6517 KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have asked the banks to furnish details on all the bridge loans outstanding for several months,

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) whether there has been the reports that the bridge loans extended by banks were diverted to stock market

(d) if so the details thereof and

(e) the remedial steps proposed to be taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it has advised banks to furnish the quantum of bridge loans sanctioned by them and which are outstanding in their books beyond six months. However, in accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst banks and in conformity with provisions of statutes governing public sector banks and financial institutions as also the provisions of Public Financial

Institutions (Obligation as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983, the information relating to individual constituents cannot be divulged.

(c) and (d) RBI has reported that a sample scrutiny of bridge loans of Rs 5 crores and above sanctioned by banks during the period December 1, 1993 to March 31, 1994 did not reveal any specific misuse of bridge loans by the borrowers. But it was found that banks were not ensuring end-use of funds lent.

(e) RBI has reported that sanction of bridge loans/interim finance against public issues/market borrowings by banks financial institutions has been prohibited with effect from April 17, 1995.

#### Export of Consumer Items

6618 SHRI J CHOKKA RAO Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether most of the consumer items particularly eatables produced in the country are being exported at the cost of consumers,

(b) whether the consumers in the domestic market are not able to procure their daily requirements at reasonable rates, and

(c) if so the steps taken by the Government to rationalise the exports of consumer articles

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) to (c) Export of consumer item, particularly eatables, is negligible as compared to the overall availability.

It is the policy of the Government to promote export of agricultural commodities in such a manner that domestic availability of items of mass consumption is not affected and to facilitate imports when required to ensure adequate domestic availability at reasonable prices.

#### UCO Bank

6519 SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the UCO Bank has closed down some of its branches during 1994-95

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

(c) the steps taken to improve the performance of the UCO Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of the branches closed down by UCO Bank during 1994-95 are indicated below. These branches were closed down as they were making losses and had become unviable.



S No	State	Centre
1	Karnataka	Ralchur
2	Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Delhi Durwaja
3	Gujarat	Ahmedabad Sarangpur
4	Bihar	Barmasia
5	Bihar	Chalna
6	Bihar	Dhankund
7	Bihar	Kenuar
8	Bihar	Kotrachak
9	Bihar	Nayagaon
10	Bihar	Ranga
11	Bihar	Sripathar
12	Bihar	Godhna
13	Bihar	Mohant
14	Bihar	Manharía
15	U P	Meerut, Bagpat Road
16	Rajasthan	Aswari @
17	M P	Noias @

@ Converted into Satellite offices

(c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) are getting an indepth study conducted with a view to suggesting strategies for turnaround of UCO Bank

#### Regulatory Body for Insurance Sector

6520 SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a regulatory body for insurance sector, and

(b) if so, the details thereof together with its composition, terms of reference and the status likely to be given to it?

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

(a) and (b) The Finance Minister in his 1995 Budget Speech announced that an Independent Regulatory Authority for the insurance industry will be established. Appropriate action will be taken after finalising the details in this regard.

#### Shifting of MPEDA Office

6521 SHRI S M LALJAN BASHA Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh has now become the most important source of export marine product,

(b) whether there is any proposal to shift Marine Products Exports Development Authority headquarters from Cochin to Visakhapatnam,

(c) if so, the reasons therefor, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) Andhra Pradesh is an important source of marine and aquaculture based exports

(b) No, Sir

(c) and (d) Do not arise

#### Import of Gold

6522 SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the quantity of gold imported during each of the last three years and upto January 1995, and

(b) the impact of the gold import scheme on the prices of the gold in the domestic market?

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

(a) The quantity of gold imported during each of the last three years and upto January, 1995 is given below

Year	Quantity of Gold Imported as passengers baggage	Quantity of Gold Imported under special imprest licences
	-In Tonnes-	
1992 (March-December)	92.3	-
1993	116.3	-
1994	159.7	18.7
1995(upto January)	22.5	0.7

(b) Price of gold in domestic market depends on a number of factors. Availability of legally imported gold and its current international price is only one of the important factors impinging on domestic price of gold. Gold import scheme by eligible passengers appears to have restrained rise in price of gold.

#### Tie Up with International Hotel Chains

6523 SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) Whether the Government have received bids for marketing and management tie up of ITDC hotels with international hotel chains, and

(b) if so, the number of bids received alongwith other details?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A total number of ten parties have submitted their bids for

marketing and management tie up for six elite Hotels of ITDC. Since the bids have not yet been finalised, it would not be in business interest of ITDC to disclose the particulars of the bids.

#### Amendment in Chit Funds Act

6524 SHRI TARA SINGH Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Demand to amend Chit Funds Act' appeared in the 'Statesman' dated April 10, 1995,

(b) if so, whether there are persistent demands to amend Chit Funds Act, 1982,

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done?

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

(a) Yes Sir

(b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that demand for amendment to the Chit Funds Act has been made by fore of Chit Fund Companies

(c) and (d) Reserve Bank of India has suggested to Government certain amendments to the Chit Funds Act, 1982 which are under consideration

[Translation]

#### Regional Rural Banks

6525 SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to open more branches of Regional Rural Banks in the rural areas of the country during the current financial year, and

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

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

(a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

[English]

#### Decline in Demand of Virginia Tobacco

6526 DR R MALLU Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether there has been a systematic decrease in demand in the country for Virginia tobacco products from Andhra Pradesh like cigarettes due to high taxes,

(b) whether his Ministry has considered the long term impact declining demand of Virginia tobacco in domestic consumption,

(c) whether the Government is considering a proposal to close down the Tobacco Board as a result of declining Virginia tobacco demand, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) and (b) After peaking in 1984-85, manufacture of cigarettes has declined although production in 1993-94 was higher as compared to the previous year. Reduced production could be on account of a variety of factors. While no specific study to assess the long term impact of declining domestic demand of the Virginia tobacco has been undertaken by the Tobacco Board, this aspect is invariably taken into account while fixing the annual crop size of Virginia tobacco in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka

(c) No, Sir

(d) Does not arise

#### Incentives to NRIs

6527 SHRI PRAKASH V PATIL Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has constituted a working group to look into various schemes and incentives available to Non-Resident Indians,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the time by which the recommendations of the working group are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A Working group has been set up by RBI on 14.10.1994 with representations from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Government. The Working Group has been constituted to review the various Schemes and Incentives available to Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) for investment in India, as also existing operative procedures, and to recommend modification and amendments to the schemes and procedures as considered necessary.

(c) The report is expected to be submitted by the Group shortly. Necessary action on the recommendations accepted, would then follow.

[Translation]

#### Prices of Cotton

6528 DR LAL BAHADUR RAWAL Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state

(a) the price of cotton in the International Market as compared to the price in India at present, and

(b) the reason for the difference in the prices of cotton in the International Market and in India?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILIES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) A statement is attached

(b) Prices of cotton in different countries depend on various factors which are not directly comparable.

#### STATEMENT

(A) Price of a few Selected Varieties of cotton in the international market as on 18-5-95 are as under :

Countries	Variety	Price in Rs. per candy F.O B. Value
USA	ORLN TEXAS SLM	27,451
USA	MEMPHIS	28,688
PARAGUAY	MIDD	26,091
CIS	CENASIAN SLM	29,597
USA	SJV	28,935
USA	PIMA	34,994

Price of selected varieties of cotton in India :

Variety	Rs. per candy
J 34 SG	18,600
F 414	21,600
LRA	18,800
H- 4A	20,200
S-6	23,300
DCH 32	30,500

[English]

#### Inflation Rate

6529. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India's credit policy has failed in its objective of curbing and containing the inflation rate at around eight per cent for the current year;

(b) if so, the what extent; and

(c) the reasons to which it is attributable?

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

(a) to (c). Credit policy for the first half of 1994-95 was announced by RBI on May 14, 1994 when the latest available annual inflation rate (based on point to point changes in the index number of wholesale prices) was 11.2 per cent (provisional) for the week ended April 23, 1994 (finalised to 12.9 per cent). One of the professed objective of this policy was to bring about a reduction in inflation rate by about 4 percentage points over this level. The annual inflation rate subsequently declined to 8.77 per cent in the week ended September 3, 1994

following the adoption of several anti-inflationary measures. There was however a resurgence of inflationary pressure later on because of both shortfalls in the production of certain commodities and high monetary expansion, latter primarily due to a phenomenal increase in foreign capital inflows in the first half of 1994-95 and the annual inflation rate reached a level of 11 per cent by 31 Dec 1994. Several anti-inflationary measures on both demand and supply sides adopted in the last quarter of the previous financial year again led to a deceleration in the annual inflation rate which has since declined to 8.6 per cent in the week ended on April 29, 1995

#### Beedi Workers

6530 SHRI DATTATARAYA BANDARU Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the Beedi workers covered under the Employees Provident Fund Scheme in Andhra Pradesh particularly in the tribal districts,

(b) whether the amount deducted from the salaries of the Beedi workers in being properly credited to their Provident Fund Accounts;

(c) whether a large number of the Beedi workers have not been covered under the Provident Fund Scheme, and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check this malpractice?

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

(a) As on 28.2.1995 there were 4,10,512 Beedi workers covered under the EPF Scheme in Andhra Pradesh including the tribal districts

(b) The P.F. amount deducted from the salaries of the Beedi workers and recovered from the employers is being properly credited in the Accounts of the subscribers, except in cases of default;

(c) and (d). Coverage of new workers under the EPF Scheme is an on going process. The Beedi home workers are covered under the scheme as and when Identity Cards are issued to them by the competent authorities. All the workers identified as Beedi workers in Andhra Pradesh have already been enrolled as EPF subscribers

#### Writing off of Loans

6531. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the level of non-performing assets of the nationalised banks in absolute terms stood at Rs 19,678.04 crore in their domestic operations and Rs 4,065.11 crore in overseas operations as on March, 1994;

(b) whether the nationalised banks are writing off loans and entering into compromises and

(c) if so the broad details thereof?

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

(a) According to Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the total non-performing advances (NPAs) aggregated to Rs 26189 81 crores as on 31 3 94 out of which the level of NPAs of overseas branches of nationalised banks stood at Rs 4066 crores

(b) and (c) Yes Sir Banks have been advised by RBI to adhere to guidelines issued by them while writing off dues or accepting compromise proposals

#### Minimum Wages

6532 SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to State

(a) the rate of minimum wages in force, State-wise as on April 1, 1995

(b) the date of last revision of minimum wages, State-wise,

(c) the real value of the wages at 1989-90 prices, and

(d) the real value of wages at 1981-82 prices or the base year for the current index of wholesale prices?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI PA SANGMA)

(a) to (d) Under the Minimum Wages Act 1948 both the Central and the State Governments are responsible for the fixation/revision of minimum rate of wages in the scheduled employments falling under their respective jurisdiction. A statement indicating the available information on State wise details of minimum rate of wages as fixed under the Minimum Wages Act 1948 for the unskilled category of workers is annexed. However the information on real value of wages at different level of prices is not maintained

#### STATEMENT

S No	Name of State Govt/ UT Administration	Existing Minimum rate of wages & date of last revision
1	2	3
I STATE		
1	Andhra Pradesh	Rs 11 00 to Rs 40 00 p d (11 10 90)
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Rs 21 00 to Rs 2400 p d (1 11 90)

1	2	3
3	Assam	Rs 25 30 to Rs 32 00 p d (10 2 92)
4	Bihar	Rs 21 00 to Rs 34 00 p d (19 7 92)
5	Goa	Rs 14 00 to Rs 27 00 p d (7 2 92)
6	Gujarat	Rs 15 00 to Rs 37 50 p d (1 4 94)
7	Haryana	Rs 1189 p m (1 7 94)
8	Himachal Pradesh	Rs 24 00 to Rs 26 00 p d (14 11 93)
9	Jammu & Kashmir	Rs 15 00 p d (24 3 89)
10	Karnataka	Rs 23 44 to Rs 32 53 p d (22 7 92)
11	Kerala	Rs 19 50 to Rs 76 40 p d (31 3 92)
12	Madhya Pradesh	Rs 30 36 to Rs 33 92 p d (29 1 94)
13	Maharashtra	Rs 8 00 to Rs 69 10 p d (29 6 94)
14	Manipur	Rs 37 40 p d (for plain) Rs 40 90 p d (for Hill areas) (1 6 90)
15	Meghalaya	Rs 35 00 p d (16 3 94)
16	Mizoram	Rs 28 00 p d (8 7 92)
17	Nagaland	Rs 25 00 p d (6 7 92)
18	Orissa	Rs 25 00 p d (1 7 92)
19	Punjab	Rs 40 52 p d (1 3 93)
20	Rajasthan	Rs 22 00 p d (2 7 90)
21	Sikkim	Hill
22	Tamil Nadu	Rs 10 00 to Rs 56 25 p d (27 1 93)

1	2	3
23	Tripura	Rs 11 80 to Rs 23 65 p d (1 1 90)
24	Uttar Pradesh	Rs 463 to Rs 1038 00 p m (3 1 94)
25	West Bengal	Rs 17 40 to Rs 45 16 p d (1 12 93)
26	Andaman & Nicobar	Rs 27 00 to Rs 28 00 p d (13 8 92)
27	Chandigarh	Rs 1043 50 p m (22 2 90)
28	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Rs 19 50 to Rs 29 65 p d (15 12 92)
29	Daman & Diu	Rs 22 00 to Rs 27 00 p d (19 3 93)
30	Delhi	Rs 57 50 p d (1 2 95)
31	Lakshdweep	Rs 30 00 p d (1 1 93)
32	Pondicherry	Rs 8 00 to Rs 14 00 p d (15 12 89)
II	CENTRAL GOVERNMENT	Rs 31 02 to Rs 46 42 p d (1 4 94)

#### Support to I.T.C Ltd.

6533 SHRI TARA SINGH Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report appeared in Business Standard dated April 11, 1995 under the caption "Government tells Chugh to put House in order,

(b) whether the Government have taken definite steps to support the ITC Limited, and

(c) if not, the facts and details thereof?

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

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) It is not the Government but financial institutions (FIs) who have equity shareholding in assisted companies Industrial Development Bank of India has reported that in regard to disputes between promoters and professional management of an assisted

company, FIs take appropriate action having regard to the interest of the company track record of the professional management and the nature and content of the dispute without sacrificing the interest of FIs The question of Government taking any steps in the matter does not arise

#### Fake Trading of UTI Master Gain '92

6534 SHRI P KUMARASAMY Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of fake Mastergain '92 certificates are in circulation as reported in the Hindustan Times dated May 6, 1995

(b) whether the Bombay Stock Exchanges has imposed a ban on trading of the Mastergain 92 in the market

(c) if so the facts thereof, and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the performance of the UTI in this regard?

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

(a) UTI has reported that its Registrar M/s Datamatics Financial Services Ltd (DFSL) has detected fake certificate while registering the transfer of Master Gain 1992 units,

(b) and (c) Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has suspended trading of units under the scheme from 26th April, 1995 due to non-completion of transfers within the stipulated time period

(d) UTI has stated that the capacity of its Registrar for clearance has been increased from 20,000 to 1,20,000 per week and expects to clear all pending transfer cases by June, 1995 UTI has also requested Bombay Stock Exchange to resume trading

#### Visit of Foreign Tourists to Andhra Pradesh

6535 DR K V R CHOWDARY Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether the regulations for the visit of the foreign tourists to Andhra Pradesh are not at par with the rest of the country,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the details of disparities existing in this regard, and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) The regulations in Andhra Pradesh for the visit of foreign tourists are on par with the rest of the country

(b) and (c) Do not arise

### Free Trade Zones in U.P.

6536 DR SAKSHIJI Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) the details of Free Trade Zone areas located in Uttar Pradesh,

(b) whether the Government propose to set up new Free Trade Zones areas in View of the increasing exports from Uttar Pradesh,

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these zone are likely to be set up and

(d) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) to (d) An Export Processing Zones is functioning at Noida in Uttar Pradesh Keeping in view the availability of funds and the need to optimise infrastructural facilities in the existing Export Processing Zones there is no proposal at present for the Central Government to set up new Zones a In the country However Export Processing Zones can also be established by the State Governments or in the Joint/private sector

### Revenue from Tobacco

6537 PROF UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have studied the relationship between the excessively high taxes on cigarettes and fall in consumption

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Government have surveyed the shift away of cigarette manufacturers from virginia tobacco to non taxable types of tobacco, and

(d) if so its likely impact on the revenue base?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) and (b) The rate of excise duty on cigarettes has been prescribed taking into account all relevant considerations including production of cigarettes price, revenue

(c) Unmanufactured virginia tobacco and unmanufactured other types of tobacco are non-taxable (exempted) The Government has not undertaken any survey on any shift from one type of tobacco to another

(d) In view of (c) above, does not arise

### Trade Relations between India and Eastern Countries

6538 SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the trade relations between India and Eastern countries have been improved and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) and (b) Yes Sir, there is an increase in trade relations between India and Eastern Countries as evident from the Trade figures given below

Year	Rs In Cores		
	Exports	Imports	Trade
1992-93	19668	27968	47636
1993-94	28590	31779	60369
1994-95 (April-Jan)	25885	34437	60322
1993-94 (April-Jan)	22752	25200	47952

It has been the constant endeavour of the Government to promote the trade relations by way of Institutional mechanism such as Joint Trade Committees Joint Ministerial Commissions, bilateral trade discussions both at official and business levels

In order to strengthen and increase trade relations the agreement establishing the SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA) was signed on 11th April, 1993 at the 7th SAARC Summit held in Dhaka Besides, India has also entered into a Border Trade Agreement with Myanmar to give boost to the bilateral trade between the two countries The Indo-Myanmar border trade was formally launched on 12 4 1995 The border trade with China has been opened through the points i.e Shipkila Pass in Himachal Pradesh and Lipulekh Pass in Uttar Pradesh

### Coffee Policy

6539 SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA  
SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS  
PROF UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "A policy of not having a coffee policy" appearing in 'The Economic Times' dated April 4, 1995,

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto,

(c) whether the Government have announced the new coffee policy recently,

(d) if so the details thereof, and

(e) the extent to which the coffee growers will be benefitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) Yes Sir

(b) Government has been reviewing and updating its policy on Coffee including norms for Free Sale Quota

(FSQ) from time to time keeping in view the interests of growers, consumers, traders and exporters and considering the changing needs of the situation At no time has there been no policy

(c) and (d) Certain decisions relating to Coffee were announced recently These are

- (i) Small growers whose holding is less than 10 ha will be allowed 100% FSQ
- (ii) The remaining growers will be allowed an FSQ of 70% and remaining 30% has to be pooled with Coffee Board
- (iii) Coffee Board will undertake a direct purchase programme and purchase a reasonable quantity of coffee at prevailing market prices
- (iv) Coffee Board will use the pooled and purchased coffee for market intervention according to the needs of the situation
- (v) Besides the Coffee Board's auction centre at Bangalore, Coffee Board will recognise additional auction centres according to the needs of the industry
- (vi) The Exim Policy announced on 14 1995 has permitted free import of roasted and decaffeinated coffee, subject to payment of customs duty

(e) This is expected to give growers fair prices and encourage them to re-invest in their plantation More investment will give an impetus to production and productivity

#### **Appointment of a Consultancy Firm by SBI**

6540 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE  
SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

- (a) whether the State Bank of India has appointed an international consultancy firm, McKinsey & Co ,
- (b) if so, the details thereof,
- (c) the purpose of appointing the international consultancy firm,
- (d) whether the said consultancy firm has submitted its report,
- (e) if so, the salient features thereof
- (f) the reaction of the Government thereto, and
- (g) the amount paid by the State Bank of India to McKinsey & Co so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY)  
(a) to (c) State Bank of India (SBI) have engaged the services of M/s McKinsey and Company for assisting

the bank in formulating strategic response to the changing environment and building a world class organisation

(d) Yes, Sir

(e) and (f) The consultants have opined that to improve its financial performance and market position in the changing environment, the Bank must establish new strategic priorities They have also recommended restructuring of the Bank's Central Office and Local Head Offices The Bank's management has to consider the recommendations in depth and take a view after considering all aspects

(g) State Bank of India have reported that they have so far paid Rs 3 05 76 000/- to the consultancy firm

#### **Nationalised Banks**

6541 SHRI R SURENDER REDDY Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

- (a) the total number of branches of each nationalised bank in various States and representation of those States in those banks State-wise
- (b) whether there is imbalance in bank recruitment and opening of bank branches
- (c) if so the reasons therefor,
- (d) the measures taken to ensure adequate regional representation and opening of bank branches and whether any guidelines have been issued in this regard
- (e) if so, the details thereof,
- (f) the steps taken for increasing awareness about job opportunities in nationalised banks in those States especially in their tribal and backward belts to attract more applications or bank jobs, and
- (g) the details of the efforts made to set up institutes for pre-exam coaching in the State for intending candidates belonging to weaker sections of society as is same in the case of Central services and the results achieved therefrom?

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

(a) to (g) The number of branches of public sector banks in each States is given in the attached Statement The opening of branches in different States is governed by the Branch Licensing Policy of Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

As regards bank recruitment, direct recruitment of clerical cadre and officers cadre is made through Banking Service Recruitment Boards (BSRBs) Recruitment of officers is done by specified BSRBs while recruitment of clerical/for branches of public sector banks coming under the jurisdiction of a BSRB is done by the BSRB Deployment of staff at various branches

is done in the light of requirements. While banks ensure that need based staff is provided at different branches/offices there might be a temporary shortage of staff in certain pockets at a given point of time.

The recruitment agencies viz BSRB/Central Recruitment BOARD advertise the vacancies in the different cadres in the leading Newspapers of the region concerned. Announcements are also made through All India Radio whenever feasible. As regards vacancies meant for SC/ST, the Designated voluntary organisations of these communities functioning in these States are kept informed by banks to enable them to advise the available job opportunities to the eligible candidates belonging to SCs/STs.

Pre-examination coaching for SC/ST candidates for direct recruitment to the officers/clerical cadres for public sector banks is arranged by BSRBs Cadre/Central Recruitment Board in collaboration with public sector banks at the centres conveniently located in the regions for which such recruitment is made.

#### STATEMENT

*Statement Showing the Number of Branches of Public Sector Banks State-wise*

(As on 31-12 1994)

State	Total
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	4533
Arunachal Pradesh	68
Assam	1219
Bihar	1904
Goa	255
Gujarat	3415
Haryana	1310
Himachal Pradesh	753
Jammu & Kashmir	524
Karnataka	3912
Kerala	1996
Madhya Pradesh	4395
Maharashtra	5191
Manipur	86
Meghalaya	178
Mizoram	78
Nagaland	70
Orissa	2137
Punjab	2200
Rajasthan	2919
Sikkim	42
TamilNadu	3514

1	2
Tripura	181
Uttar Pradesh	8370
West Bengal	4178
Andaman & Nicobar	30
Chandigarh	115
Dadra & Nagara	7
Daman & Diu Haveli	1010
Delhi	1074
Lakshadweep	0
Pondicherry	60
Total	57232

#### Migration of Labour from Gujarat

6542 SHRI N J RATHVA Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) whether reports of migration of tribal population from Gujarat to foreign countries have come to the notice of the Government, and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI PA SANGMA)

(a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

#### Revenue Divisions/Districts in Orissa

6543 SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to open some new Revenue Division and Revenue Districts in Orissa,

(b) if so the details thereof and

(c) the steps being taken to establish these Revenue Divisions and Districts in the State?

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

(a) to (c) The creation of Revenue Divisions and Districts is a matter concerning the State Governments

#### State Owned Deficit

6544 SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the comparative figures of State owned deficit and adjusted SOD during the last three years,

(b) whether the adjusted SOD is on decline,

(c) if so the reasons therefor, and

(d) the corrective measures being taken by the Government to contain the decline in this regard?



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

(a) The comparative figures of unadjusted and adjusted States' Owned Deficit (SOD) for the last three years are as follows

	Rs in crores	
	States Unadjusted	Owned Deficit Adjusted
1992-93	37601	16028
1993-94 (RE)	46275	19347
1994-95 (BE)	52374	22779

(b) to (d) The amount of adjusted SOD is on the increase. However, the increase in the amount of adjusted SOD is less than the increase in unadjusted SOD. The main reason for increase in SOD is that the rate of growth in the expenditure of State Governments is more than the increase in their receipts. The Unadjusted SOD is the difference between aggregate disbursements (net of repayments of loans and interest payments made by the States to the Centre) and aggregate receipts (net of resources transferred to States from the Centre in the form of taxes, grants and loans). Adjusted SOD is derived after deducting statutory transfers from the Centre to States, cash balances and cash balances investment amount (net) from the unadjusted SOD. The Union Government has paid grants in full as per the recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission for the last five years. There can be many reasons for the increase in States Owned Deficits. It is for the States themselves to control their overall expenditure with reference to their income.

#### Study on Beedi Production

6545 SHRI M G REDDY Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the beedi industry uses a lot of tobacco

(b) whether Tobacco Board studied the impact of lowering beedi production on the domestic market,

(c) if so, the details of recommendations of such study, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) Yes, Sir. About 30 percent of the Non-Virginia tobacco produced in the country is consumed by the beedi industry.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### AD Valorem Duty System

6546 SHRI SOMJI BHAI DAMOR Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether a large number of cases of alleged evasion of Central Excise Duty by the manufacturers have come to the notice of the Government,

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce tariff value related ad valorem duty system for evasion prone items

(c) whether the Government also propose to introduce the concept and system of excise audit by the statutory auditors to simplify the jobs of revenue officers with rules to make a report on important areas from revenue point of view, and

(d) if not, the steps being taken to control the excise duty evasion?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. Every year a number of cases of evasion of Central Excise duty are detected and booked by the Department.

(b) At present Tariff Value is fixed for the purpose of determining the Central Excise duty only in respect of polyester filament yarn and there is no proposal to fix the same in respect of any other item.

(c) and (d) While it is not proposed to introduce the system of Central Excise audit by statutory auditors, the Finance Bill of 1995-96 seeks to introduce a new Section 14 A in the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 which allows special audit in certain cases by a cost accountant where it is considered that the value has not been correctly declared or determined by the assessee.

This is expected to help the department in detecting and establishing the incidence of duty evasion in more cases. The department has, simultaneously, also intensified preventive checks, audit checks and collection of intelligence to combat duty evasion. In addition, various measures taken to rationalise the tax structure and to simplify procedures and weeding of exemption notifications would help to reduce disputes and curb tax evasion.

#### Agri-Expo 1995 and Ahara 1995

6547 DR ASIM BALA Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) the detail of achievements and export orders booked at the Agri-Expo 95 and Ahara 95 twin exhibitions held at the Pragati Maidan during March 8 to 14, 1995,

(b) the sectors which have been mainly projected in these exhibitions,

(c) whether Animal Husbandry, Floriculture, Fisheries and Dairying were projected as export boosting items, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) As reported by Indian Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO), business amounting to Rs 550 crore has been booked in Agri Expo, 95 and Ahara, 1995. Most of the participants are reported to have expressed their satisfaction towards achievements of their objectives of participation quality and cost-effectiveness of fairs and trade results and confirmed their willingness for repeat participation.

(b) While Agri-Expo highlighted the agriculture and allied sector Ahara highlighted the food processing sector.

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) The items of display from the Animal Husbandry and Dairying sector were Livestock population & Resources, Fodder Resources, Livestock health, Dairy development, Meat & Meat products, Livestock development strategies and programmes.

The Horticulture Division of the Ministry of Agriculture projected varieties of different flowers and crops.

In fisheries sector, besides other items special emphasis was laid on shrimp aquaculture and Marine Fish Stock assessment with innovative harvest and post harvest technologies including Pearl production for export purposes.

[Translation]

#### Bonds by States

6548 SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received requests from the State Governments in regard to permit them to issue Bonds for their developments work

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) the policy being adopted by the Government in this regard

(d) the State Governments to whom the permission has been given and denied, separately and

(e) the reasons for not giving the permission in this regard?

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

[English]

#### Non-Functioning of Airports

6549 SHRI KADAMBUR M R JANARTHANAN  
SHRI RAMDEW RAM

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

(a) the number of new airports yet to commence functioning,

(b) whether the Government are aware that the new airport of Tuticorin inaugurated in 1992 has stopped functioning and

(c) if so the reasons therefor and the steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) All new airports are functional

(b) and (c) Tuticorin airport is operational. While charter and non-schedule flights are operating occasionally none of the scheduled operators has shown willingness to operate from this airport.

#### Income Tax Exemption to Agricultural Cooperatives

6550 SHRIMATI DIPIKA H TOPIWALA Will the Minister to FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received any request for exemption of agricultural cooperatives from income-tax,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the action/decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Request has been made for granting tax exemption to all apex agricultural marketing cooperatives which are not selling goods of their members

(c) The request cannot be accepted. It may be appreciated that section 80P (2) (a) (v) allows 100 per cent deduction in respect of cooperative societies engaged in processing agricultural produce of its members. Likewise, section 80P (2) (a) (iii) allows 100 per cent exemption to cooperative societies in respect of marketing of agricultural produce of its members. Thus, the thrust of the policy regarding incentives to

cooperative societies has been to encourage activities involving transactions with members. A very limited exemption of Rs 20 000 is allowed in respect of transactions of cooperative societies with non members

#### Excise Duty on Spinning

6551 DR LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Wool and Woollens Export Promotion Council (WWEPC) has made any representation to the Government for review of the excise duty and countervailing structure, and

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

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

(a) Yes Sir

(b) The request have been examined and it has not been found possible to accept the same

#### Fiscal System

6552 SHRI V SREENIVASA PRASAD Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Indian fiscal system needs overhauling appearing in Statesman dated April 22, 1995,

(b) whether an international financial institution has described India's fiscal reforms and pace of liberalisation a temporary phenomenon

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to contemplate any serious efforts to strengthen its fiscal system, and

(d) if so, the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) (a) to (d) As per the news item captioned "Indian Fiscal System needs overhauling published in the Statesman dated 22nd April, 1995, the Institute of International Finance, Washington, 'has noted a sense of complacency in fiscal reforms and pace of liberalisation in India in early 1994", and has hoped that it will just a temporary phenomenon

There has never been a sense of complacency and Government has continued with the process of liberalisation and reforms since their introduction in 1991-92. Fiscal deficit which was 8.3 per cent of GDP in 1990-91 was reduced to 6.7 per cent of GDP in 1994-95 (RE). Fiscal deficit would have been still lower but for sudden increase in the collection of small savings and consequent increase in the loaning to States. Fiscal deficit is estimated to decline still further to 5.5 per cent in 1995-96

[Translation]

#### Expenditures on Central Government Employees

6553 DR CHINTA MOHAN

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the total number of employees working in the Government of India at present

(b) whether the annual amount being spent on the Central Government employees is increasing continuously during the last three years,

(c) if so, the year-wise amount spent on Central Government employees during 1992-93 and 1993-94 and 1994-95

(d) the percentage of this amount constitutes of the annual GDP,

(e) whether any target has been fixed by the Union Government to reduce this percentage in the coming years, and

(f) if so, the targets fixed in this regard?

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

(a) The estimated strength of Central Government (Civilian) employees as on 1st March, 1995 was about 39.45 lakhs

(b) Due to increase in Dearness Allowance annual increments and upgradation of cities for the purpose of HRA, CCA etc the annual amount being spent on the Central Government employees has been increasing during the last three years

(c) and (d) The year wise expenditure on Pay & Allowances of Central Government (Civilian) employees during the same period and expressed as a percentage of annual GDP are as follows

Year	Expenditure (Rs Crores)	Percentage of Col (2) to GDP
1992-93	12976	1.846
1993-94	14570	1.853
1994-95 (Estimated)	15532	GDP yet to be worked out

(e) and (f) While no targets have been fixed to reduce the percentage of annual expenditure on pay and allowances to the GDP efforts are continuing to reduce the number of posts in the Central Governments

### Trade Deficit

6554. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT . Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the outcome of new economic reforms and the liberalisation policy in the context of foreign trade,

(b) if so, the details thereof and the measures being taken by the Government to meet the situation of trade deficit and promote Indian export,

(c) the details of trade agreements reached with China, Iran, Nepal and Myanmar recently, and

(d) the position of Indian trade with these countries at present and the items to be imported or exported with these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, the Import-Export Policy is under constant review. Amendments are being made to facilitate

exports. The revised edition of EXIM-policy 1992-97 incorporates amendments made upto 31st March, 1995. Export promotion is a continuous process and various measures comprising trade policy, fiscal policy, credit, infrastructural and institutional aspects have been taken to promote exports. These measures have resulted in increasing export growth rate in recent years. In 1993-94 export registered 20% growth in dollar terms. In 1994-95, exports have registered 18.3% growth over the 20% base of the previous year.

(c) No agreement has been signed with Iran and China-PR recently. Agreement with Myanmar was signed on 21.4.94. Indo-Nepal Treaties of Trade (Valid for 5 years), Transit (Valid for 7 years) and Agreement for Co-operation to control unauthorised Trade, 1991 (Valid for 5 years) were signed on 6th December 1991.

(d) The details of India's exports and imports in respect of Nepal, Iran, Myanmar and China PR during April-February 1994-95, the latest period for which such data are available, are as follows:

(Value in US \$ Million)

S No	Country	Export	Import	Major Commodities	
				Exported	Imported
1	Nepal	98.05	30.27	Transport Equipment, Engineering products	Textile Yarn, fabric made-ups, Spices
2	Iran	143.58	474.14	Oil meals, iron ore	Petroleum Iron and Steel, organic chemicals
3	Myanmar	18.71	112.83	Primary and semi-finished iron & steel, glass and ceramic products	Pulses, wood and wood products
4	China RP	217.11	698.86	Iron ore, marine products	Sugar, silk raw, organic chemicals

[English]

### Income Tax Act in Sikkim

6555. PROF. PREM DHUMAL . Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the provisions of Indian Income Tax Act are not being enforced in the State of Sikkim as yet,

(b) whether machinery for enforcing the Act has not yet been operational in the State,

(c) if so, the reasons therefor,

(d) whether the Government propose to enforce the provisions of Income Tax Act in the State with retrospective effect, and

(e) if so, the extent of adverse impact on the taxpayers?

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

(a) The Income-tax Act, 1961 is in force and is operative in the State of Sikkim since 1.4.1990 and is being implemented by the Income-tax Department in the best possible manner,

(b) and (c) though the efforts to establish an office within Sikkim have not yet been fruitful, the implementation is done by the income-tax authorities at Siliguri within the region of Chief Commissioner of Income-tax, West Bengal;

(d) and (e) as the Income-tax Act stands extended to the State of Sikkim since 1.4.90 all incomes liable to be taxed under the Act are to be taxed in accordance with that Act. While, in cases where persons liable to tax do not voluntarily comply with the provisions, action under section 148 of the Income-tax Act will be initiated in cases where there is voluntary compliance part-waiver.

of penal action in appropriate cases or class of cases can be considered for which there are inbuilt provisions in the Income-tax Act, 1961

#### Interest Earned by Nationalised Banks

6556 SHRI J CHOKKA RAO Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the amount of interest earned by the nationalised banks and the interest paid to the depositors during 1994-95,

(b) whether the Government are aware that the services to the customers rendered by the banking institutions is very poor, and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to improve the customer service at banks?

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

(b) and (c) Complaints against Commercial Banks received by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) include those about unsatisfactory customer service. The Goiporia Committee on customer service in the banks made a number of recommendations. The Reserve Bank of India has already advised banks to implement most of the recommendations. All Public Sector Banks have started acting on these recommendations and in most banks a majority of the recommendations have already been implemented.

#### Improvement in Working of Regional Offices of D.G.F.T.

6557 SHRI D VENKATESWARA RAO  
SHRI M V S MURTHY

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have initiated measures to improve the working of all the 31 regional offices of Directorate General of Foreign Trade,

(b) if so, the main features of the proposed improvement to be made in the regional foreign trade offices,

(c) whether the exporters have welcomed the measures and

(d) if so, the extent upto which it has helped the exporters and the export growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) to (d) In order to help the exporters and the export growth, the existing procedures have been further simplified. More power has been delegated to Regional Offices and time limits for the disposal of various types of applications have been prescribed in the Handbook of Procedures, 1992-97 (Revised Edition & April, 1995)

Trade in general including exporters, have appreciated the changes made in the Policy and Procedures. Steps have already been initiated to computerise the major regional offices which shall improve their working. Grievance Cells have also been set up to redress the grievances of the exporters.

12.00 hrs.

#### PROBLEMS OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS IN THE COUNTRY

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) I would like to draw the attention of the House to a very serious problem faced by the 25 per cent population of our country. You may be aware, Sir, that the largest among the workforce in the country is the rural workers, that is the agricultural labourers and they constitute 26 per cent of the workforce of our country. Majority of them live below the poverty line and most of them belong to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, OBCs and the minority communities. Their condition is very serious. Proper wage is not paid to them. Every Government announces minimum wage from time to time. In Maharashtra there are four different wages in four different regions. I had visited most of the districts and I found that in many parts they are getting only 70-80 per cent of the minimum wages. This is the situation in most of the States. They are not getting the minimum wage announced by the State Governments.

Secondly the number of days of work is also going down. Though the Rural Labour Commission had announced that they are getting employment for 130 days, in reality they are getting employment only for 85 days in a year in spite of so many rural development programmes. And due to increase in population also they are not getting employment. Every year droughts and floods have also accentuated their problems. Sir, you will be surprised to know that there is no Central legislation to safeguard the interests of the 25 per cent people of this country. What is the point in sitting in this Parliament when we are not able to pass an Act which would benefit 25 per cent people of this country? We have laws for protection of animals, we have laws for protection of plants but we do not have laws to protect the human beings in our country. This is a shame for the country that we are not able to pass a law which concerns 25 per cent of the poorest section of the country. We have been appealing to the Government again and again. So many Committees were formed during Mrs Gandhi's regime. A draft was prepared and discussed. During Mr V P Singh's tenure some advancement was made. But still the law has not been passed. We have met the Labour Minister many times. He assured us that an Act would be passed. But the Government have failed to finalise the draft and bring a legislation in the Parliament. I appeal through you

Sir that the interests of this poorest section who are the backbone of our agriculture and who are bearing the major share of the burden should be taken care of I appeal through you to the Government that this Act should be passed immediately in this House and I also appeal to the senior leaders of this House that they should lend their support to this. It will be a great service to this country if we give legal protection to this section of the country.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura) Mr Speaker Sir whatever the honble Member Shri Hannan Mollah has said, I not only support his views whole-heartedly but through you Sir, I appeal to the Government to bring a legislation aimed at safeguarding the interests of these people at the earliest because the number of such people is very large in our country. We discuss about them so often in this House but they do not gain anything. I think the entire House will be unanimous on this issue and therefore, Government should consider this matter seriously and formulate a legislation for their protection at the earliest. Unless condition of the poor is ameliorated, the country cannot make progress. This is my submission.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) Sir in the present Budget there is a provision that if the agricultural labourer survives the age of 65 years he will be provided with some facilities. Now it is a very cynical provision because agricultural labourers belonging to that section below the poverty line do not survive the age of 65 years. You do not find a single person above 65 years of age. Therefore you do not have to provide for that.

It is very important that such a legislation is there because it is all known and the Government should also know that the expectancy of life in our country is increasing but that expectancy is in respect of life of richer sections and not of the people below the poverty line. That is why I say that above 65 years of age, you will discover many people starting from Vajpayeeji and other but not those who are below the poverty line. Therefore this is a very urgent requirement and it is for their sake we are saying that we can come with this and save them.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur) Mr Speaker, Sir it is not true that agricultural labourer, who work in the field do not survive the age of 65 years. Even now-a-days you will find many people well over 100, 105 and 110 years in the rural areas toiling in the fields. In view of this, I would suggest that whatever legislation is framed it should cover all the people. It should cover the people living in villages and those working in the fields.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) Mr Speaker Sir, I have not stood just because my name was mentioned. In fact, I wanted to say that this problem cannot be solved simply by introducing a legislation. The minimum wage has been increased in a number of States. The benefit of minimum wage goes to such workers who work in the projects administered by the Government. The problem arises when they have to work in a private organisation or under some individual. They do not get fixed minimum wage at such places. The number of such people is very large. How can their problem be solved by just bringing some sort of legislation? Had they got some alternative, they would have opted for that job where they could get minimum wage. The practical difficulty is that they have to work where they get work and in case they depend on legislation, it will be difficult for them to get a job. The people will not get employment. In case a fear is created that if the employer would pay less than the fixed minimum wage, he would be punished, then those people will stop giving employment to them and the poor people will be in difficulty. In view of this, the matter is not so simple that it could be solved easily. Therefore, the Government should pay serious attention towards this problem.

[English]

SHRI A CHARLES (Trivandrum) Sir I stand to support any proposal which gives some relief to the old age people for whom there is nobody to look after.

There are various legislations also. In Kerala there is a legislation where a minimum pension is given to the persons who have passed the age of 60, provided they have no son. That is the real problem. He has a son who has no means of livelihood and has to look after his father. Such anomalies have to be removed.

I totally disagree with the observation made by Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee. Sir it is only in the higher strata that the life span is short because of number of diseases such as blood pressure, diabetes. The poor man does not have these diseases. The average life span is long in the case of poorer sections and we have to take care to them. I suggest that a minimum pension shall be given to all those who are above 65 years of age and who have no means of livelihood.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) Mr Speaker, Sir, Shri Hannan Mollah has raised a very pertinent issue before the House. The question is not limited to agricultural labourers only. It covers all the domestic servants and a large number of people working in private organisations. There is no legislation in our country in respect of these people through which payment of minimum wages could be made compulsory throughout the country. In certain States, legislation have been passed. Even those labourers who work in the organisations of State level, do not get minimum wage.

In order to regulate the same the Government should have some authority under any statutory provision on the lives of consumer courts. Similarly, for daily wage earners (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE These courts have been a complete failure

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) It is not so. There are certain achievements also to their credit. I mean to say that the courts could be set up on similar lines. There should be a statutory provision under which decision of these courts would be binding. In the regions where minimum wages have been fixed but the same are not being paid a legal right should be provided to get the same enforced. This is my submission.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda) Mr Speaker, Sir, the problem of agricultural labourers has often been discussed in this House. A common legislation should be drafted for them as has been done in the case of industrial workers. However that is a different matter. The Members belonging to Congress party agree with this view and if the same is implemented, it would be very good. We call a person as agricultural labourer who is very poor and without any means. This provision should be enforced in their case very strictly. I think the Government should bring such a legislation without any age discrimination and it will be better if the same is introduced in this session itself.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad) A large number of agricultural labourers live in rural areas. In Andhra Pradesh these people resorted to agitations for a long time. Nothing had happened until the agitation was launched. After the agitation agricultural labourer has been getting Rs. 40-50 per day. The Government has enacted Minimum Wages Act for agricultural labourers but they do not get these wages at many places and as a result they are being exploited. Such a law should be passed for Harijans also because it will act as a deterrent to exploitation of these people. All the States should be directed to provide benefits to the agricultural labourers.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) Sir, Shri Sangma is here now. He repeatedly said that he would bring a legislation on this. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIMRAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) Sir, would he agree to respond to this? (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER Please do not disturb this kind of a discussion. Now I allow Shri D.P. Yadav and after that Shri Jatiya.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) Mr Speaker, Sir, the problem of agricultural labourer is a serious one. In the areas where irrigation facilities are not available they definitely do not get minimum wages and as a result, lakhs of labourers are leaving villages. Moreover, it is becoming a national problem.

They do not get work in the States where irrigation facilities are not available. The labourers migrate to other places for want of work. This way, the number of people leaving villages would rise further and it will become a national problem.

[English]

MR SPEAKER Please go back to your seat. The Member will go back to his seat. You will go back to your seat please.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV I therefore demand that old age pension should be provided to those agricultural labourers who are helpless and do not have any means to bank upon. The Government should bring in a legislation for this purpose in this House.

[English]

MR SPEAKER Do not speak at the spur of the moment. If you have considered views you give them. Otherwise the matter will be confused.

[Translation]

DR SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain) Mr Speaker, Sir, the problems of farmers are also linked with the problems of agricultural labourers and it is not that agricultural labourers work in Government fields. In case the farmer gets adequate support price only then he will be able to give proper wages to the agricultural labourer. Therefore, arrangements should be made to provide financial assistance to them to see that agricultural labourers are not exploited.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra) Mr Speaker, Sir, I am a farmer. I have engaged labourers for work in my fields. That is why, I have asked for time. It is necessary to enact a law. There are no two opinions in this regard. There should be a uniform law for the poor people, general labourers and agricultural labourers. Despite separate laws in different States the labourers continue to migrate from one place to another. The labourers are leaving my State and going to Punjab and Bihar because farmers in these States are rich. The farmers of Bihar are not affluent and therefore the labourers do not get work there. The farmer should also have ample means. The labourers of this State, of course who fulfill the criteria for labourer, should not only be given pension but they should also be given medical aid as many labourers die for lack of medical aid. (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER I shall give you a chance but your speech should be relevant. There should be nothing irrelevant.

[English]

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam) The landless labourers who are a very important section of

the society need to be protected In Tamil Nadu, pension facilities have been provided to those landless labourers who have crossed the age of 60 years Sympathetic consideration should be given to this important section of the society I demand that a comprehensive law should be brought to give protection to them

[Translation]

SHRI MANJAY LAL (Samastipur) Mr Speaker, Sir, if one goes through census Report of last decade, it will be observed that the number of agricultural labourers is increasing day by day A marginal farmer becomes an agricultural labourer after a period of 10 years owing to fragmentation of land caused by division of family On the other hand the workers of factory reorganise themselves and they get their wages increased But, agricultural labourers do not have any organisation and therefore, their wages are not increased There are separate laws for them in different States but even then they are not enforced I, therefore suggest that Central Government should draft a uniform legislation according to which all the agricultural labourers will be provided with basic facilities and paid uniform wages

We have been raising a slogan from the very beginning 'Mang Raha Hai Hindustan, Roti, Kapra aur Makaan' but agricultural labourer gets nothing out of these three things Therefore, a central legislation should be drafted

[English]

MR SPEAKER It is very good

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) The problem of agricultural labour, as stated by my friend, covers all the farmers having land less than one acre

MR SPEAKER Professor, this is not an economic problem

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR In a way, all of them are affected One more problem is also linked with it This work is not available throughout the year Agricultural labourers do not get work for more than 100 days in a year and therefore they have to face lot of difficulties

Another problem faced by them is that they do not have any insurance cover If they are involved in some accident, they do not get any assistance and thus face a lot of difficulty

[English]

MR SPEAKER Do not go into the details please

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI (Nainital) Mr Speaker Sir, there are no fields in the hilly region Therefore, agriculturists themselves have to do the job of labourer

also There, the people get work in Government project only Recently, all labourers have been provided with green cards under the Employment Guarantee scheme It can be possible to implement such a scheme in the hilly regions because labourers there work in other Government works also Their record is also maintained Therefore, pension scheme and scheme of providing medical facility can be implemented there

[English]

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur) Sir, the number of agriculturists and other workers who have been deserted by their able sons has gone up very high At the same time, the agricultural workers are landless So it becomes a genuine case which demands a support from all sections of the society

So I humbly request that the Government should look after them

Now the number of these persons has increased in the entire country when the able sons who were adopted by their fathers have deserted them when they found that they have become weak and helpless So, it is a very genuine problem

So I also support that something should be done for all these people

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Bikramganj) Mr Speaker, Sir, the problem of labourer and particularly agricultural labourer is taking serious turn in this country There is a law for their protection but the same is not being implemented We had decided to pay them that much wages by which they will be able to make both ends meet but actually we are not giving them even that much Therefore, I want that a Bill should be drafted for them in which their wages should be fixed In addition to medical facilities, provision should be made for education of their children as well (Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER Do not cover all problems of the world in it Please sit down and let others speak

SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI (Gazipur) Mr Speaker Sir I associate myself with the views expressed by hon'ble Members on the problems of agricultural labour and support their demands I am not raising another important question

MR SPEAKER I shall allow you later on to ask another question

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI (Robertsganj) Mr Speaker, Sir, agricultural labourers get work in Rabi and Kharief season only and most of them belong to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes The labourers may work in any area but medical facilities should be available in every block (Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER You have made your point Please sit down now



PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) Mr Speaker, Sir I am a member of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare Ministry This issue was discussed there and all the Members had requested the Labour Minister that a legislation for the welfare of agricultural labourers working in the agricultural sector should be drafted The hon'ble Minister and the officials had assured the Members that a legislation would be drafted but the Government has not been able to introduce any such Bill either in this House or in the other House so far I am myself the son of a marginal farmer and live in a village I am fully acquainted with the working conditions of agriculturists and particularly sad plight of women working in the fields of big landlords I, therefore, submit that a legislation to this effect must be drafted for their welfare

[English]

SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS (Mysore) Sir, we are also there on the Committee on Labour and Welfare The hon Minister of Labour was telling us that they are bringing a comprehensive Bill for unorganised labourers especially the agricultural labourers More than 50 per cent labourers constitute the women labourers in the field The women should be paid equal wages at par with the men for the same kind of work So there should be a comprehensive Bill The unorganised sectors are not having any organisation They are not getting the support of minimum wages either from the States or from the Central Government

Secondly, after the retirement age of 60 or 65 years which has been fixed they should be having some facility for pension also

So, I would like to request the Government to bring a comprehensive Bill as early as possible to see that they get all the facilities immediately

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGEN德拉 JHA (Madhubani) Mr Speaker, Sir on the basis of experience of my whole life and without occupying any Government position, I want to say that it is not a question of pension, donation or begging Every person has to bear the impact of inflation Therefore, money and means should be provided for planned productive works as is now being provided to people living below the poverty line Out of this sum, some amount is taken away by the Banks and some amount is pocketed by block officials and remaining amount is consumed by those who receive the sum (Interruptions) They indulge in criminal activities (Interruptions) If one consumes the seed, how will he taste the fruit (Interruptions) I am neither a landlord nor I employ agricultural labourers (Interruptions) Constrained by the weaknesses of democracy, we tell them not to consume seeds but to produce (Interruptions) We get swayed by this weakness I would suggest that the Government should ask Block officials and Bank officials to intensify monitoring If it is done,

this problem would be solved to a large extent in the Eighth Plan As a result, country's assets would augment and they will no longer remain labourers.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay South Central) Mr Speaker, Sir, I support the issue raised by Shri Mollah The agricultural labourers should get their due and labour laws should be drafted Moreover, these facilities are not being provided to the workers working in unorganised sector in Maharashtra

SHRI KESRI LAL (Ghatampur) Mr Speaker, Sir, women also work shoulder to shoulder with agricultural labourers There are Government Hospitals (Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER Please do not go into details

SHRI KESRI LAL Besides, an account is maintained in small mills and factories in cities also to ascertain whether there is entry or not (Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER If you will bring in all other issues, the very cause would suffer

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Firozabad) Mr Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by hon'ble Members on this subject This legislation should have been framed much earlier However, it is better late than never The father of Nation, Mahatma Gandhi had said that poverty is prevalent in the rural areas I, therefore, request through you, Sir that relevant Bill should be passed at the earliest

[English]

MR SPEAKER I think a very important issue has been raised by the hon Members and it is an opportunity available to the Government to express their policy on this point Fortunately, we have the Labour Minister also present in the House We would not like to take him by surprise, but as it is a policy matter, to the extent possible, he may please explain

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE Panskura . Sir, I hope it includes the women agricultural labourers also

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI PA SANGMA) Yes, yes

Sir, I am grateful to the hon Members for having expressed their unanimous view on this issue It goes exactly on the lines of the thinking of the Government of India The National Commission on Rural Labour gave two very important recommendations, as far as agricultural labourers are concerned One was that the minimum wages should be fixed at least at Rs 20 per day and, secondly, that there should be a comprehensive Central legislation for agricultural labourers This portion of the Report was placed before the Conference of the Labour Ministers of India and the first recommendation was accepted in that Conference itself, that is, that the minimum wages should be Rs 20 per day I am happy to say that most of the State Governments have implemented it.

Along with that, we have also taken a decision that the minimum wages should be revised at the interval of every two years because as the law stands today, the minimum wages are revised after every five years. We thought it was too long a period for the unorganised labour and therefore, it was the decision of the Labour Ministers to revise the minimum wages every two years. We have accepted this recommendations of the Labour Ministers and I am coming forward to the House for the amendment of the Minimum Wages Act, which governs the wages of the agricultural labourers.

As far as the legislation part is concerned, the Labour Minister's Conference decided to set up a group of eleven Labour Ministers to go into it in detail.

The last meeting of these Ministers was held yesterday only over which I myself presided. This was preceded by the meeting of the Labour Secretaries of all the States day before yesterday. We spent the whole day on the subject. Of course the recommendations of the Secretaries which was drawn up on the basis of the recommendations of the National Commission for Rural Labour were placed before the Ministers Committee yesterday and I am happy to inform the House that the Ministers have unanimously endorsed the view that there should be a Central legislation for agricultural labour. It will take a little more time because I have to go to the sister Departments like Finance etc. But I can assure the House that I have accepted the recommendations of the Ministers Committee made yesterday and the Centre will come forward with a proposal of comprehensive legislation for agricultural labour.

MR SPEAKER Can you shed some light on the Employment Guarantee Schemes which are being implemented to provide employment to the landless labourers? What is the amount of money spent by the Central Government on Employment Guarantee Schemes like the Jawahar Rozgar Yojna?

SHRI PA SANGMA Sir, we do not have the Employment Guarantee Schemes everywhere.

MR SPEAKER No, I am telling about Jawahar Rozgar Yojna, I R D P etc.

SHRI PA SANGMA We have Employment Guarantee Scheme in the State of Maharashtra. Now this was discussed also and we have advised the State Governments to follow the model of Maharashtra Government. Out of the total of 315 million workforce in the country today, the agriculture labour constitutes 110 million. And they are so dispersed all over the country that it is not very easy and whatever. (Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER What about Jawahar Rozgar Yojna?

SHRI PA SANGMA Sir, whatever we do here we have to take the State Governments into confidence. If the House remembers on the 15th of August last year while addressing the nation on the Independence Day the hon Prime Minister had come out with a proposal that some sort of Employment

Guarantee Board would also be set up in all the districts on the lines of Maharashtra. In principle we have taken the decision.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE Sir, what about women?

MR SPEAKER 'Men' include 'women' and 'women' may include 'men'. There is no problem. The same thing applies.

I think at the state level they do have some laws and they are using those laws to see that minimum wages are available. Whether they are effective or not is a different question. If we have to take steps to make them effective or not that is also a different thing.

We are very happy that the Central law will be made about. I am sure that the Employment Guarantee Scheme is available only in Maharashtra and I do not think it is available in any other State. The principle (Interruptions)

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA (Nagpur) Sir, it is available. Hundred days' work to everybody is available in many of the blocks in the country. Many major development blocks have the scheme of 100 days' work for everybody.

MR SPEAKER The word 'guarantee' is not there. But almost all the States.

(Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER Let us be very clear on this point.

(Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER I think that Maharashtra has Employment Guarantee Scheme. But other Governments have scheme to provide employment to the unemployed persons in their States. It is not called a Guarantee Scheme but Employment Scheme. The Central Government is also having Jawahar Rozgar Yojna and many other Rozgar Yojnas and, if I am not wrong about Rs 7,000 crore are being spent on providing employment to the people from all parts of the country who are seeking employment.

SHRI PA SANGMA Sir that is the amount spent annually.

MR. SPEAKER Yes. An amount of Rs 7,000 crore is spent by the Union Government annually and some other money is provided by the State Governments also. Even after these arrangements are made, we shall have to take some steps and I am sure that the House and the Government are of the view that something very substantial has been done and something more certainly has to be done and I hope that it would be done as soon as it is possible.

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA Why do not you tell you should tell this to every body.

[English]

MR SPEAKER Before Shri Shahabuddin speaks, the Minister of State for Rural Development wants to speak. He is directly dealing with it and he knows everything on Rural Development.

[Translation]

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Department of Rural Development) (Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai Patel) Mr Speaker, Sir I want to inform the House that in the development blocks covered by the Prime Minister Employment Guarantee Scheme the labourers would get work for 100 days.

MR SPEAKER Please tell us the reason as to why employment will be provided for only 100 days out of 365 days.

SHRI UTTAMBHAI HARJIBHAI PATEL There is definite guarantee of employment for 100 days. It can be further extended.

MR SPEAKER They propose to provide employment for 100 days because the labourers can get work in the agricultural fields for rest of the period.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) Mr Speaker, Sir we are very fortunate in our country that we have a very developed census system which has been in operation for more than a century and has developed a tremendous expertise. The last census was taken in 1991. Now we are in the era of planned development and the importance of demographic statistics for development planning cannot be over emphasized. What I am trying to bring to the notice of the House is the inordinate delay in the publication of the results of census 1991 by the Registrar General of India although to the best of my knowledge there has been almost complete computerisation of the system and therefore, one expected that the results should soon be available. But now nearly five years have lapsed and even the basic population data relating to the districts has not yet been published far less the cultural and social tables relating to religious or linguistic data. At the national level we do not yet have these social tables and the cultural tables. At the State level we do not yet have the district tables and that, to my mind, is a handicap as far as development planning is concerned. Therefore, Sir, I would request the Government to expedite the computerisation, finalisation and publication of the data relating to census, 1991.

Sir, I would like to take this opportunity to point out one basic flaw, one basic handicap that has come to the fore and that is the data relating to caste statistics which has not been published since 1931. For the simple reason that we have accepted as a matter of national policy, reservations in favour of the Other

Backward Classes which are basically caste based and also introduced reservations for them now in Panchayats under the Panchayati Raj, for that we must have authentic data available. Every State is now resorting to its own private system of compilation of caste data which leaves much to be desired. Therefore while suggesting the publication of the results of the census 1991 as soon as possible I would like to suggest that the Government should start considering from now on the format for census, 2001 which should include the caste data, if an interim caste census cannot be taken.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) Mr Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House towards a very important matter.

The increasing criminalisation in politics has become a serious problem. All political parties and leaders give shelter to notorious criminals. They are honoured and offered good positions in politics. They are provided political protection and this is one of the main reasons of increasing incidents of crimes in the country. The criminals are seeking patronage of political parties and they are getting full respect. This is not only causing terror in the society but working of the administration is also being affected. Further the official responsible for maintaining law and order also find themselves helpless. I feel that influential people in the Government and the politics themselves give shelter to such persons. This is a very serious matter. There is an atmosphere of terror among the masses and number of such elected representatives is increasing. I therefore submit that this serious problem should be discussed here.

We should draft a code of conduct for all the political parties. Moreover we should not entertain such elements in politics in future and thus cripple law and order.

SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI (Gazipur) Mr Speaker Sir through you I want to draw attention of the Central Government to the an incident. Shri Rajendra Yadav, MLA of Samajwadi Party alongwith certain armed persons entered the regional office of Communist Party of India, Kesarbagh, Lucknow yesterday i.e. 18.5.95 in the afternoon. He was accompanied by 2 sub-inspectors and 4 police constables also. Shri Rajendra Yadav cut off the telephone cable and broke the chairs. He dragged Shrimati Tara Devi, a Harijan candidate for President ship of District Panchayat and took her away in the jeep alongwith her husband. When Tara Devi resisted, here clothes were torn and her bangles were broken. They also, assaulted the people who were present in the office and tried to protect her. By bandishing weapons they ordered those people not to move from their seats. A rifle was pointed towards the chest of Mr Ashok Mitra, Assistant Secretary of the party. Sir, I demand that Government should make a statement on this incident in the House and take action.

against the culprits so that Tara Devi, a candidate for Presidentship of District Panchyat may return home safe

12.41 hrs.

(Mr Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

[English]

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Shri Dwaraka Nath Das

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) Sir, though law and order is a State subject here a Harijan woman is involved who was a candidate Therefore, I do demand that the Central Government takes note of it and inquires into that situation (Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER I called Mr Dwaraka Nath Das I request all the hon Members to resume their seats

(Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The time is short before us There are other hon Members also who want to ventilate their grievances

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) First, she is a Harijan women and secondly she was a candidate in an election This is an assault on our democracy Mr Speaker Sir, I demand that the Government should make a statement This is an extra ordinary incident (Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER It will not go on record Kindly resume your seat You cannot speak whatever you like

(Interruptions)\*

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The Government will not answer now If you want an answer you give a special notice You can make use of other provisions to discuss the matter on the floor of the House Shri Dwarka Nath Das

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS (Karimganj) Sir in my constituency, Karimganj (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER Shastriji please resume your seat

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER You yourself were saying that some of the Members could not get the chance to speak We have got hardly 15 minutes Let us see

(Interruptions)

\* Not Recorded

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Mr Mallikarjun, would you like to say something?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN)

Sir I will convey their feelings to the concerned Minister (Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Hon Minister Shri Mallikarjun is here Mr Mallikarjun, I think they could not hear it properly

(Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER You should follow certain norms and you should have some discipline

(Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Prof do you feel that it is fair to behave in this way? We have been left with hardly fifteen minutes and there are other hon Members who want to speak Since four or five days, many people are giving notices From the Government side, the hon Minister is here he is on his legs Kindly hear him

SHRI MALLIKARJUN Sir, I will convey their feelings to the concerned Minister and it is up to him to do what he likes (Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The name are before me Why do you doubt that? How can I deviate? Why do you compel me to deviate and then put me in the hot box?

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS (Karimganj) Sir, in my constituency, Karimganj, Assam, tea gardens which are being managed by the Tea Trading Corporation of India are at present sick and weak

Moreover, the tea gardens which are owned by private companies like Singhania and others are also in a deplorable condition and I fear that within a few years several of such gardens will be non-existent

The labourers working in these tea gardens are not getting their wages and ration regularly Last year in Pathini garden of Karimganj District of Tea Trading Corporation ten labourers died because of starvation and now a large number of labourers of such sick and weak gardens are passing their days half-fed and half-clad

So, I would request the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India to take immediate steps to revitalise these sick and weak tea gardens located in my constituency and thereby to save these tea labourers and their families (Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Shri S K Mandal, the names are before me I will call you one by one There is a fair chance to speak You will have a fair chance to speak when your name is called

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar) Sir Sunderbans is the most poorest area in West Bengal It was a very said coincidence that on the day of the

high tide, it rained in that area very heavily and caused havoc not only in Gosaba, Basanti, Canning, Raidighi Sandeshkhati but in the entire coastal area rendering several thousands of people shelter less damaging the pipes carrying drinking water resulting in its non-supply, devastation of embankments and the saline water now not only being drunk by the hapless and afflicted people but also ruining the vegetables on which the people in the area depended not only for their sustenance but for their livelihood also

It is my demand that the Centre should rush some team to the Sunderbans area to assess the havoc caused by this unusual heavy rain and render requisite financial assistance to tide over this disaster  
(*Interruptions*)

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The names are before me and I will call them one by one. If you speak for one or two minutes, then other friends also are able to speak. But you are not a gracious. The minute you get the chance, you take more time and also the time of your other colleagues. Thus, injustice is being done and it is being noticed. It is being ventilated by some hon. Members. So, we should be very careful about this.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMDEV RAM (Palamau) Mr Deputy Speaker Sir we have been demanding introduction of a train from Chhota Nagpur to Pathankot via Ranchi since long. We have been writing letters to the hon. ble Minister time and again in this regard but our request has not been acceded to. In addition to this, we had asked for change in the timing also but no attention has been paid towards our request. The Government have not paid attention to our request for second train. I, therefore, demand, through you that a second train from Pathankot to Chhota Nagpur via Ranchi should be provided.

[*English*]

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER He has set up an example for hon. Members.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Bikramganj) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government towards Prime Minister's Employment Guarantee Scheme. Some districts of Bihar have been selected under this scheme. Further, a few selected blocks of each district have been taken up for this purpose. Only 4 blocks of district Rohtas have been taken up under the aforesaid scheme whereas undeveloped blocks such as Dinara, Dabat Nokha, Bikramganj, Amotigola, Noha, Kochas, Rajpur, Oprigola have not been covered under the Scheme. In view of this, people of these blocks have not been getting employment opportunities. I, therefore, demand from

the Government that each and every block of Rohtas District should be covered by this scheme so that every one is benefited by the Prime Minister's Employment Guarantee Scheme and there could be all round development of the district.

[*English*]

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Shri Ram Naik, your subject has been discussed in the House. Even in the office notes it is stated that the matter has been raised and discussed on the floor of the House.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir I am not aware of office notes.

I shall not take more than 1½ minutes. This is an important matter. There was a programme of Nikki Nite telecast on STAR TV. I had raised the issue in this House because it had shown great disrespect to Mahatma Gandhi. Mr Speaker had observed that the matter may not be discussed further. He had directed the Government to make a note of it and the hon. ble Minister responded. Then the hon. Speaker had directed the Government to make a statement on the subject. This happened on 8th May and now 11 days have passed but no statement has been made. This issue has also been discussed in Rajya Sabha. However, the Hon. ble Minister has not come out with a statement and it is a contempt of the House. The Government is taking this matter casually. We know that the Government is paying more attention to outside activities than the business of this House because today is 19th. The hon. ble Minister incharge of the subject should have made a statement in the House. It is a question of insult of Mahatma Gandhi. Since the Government has not made a statement so far I have raised this matter again. Mr Speaker had observed on that day that he agreed with me but now the Government is not responding. My point is that the Government should make a statement in this regard. I request you to give a direction. This is a contempt of the House.

[*English*]

It is belittling the House. We will not tolerate it.

[*Translation*]

It is a serious matter and it should not be taken lightly. Please ask the Government to make a statement immediately.

[*English*]

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Shri Mallikarjun would you like to say something?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN This matter has been raised in the House. Not only hon. Member Shri Ram Naik but other hon. Members have also spoken on it.

So far as the statement is concerned I will remind the concerned Minister again.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Shri Rameshwar Patidar will speak now Try to save time I think by 1 o'clock another four or five hon Members can be called provided you cooperate

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (Khargone) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw attention of the House towards National Highway-3 Owing to heavy rains last year conditions of this Highway is deteriorating Further it has not been repaired so far This Bombay-Agra road passed via Indore Division of Madhya Pradesh and Vindhya-chal-Satpura Mountain Pass (Ghat) The condition of this road is so bad that it takes 4-5 hours daily to cover the passage which in normal case can be covered in two hours Now-a-days traffic of loaded trucks has increased considerably I therefore, request the Government to take urgent steps to get this road repaired at the earliest Besides this, there is a bridge of one kilometre long on Bombay-Agra National Highway over Narmada river In my constituency it was built at the cost of Rs 4 crore about ten years ago Repair of this bridge has been stopped for the last 2 years Earlier when repairing has in progress it used to take more than half an hour to cross the bridge The Central Government should pay urgent attention to this work also

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY (Ranchi) Mr Deputy Speaker Sir I want to draw your attention towards HEC in my constituency HEC is called mother industry Earlier there were 25 thousand workers working in this industry but at present only 12 thousand workers remain there Moreover the facilities being given to them have been curtailed BIFR had recommended that Rs 380 crore should be given to HEC but the same has not been given to them so far The workers are agitating there for the last three months but the Government has not taken any initiative to save this industry The Prime Minister had also assured and many hon ble Members had also drawn attention of the Government therefor but it has neither paid any money nor placed any order to save HEC On one hand people are being given voluntary retirement and on the other hand nearly three hundred Engineers have been reinstated I want that the Government should constitute a Committee and get the matters enquired They should give more money as well as purchase orders to HEC so as to bring an end to the agitation through negotiations

[English]

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER The unscheduled hour comes to an end by one of the clock It is upto you to cooperate and make use of the opportunity

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad) I have been giving notice for the last so many days but my name is not called (Interruptions)

[English]

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER Madam, I would have called your name also if you had cooperated I could have called four to five names too But unfortunately you are very very angry not being cooperative Today happens to be a holy day, Friday But you do not like to cooperate All right, Shri Rabi Ray ji to speak now

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada) Mr Deputy Speaker Sir, The Minister of Labour, Shri Sangma is present here When Shri Hannan Mollah raised the issue regarding agricultural labourer, immediately thereafter our able friend Shri Shahabuddin was called by the hon Speaker I want to draw the attention of the House towards an important matter related to the same issue It is good that the hon Minister is also present

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, the most troublesome thing in our country is that the Government is still following feudal system through contract labour system I would like to thank the Supreme Court for giving a very good verdict last week to abolish contract labour system I feel that our Government will become intelligent enough with this verdict After nearly 42 years of adoption of the Constitution the supreme court has made following observation with regard to the contract Labour System

[English]

"The Supreme Court also asked the Central Government to amend the Act by incorporating a suitable provision to refer to the industrial adjudicator the question of the direct employment of the workers of the ex-contractor in the principal establishment when the appropriate Government abolishes the contract labour system

[Translation]

The Supreme Court further stated that -

[English]

"We cannot help expressing our dismay over the fact that even the undertakings in the public sector have been indulging in unfair labour practices by engaging contract labour when workmen can be employed directly even according to the test laid down by Section 10(2) of the Act

They have further said

"Apart from the fact that it is an unfair labour practice, it is also an economically short-sighted and unsound policy, both from the point of view of the undertaking concerned and the country as a whole"

13.00 hrs.

The court pointed out that economic growth was not to be measured only in terms of production and profits It has to be gauged primarily in terms of

employment and earnings of the people. Man has to be the focal point of development. The attitude adopted by the undertakings is inconsistent with the need to reduce unemployment and the Government policy declared from time to time, to give jobs to the unemployed. This is apart from the mandate of the Directive Principles contained in Articles 38, 39, 41, 42, 43 and 47 of our Constitution.

[*Translation*]

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Sangma is present here. This is the verdict of the Supreme Court regarding contract labour system and it has been recommended to the Government. I would like to know reaction of the Government to this verdict.

[*English*]

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Sangmaji would like to say anything?

(*Interruptions*)

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER Why do you not maintain the discipline of the House?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI PA SANGMA) Sir, we are aware of the Supreme Court judgment. We are examining and studying the whole implication of the Supreme Court judgment. I will not be able to immediately react to it. But in the meantime, the hon Member Shri George Fernandes has already given a notice for a Calling Attention Motion. I do not know if the hon Speaker admits that Motion or not. I think, by that time, I should be able to come out with the Government views.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Now we shall take up Papers to be Laid on the Table.

13.03 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

**Statement showing reasons for delay in laying Annual Accounts together with Audit Report thereon of Employee's Provident Fund Organisation, New Delhi for 1993-94**

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI PA SANGMA) Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a statement\* (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the Annual Accounts together with Audit Report thereon of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, New Delhi for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library see No LT 7598/95]

Annual Accounts and Audit Report of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94 were laid on the Table of the House on the 5th May 1995.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) Sir, I beg to lay on the Table

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 49 of the Tea Act, 1953

(i) The Tea Board (Recruitment and Conditions of Service of Directors of Tea Promotion Appointed by Government) Amendment Rules, 1995 published in Notification No G S R 23(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th January 1995

(ii) The Tea Amendment Rules 1995 published in Notification No G S R 301(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th March 1995

[Placed in Library see No LT 7599/95]

(2) A copy of the Notification No G S R 29(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st January 1995 containing corrigendum to the Notification No G S R 452 dated the 15th September, 1992 issued under section 50 of the Tea Act, 1993

[Placed in Library see No LT 7600/95]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi for the year 1993-94 alongwith Audited Accounts

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi for the year 1993-94

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above

[Placed in Library see No LT 7601/95]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council, Bombay for the year 1993-94 alongwith Audited Accounts

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council, Bombay for the year 1993-94

[Placed in Library see No LT 7602/95]

(6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Plastics and Linoleums Export Promotion Council, Bombay for the year 1993-94 alongwith Audited Accounts

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Plastics and Linoleums Export Promotion Council, Bombay, for the year 1993-94

[Placed In Library see No LT 7603/95]

**Notifications under State Bank of India Act, 1955 and Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of undertakings) Act, 1970/1980 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY)  
Sir, I beg to lay on the Table

- (1) A copy of the State Bank of India General Regulations (Amendment) Regulations, 1994 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No CO/S&B/3391 in Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 1994, under sub-section (4) of section 50 of the State Bank of India Act, 1955

[Placed in Library see No LT 7604/95]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub section (6) of section 9 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970/1980

- (i) The Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Scheme, 1995 published in Notification No S O 289(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd April 1995
- (ii) The Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Scheme, 1995 published in Notification No S O 290(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd April, 1995

[Placed in Library see No LT 7605/95]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962

- (i) G S R 50(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd February, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to provide the import duty on copper wires copper cathods and copper wire rods made out of copper concentrates sent out of India would be charged at 50 percent of the value addition abroad which would consist of labour charges cost of material (excluding cost of goods sent out of India) and insurance and freight charges
- (ii) The Import Manifest (Vessels) Amendment Regulations 1995 published in the Notification No G S R 132(E) in Gazette

of India dated the 13th March, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum

- (iii) G S R 272(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No 161/92-Cus, dated the 20th April, 1992
- (iv) G S R 275(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th March, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No 69/95-Cus, dated the 16th March, 1995
- (v) G S R 285(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd March, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No 69/95-Cus, dated the 16th March, 1995
- (vi) G S R 306(E) published in Gazette of India dated 30th March, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No 47/95-Cus, dated the 16th March, 1995
- (vii) G S R 310(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to the goods imported into India from the whole of the basic and additional duties of customs leviable thereon, subject to certain conditions
- (viii) G S R 311(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notifications mentioned in the table under the Notification
- (ix) G S R 323(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to prescribe concessional rates of basic customs duty on specified goods when imported into India from Sri Lanka
- (x) G S R 324(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd April, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to edible oils or any material from which edible oil can be extracted from the whole of the basic and additional duties of customs leviable thereon, subject to certain conditions

[Placed in Library see No LT 7606/95]



(4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944

(i) G S R 276(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th March, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to restore the concessional excise duty of 15 percent *ad valorem* on paper and paperboard or articles made therefrom manufactured from pulp containing not less than fifty percent by weight of unconventional raw materials subject to certain additional conditions

(ii) G S R 277(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th March 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to prescribe a basic excise duty at 20 percent *ad valorem* on polyester monofilament yarn of 2000 denierage and above and used in the manufacture of slide fasteners so as to give effect to the budget proposals

(iii) G S R 290(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th March 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No 1/93-CE, dated the 28th February, 1993

(iv) G S R 322(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No 2/95-CE, dated the 4th January, 1995

[Placed in Library see No LT 7607/95]

(5) A copy each of the following Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Rural Banks for the year 1993-94 together with Auditor's Report thereon

(i) Shahdol Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Shahdol (M P)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7608/95]

(ii) Hazaribagh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Hazaribagh (Bihar)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7609/95]

(iii) Samyut Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Azamgarh (U P)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7610/95]

(iv) Thar Aanchalik Gramin Bank, Jodhpur (Rajasthan)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7611/95]

(v) Hindon Gramin Bank, Ghaziabad (U P)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7612/95]

(vi) Vaishali Kshetriya Gramin Bank Muzaffarpur (Bihar)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7613/95]

(vii) Lakshmi Gaonlia Bank, Golaghat (Assam)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7614/95]

(viii) Raebareli Kshetriya Gramin Bank Raebareli (U P)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7615/95]

(ix) Sangameshwara Grameena Bank Mahboobnagar (A P)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7616/95]

(x) Nainital Almora Kshetriya Gramin Bank Nainital (U P)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7617/95]

(xi) Mallabhum Gramin Bank Bankura (West Bengal)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7618/95]

(xii) Cachar Gramin Bank, Silchar (Assam)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7619/95]

(xiii) Marwar Gramin Bank Pali (Rajasthan)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7620/95]

(xiv) Uttarbanga Kshetriya Gramin Bank Coochbehar (W B)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7621/95]

(xv) Haryana Kshetriya Gramin Bank Bhiwani (Haryana)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7622/95]

(xvi) Hadoti Kshetriya Gramin Bank Kota (Rajasthan)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7623/95]

(xvii) Bolangir Aanchalik Gramya Bank Bolangir (Orissa)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7624/95]

(xviii) Howrah Gramin Bank Howrah (W B)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7625/95]

(xix) Bhojpur Rohtas Gramin Bank Arrah (Bihar)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7626/95]

(xx) Tripura Gramin Bank, Agartala

[Placed in Library see No LT 7627/95]

(xxi) Sahyadri Gramin Bank, Shomoga (Karnataka)

[Placed in Library see No LT 7628/95]

- (xxii) Nagaland Rural Bank, Kohima  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7629/95]
- (xxiii) Bilaspur Raipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bilaspur (M P)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7630/95]
- (xxiv) Solapur Gramin Bank, Solapur (Maharashtra)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7631/95]
- (xxv) Sri Sathavahana Grameena Bank, Karimnagar (A P)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7632/95]
- (xxvi) Rayalaseema Grameena Bank, Cuddapah (A P)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7633/95]
- (xxvii) Langpi Dehangi Rural Bank, Diphu, Distt Kam Anglong (Assam)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7634/95]
- (xxviii) Singhbhum Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Chaibasa (Bihar)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7635/95]
- (xxix) Madhubani Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Madhubani (Bihar)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7636/95]
- (xxx) Shekhawati Gramin Bank, Sikar (Rajasthan)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7637/95]
- (xxxi) Cuttack Gramya Bank, Cuttack (Orissa)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7638/95]
- (xxxii) Santhal Parganas Gramin Bank, Dumka (Bihar)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7639/95]
- (xxxiii) Dhenkanal Gramya Bank Dhenkanal (Orissa)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7640/95]
- (xxxiv) Samastipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Samastipur (Bihar)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7641/95]
- (xxxv) Kolar Gramin Bank Kolar (Karnataka)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7642/95]
- (xxxvi) Etawah Kshetriya Gramin Bank Etawah (U P)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7643/95]
- (xxxvii) Rewa Sidhi Gramin Bank Rewa (M P)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7644/95]
- (xxxviii) Bundelkhand Kshetriya Gramin Bank Tikamgarh (M P)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7645/95]
- (xxxix) Bundi Chittorgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bundi (Rajasthan)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7646/95]
- (xl) Kisan Gramin Bank, Budaun (U P)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7647/95]
- (xli) Raigarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Raigarh (M P)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7648/95]
- (xlii) Chikmagalur Kodagu Grameena Bank, Chikmagalur (Karnataka)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7649/95]
- (xliii) Dungarpur Banswara Kshetriya Gramin Bank Dungarpur (Rajasthan)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7650/95]
- (xliv) Sharda Gramin Bank, Satna (M P)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7651/95]
- (xlv) Faridkot Bathinda Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bathinda (Punjab)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7652/95]
- (xlvi) Kshetriya Kisan Gramin Bank, Mainpuri (U P)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7653/95]
- (xlvii) Gopalganj Kshetriya Gramin Bank Gopalganj (Bihar)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7654/95]
- (xlviii) Alwar Bharatpur Anchalik Gramin Bank Bharatpur (Rajasthan)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7655/95]
- (xlix) Fatehpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank Fatehpur (U P)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7656/95]
- (l) Magadh Gramin Bank Gaya (Bihar)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7657/95]
- (li) Chandrapur Gadchiroli Gramin Bank, Chandrapur (Maharashtra)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7658/95]
- (lii) Kanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Kanpur (U P)  
[Placed in Library see No LT 7659/95]

13.04 hrs.

### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing 22nd May, 1995 will consist of

- 1 Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper
- 2 Consideration and passing of
  - (a) The Trade Marks Bill, 1993
  - (b) The National Environment Tribunal Bill, 1992
  - (c) The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 1994, as passed by Rajya Sabha
  - (d) The Representation of the people (Amendment) Bill, 1995
  - (e) The Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions (Amendment) Bill 1994
  - (f) The Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill 1995 as passed by Rajya Sabha

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Firozabad) I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda

- 1 Regarding early construction of a bridge on Pinot and Ukhed Ghat over Chambal river in Uttar Pradesh which was inaugurated by late Rajiv Gandhi in 1987
- 2 Regarding improvement in telecommunication system particularly in Agra and Ferozabad (Interruptions)

PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's Agenda

Regarding need of taking effective steps to prevent nearly 70 per cent rain water going to the sea through rivers and streams in order to raise ground water level and framing a National Water Policy

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's Agenda

- 1 Regarding allotment of sugar quota, being given on the basis of population of 1986 and petrol quota being given on the basis of 1994 may be given on the basis of population of 1995 to Rajasthan

- 2 Regarding allotment of paper on the control rate to the Government of Rajasthan just as before, in order to make available course books and copies at cheaper rates.

DR SATYNARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain) . Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's Agenda

- 1 Regarding arrangement to provide employment to the workers of the textile Mills as a result of continuous closure of MTC, STC and private textile Mills and to run all the Textile Mills in order to provide protection to the unemployed workers
- 2 Regarding arrangement to provide drinking water throughout the year to villages and towns as problem of supply of drinking water in the country has become very serious

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) Mr Deputy-Speaker Sir, I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda

- 1 Regarding observation of Supreme Court for codification of various personal laws and introduction of a uniform civil code
- 2 Regarding position of religious, linguistic and ethnic minorities in the light of Annual Reports of the Minorities Commission and Prime Ministers 15 Point Programme

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, kindly include the following in the next week's Agenda

Regarding coverage of Bundi and Baran under Channel DD 2 of Doordarshan

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda) Mr Deputy Speaker Sir I request that the following may be included in next week's Agenda

- 1 Need to provide written certificate of deposits made in Provident Fund by Bidi workers urgently
- 2 Need to set up Nalanda Central University in Nalanda district of Bihar in order to maintain glory and historical importance of old Nalanda University

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that following may be included in the next week's Agenda

Regarding setting up of a Bench of High Court Uttar Pradesh in most suitable, useful and convenient place like 'Bareilly' in Western Uttar Pradesh on the basis of recommendation of Jaswant Singh Commission

SHRI JANARDAN MISRA (Sitrapur) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, kindly include the following in the next week's Agenda

- 1 Need to construct an embankment to protect Ghaghra river in Sitapur District from flood and land erosion and construction of a bridge over Chahlarighat
- 2 Regarding giving the status of National Rural Bank to rural banks

13.08 hrs.

**THE ADDITIONAL DUTIES OF EXCISE (GOODS OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL\***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Act, 1957

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The question is

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Act, 1957"

*The motion was adopted*

SHRI M V CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY I introduce the Bill \*\*

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Before adjourning the House for Lunch, I will just bring it to your notice that all those applications that you have given to the office between 9 and 10 o'clock, are all listed. No application can be lost. They come in the form of a List. It is the duty that top priority notices are called first.

Subsequently those notices which come in their individual course are called one by one. The next name would have been Prabhu Dayal. Like that even the names of Shri Chhedi Paswan, Shri Odeyar, Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar, Shri Manjay Lal, Shri Vishwanath Shastri are all there.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad) Mr Deputy Speaker sir kindly listen to my request

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER No your name is also there. It is at serial No 26

\* Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 19 5 95

\*\* Introduced with the recommendation of the President

[English]

Your name comes 21st. Shrimati Saroj Dubey, Shri Vijoy Kumar Yadav, Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh, like this. No application will be lost.

(Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Your name is also there.

SHRI K P REDDAIAH YADAV (Machilipatnam) How are they numbered?

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER I brought it to your notice so that you should not be under wrong impression.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY Mr Deputy-Speaker Sir Please listen to my request. You will also realise it.

[English]

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Another very important thing the Office has brought to our notice is that the moment you give notice, serial number is given and the time is also put. So one need not have any apprehension. It is better to come early.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY Sir, it has happened even after sending notice please believe me.

[English]

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Suppose if you all have cooperated if everyone were to speak for only one or one-and-a-half minute, your name would have come. I have been repeatedly telling Members to cooperate and do justice. Some social injustice is done to some of your friends. I have been repeatedly telling this.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY Sir, kindly believe me. I do not get a chance even in six months. How it happens. The entire session goes. Now this Lok Sabha is meant for the Members sitting on front two benches. We, the back benchers are not given any time to speak.

[English]

SHRI M V V S MURTHY (Visakhapatnam) Opportunities have to be distributed equally. Opportunities are given to only those who are vocal.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER So far as the debate is concerned, it is according to the strength of political parties in the House. As the Whips of the Parties give the names they are called. There is a system according to which every political party is called one after the other. But so far as Zero Hour is concerned, the allotment of time according to the strength of political parties is not the system. As and when you give the notice, names

will appear. So, the earlier speakers should have in mind that there are also other brothers and sisters who want to ventilate their grievances. They should have that much of grace. I hope you will have a better day next

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I had given the notice also but all in vain.

[English]

SHRI G.M.C. BALAYOGI (Amalapuram) : In the Question Hour also senior Members are getting the chance whereas the juniors are not getting any chance.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER . Do not say this party or that party. Secondly, the hon. Speaker has been repeatedly asking us to close it by 12.30 p.m. But hon. Speaker was gracious to permit us to go up to 1 o'clock

SHRI G.M.C. BALAYOGI . Senior Members always stand up and say what they have to. But the back-benchers do not get a chance to speak

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER I have told you the procedure that is being adopted in the House which the Chair is adopting.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Notice has to be given in time

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER . Now the House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.15 p.m.

13.14 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fifteen Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

14.15 hrs.

At 14.15 hours quorum bell was rung. No quorum was made. At 14.18 hours quorum bell was rung again and no quorum was made. At 14.22 hours once again quorum bell was rung and no quorum was made. Thereafter, the Secretary-General made the following announcement.

14.24½ hrs.

**ANNOUNCEMENT RE: POSTPONEMENT OF THE SITTING OF THE HOUSE UPTO 14.40 HRS FOR WANT OF QUORUM.**

SECRETARY-GENERAL : There is no quorum. The House, therefore, cannot meet; and we cannot start the House till there is quorum. Hon. Deputy Speaker has directed that the House will re-assemble at 2.40 p.m.

14.25 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Forty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

14.45 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Forty-Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

#### FINANCE BILL 1995 — CONTD

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER . Now, let us continue the discussion on Finance Bill. Shri Udaysingrao Gaikwad may speak now.

SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD (Kolhapur) . Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill which has been presented by the Finance Minister. While doing that, I would like to give some of my observations and suggestions. At the outset, I must congratulate, the hon. Finance Minister for more than one reasons. He has now equalled the record of late Shri C.D. Deshmukh, the then Finance Minister, by presenting five consecutive Central Budgets. Both of them have steered through our economy in difficult times and this will be ever remembered by those who write economic history of India. Dr. C.D. Deshmukh covered the first five years of planned economy and laid the foundation for economic planning.

Dr. Deshmukh was a man of principles and great integrity. He was the tallest among tall in those days and he was a respected Member of Parliament from Maharashtra and he resigned on the issue of *Samyukta Maharashtra*. His dream of integrated Maharashtra of Marathi speaking people is not yet complete as the border issue still remains to be solved. I would like to speak about this on some other occasion.

In 1991, when Dr. Manmohan Singh took charge as the Finance Minister, India faced a fiscal crisis, a balance of payment crisis, and acute inflation. There was a great need for reforms in the economic policy and management, there was a great need for reforms in the trade policy; and finally, there was a challenge of social justice.

During the last four years, the Finance Minister has steered through the country out of this crisis. Now, we have comfortable foreign exchange position. Foreign investment is coming in a big way. Exports are rising, balance of payment crisis is over. In spite of liberalisation of imports, inflation is under control and India has achieved an altogether different image in the world.

Sir, another reason for which I must salute the Finance Minister is that he has restored national pride of India in the world community. I remember, when the Finance Minister took over, in one of his earlier Press conferences, he had mentioned that he would like to stop the 'Aid India Consortium' and the humiliation which we suffer at these meetings. People then did not take

him very seriously and even some Press people ridiculed him. They thought, this is an impossible task. But there is nothing impossible in this world. In June 1994, he achieved this. Instead of 'Aid India Consortium', the name of the meeting was changed to 'Indian Development Forum' and not only the Government representatives were invited to participate from different countries, but even the private sectors also. The Indian Government participated for the first time on an equal footing and not with a beggars bowl. India also did not have to ask for fast disbursing loans to meet the crisis. But it could ask for loans and funds on its own. No country could also take us into task for wrongly managing the economy and suggest measures which was the story all along during the last 36 years.

For the first time, Indian representatives participated with full confidence without any inferiority complex and could dictate our terms for getting funds. Thus the humiliation to our country stopped at this international forum and the national pride was restored. This is, by no means, a small achievement and the entire nation owes a great debt to the Finance Minister for this achievement.

Sir, I also congratulate the Finance Minister for his special package on social equity and poverty alleviation. With the objective of helping the poor and underprivileged in the country, the Finance Minister has introduced various anti poverty programmes, such as special assistance for developing rural infrastructure, special scheme of providing financial assistance to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes by NABARD, mid-day meal for school children, emphasis on primary education especially, for girls, National Social Assistance Scheme to cover the poor and the needy, housing for the poor, especially for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Group Life Insurance Scheme in rural areas etc.

The Finance Minister has considered what has been achieved so far in the field of macro-economic policy stabilisation and economic growth. At the same time he has added a new dimension of social security and thus has completed the basic framework of Economic Policy. Therefore, the Budgetary support to the Central Plan is being concentrated on Rural Development, Employment, Poverty alleviation programmes and Human resource development sectors.

Though much effort is being made to contain inflation, the wholesale price index is rising at the rate of 10 per cent which is very high. Success of Economic Reforms depends upon stability in prices. Inflation up to 5 per cent to seven per cent is tolerable but anything beyond this rate disturbs the whole process of growth. Economy gets overheated, competitive edge is blunted, exchange stability gets disturbed and the result is wage and cost push inflation. This inflation is as a result of fiscal deficit and mounting Government expenditure.

The Finance Minister wanted to bring down the fiscal deficit from 8.4 per cent of GDP in 1990-91 to about 5 per cent in 1993-94. Now this deficit is around 6.7 per cent and considering the past experience it

appears that it will be difficult for the Government to keep this deficit under control.

The main cause of this deficit is mounting Government expenditure. The uncontrolled public expenditure means that inflation cannot be checked adequately and will be the greatest threat to Indian polity. With Government pay revisions, DA increases etc., this expenditure is bound to increase.

The Finance Minister has to come out with some special programmes of putting this under control.

The Finance Minister has tried to reduce the burden of inflation by reducing excise duties and customs duties on a large number of commodities. This will reduce the prices of these commodities and keep the inflation somewhat under control.

As regards the small scale sector, the Finance Minister has mooted a Special Technology Development Fund for SSI units, coverage of National Equity Fund has been extended so as to include tiny units irrespective of their location, exemption for new SSI units from Income Tax has been extended to further five years and SSI exemption limit for Central Excise concession has been raised from the present Rs 2 crore to Rs 3 crore. These are some of the welcome features, highlights. But the SSI sector is not very happy with this package. I would like to make the following suggestions in this regard.

- (1) The general excise clearance limits of Rs 30 lakh fixed about 10 years ago should have been raised to, at least, to Rs 75 lakh to keep pace with inflation.
- (2) The upper turnover limit of Rs 3 crore for availing excise concession has put limitation on the growth of SSI units. Any economic policy has to be designed for economic growth and hence I feel that up to Rs 3 crore the excise concession be given to SSI units and those who achieve a larger turnover may be charged at the usual rate above this turnover. In other words, a slab system of exemption up to certain limits and full duty thereafter be adopted. This will enable SSI units to grow.
- (3) The Budget is completely silent on the high rates of interest charged by banks to SSI sector. The limit of Rs 2 lakh investment for availing such concessional rate of interest be raised to, at least, Rs 10 lakh.

The technology upgradation and modernisation fund of Rs 200 crores for the entire country is too small. SIDBI should have more liberal norms to disburse these funds and not the normal banking norms.

Small Scale Industries are responsible for 35 per cent of our total exports. I feel, that their full potential is yet to be exploited and it is necessary that the Government comes out with a special package to assist export of SSI sector. To boost the exports and bring about an increase in surplus on trade account, new items of exports are to be added. For this purpose, the

red tapism in the import control and customs authorities has to be changed and all the licences pertaining to exports be issued within 24 hours. All export cargos at the ports particularly at dry ports should be cleared on the same day and if necessary customs staff be appointed round the clock. Availability of containers at dry ports, simple procedures and proper coordination between excise and customs departments for clearance of export cargo are absolutely necessary. It is reported that due to lack of coordination between them, the small scale industries sector have to pay a heavy demurrage charges which results in discouraging of export business. Similarly, while clearing of DEEC book, the procedure of customs and excise should be simplified and clearance be given within three days. I have tried to get information from my exporter friends in SSI sector. According to them, they have to spend a lot of time unnecessarily as they have to run from pillar to post as a result of,

- (A) very complicated procedure regarding advance licence and in one case a consignment was held up for more than 25 days,
- (B) then one requires permission from Collector of Customs, Bombay and permission from the local Collector of Central Excise, Pune, and
- (C) there is no coordination between the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Commerce and as a result the exporter suffers

There is a saying in Marathi,

[Translation]

"Bheek nako Kutra avar"

[English]

And that is the same case with the small scale sector

As over 90 per cent of the SSI units are in the tiny sector, a large part of the finance out of the funds from the priority sector need to be reserved for the tiny sector. The RBI should see that all genuine credit needs of this sector are fully and promptly met

In August, 1991 when the policy for the SSI sector was announced, it was announced that a separate package for the tiny sector will be announced. As the destiny of lakhs of entrepreneurs depend upon this policy, I urge upon the Government to announce the package including its policies on taxation, excise, labour laws etc as early as possible.

Three years back, the Chelliah Committee had recommended income-tax exemption limit of Rs 50,000. Considering the annual inflation rate of 9.5 per cent, this exemption should have been raised to at least Re 65,000. But the Finance Minister has raised this slab

from Rs 35,000 to Rs 40,000 and the exempted interest income has been raised from Rs 10,000 to Rs. 13,000. I feel, this is a very meagre concession.

Sir, I would like to bring to the special attention of the hon. Minister a matter regarding the tax collecting officers, which is a very important point. These officers are causing a lot of harassment.

15.00 hrs.

It is reported that due to this scheme the tax payers are experiencing harassment, while an informant on tax evasion is given a percentage so collected. I fail to understand the logic behind giving a share of tax collected to the collection officers when they are on the Government pay rolls. This leads to harassment of even genuine tax-payers. The incentives to the tax collecting officers should be immediately discontinued. Similarly periodical reports of the revenue collected and expenditure, including establishment expenses and incentives paid, should be published to ascertain the net revenue collected zone-wise by conducting such raids.

Similar is the experience about the income-tax raids. Though much publicity is given to these raids, actually very little is achieved. This is not my opinion but this is the opinion of Shri B. K. Sinha, a Member of the Central Board of Direct Taxes. Your own senior Government Officer has condemned these raids and has said, "The process of survey and raids conducted by the Government has proved negative. It has never been helpful in increasing the revenue of the Government and on the contrary the raids have proved negative. They have destroyed many a career and in some cases have played a havoc with the lives of honest tax payers. However, we should not forget that they are also honest citizens of this country."

Mr Sinha has also referred to the corruption in the Income Tax Department. I would suggest that the Department should immediately prepare a list of such corrupt officers and order inquiry about the assets held by them and their relatives.

I attach great importance to the comments made by Mr Sinha because these comments have been made by a responsible senior Officer of the Government. Will the Ministry of Finance take cognizance of this criticism and take some action? This has also been published in the newspaper and copies of this newspaper have been distributed to all the big houses. Everyone is feeling that whatever he has said is correct. I may also suggest that in case the raids are conducted for no justifiable reasons, the officers should also be penalised and made to pay compensation to the honest tax payers for loss of prestige.

No special treatment or concession has been given to the salaried class. They should have been given a better treatment and special incentives for making savings. This is what one of our colleagues has also suggested.

The proposal of tax deducted at source on bank deposits and Mutual Fund interest beyond Rs 10,000, is a wasteful exercise. Hence forward everyone will split deposit in order to reduce the income below Rs 10,000 and the whole exercise will be futile. Therefore, tax collection will be disproportionately low compared to the administrative cost.

I now come to a very important question of Agricultural Policy. Sir, by proposing to establish the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund you have entered into India's economic development. It clearly brings out the fact that India's economic development will be critically determined by what happens in agriculture. It is now high time that we had a full-fledged Agricultural Policy incorporating both short term and long term agricultural policies aimed at modernisation, greater productivity, greater employment generation and ability to compete in international markets keeping in view at the same time the needs of rural safety-nets.

Sir, lastly I have fortunately gone through the Finance Minister's inaugural address delivered at the 54th Annual Conference of Indian Society of Agricultural Economy held at Shivaji University in my constituency Kolhapur, in the last week of November 1994. This address in my opinion spells out most cogently the basic ingredients of the agricultural policy that we require namely, removal of excessive protection of industry which puts heavy labour pressure on agriculture, freedom for agriculture to enter the international market, careful review of land ceiling legislation, proper reaping of agricultural produce, greater investment in agriculture and particularly in irrigation and better-organised agricultural credit system. I earnestly feel that what our Finance Minister has said in his address be incorporated in the basic Agricultural Policy Resolution to be adopted by the Government. Sir, if this is done your efforts to provide wide social security coverage for various sections of needy, deprived and precariously dependent will become more effective because rapid agricultural development will reduce the number of such people who require assistance.

With these words I congratulate the Finance Minister and support the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) Mr Deputy Speaker Sir, I am thankful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak against the Finance Bill. The financial management should be such which may prove helpful in carrying out developmental activities, increase the resources of the state to remove the stigma of unemployment and poverty, prevent economic offences, remove economic disparity and lead the country to self-reliance in the economic field. Our self-reliance should increase and burden of domestic as well as foreign debts which are multiplying affecting our economy, should be reduced. This is the criteria of sound financial management. When we try to evaluate the economic

mechanism of Dr Manmohan Singh on the basis of this criteria we feel disappointed. I have studied this aspect time and again and found that when he became Finance Minister of India, there was foreign debt of Rs 94 thousand crores on India which has now increased to 90.4 billion US Dollar that means nearly Rs 21 lakh 78 thousand crore in India currency. These figures are upto 31st December 1994 and I am sure that this must have further increased in the last 4-5 months. Similarly our domestic debt is also multiplying. Our Parliamentary Committee and Comptroller and Auditor General of India have observed in their reports that debt is being received at the rate of Rs 9 crore per hour. What can be worst than this for the country? There was domestic debt of 4 Lakh 90 thousand 701 crore rupees in 1994-95 whereas it was 3 lakh 59 thousand 355 crore rupees in 1992-93 and 4 lakh 30 thousand 323 crore rupees in 1993-94. In this manner our domestic debt is continuously increasing. Our liability in domestic debt of gross domestic product has become 54 per cent and it does not include our liability on Exchange bills and our economic policies and for what payment we have to pay 56 thousand 7 hundred 78 crore rupees. I have observed this from economic survey. This is an unfortunate situation. In Revenue Expenditure, we get only 74 per cent from Revenue Receipts and efforts are made to mobilise remaining 26 per cent through domestic debt, foreign debt or through other sources. In view of this we have to either reduce this 26 per cent revenue expenditure or our debt will go on multiplying. This situation is prevailing in our country since 1990-91. It further deteriorated in 1993-94 and Revenue Receipts were to the tune of 70 per cent and remaining 30 per cent had to be mobilised from other resources.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I want to urge the Government to set right the financial management and the way out is that the Government expenditure should be in an economical manner. I have gathered from the following views of the Finance Minister that he is also worried about it. Salaries are being raised incessantly in our private sector and because of which we have also to increase salaries of our employees and officers. This increase causes further burden on our economy. We have read in newspapers recently that IAS officers have demanded their salaries between Rs 75 thousand and Rs 1 lakh. In case one officer would get between Rs 75 thousand to Rs 1 lakh then our expenditure on planned items as well as administrative expenditure would rise considerably.

The expenditure on security of our national leaders is also increasing. Our relations with our neighbouring countries are not good and therefore perforce we have to spend Rs 26 27 thousand crore in the name of security. In these circumstances our Government has no option but to resort to austerity measures. There is no other way out to deal with this serious situation. We can reduce our deficit only through economy. But our Finance Minister has not given any indication in this regard. He is not making any effort to achieve this



Recently process of elections has been completed in some states. The Prime Minister has observed that the States where candidates of opposition parties have won they indulged in so called propaganda and raise uncrative slogans viz sale of rice at the rate of Rs 2 per kilogram etc. Such things are very harmful for economic situation of our country. Our Prime Minister and Finance Minister themselves raise such lucrative slogans. When Prime Minister visited Punjab he declared in a meeting that the expenditure incurred by the State Government on controlling terrorism and the amount of loan taken from the Central Government will be borne by the Central Government. I am not against it if the Central Government grants any exemption to the Government of Punjab or provide any facilities to them but why for Punjab only? The Central Government despatches Para Military forces to other States also where terrorists raise their head. Some time the State concerned does not have resources to incur expenditure on developmental works and pay salaries to their employees also. What is the attitude of the Central Government towards such States? The Government should frame a co-ordinated policy and the Finance Minister has to take the initiative. The Government cannot adopt different criteria for States governed by opposition parties and others governed by their party. This is not proper. This is misuse of resources and capital of the country.

There is a deficit of rupees 1,23,651 crore under the head 'non-planned items'. We should have made provision for industrial development in the budget. We should simplify procedure for tax assessment. We should launch new programmes for eradication of poverty and unemployment. But the Government have not taken any initiative in this regard. The situation on import-export front is also very disappointing. The Finance Minister claims that our export is increasing and it has reached 3 billion dollar in the month of March. It happened in the month of March only. This community often indulges into over-invoicing and under-invoicing. The exporters of our country always indulge in over-invoicing in order to get facilities for exports. The importers often resort to under-invoicing to evade tax and custom duty. The Government have time and again declared that they are reducing custom duty to eliminate *Hawala* racket in our country. But the unfortunately the dollar had been sold for Rs 39-40 in the month of March. Have the Government conducted any probe as to how it happened? Why the export increased all of a sudden in the month of March? Have they considered this point? In the actual sense the export has not increased. The exporters and importers have devised many ways for evasion of duty. The Government should consider all these aspects in depth.

The trade deficit in our country is increasing. There was a trade deficit to the tune of Rs 9687 crore in 1992-93 in so far as our exports are concerned. There

was a deficit of Rs 3350 crore in 1993-94 which increased to Rs 6,367 crore in 1994-95. Thus our trade deficit is increasing continuously. It has adversely tilted our balance of trade. We must study all these aspects in depth. The Finance Minister felicitates himself on the plea that there is maximum foreign exchange reserve created during his tenure. Has it increased due to rise in exports? Has it increased due to trade activities in our country or there are some ulterior reasons? I would like to mention three or four reasons for this situation.

The Government of India passed a legislation in this Lok Sabha in 1991 and that legislation came in the form of a Bill on September 3. In which the Finance Minister declared that if any capitalist, industrialist or businessman of our country brings foreign exchange in the form of a gift in our country between 24th July and 30th November, we shall not make any effort to recover any tax from him. He will not be asked to explain as to whether any of his friends living abroad has given him that gift, the source from which he got it, name of the bank from where he brought and deposited it, whether he has brought the amount on account of any business transaction or what are the other sources of the same. Nothing will be enquired into in this respect. The businessmen of this country went abroad with huge sums they deposited the same there and without any business transaction, without import-export of any commodity, deposited it there. They got that money exchanged for dollar and that amount in dollar was deposited here. The Government of India encouraged smuggling of foreign exchange in a legal manner. This is the first and foremost reason. But I want to bring to the notice of Finance Minister an unfortunate situation in spite of your assurance you may find many businessmen in Bombay and Delhi who are being harassed by the Enforcement Directorate. They are enquiring as to why have they brought this foreign exchange worth crores of rupees. They are made to sit in their office for hours together and if they agree to some unofficial adjustment, they are let off. I wanted to draw your attention towards this aspect.

Second reason is that Government of India offered some incentives to its officials to prevent loot of custom and excise. I read in the newspaper that this was being exploited and some particular officials have collected all the prizes themselves by making use of the aforesaid order. The officers of Department of Custom and Excise themselves got gifts and prizes worth Rs 10,12 and upto 50 lakhs. This is a very big racket. The Government should order a through inquiry into the whole affair. I would urge the Central Government to discontinue all these incentives immediately because they are being misused.

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to point out that there is an order not to make any inquiry from a person any foreigner, or Indian businessman coming

to India from abroad—if he brings in upto 10 thousand dollars at the Airport but this order is being misused. It is causing smuggling as many youngmen of India go to Dubai, purchase dollars from there and come back to India next day. In case 10 thousand dollars are allowed to come to India without any transaction, business or without any business transaction, then I feel, it will affect our currency management adversely. The hon'ble Minister should think over this matter.

Third reason is smuggling of gold. The Government granted exemption to bring in gold upto 5 kilogram. If the person concerned pays tax in the form of dollars, he can bring gold. I want to say that it has also given rise to smuggling. One can bring 1 quintal of silver in the country and many a time it has been found that gold has been concealed in the silver consignment. The gold is kept in safe of one quintal of silver and being smuggled. The Government should consider this matter *de novo* seriously. In addition to these few suggestions our party as well as all of us had demanded increase in the exemption limit of income-tax. We demand the increase in the exemption limit upto Rs. 50 thousand. With these suggestions I conclude.

[English]

SHRIMATI DK THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA (Chikmagalur) Sir, I support the Finance Bill moved by the Finance Minister. The years 1991 to 1995 have been the most crucial years and they have been a turning point on the economic front in the post-independent era.

When this Government was formed under the leadership of our Prime Minister Shri PV Narasimha Rao, the situation was different. India was passing through one of the worst economic situations. The country was confronted with political instability. There was a slide in every sector. The vision of leadership has turned the dismal economic situation into a vibrating situation.

Economic freedom is the real freedom. The greatest achievement of this Government is economic recovery in terms of industrial growth, foreign exchange reserves and foreign investment. However, its real achievement is its success in breaking the shackles which have tied the human spirit and creativity. Its greatest success lies in limiting the power of Government by maximising the power of people. Its achievement lies in emergence of broad national consensus in support of reforms, a consensus which vindicated the Government's strategy of moving forward steadily and surely on the path of reform.

Sir, yesterday's critics are today's drumbeaters of economic reforms. I remember, in the beginning days of this Lok Sabha term how our Finance Minister was struggling to convince that the path of reforms which we choose to tread is the right path. But now-a-days everybody is convinced that it is the right path. This has

been possible because the measures he has taken have started to show good results. I congratulate him for his success.

Sir, the real success of liberalisation comes when it liberates people from poverty and servitude. Rural population constitutes 75 per cent of total population. Ninety per cent of the farmers, who are living in the villages, are very small and marginal farmers. Nearly 74.6 million people are agricultural labourers. Their per capita income is one of the lowest in the world.

Sir, economic insufficiency and denial of basic needs such as sanitation, hygiene, housing, education and medicare to the rural people is causing a great concern. Only through the Government these problems cannot be solved. The answer lies in stimulating rural economy. We must make our people to stand on their own legs. We must not make them to depend on the Government's mercy and grants for ever. This is possible only when the Government changes its policy on rural economy.

The Government has created a number of good programmes for rural development like employment generation scheme, self-employing scheme and also it has taken up infrastructure development. I am happy that the Government has increased the allocation for rural development. But, Sir, the benefit of these programmes is not reaching the people. Only 15 per cent of the fund reaches the intended beneficiaries. Otherwise also, these poverty alleviation programmes are not a permanent solution and they give a temporary solution. One of the key areas which will really stimulate rural economy is agriculture and horticulture sector and also agro-based industrial sector. But, hitherto whatever the measure taken by the Government to develop this sector is very inadequate to tap the potential which is existing. For example, take horticulture. It has a great commercial potential but because of lack of investment in infrastructure building in linkages, timely credit loan, lack of modern technology and transporting system, we have failed to harness the potential. This kind of a situation is the main stumbling block for the rapid economic development in the rural areas.

Sir, the Government has taken a right direction in introducing a rural infrastructure development. But most of its success depends how it will be implemented. This alone is not adequate. The Government has to reshape its policies on agricultural sector, horticulture sector and sectors which are related to agriculture, to make this sector a viable commercial sector. Now the programme which has been formed for development of horticulture, poultry and dairy farming has been taken up just as a poverty alleviation programme and not as a programme which can really be developed on the commercial line.

(Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER How much time will you take? At 3.30 p.m., we shall have to take up the Private Members' Business.

SHRIMATI DK THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA Sir,  
will take only one more minute

My request is that the Government should change its attitude and it must take up this programme on the commercial line

Then, my appeal to the Finance Minister is that hitherto the economic reform is confined only to industrial sector. The Government should bring economic reforms in agriculture sector, plantation sector and sericulture sector. For that, the present agriculture credit policy should be revamped and more credit allocation should be given to the agriculture sector. The Regional Rural Bank has failed in this direction. A better support and better price will definitely help our rural people to develop their economies. The current liberalization and reforms or whatever they have brought now will fail unless they touch the rural mass.

Another important thing mentioned in the Budget is establishing a new scheme under which the banking system will provide Rs 1000 crore on consortium basis to the khadi and village industries. This is a welcoming move. But in the present form, the Khadi and Village Industries Board cannot act as an instrument to bring change in village industry. It has to be restructured and revamped to bring effectiveness in implementation.

Sir, one last word of concern is that now huge foreign investment is coming to India. We must welcome it and we must encourage it. But there is an apprehension that most of the money coming to India is not through genuine investment but is hitherto clandestinely kept abroad by the Indian businessmen and that money is being re-routed back to India. This apprehension needs to be clarified by the Finance Minister.

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15.32 hrs.

### ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

#### Forty-First Report

SHRI SANT RAM SINGLA (Patiala) I beg to move  
"That this House do agree with the Forty-first Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 17th May, 1995."

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The question is

"That this House do agree with the Forty-first Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 17th May, 1995."

*The motion was adopted*

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MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Now let us go to Private Member's Legislative Business. Now let us take up the Bills for Introduction.

Shri Venkateswara D Rao - absent

Shri K Ramamurthy - absent

Shri Venkateswara D Rao - absent

Shri M V V S Murthy

15.33½ hrs.

### REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL\*

#### (Amendment of section 3)

SHRI M V V S MURTHY (Visakhapatnam) I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The question is

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951."

*The motion was adopted*

SHRI M V V S MURTHY (Visakhapatnam) I introduce the Bill

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15.34 hrs.

### KAZIS (AMENDMENT) BILL\*

#### (Amendment of section 4, etc.)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishangan) I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Kazis Act, 1880.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The question is

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Kazis Act, 1880."

*The motion was adopted*

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishangan) I introduce the Bill

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15.34½ hrs.

### ABOLITION OF BEGGING BILL\*

SHRI M V V S MURTHY (Visakhapatnam) I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for abolition of begging and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

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MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The question is

'That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for abolition of begging and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto

*The motion was adopted*

SHRI M V V S MURTHY (Visakhapatnam) I introduce the Bill

15.35 hrs.

### CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL\*

(Amendment of articles 101 and 190)

SHRI M V V S MURTHY (Visakhapatnam) I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The question is

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India"

*The motion was adopted*

SHRI M V V S MURTHY (Visakhapatnam) I introduce the Bill

15.35½ hrs.

### INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of Section 354) - Contd.

MR DEPUTY - SPEAKER We shall now take up item number 10 - further consideration of the motion moved by Shrimati Saroj Dubey The time allotted for this item is two hours We have already consumed one hour and twenty-two minutes Thirty-eight minutes are left for this item

Now, Shri Balraj Passi may speak

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI (Nainital) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir I fully support the amendment Bill moved by Shrimati Saroj Dubey Keeping in view the rising trend of atrocities on women in the country, one is constrained to feel that present laws have become ineffective Indian women has got nothing except her self respect and most important is her modesty If her modesty is outraged, then it becomes impossible for her to show her face in the society Her life becomes miserable The system of Indian society is such that even her family memebrrs discard her Most of such women commit suicide as

\* Published in the Gazettee of India Extraordinary Part II, Section 2 dated 19 5 95

they do not see any alternative or when society refuses to accept such women they go and settle in such areas where they are compelled to indulge in immoral trafficking The main reason of such a course is that the guilty persons are not given deterrent punishment and on the other hand they get support of the people In case any women is denuded and paraded in the streets and the society witnesses such a scene, then the woman is blamed The male dominated society tries to protect that person

Several such cases have taken place in previous years and out of them only one or two persons have been convicted There are thousands of cases which are not registered They are unable to muster courage to go to police station. We can understand if some uncivilised person misbehave with any woman but if a person connected with some institution or organisation is involved in such a crime, then it is very unfortunate In this country, in many cases atrocities were committed in the police station itself, even rapes have been committed there I want to mention one such case which took place in the last few days The most unfortunate case, which come to the notice of the whole country is that of concerning women coming from Muzaffarnagar to participate in an agitation in Delhi Men and women participate in every agitation that takes place in Delhi When these women were coming in the buses, the police of Uttar Pradesh stopped them at Rampur crossing for reasons unknown to us and then tried to separate the women, when women protested then the police lathi-charged them and resorted to firing as a result of which many people died but most shameful thing that happened in Muzaffarnagar incident wherein women were taken away in the sugar-cane fields, where they were raped and most unfortunate thing was that they were denuded and paraded there

The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh (*Interruptions*)\* made a Statement on this incident This is perhaps that on 31st October .

[English]

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER Do not take the names of the persons who are not present in the House It should be deleted from the record.

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI He has stated in that statement that if atrocities have been committed on women, if they have been raped and if they were denuded and paraded in the fields in Muzaffarnagar, then I am prepared to apologise from whole of the country This is the Statement made by the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh This incident occurred on the night of 1st October and the Chief Minister gave this Statement on 27th October that if it had happened, he was prepared to apologize from whole of the country In other words he pleaded ignorance whereas the entire country read it in the newspapers that atrocities were

\* Not recorded

committed on the women in Muzaffarnagar but its knowledge has been denied by the Chief Minister

The most astonishing thing is that in a village Nagla Passi in Aligarh when a similar incident had occurred, the Government of Uttar Pradesh suspended senior superintendent of Police of that area immediately without conducting any inquiry. There was one allegation against him he had not visited the village immediately after publication of this report in the press. He was suspended because of this reason. This incident was reported in the press and it became well known fact that atrocities were committed on women in Muzaffarnagar. The most shameful aspect of the incident is that District authorities and Senior Superintendent of Police of Muzaffarnagar have been issuing statements that neither any atrocities were committed on women nor any woman was raped at that place. Whereas these crimes were committed at their instance. Now it has been proved from the CBI Report that those people were stopped on an order issued by DIG and women were raped by the police personnel. Now every thing is clear from the report of CBI. Not only this when journalists went to the District Magistrate and asked him to comment on the incident in which women were raped, which had already published in the press. At that time women Members and Member from that constituency went to see the honble Prime Minister as well as honble President. When we told the Prime Minister that District Magistrate has given a Statement that if women would go to the sugar cane fields then what would happen to them except rape. The Prime Minister was amazed to hear this and he became very angry and said that how can a District Magistrate make such a Statement. We showed cutting from the newspapers to the Prime Minister that is was the shameful statement made by the District Magistrate.

I want to say that after receipt of the Report of CBI, District Magistrate and Senior Superintendent of Police were transferred whereas in Aligarh a Senior Superintendent of Police was suspended on the ground that he did not visit the spot immediately after publication of the report in the press. On the other hand in Muzaffarnagar incident the demonstrators were stopped and women were raped by the police personnel at the instance of District Magistrate and Senior Superintendent of Police and District Magistrate is just transferred, that too after so many months of receiving the CBI Report. Why these double standards are being adopted in Uttar Pradesh? This is very astonishing and shameful thing. Another shameful aspect of this incident, which has not come before the public is that the District Magistrate said that the firing took place when demonstrators who were accompanied by women, some of our sisters from Uttaranchal were among those demonstrators, fired at the police, thereafter police fired at them, some policemen were injured and they had received pellet injuries and some others were injured in firing by the demonstrators, they were admitted in the hospital. This

report was furnished to the Government and it was published in the press as well that the policemen had pellet injuries. We were astonished to see their X Ray reports. I want to say that the demonstrators were not carrying any weapons.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh hatched a conspiracy in order to conceal rape of women. This is very shameful. We are thankful to CBI who constituted a team of senior Doctors to go into the matter. There were senior doctors from Guru Tegh Bahadur Hospital, Lady Harding Hospital and Safdarjang Hospital in the team. The team of senior doctors was constituted by the CBI to examine the allegation of Police Officials and DIG that the police personnel were shot and find out the truth. We were amazed to go through the report. It was stated in the report that police personnel who were shot were taken to a surgeon on 3rd October and pellets were inserted after conducting an operation. There was great similarity in pellets. The names of the policemen who were said to have been shot, were—Sanjeev Kumar Khushhal Singh and Jumman Singh. They admitted before the doctors that firing took place on 2nd October and thereafter pellets were inserted after conducting operation on 3rd October at the instance of senior officers. All of us were startled to see the entire thing. CBI have confirmed in their report that the women were raped and the women were denuded and paraded in the sugar-cane fields and their clothes were torn. Thereafter senior doctors also stated explicitly that police personnel were taken to a private clinic in a planned manner and pellets were inserted after conducting operation.

Shrimati Dubey has proposed in this amendment Bill that the sentence should be increased from 2 years to 7 years. I want to amend it further. In case a common man commits this type of crime he is awarded punishment but if a policeman or a member of security force commits such a crime, there should be separate rules or law to deal with that case. In case a person who is on Government duty he may be a senior officer and is involved in such a heinous crime he should be awarded, atleast, life imprisonment. In case any policeman refuses to write such report of a woman at the Police Station then he himself should be treated as a criminal. I hope that the Government would set an example by punishing the culprits involved in the Muzaffarnagar incident so that such crimes are not committed in future. The District Magistrate and Senior Police Superintendent of Muzaffarnagar must be sent to jail.

With these words, I conclude

[English]

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur) Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 1994 introduced by Shrimati Saroj Dubey. The Bill proposes for the amendment of Section 354 of the Indian Penal Code and it proposes

for increasing the term of punishment for the offence committed I strongly support the proposal in this Bill, because it is for increasing the term of punishment

Sir in our country the cases of outraging the modesty of women are on the rise As you know, Sir, it has been our sentiment that every women should be regarded treated and respected as mother This sentiment must be made to prevail in the society Otherwise, if that spirit does not prevail the society will face destruction As we have observed, because of the Kauravas trying to outrage the modesty of Draupadi in Mahabharat, they faced destruction The Kaurava brothers tried to outrage the modesty of Draupadi It offended the Pandavas and it caused the great war between Pandavas and Kauravas

There is not only this episode of outraging the modesty of Draupadi in Mahabharat, but in Ramayan also for outraging the modesty of Mata Sita, Ravana faced destruction These are all legendary cases In our society also, we must see that this spirit prevails If such an offence of outraging the modesty of women is committed, it should be taken as a sin So while discussing the problem of the offences committed against women in the country I would like to suggest that the Government should try to teach the people through some other means to make them respect the women in the society

It will help the society very much in bringing down the crimes against women In that part of my State, the crime is committed to the extent that the youths have started committing rapes on the girls and then leaving them hanging or drowning them in the river ponds, etc So the crime is taking another dimension Therefore, I would like to state that the Government should take it very seriously and try to amend the Bill as proposed here and I thank Smt Saroj Dubey very much for bringing up this Bill

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur)

Thank you Sir, for allowing me to say a few words on this subject I fully support this Private Members Bill which has been brought by Smt Saroj Dubey I think that it is more in the nature of a token protest against the kind of incidents that we find happening without any punishment being given for that in our society While agreeing with her fully that the Penal Code needs to be amended as she has proposed, I would also suggest that we need to take a holistic look at certain other Sections of the Code which deal with related crimes

First of all, Sir, I would like to have a look at the relevant Section of the Penal Code - Section 354 What is the present Section says, how does it describe this particular form of crime? It says

"Whoever assaults or uses criminal force on any woman intending to outrage or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby outrage her modesty shall be punished with imprisonment, etc"

Now, the phrase in this Section that I would like to point to is a phrase which is a very well known phrase in the Indian Penal Code, i.e., 'outraging the modesty of a woman' If we look at those parts of the Penal Code where illustrations are given regarding the use of Criminal Code, one illustration is that "by intentionally pulling up a woman's veil knowing that it may injure frighten or annoy her"

Now, I would like to say that although, it has been usual for an Indian woman to use a veil these days we find that the use of the veil is gradually being discarded we also find that many women do not use the veil because they are working women We find that women who work in the fields - agricultural labour, peasant women - do not use the veil because they cannot afford to use the veil

Now you see that the question arises here that if a woman does not use the veil to cover up her face or if a woman does not stay inside the home and if she goes out, does that mean that she does not have any modesty?

16.00 hrs.

This is the question which sometimes arises in the course of this debate It is sometimes said that if a woman goes outside her house if she moves around without a veil then it is but natural that she should be attacked in these ways This is the assumption that I want to criticise I want to say that modesty does not lie in the veil, modesty lies in a woman's behaviour Further I want to say that modesty is a virtue, should be a virtue not only in a woman but also in a man I think that when a woman is assaulted in this way, when she is stripped when her clothes are taken away from her, what happens really should be described in a different way in our present context, instead of saying that it is an outraging of modesty because in many cases we find that it is not really a question of modesty as a feminine virtue, but it is a question of hurting the human dignity of a human being I think that it is this hurt to the human dignity of a woman which is caused by taking away her clothes, by stripping her This is the way in which this criminal offence should be described Otherwise, the traditional notion of the woman as someone who should cover herself up with a veil, who should not go outside for her there is a different code of conduct than for the working man I think all these things will be encouraged

Sir, first of all, I would like to say that the language should be changed Instead of saying that the woman's modesty is being outraged, we should say that the human dignity is being hurt If this is so, then it may be questioned as to why is it that in the case of a woman we are talking of particularly heavy punishment — whether a man is meted out this kind of behaviour or a woman is treated in this way, both of them have their human dignity hurt So, in the case of a woman, why are we talking of special stringent punishment? That question arises My answer to that is that in our society,

as things stand today, we find that the women is generally in a more vulnerable position than a man. It is easier to get away with hurting the human dignity of a person who is more vulnerable. And we find that in our society things are so unevenly balanced, women are so discriminated against in every sphere of social life that it is easier to get away with hurting the human dignity of a woman. She is much more vulnerable, she is much more a target of attack, she is much more easily a target of attack than a man and since it is the duty of the law to protect specially the vulnerable sections of our people, I think it is quite correct that there should be special stringent measures for those who commit this crime against women.

Sir, when we look at the kind of things, the kind of incidents which are behind this proposed amendment, we find that this kind of an incident, stripping of women in public or criminally assaulting them, this is just the tip of the iceberg. We generally find an increased incidence of violence in our society and with an increased incidence of violence in our society, we find that violence against women has been increasing also. For instance, only the other day in Rajya Sabha we have told that in 1993, there have been 11,242 reported cases of rape and 5,817 cases of dowry deaths.

In 1994, there have been 10,226 reported cases of rape and 4,227 cases of dowry deaths.

There may be a slight apparent decline in the number from one year to the other but if one takes a number of years together, if one takes the different years of the decade together, one finds that on an average, the rate of such violence and such crime has been increasing. Of course we know that even in earlier times, crimes against poor people, the poorer sections of our society, poor peasants, agricultural labourers and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have always been there.

We find that poor people have always been subjected to such attack, the poorer sections, the weaker sections of society and particularly the women of these weaker sections. We have a series of horrendous crimes against women from the Scheduled Castes. It is only the other day we have heard the case of Prakash Kaur in Rajasthan who was because she belonged to Scheduled Tribes and because her son was accused of some kind of a petty theft, was dragged by her hair into the market place, beaten up and then subjected to the most inhuman torture until she died. This is the continuation of a form of torture which has been going on for many many years in our society. But today we find that even apart from this kind of violence which is endemic of our caste-ridden society where inequality is endemic, the other sections also are being now affected by incidence of violence. For instance, the number of communal riots has increased over the years. In the decade of the 80s, there has been a sharp increase in the number of communal riots and when communal riots take place, the women of different communities also become the target of attack.

Similar is the case with regard to domestic violence. Here also, we find that a woman may be poor or she may come from the middle-classes, she may even come from the richer sections of society and yet no one is immune from the different horrendous forms of domestic violence which we find is growing.

I think that if we try to analyse the factors behind this we have to see that there has been going for some time a very rapid disruption of our existing socio-economic structure which accentuates such events. I.e. traditional systems of values are breaking down and, therefore whatever security there had been in this traditional system of values is no longer available and violence is becoming endemic to this period of rapid change.

What are the different occasions on which we find women becoming victims of this kind of crime? Sometimes we find that when there is hatred between two communities or two groups of people in order to wreak vengeance by one community, the women of the other community are attacked.

So vengeance is one factor which is behind this. Then, we find another very alarming feature, that is we find more and more cases of the mob taking justice in their own hands. Now, this is a very serious thing. This happens when people begin to lose faith in the administration, in the police, in the power of the State. This is when we find this mob psychology when they turn to violence when they suspect someone of having stolen something or being a kidnapper, we find that this happens. In fact, in many States this has happened. An old woman, a beggar woman is suspected of being a kidnapper. There is no evidence against her but simply on the basis of suspicion, she is attacked, beaten up and killed. This kind of an incidence of the mob taking justice in their own hands is a very alarming phenomenon. Since this House consists of the political leaders of the country, I request all political leaders to see it as a kind of warning that unless the State Administration functions properly, this kind of a crime is going to be on the increase. (*Interruptions*)

There are also other cases where women are attacked in this manner as a result of the incidence of eve-teasing. But since you are ringing the Bell, I will try to compress my argument as much as I can. What I would like to say here is that the regrettable thing is that whenever such an incident happens, very often we find that the political parties rush in to take sides. There is a certain politicisation of such crimes. One of my colleagues was talking about the Uttarakhand incident. The incident which happened at Muzaffarnagar is a very very regrettable incident, a most condemnable incident. I had been among the group of MPs who had visited Muzaffarnagar just after the incident. I would like to say that when we went there, we could immediately see that something quite serious had happened that the Police and the Administration were not playing a

very candid role, that they were hiding something that certain unsavoury incidents involving a large number of women had taken place. Yet Sir there was a miasma of rumour. There was a miasma of mutual suspicion which was being fomented, I am sorry to say, by the different political parties so that we could see that tension was being created almost on caste-lines.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Shrimati Malini Bhattacharaya, just a minute. The time allotted to this subject - two hours - comes to an end by 4.13 p.m. Is it the desire of the House that we should extend the time by one hour more?

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) Please extend the time by half-an-hour more. *(Interruptions)*

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The point is that we have got a number of subjects. If we are going to extend the time then other subjects will not reach the discussion stage. So if the speakers were to confine to just five or six minutes I think more Members could participate in the discussion and justice could be done to the subject.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) As I said earlier, please extend the time by half-an-hour. *(Interruptions)*

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Very good. Very nice. So, we extend the time by half an-hour only. There are two things. You should understand it.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) Kindly extend the time by half-an-hour.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (Khargone) Half-an-hour would not be sufficient. It should be one hour. This is very important matter.

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad) This is very important matter concerning women. You please give sufficient time for this.

*[English]*

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER It is true. The subject has been dealt with in detail in depth. Many valuable suggestions have been made. The hon. Minister is also here. He has also understood it very deeply. Therefore, I think half-an-hour is sufficient so that we can go to some other subject.

The House had allotted two hours. We are extending it by another half an hour as there are many subjects to be discussed. Is it the sense of the House to extend the time for this business by half an hour?

SOME HON. MEMBERS Yes.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Maliniji, you may continue your speech. You were at your last point.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) I will be very brief. This was my penultimate point. I have just one more point. I was saying that when we find

political parties trying to make gam out of these kinds of incidents, I think, this is a very regrettable thing. This is something which should be avoided at all costs. We must know the truth. The truth must not be hidden away. The truth must come out. But at the same time, there must not be any undue use of the incident for narrow political gains.

Now I will come to my last point. We find that laws are necessary but laws are not enough. We find that wheels of justice grind slow. Sometimes, also, the guilty escapes only with a very nominal punishment. If you consider the number of cases which are filed and the number of incidents where ultimately punishment is meted out to the guilty, then you find that there is a big discrepancy between the two lists. The delay also increases the agony of the victim and renders her more insecure. Therefore, it is not enough to have a law but the implementation side of it is also very important. Unless the State administration intervenes into this to ensure the proper carrying out of justice and expeditious carrying out of justice, I think, mere making of laws is not enough. At the same time the pressure on public opinion and the change in our perception of the public in general is very important. Where the public is able to extract its pressure on the administration I think, that carries us a long way.

Finally I would say that while I agree entirely with Shrimati Sarojji's Bill, I would just like to make a small point. I was just looking at some of the other crimes which are similar to this like rape which takes up Sections 375 and 376 of the Indian Penal Code. Here we find that the punishment is not less than seven years in an ordinary rape case and not less than ten years rigorous punishment for custodial rape. However it is said that for adequate and special reasons to be mentioned in the judgment, a lesser sentence may be given in either case both in the case of ordinary rape and in the case of custodial rape. I would ask Sarojji to consider this that if for stripping a woman the punishment is enhanced to rigorous imprisonment for seven years and if it is the same for rape then the two crimes are not comparable. Rape is an even more heinous crime than the other one. Custodial rape is more heinous even than the first one. I think, it is necessary for us when we are trying for enhancing punishment for criminal assault for so-called outraging of modesty at the same time we should also look at the other laws. Where minimum punishment needs to be enhanced in order to ensure that there is exemplary pressure on people who do these kinds of things and where the loopholes are there, I think, those loopholes should be plugged.

In other words, unless we take a holistic look at this and other associated laws, I think, that the amendment would not be complete. Therefore, while accepting this amendment, I would also ask the Government to look at it in a much more holistic manner and consider the amendment of other laws as well.



MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER So, the subsequent speakers will have very less time Dr PR Gangwar you pinpoint and suggest the relevant points Too much of details is not necessary because everybody has understood it

[Translation]

DR PR GANGWAR (Pilibhit) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir the hon'ble Members who speak in the end, do not get sufficient time We may also get a minute or so

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Dr Gangwar, you are in the House since many years You know the etiquettes of the House The House should not be taken very lightly

[Translation]

DR PR GANGWAR Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir I am thankful to you for providing me this opportunity to speak on this subject I support the Amendment Bill under Section 354 presented by Shrimati Saroj Dubey

I would not like to repeat what has already been said but I shall touch other aspects Some of our friends referred to Manu and Pandavas At that time woman was treated like mother, sister and daughter but today's politics has vitiated the atmosphere When we used to study, it was taught to us in the schools that

[English]

If wealth is lost, nothing is lost, if health is lost, something is lost, and if character is lost everything is lost

[Translation]

But now-a-days it has been completely reversed

[English]

If character is lost, nothing is lost, if health is lost something is lost and if wealth is lost everything is lost

[Translation]

It is the result of that the atrocities are being committed on our mothers and sisters they are often being criminally assaulted Such cases are increasing day by day In Barkheru Kata Which is in my constituency Harijan women were raped A young sister was denuded and raped in the presence of her brother in Banda There are several incidences of this type Our friends have mentioned incidents occurred in Aligarh and Muzaffarnagar In my view the real culprit is the present Government and the politics Our leaders plead that religion should be separated from the politics But if politics is separated from the religion then honour of women would never be safe Religion must be linked with politics The religion does not mean that somebody is Hindu, Muslim, Sikh or a Christian Religion means truth, non-violence love compassion, courage, self-

restraint, not stealing, remuneration, forgiveness, satisfaction, patience and prudence These are the qualities of religion These are the pillars of Dharma (Religion) 'Dharma' teaches us that a woman is our mother, sister and our daughter But we have forgotten all this now At present in India in every 47 minutes a woman is raped a woman is abducted in every 44 minutes and at present 14,048 such cases have been filed in Uttar Pradesh but nobody is there to take care of them In a village Begari, in district Dhar in Madhya Pradesh a young widow was beaten up mercilessly denuded and then raped This is not one but many similar incidents occur daily At present atrocities are being committed on women in every nook and corner of the country But when we report the matter to the Government nobody listens to us In my constituency, a doctor raped a woman nearly 7-8 months ago Its report was not recorded When I approached the authorities even then it was not written Then we had to besiege the police station When the report was written our 46 persons were termed as accused If this type of protection is to be provided by the Government law and the administration then incidents concerning atrocities on women would naturally rise

I would like to say that we should increase educational facilities also besides framing legislation If Government would increase educational facilities, our mothers and sisters would know their rights As stated by my predecessors atrocities are committed on poor women in villages I also agree with this view I am prepared to concede that rich women who become victims of rape and other atrocities they just bear them silently in order to save their prestige But a small incident that occurs in a village gets wider publicity and therefore one thinks that more atrocities are committed in villages

I would like to say that propagation of Dharma is a must in the field of education only then atrocities on women can come to an end otherwise we cannot do so

Shrimati Saroj Dubey has proposed in her amendment Bill that the sentence should be enhanced from 2 years to 7 years But I would like to amend it further The person who commit atrocities on women or commits rape such a person should be tied with a tree on a crossing and nails should be set on his hands and feet As a result of this there will be terror in minds of the people, the society will learn a lesson that wrong doers are punished in India in the real sense Other people will hesitate committing any wrong

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank Shrimati Saroj Dubey who has drawn attention of the House towards a social crime and moved a Bill which is a symbolic one A provision already exists in Indian Penal Code which deals with causing any type of insult to women Shrimati Saroj Dubey seeks to make it more deterrent This is a welcome step because there may be a Government of any party our society being male dominated, atrocities on women are increasing Mind, brain and nature of Indian man is anti-woman in

the real sense This is what I believe After leading a public life for so many years I have drawn this conclusion that this psychology has nothing to do with the Governments Because there is Government of Shri Mulyam Singh Yadav where therefore, we are discussing the incident of Muzaffarnagar here When there was Government of this party there then Pathardeva incident had occurred When I was a Member of Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh, another incident had occurred involving Maya Tyagi and Shri Mulayam Singh was the Chief Minister at that time Therefore, there may be any Government, the administration of our country, police organisation social structure of our country, its formation, tradition is fundamentally anti-woman In view of this, on one hand we have to create a social environment in which there may be more respect for the women and on the other hand, as stated by my friend, there is need to provide more educational facilities to create all awakening about the prestige of women

Besides we have to think about our economic structure We should review the law of succession of our country which is hereditary It is pleaded that there should be uniform law for all religions and castes Let me refer to the succession Law for Hindus I want to tell those persons who plead for single civil code that if they have moral courage, they should raise the demand of amending and modifying the law of succession in which besides son daughter will also become eligible for equal right in the property of her father which will be a great leap forward towards social equality I would submit that the House should urge the society to accept this view This change in the attitude of the society cannot be effected by streamlining the administration only Provisions for awarding stringent punishment should be there There should be stringent law to punish the people who outrage modesty of the women or insult them in any manner but their respect will not enhance simply by passing such law I do not agree with this There should be a coordinated effort Shrimati Saroj has moved this Bill with this end in view and drawn attention of the House I fully support this Bill and urge that people who are leading public life irrespective of their party affiliations, should try to create an environment in which the women could command more respect in the society With these words I support the amendment Bill moved in the House

[English]

SHRI K PRADHANI (Nowrangpur) Mr Deputy-Speaker Sir, I rise to support this Bill brought forward by Mrs Saroj Dubey regarding Amendment of Section 354 of the Indian Penal Code

I would like to support her on three counts Generally these outrage on modesty' cases are reported at the police stations in a minimized fashion This is because our ladies are afraid of losing their prestige They feel that once they admit that something has gone wrong with them, that is somebody has committed an

offence on them, they lose their prestige It should not happen They should be educated It is not their guilt The *Ramayana* has taught us that when *Ravana* took *Sita* to Lanka and kept her in the forest for so many years she was not found guilty When she was subjected to a test of fire, she was not found guilty because without her consent, she was forcibly taken by *Ravana* to Lanka So also, if a woman is raped by somebody it does not mean that she is guilty, but it is the person who commits that offence who is guilty That is why, the women should be sufficiently educated that they should not be afraid and suppress these cases while reporting at the police station Whenever they appear before the police, if sometimes even though a rape has been committed, they report only that 'he pulled my clothes', or 'he pulled my hands' This amounts to outraging of modesty of a woman under Section 354 But there are two types of outrages According to the actual meaning of Section 354 of the Indian Penal Code, if anybody pulls the sari of a woman with evil intentions, that also amounts outraging the modesty Now, the hon Member has said that police people and some other people completely stripped women and paraded them in the streets This comes under a severe offence category This can be treated as an atrocity According to the Prevention of Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Act, 1989, all offences punishable with imprisonment of ten years or more under IPC should be treated as offences of atrocious nature

Where the intention is bad and where the dignity and prestige of a woman is completely thrown to humiliation in such cases, that should be treated as a serious offence and should be punished very severely I also propose that there should be two-parts in this section — just touching the cloth or something like that which is covered under Section 354 should be treated as the first one with a punishment of two years, and in the other case, the punishment should be increased from two years to say five or seven years Like the previous speaker Shrimati Mallini Bhattacharya has pointed out rape and outraging the modesty should not be equalised and there should be some difference I request that there should be a second part of Section 354 of IPC and the punishment for stripping and parading should be made heavier Outraging the modesty, raping and all these things are appearing dally in the newspapers To prevent this, I propose to have a separate Section in IPC to hold the police people responsible if we find them concealing the accused persons simply to give them protection or to safeguard the interest of the victim, and we should see that the real picture come to the police station, and that it is thoroughly and properly investigated and the culprits punished Moreover, rehabilitation should be provided to the victims of such atrocities There should be encouragement and the rehabilitation should be given by the Welfare Ministry

Lastly regarding the definition of outraging the modesty of woman, I would say that the definition should be changed a little because 'assault' means simply to beat. But, here one need not beat and even if one touches somebody or with the intention of insulting somebody does any act even without touching her amounts to an 'assault'. This should be properly analysed and the definition should be properly amended so that the offences committed against the women can be reduced to the maximum extent possible.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER There are three or four Members to speak. If each one were to take two minutes' time, I need not ring the bell.

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS (Karimganj) Sir, I rise to support the Bill introduced by Shrimati Saroj Dubey. I do not cite examples of Ramayana and Mahabharata in this connection. But I feel the heinous thing has been coming down to this day even.

Sir, the rationality in man makes him differ from animal and so, men cannot dream of stripping of woman, raping or committing atrocities on them. Only those who are devoid of rationality could do such heinous things. One learned person once said, "Look to yourself into a mirror when you are angry, you will find yourself a beast and not a man."

So, such things could only be done by beastly persons. Sir, I find that these atrocities and stripping of women are not committed on upper strata of society but on lower middle class and *dalits* but why is this so? It is because of their poverty. They have to come out of their dwellings for earning and subsistence and while doing so, they become exposed to the unruly elements.

Sir, a woman who is stripped of or humiliated suffers serious mental agony and sometimes she is ostracised or excommunicated. Not only this, her family members are also looked down upon by the society and cannot lead a respectable life in the society.

Sir, I do not entirely agree with Shrimati Dubey that till today our Indian society is male-dominated. Now, our society is in the period of transition and in this transitory period, women are gradually coming forward to shoulder several responsibilities in public life and I hope and feel that within a couple of decades they will be at par with their male counterparts in all aspects of life.

In conclusion, I should say that there should be State and Union Territory level Women Commission to look into such atrocities on women and at the same time, there must be spread of education among *dalits* and lower middle class. Special courts, which have been set up for this purpose, should be prompt enough for speedy disposal of such cases. In this connection, Section 354 of IPC should be suitably amended so that exemplary punishment could be meted out for such offences.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the Government should consider the amendment Bill moved by Shrimati Saroj Dubey seriously. She deserves congratulations because she has drawn the attention of the country as well as Government to this aspect when such incidents against women are occurring in the country and in the society. The incidents of insult, outraging modesty of women and misbehaviour with them are on the increase. It would have been better if in addition to Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs and Social Welfare Minister, Law Minister had also been present at this time because this amendment Bill relates to amendment in law. It is not a general discussion on the plight of the women or their general problems are not being discussed. It is a specific amendment to IPC that sentence provided in the law is less and the same should be increased. I agree that people should be educated and there should be a movement and awakening in the society. But in spite of all this, every civilised country makes law because law has its own effect and one is afraid of law. Everybody does not realise this but there should be fear in the mind of the person indulging in misdeeds and if one person is awarded punishment, others would also be afraid of it. I think that the Government should accept this amendment in which it has been proposed that sentence should be increased to 7 years.

It is not only indicative of individual criminal tendency that one insults some woman, denudes her and tries to outrage her modesty but it brings bad name to the society as well as country. If such incidents occur in our country then what others would think about us. They would think that we are a backward people, we live in a backward society where women are treated like this and all of us tolerate it. On the one hand we are making all out efforts to make progress but on the other we tolerate such acts which are considered social and national crime. The fact is that it is not an ordinary crime. Today the entire female society is agitated over this issue and we are also agitated because we are also hurt. Are we living in an uncivilised society? Ours is a civilised society and we have thousands of years old history, culture and civilisation but are we not termed backward because of such acts by some people?

This is not an issue which may require long speech. The Government should think over this matter seriously keeping in view the facts. I would suggest that Government should consider it and if the suggestion of seven years sentence is not acceptable to them, they may like to amend the law in some other fashion. Shrimati Dubey has just drawn attention of the Government towards this matter that provisions of our existing law are not sufficient, they are not deterrent. There is some lacunae. It should be made more specific, more deterrent and more effective. The Government may kindly convene a meeting of all parties because all of them are worried about it.

16 47 hrs.

(Shri Sharad Dighe *in the Chair*)

Obscene display on TV, demonstration of various parts of the body, ugly songs leave bad impression on the minds of the people as well as children. When after watching a picture there was so much commotion in this House and the Minister of Information and Broadcasting convened a meeting and the matter was discussed. This is more serious thing because it concerns real life. This is not a picture only. It is not a question of dirty songs but it is the real life in which a heinous crime is committed against a girl or a woman or a poor woman. This is really a serious matter. Therefore Government should convene a meeting and listen to the views of the people.

I may bring to the notice of Government one more thing. There are two types of crimes. One is committed by a common man and other by a policeman. There are many such examples. There are many such cases in which a woman was stripped naked and not only this, they outraged her modesty before her family members and then said "Go, we have done this, you should learn a lesson from it." Two years ago, such cases had come to the notice of the Government, I shall send you the details. A similar incident had occurred in Uttar Pradesh or Madhya Pradesh, two years ago. You must have gone through them. There are cases in which policemen outraged the modesty of the women in their custody. Therefore, there should be some provision under which if the crime is committed by a person other than a common man i.e. by, a Government servant or a policeman or police officer, who are responsible for maintaining law and order his punishment should be more stringent than a common man for the same crime, because a person to whom the responsibility for maintaining law and order has been entrusted himself commits the crime. The Government should keep in view all these facts.

With these words I support the Bill and hope that Ministers of both the departments are present here, they will consider this matter and convene a meeting for this purpose. Some effective steps can be taken in this respect. We can control these crimes through legislation, propagation of education and by taking steps to bring an awakening in the society.

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN Shri Rameshwar Patidar may speak now. Before that, I would like to inform the hon. Members that the time allotted is over. Should we extend the time by another half an-hour?

SEVERAL HON MEMBERS Yes Sir You may please extend the time by another half-an-hour

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (Khargone) Mr Chairman Sir, I congratulate Shrimati Saroj Dubey for

moving this very important Bill. We are all aware of the circumstances in which the women become victims of those crimes. If you go through Indian Culture, Civilisation, history and traditions, you will not find such heinous crimes against women.

When our country became independent materialistic tendencies grew and number of rich people boomed in our country. Because of the effect of our system of education, with the growth of materialistic tendencies, incidents of outraging the modesty of women also increased. Therefore, Amnesty International said in their report on the occasion of International Women Day that women remained victim of terrorism throughout this decade. We may not go into the figures. The number of crimes against women is increasing day-by-day.

There has been a Chhuara incident in Madhya Pradesh, in the district, to which the Chief Minister belongs, attempt were made to rape a woman before her husband. When her husband protested he was murdered and the police witnessed the scene and did not take any action. There is Jambu Town 50 kilometre away from Bhopal, capital of Madhya Pradesh. Modesty of a woman was outraged in broad day light and the police was a mute witness to the whole scene. Such incidents take place every day. The main reason is that the system of our education is lacking the element of character building. My predecessor had also said that we have stopped stressing on character building. It is because of this that all these evils are taking roots in our society.

Shrimati Saroj Dubey has proposed that sentence for outraging modesty of a woman should be raised to 7 years under Section 354 and these should be rigorous imprisonment and not simple imprisonment. It may be observed that in all the sections of Indian Penal Code amount has not been specified with the word 'fine'. It has been left to the discretion of the Judge. Wherever the word 'fine' occurs in connection with the crime committed against woman the amount should also be specified alongwith fine.

Shrimati Malini has said that all the Sections dealing with crime under Section 375 and 376 have to be deleted. We would be able to control the crime by enhancing the sentence under one section only. The crimes cannot be controlled by enhancing sentence for the crime under one Section relating to it. We shall have to enhance the sentence in the same proportion under all the sections and it has to be made rigorous imprisonment. The sentence has to be enhanced under Section 375 and 376 as has been done in the case of section 509, 304 and 306. The criminals and their accomplices must be awarded deterrent punishment to meet the ends of justice.

Besides, attention should be paid towards Anti-dowry Act also. The main reason of crimes against women and increase in such a tendency in our society is the impact of films on our society. Shri Chandra Jeet

Yadav has also mentioned this point. The type of films and serials shown on TV now-a-days encourage this tendency among the people. All these things have to be set right. We have to uplift the society. It is not possible to do so if we talk of bringing an end to the crimes by framing laws only. We have to correct this ten psychology of the people and all the loopholes have also to be plugged keeping this objective in mind.

I would also like to say that films are also showing obscene scenes. The rape scenes to are shown in the films. The criminals adopt same modus operandi in real life. There are many instances in which criminals have admitted that they saw a particular film and did the same thing in their real life. When these things are happening, can't we can such films. We talk of uplifting the society by streamlining the law but we cannot ban such films. Therefore I think rape scenes and other obscene scenes should be banned in the films. Cinematography Act should be amended for this purpose. The Director, Producer, Actor, Actress - all of them should be punished if they indulged in such performances. If this is done, things can be set right otherwise you can neither uplift the society by merely amending the law nor give proper direction to the country.

The daughter-in-law is burnt for want of some money by some greedy people. We have seen that the stove always bursts over the daughter-in-law only. Why it does never burst over any mother-in-law. Therefore we have to correct this tendency in the society. We may do it through films, society or through magazines. We have to create proper environment.

Mr Chairman, Sir, many such journals and magazines are published such as Debonair and Fantasy. They sense trade in women body. They poison the society slowly by encouraging cupidily. Therefore such magazines should immediately be banned and there should be some provision to punish them also. If some provision is made in the law for this purpose, things will be set right. I may tell you another thing. There is a magazine Asian-Ways which is published in London and its journalists travel throughout the country. They are always in search of a woman whose nude photo could be taken in order to publish the same in the said magazine. If we allow such people to carry on their activities unchecked then we cannot prevent this tendency. Therefore we have to take all possible steps to curb this tendency.

I may be allowed to quote an example of Meghalaya where there is a women dominated society and thus land, property and assets all these things are in the name of women and girls. Therefore incidents of such crimes do not occur there. Moreover the women wield their power and therefore, such incidents do not occur. Until women are given these rights, the incidents of atrocities will continue. When women hold good posts, and they become Administrative officers, M P's and M L A's, they have not to face such situations. Therefore, efforts should be made to give them more and more rights.

My predecessor had been telling that there is need to amend Hindu Succession law and when we talk of Common Civil Code then we are asked to plead for giving equal rights to women in the first instance. We are always for providing these rights to women and our party is also in favour of giving equal property rights to the women. The brother and sister should have equal right to the inparental property. In certain States Hindu Succession Act has already been amended and this right has been given to them. The women means all women including Muslim women. If we continue allowing bigamy in their case we cannot do justice to them. Why can't we talk about their husbands and their rights. Therefore if *Talaq* is granted without any restriction by just uttering the word *Talaq* thrice, then what will happen to their posterity. What do you expect of them? Naturally they would indulge in criminal activities. They will neither study nor become civilised citizen. Therefore, provision should be made to award punishment to those people who practice bigamy. Besides, Government should examine the judgement delivered by the Supreme Court on 10th May. Intelligentsia and Parliament of the country should try to create proper environment. We should draft a *Common Civil Code* and give them rights and thus we can set the things right in wider perspective and prevent the atrocities being committed on women.

Sir, with these words I thank you for providing me this opportunity to express my views.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxur) Mr Chairman Sir I am thankful to the hon ble Member Shrimati Saroj Dubey for moving this amendment Bill under Section 354 of the Indian Penal Code.

17.00 hrs.

The only thing she wants is that the punishment two years and fine should be enhanced to seven years imprisonment. Although I feel that it is not a big job to increase the punishment to 7 years or 10 years and no one should object to it and I have also no objection but the most important question is that inspite of existence of section 354 in the Indian Penal Code, why such incidents are taking place? The women should be accorded more importance in the society, why it is less? It is not owing to law. But according to religion if a male child takes birth, a big function is held and money is also doled out. His birth day is celebrated but if a girl child is born to some body, he thinks as if some calamity or burber has be fallen on him. In accordance with law if somebody has a son or a daughter, they have equal rights after his death. But if some one dies, then according to Hindu religion it is said that he will go to heaven only if his son offers fire in his mouth, the daughter cannot perform this rite. This religion is derogatory is case of daughter and in view of this, importance of a girl is less in the society and boys are given more importance. If equal rights are given to son

and daughter in religion if we do not discriminate between the two, I think the disrespect shown to the girls will be no more

It is a fact that these are depressed classes in our society and the police lodges them in jail without any evidence, whether the case is under Section 395 or 302 or a case of theft. Similarly if a woman is a beggar or a labourer, she is also falsely implicated in some case and sent to jail. The evidence is not required in such cases. We should examine all these aspects and put some restrictions on these things. We have also observed that dowry system has also ruined the girls. We read in the newspapers almost daily many girls hang themselves and die. In such same case a girl writes that her father was very much worried for her dowry as he could not afford and therefore she has taken that extreme step. Shri hangs herself to lighten the burden of her father. We have an Anti-Dowry Act but where it is used? Whether concerned party is uneducated or educated no one is prepared to engage his son without Tilak ceremony in which Rs 1 lakh to 4 lakh have to be given. We the leaders also, while speaking from a stage would say that it is an offence to receive money for Tilak ceremony but it is not an offence if we receive it inside the house, then it is alright according to law. Therefore in addition to amendment to the law there is need to enforce it stringently so that we may protect the women with the help of law. Even with the properment the existing law is enforced, it will do good to atleast 50 percent women. Their prestige in the society would enhance. Shrimati Saroj Dubey has mentioned many things. The women are denuded and paraded in many States on ordinary grounds. They are insulted in many ways. It is a fact that a woman who is denuded and paraded in the streets cannot command any respect in the society. She cannot live in that area where she was thus paraded. Her family members cannot face the society. Therefore, I support this Bill and urge the Government to amend the law to make it more stringent. In my view no doubt there is need to make the law stringent but its enforcement is also equally important.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Firozabad) Mr Chairman, Sir I thank you for providing me opportunity to express my views. I congratulate Shrimati Saroj Dubey also who has moved this Bill.

Mr Chairman, Sir, it is very sorry State of affairs that many incidents of atrocities on women are taking place in our country. We should draft legislations and pass them. They have their own role to play but at present the situation is very grain in our country especially in Uttar Pradesh. It is not a question of any party. What happened in Aligarh and Badayun? I visited these places. 17 women labourer at a Kiln were raped in Aligarh and there I saw that those girls aging between 16-17 years has to explain the whole thing to the investigation officer in the presence of their father and brother. When such incidents occur then political leaders

and investigation officer ask these women as to what has happened time and again. The women hesitate because they are ashamed of what had happened to them and find it very difficult to tell others. The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs Mr Rajesh Pilot is sitting here. I want to tell him the attitude of the Government of Uttar Pradesh in such incidents. Until the Government and political parties want to see the reality and will not bring an awakening in the society, such incidents would not stop. I know, in many cases police does not register even FIR in Uttar Pradesh. I may state that two Central Ministers visited Agra and Lucknow. When correspondents asked them that what action do they propose to take to prevent occurrence of such incidents, they replied that correct decision would be taken at proper time. I do not want to mention their names. I condemn them had Lord Krishna adopted this attitude when Dropadi was being disrobed could the honour of Dropadi be protected? Now-a-days people do not have conscience. The people having conscience would throw challenge the person standing before him but we know that it does not exist these days.

Mr Chairman, Sir woman of India has a distinct place in the entire world. There is lot of difference between a woman of other countries and a woman of India. The woman of India has a distinct identity, whenever our country was invaded or it has/had to face any sort of calamity the woman of this country made a significant sacrifice. Whether it was Sita Dropadi or for that matter even Shrimati Indira Gandhi also. I am thankful to her also because she also dealt with criminals severely. Whenever prestige of woman of India was at stake a revolution took place in the country.

Mr Chairman, Sir, I may submit that the costumes of Western tourism visiting Country is creating very bad effect on our society. India has, distinct culture, identity and civilisation. The Western people come semi naked which is causing bad effect on Indian civilisation. I would like to ask that when a seven year old girl is raped then what difference remains between a human being and a beast. It has been stated in our Shastras that our diet affects our way of life. Now-a-days most people are turning non vegetarians. I am not levelling any allegation but it also affect the psychology of the people to some extent. Uneducation is also one of the main reasons for this state of affair and therefore I demand that right of education should be given to every one. Which has not been given even after so many years of Independence. We observe that there is no school in villages where mostly poor people live. If there is school, there is no teacher and if there is a teacher, then equipments required for teaching are not available. This is the condition of education in villages. Because of this reason, the wards of IAS and IPS only appear in the competitions and become IAS and IPS officers.

Mahatma Gandhi has said that real freedom will be attained only when people of depressed classes would

become progressive and prosperous. If they will be prosperous the entire country would be prosperous. Therefore educational facilities should be provided for depressed classes. Until women are educated, these things will go on. When conscience of a man is dead, he can tolerate everything but Shri Rajesh Pilot reaches the spot wherever any such incident takes place.

In Etawa, a girl belonging to Dhanuka caste was raped in the presence of her father. Ask her father about his feelings. The girl may belong to any family, the woman is a woman, she may belong to Scheduled Caste or any other caste. The family, in which woman is not respected, becomes hell, now-a-days innumerable incidents of atrocities and rape on women are taking place. I support the Bill moved by Shrimati Dubey. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs must have seen a press report that a father has raped his own daughter. It has been published in all the newspapers. Such people should be awarded more stronger deterrent punishment so that recurrence of such incidents could be checked.

With these words I support the Bill and conclude

[English]

SHRI K T VANDAYAR (Thanjavur) Mr Chairman, I rise to support this Bill moved by Mrs. Saroj Dubey. Molestation and misbehaviour with women cannot be prevented by law alone. Actually in cinemas and television you see so many obscene scenes which tutor the idle youths to venture into this kind of heinous crimes. Men's weakness for this sin cannot be curtailed and put an end to by law alone. So I would request that people in villages and towns must protect the women by moral teachings and self-discipline. When the police and the custodians of law commit such wrongs they should be punished and must be severely dealt with. Wherever women are protected and respected that society would be in harmony. I would suggest to the hon. Minister, Shri Rajesh Pilot that whenever crimes like this take place, we should see that the quality is properly dealt with so that another crime does not take place.

MR CHAIRMAN To be on the safe side we will extend the time for this discussion by half-an-hour.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) Mr Chairman, Sir, I have listened to the views expressed by hon. Members on the Bill moved by our sister Sarojji. It is true that she has brought the matter in the House but the Government is also seised of the matter. I do not want to compete by quoting figures and I do not want to make the matter less serious. These incidents are stigma on the society. It is weakness of the Government also that they are unable to prevent them. It is also a fact that social evils in our day to day life have also increased and they are also contributing in these

incidents. This is also correct that we cannot prevent these incidents effectively with the enforcement of law only. There may be any reason for this situation. It is possible that there may be some lacunae in the law or there may be some loopholes in implementation of the law. It is also possible that law might have been exploited. Therefore hon. Member has to move this Bill.

My predecessor speaking just before me referred to an incident occurred near Agra in which a father raped his own daughter. He is not present here at the moment but I would ask him to give me in writing the place and the district in which this incident had occurred and then I myself will look into the matter personally. I have no information about it because this is a State subject. But I shall get complete details from him so that the matter could be highlighted and such incidents do not occur again. We have tried to change the culture of our police. I am not saying that the culture that was existing at the tenure of S. Buta Singh ji, should change but it should further improve. We have tried that a committee of our brothers and sisters living in the society is formed and attached to each police station and they should write letters to the Chief Minister so that social injustice is not done and social goodness becomes a practice. The citizens may also watch whether administrative services of the police are being performed properly or not. I give you an example of a village 25 years ago when we used to study at that time if police used to enter some body's house it was observed that there is something wrong but if police enters some body's house these days then he becomes more respectful and all the work is got done through him. We want to change this culture and we have taken many steps in this direction. We have been successful in certain cases and we have not been successful in some other cases but this is a continuous process which will continue till this evil is eradicated from the society.

Mr Chairman Sir hon. Members have referred to the incident occurred in Muzaffarnagar. I have already made a statement in the House that cases have already been filed against the persons who have been found guilty by the C B I. Some cases have been completed and some are in the process. When some friends from hilly areas Garhwal Kumaon areas met me these I told them that we shall get all the cases filed in a month's time. We shall continue peasuring it. C B I will also work with some enthusiasm and then I am myself monitoring this case to see that I am not proved wrong and entire action should be completed in one month. C B I have submitted their report to the Government about the persons who have been found guilty by them. We have informed the Government of Uttar Pradesh. Action is being taken on preliminaries in the judiciary. I had said in the House that it was a stigma on our society as well as the country. This is a fact that we follow the world in the case of Science and Technology and machines but we cannot at the cost of culture of our country because our culture is full of qualities and

the world has followed it. It has slowly affected our media adversely. I concede and every responsible citizen realises it that media publicity is causing harm to our culture. We are making every effort on behalf of the Government that reliability of our culture remains intact. This is a fact that in international media some relaxation has been made in favour of police but our culture is the pawn of our country, no one should be allowed to weaken it because if that is weakened our country will be weakened. We can see in the world that although our culture is ancient but it is mixed with the element of other culture as well. If we go to North-East we shall find different culture. Shri Rawat is present here. In Rajasthan we can tell that a particular person belongs to that district or community by looking at the colour of the turban he is wearing. Although we have different cultures but even then it is one and this is the quality of our culture. We are trying to strengthen it and our efforts will continue in that direction. I, therefore, would like to tell my friends that they need not worry that standard of our culture is falling. We are trying to make up the deficiencies cropped in it.

Mr Chairman, Sir, they have taken steps to bring changes in the training of police personnel and we observe that some change is visible in their attitude though the process is slow. In olden days only force was used by the police but now a day police culture is changing. Now first of all they would consider as to what method should be adopted, how to talk to a person and how to tackle a problem. The hon Members have quoted several incidents of high handedness of police. If para military forces of the Central Government in duty in such cases then we have already taken various steps in that direction. In case the complaint pertains to certain State Government as Shri Katheria has said then he should give us in writing. If he does not do so he will be failing in his duty. I promise that we will ask the Chief Minister to take stringent action and until the culprits are awarded deterrent punishment our efforts will continue in that direction. Every one would know in the country that what is accountability? Ours is a Federal system delay is possible there may be delay in the implementation. I take pledge before the House that in so far as the incident of father and daughter is concerned, the culprit should be awarded severe deterrent punishment so that it may prove a lesson for others.

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad) I would like to point out that there was a women member in that CBI team. It is very important because the victim can open her mind to a women officer and express her feelings more explicitly before her. Therefore there should be at least one women CBI officer who could gather complete details of that shameful incident because the concerned girl was mentally upset at that time.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT The day I come to know of this incident, I took strict action. But the law is such that we have also to be a bit cautious and at times we war

to take further action but we are shown the rules that following procedure has to be followed for this purpose. There are certain impediments in it. But our intention is to take steps to award maximum deterrent punishment in such cases. At that time hon Home Minister and I was together and we wanted to award deterrent punishment but we were told later on that it may take time until all these facts are placed before us. In so far as the appointment of women officers in CBI is concerned, women officers are called on deputation in such cases. I shall talk to the Minister incharge of CBI and discuss further streamlining in its working. In so far as culture of social audit is concerned, I hope that element of accountability will be there in the entire system in a year or two and its deficiencies will be surfaced. I agree that until transparency in the police forces is not increased, there can be no improvement. Because when police apprehends some body and they do not tell him the charges on account of which one is apprehended, particularly in the cases of women, till then situation cannot be set right. In cases of women we have issued orders also that after sun set, they will not be arrested and brought to the police station. If some women is to be arrested she should be arrested next morning. These reforms are taking place but at a slow pace.

The hon Members have sought changes in the law. I feel that law should be strong enough to ensure that no one could look at any of our sisters with bad intention. Your suggestion is quite reasonable in this context. You will be glad to know that we are making the law more stringent than the one proposed by the hon Member. A group of Ministers is examining it which comprises some officials of Law Ministry and Home Ministry also. Your suggestions will be referred to them also. We are examining it with legal point of view that how the law becomes so stringent that no one dare molesting any girl. I am grateful to you that you have drawn attention of the Government to such an important issue. Even otherwise the Government was seized of the matter. The hon Members have helped us by expressing their sentiments and making suggestions. I was telling Shrimati Saroj that I shall introduce a Bill. She asked me the date, when I shall bring the same because your Government may not continue for long. It is difficult to bring it in Monsoon Session. We shall introduce it in winter session and get it passed also. In the manner Shrimati Saroj will also be satisfied and she has rightly pointed out that the country needs it urgently. This requirement bill also be met. I hope that views expressed by the hon Members will be accommodated in the proposed law and we shall bring a legislation better than the proposed so that recurrence of such incidents could be checked.

With these words I urge Shrimati Saroj to withdraw the Bill. It is not that Government cannot adopt the Private Member's Bill. There is no problem as such. But then our efforts to bring a new legislation to this



effect may not materialise Before introducing the new Bill, I shall discuss the same will you? Today you withdraw the Bill so that the Government could bring a complete and Comprehensive Bill on this issue

PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT Mr Chairman, Sir, there is another aspect connected with this issue I any point out that women are insulted, denuded and paraded after levelling allegations on them some time in the name of caste based set up and organisations in some villages and sometimes in the name of caste Panchayats It will be appreciated if the Government takes care of this aspect also

SHRI RAJESH PILOT The spirit of this Bill was that atrocities, may be in any form, being committed on our sisters should be stopped They may be in the name of caste or any thing, they should be stopped This was the intention of Shrimati Saroj also Such incidents have occurred at a few places in Rajasthan in which certain wrongs have been committed There are several remedies available in Indian penal Code We shall introduce a comprehensive Bill by incorporating provisions covering this aspect also so that these evils could be eradicated in an effective manner I would request Shrimati Saroj to withdraw the Bill and provide an opportunity to the Government to introduce a Comprehensive Bill to serve the Indian society

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY Mr Chairman, Sir first of all I want to thank all the hon Members who have supported my amendment under Section 354 of Indian Penal Code and demanded deterrent action against the culprits The hon Minister has also put forth a future plan in very attractive terms I know that Shri Rajesh Pilot is very active and has always been taking initiative in such matters But I am not fully satisfied because even after 47 years of independence we have not been able to frame any deterrent law under which such criminals could be apprehended and dealt severe punishment so that no body dare commit such a crime in future You can go through the history In case some women organisation had taken any initiative or if some case is blown out for publicity as there was a Douna incident in our area, then the culprits were awarded sentence otherwise in name of such cases, punishment has been awarded One night have remained in the lock up for a couple of hours and then come back Even after 47 years no deterrent law has come up In view of this I cannot believe Treasury Benches The Law Minister should have been present here today He was not present on that day and he is not present today also But it is the option of Government that they have relied on Shri Rajesh Pilot that he can plead well We have also did not make any noise because he was jotting down points since long

The present law protects the Indian women less and terrorises and victimise more After independence, the ruling party has framed many social political and

other laws but only a few laws have been framed for women children and farmers and the laws which have been framed are unsustainable and incomplete through which victims have not been able to get justice Some sections of society have perhaps decided that the women should be terrorised in a such a way that they may always remain fear struck and under their control The question of rape denuding the parading in the streets is very serious one because it causes Inten sentimental injury unlimited mental torture and sense of insecurity and lack of confidence haunts her mind throughout life The woman who has to bear this torture cannot raise her head with the same dignity in the society throughout her life because of that crime for no fault of her She is degraded in the eyes of family and the society Wherever she goes that stigma follows her and she becomes mentally upset You have never contemplated any thing about such crimes which can be termed as heinous or cruel or something like that during the last 47 Years You have specified 2 years sentence in the Indian Penal Code But it often happens that influential people manage in such a way that they create mental social and economic problems for the woman to detame her throughout life and they themselves are released after two days This is why such crime are taking place It is a different matter that what is the role of our media in it the extent to which social order and how for degradation of our moral values are responsible for it But law has also very important role to play in preventing crimes If the law is deterrent then criminal has to think twice before committing a crime He will definitely first think about the sentence he has to undergo after committing the crime Therefore 2 years sentence can be alright in ordinary case of outraging modesty eve teasing or for some grossly indecent remarks but modesty is an ornament of an Indian woman who never takes off veil who keeps her body covered and if such women is stripped to the skin on the point of gun and paraded before the society by some musclemen and forced to lead a life bearing this mental torture so that she may turn lunatic and There should be stringent law to award deterrent punishment for such a serious offence this is what I have proposed in my Bill and all I have stressed on that point

There is a provision for awarding sentence in the cases of rape under Section 376 and 377 of Indian Penal Code Rape is a heinous crime and it takes place at a secluded places in which The woman has to bear mental torture as well as physical torture But I do not want to go into all these things because my objective is to seek stnngent action against the people who are responsible for stripping and parading a woman in the streets Many such incidents have occurred these days in which the women have been stripped and paraded in the entire village and bazar If one wants to humble a woman, denude her and parade her because the woman is publicly disgraced by such an action It may be a case of Maya Tyagi or Shivpati or a case in which

women taking part in the Uttrakhand agitation who were stripped and made to run in the fields. A similar incident had occurred in Douna in Allahabad. In Aligarh also some kiln women labourers had also to undergo this atrocity. These crimes are committed publicly. If an offence is committed before the public, the victim confines herself in her home and just while away her time. This is her punishment. Her family members also condemn her. She is treated as stigma on the face of a family and on the other side the person who commits the crime is let off at the police station on payment of some illegal gratification or comes out of jail after remaining there for 2 days and again starts roaming about in the market chewing betel, wearing golden necklace and garland of flowers, what type of justice is it? Whether Indian women get justice from any court or she will remain hopeless. Even after 47 years of independence no steps have been taken in this direction.

Therefore I feel that the hon. Minister may not be in a position to fulfil his promises though I am not happy to say this. Even then I would like to request him again that when he has said that he will introduce such a Bill in the Winter Session, it is quite possible that the same may be introduced in the end of the session and we may come to know that discussion on the same is possible in November but by that time we do not know as to how many women would be stripped and paraded. You should value every minute in such matters. You should feel that injustice is being done to women every minute and therefore the amendment you intend to bring before the House should be brought at the earliest.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, I have told that I shall try to bring it in Monsoon Session but definitely in Winter Session.

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: If you will introduce it in the Monsoon Session only then you will be able to get it adopted in Winter Session. Therefore I request you to stick to your promise as all women of the country have set their eyes on you whether that woman belongs to an affluent family, school student or agricultural labourer. What to say about agricultural labourer, anybody can take her away. Well, she cannot lodge a report in the police station because if she goes there even policemen will not spare her. So where should they go?

*(Interruptions)* not in the village. We are talking of making a provision. There is nothing of this type.

*[English]*

MR CHAIRMAN: Are you satisfied with the assurance given?

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: I am going to conclude. Recently a seven year old Adivasi girl was raped by a 20 year old boy. But in the first instance the police did not register the report. When pressure was exercised, the boy was sent to lock ups in the police station and

kept him there for a few hours. This boy has failed twice in High School examination but his age has been recorded as 13 years.

Mr Chairman, Sir, the police has also recorded 13 years and he was let off on the ground that he is minor. That girl was 7 year old, there is no electricity in her village they have nothing to eat. She was made to walk on foot upto 20 kilometre, that girl did not know as to what happened to her?

*[English]*

MR CHAIRMAN: Your time is up now. I do not want to extend the time again and again. The time is over now.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Mr Chairman, Sir, I was narrating the incident of that girls to Shri Rajesh Pilot. This happened in an area of Allahabad. That girl was intimidated so much that when she was brought before the Magistrate, she was not in a position to make any statement. The Magistrate ordered release of the boy observing that she is not giving any statement. She is only 7 year old. What could she tell. She told that she was thrown down. Her clothes were torn. The police always favours the criminal. I do not hesitate in telling this. In such incidents the police always take side of the criminal.

Mr Chairman, since time is short I therefore appeal through you that let the hon. Minister make a categorical statement before the House that he will introduce a comprehensive Bill in the Monsoon Session and before introducing that Bill he will convene a meeting so that all aspects could be examined because only law is not the main issue. The question of rape is also linked with it. Victimisation is also linked with it. Therefore you should bring that amendment Bill after detailed discussion so that at least no women could be denuded and paraded in the streets in future and she should not be humiliated and she may not lead a disgraceful life. This is my submission.

Mr Chairman, Sir, through you, I would request the hon. Minister to introduce such an amendment Bill that the entire society may sing in chorus that

Mukt Karo Nari Ko Manav, Chirbandhani Nari Ko

Yug-Yug Ki Nirmam Kara Se Janani Sakhi Pyari Ko

only then the society will make progress. The society which has 50 percent population of women will march forward with due respect. She will work shoulder to shoulder with you in your development works. Struggle of any type in defence of the country and provide new direction to the country as history is witness to all this. Shrimati Indira Gandhi smoothly room administration the country having a population of crores and proved that she was a powerful woman, she was not weak. You can make a hopeless become powerful. She should be

made strong enough as we study in literature We have seen a woman having self-respect, self-confidence and self-reliance in the literature When she is victimised, she should be able to face the mirror and realise that she is not weak and hopeless but she must be strong and powerful only then she will become Rani of Jhansi Indira Gandhi, a self-reliant, self-respecting woman and she will be able to face the men who try to inflict injuries on her person and she will be capable of defending herself Let them learn Judo-Karate Make her strong in all respects Then she will be able to repel the attack on her and lead a life of self-respect Therefore you should give a categorical assurance and if you cannot do this then I am prepared to go on fast unto death and thereafter you may even close the doors of this House I might be locked inside I will sit here This is your responsibility Let there be a torture

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA Mr Chairman, Sir, I want to say this much that the hon Minister should convene a meeting of all the parties and introduce the Bill after discussion with them

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN That is only a suggestion

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT Mr Chairman, as I have already stated, this is very good Bill I appreciate the spirit of this Bill There is nothing objectionable in it The Government does not hold a different view The Government is also thinking how to eradicate this social evil and our sister has become sentimental and used strong terminology in presentation of the case

I promise on behalf of the Government that effort will be made to introduce the Bill in the Monsoon Session but if it will not be possible I shall definitely introduce it in the Winter Session In so far as the question of convening a meeting of all the political parties is concerned, I can say that much that I shall personally call Shrimati Dubey, show and discuss the Bill with her and then bring it before the House

Mr Chairman, Sir Shrimati Saroj Dubey has said one thing more during her speech perhaps in hurry that the women of the entire country have set their eyes on Rajesh Pilot Here, I would request her, because I have also to go to my house, to kindly amend her speech to say that women of the entire country have set their eyes on the Government

DR SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain) Mr Chairman, Sir I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that women of the country look towards him as lord Krishna He should protect them

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN Are you withdrawing the Bill or not?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY Mr Chairman, Sir In view of the assurance given on the floor of the House, I withdraw my Bill but the hon'ble Minister should remember that the ball is still in our Court

Mr Chairman, Sir I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Bill from the House

[English]

I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code

MR CHAIRMAN The question is

'That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code

*The motion was adopted*

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY I withdraw the Bill

17.45 hrs.

## CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Insertion of new Articles 330A and 330B, etc.)

SHRI K P REDDAIAH YADAV (MACHILIPATNAM)  
Sir I beg to move

That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration

Sir, the intention of moving this Bill is to give proportional representation in local bodies Assemblies and Parliament to some sections The reason arises because 80 to 85 per cent of the population of the country belongs to Scheduled Castes Backward Classes and minorities Only 15 per cent belongs to the upper caste Though the backward classes and the Scheduled Castes are the main means for the production of agriculture industry and in all sectors their share in the Indian administration is negligible The Scheduled Caste people were given the reservations in Assemblies Parliament and local bodies and also in the administration in IAS and IPS etc These unfortunate lot of nearly 52 per cent of the backward classes, who are the main contributors for the prosperity of this country are very shabbily neglected in administration, education, economic participation and also they are neglected in political participation It is in this background that I have brought this Bill to be passed by this House just to give the proportional representation to those sections of the population

After Independence the administration rested in the forward castes and upper castes and these people were made custodians of this country The backward

classes had never asked anything till 1960. When they came to know that the Constitution was twisted and misrepresented and under the umbrella of the Constitution the wealth of the country, the wealth created by the hard work of the millions and millions of backward classes and Muslims were cornered by a few hands, they agitated.

Unless the law of the land, the Constitution is not violated from man to man, from one section to another and from one religion to another religion, it is not possible to garner the entire wealth in a few hands. That is why, the rural India is completely destroyed. There is no drinking water, there is no road communication, there are no hospital facilities and there are no educational institutions. Why? It is because there is no representation for the rural India in this Parliament and other law making bodies. The Backward Classes and the Muslims are not properly represented here. This is the case with all the parties, whether it is the Congress Party or the BJP or the Communists or the Janata Dal.

I may tell with all sincerity that this House is not hearing the hardships and the real problems of the rural India, because all the front benchers who represent various parties, are the representatives of a class, though not a vested interest. But the class which comes from the rural India is not heard properly. Their voice is not being heard. I am in the Congress Party, somebody may be in the BJP, somebody may be in the CPI or the CPI (M). But all these people are controlled by the first benchers. I am not even allowed to raise my voice here about the problems like drinking water and other basic necessities of the people in my constituency. The rural India is completely exploited by the vested interests of this country. That is why, we want proportional representation in this Parliament, in the august House as well as in the Assemblies and the local bodies.

Sir, how is the Constitution being violated from man to man and from religion to religion? If you go to the police station, you will see that the Constitution is being violated there. If a labourer or a poor man belonging to the Backward Class or the Adivasi section goes to the police station, he is being dragged, manhandled and beaten up. But if a man from a superior class murders 100 people or even if he murders a Minister, he is treated as a VIP in the police station. So, this kind of discrimination is going on in all the places.

If a person belonging to the Backward Class constructs a small two-bedroom house in a small town, the Income Tax authorities will go and ask for all the accounts and even vouchers of 10 bags of cement. But if you go and see in Bombay everyday thousands of crores of rupees are being circulated. This money goes to Geneva and then comes back to India in a surreptitious manner. There is no rule, there is no law to catch these people. So, at every place the constitution is being violated. Therefore 90 per cent of the Indian population are exploited and looted by the 10 per cent of the population, the vested interests.

We, all the 545 Members of Parliament in this House, have been elected by lakhs and lakhs of people of this country. But we are serving only one per cent of the bureaucrats and employees, two to three per cent of the industrialists and about three per cent of the traders. Our Parliament is serving only these people. We get votes from 100 per cent people of this country but the Ruling Party as well as the Opposition are serving the interests of bureaucrats, employees and business people only.

[Translation]

PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT Sir, I contradict this statement. We believe in the principle of social justice.

[English]

SHRI K P REDDIAH YADAV Sir, I am telling the facts. If any Member wants to say anything, let him say afterwards. So, sir, the voices of the Backward Classes are not being heard either in the Parliament or in the Assembly.

Today what is happening? Even if any backward class man is made a Minister or a Muslim person is made a Minister, does he have any say? People are under the wrong impression that if they are made Ministers, their backward class people will get some justice. No. It is only a few upper caste people - whether BJP comes to power or Communists come to power or Congress comes to power - will control 85 to 90 per cent of the masses. This is what is happening in this country. But thanks to the Prime Minister, Shri P V Narasimha Rao, for bringing the Nagar Palika Bill and Panchayat Raj Bill whereby the backward classes were given due representation, the ladies were given due representation and whatever budgetary allocations were made for rural development are going directly to the Panchayat President or the Nagar Palika Chairperson.

Apart from the movement for backward classes another freedom movement has to be started by somebody. Some person should come up. Things are not so easy in this country. The country as a whole - though it is not visible - is on flame. The whole wealth of the country is being cornered by the people who have vested interest. Nobody is stopping this thing. No accountability is maintained by the upper caste. The persons who are putting their sweat for the creation of wealth for this country are being ignored and neglected.

Mr Chairman, Sir, if I am not mistaken, out of our annual budget of Rs 1,20,000 crore, Rs 90,000 crore are paid by the common man through central excise duties on all items, i.e., cloth, eatables, cigarette, *bidi*, etc. Each State Government is collecting not less than three to four thousand crores of rupees through Sales Tax. Who are the contributors? It is the common man, the poor man who is contributing by purchasing cloth, tea, sugar, etc. If one purchases one kg of sugar, Rs 6 goes towards its production cost, Rs 3 goes to the

Central Government and Rs 125 goes to the State Government by way of Sales Tax And we are thinking that the big millionaires are contributing for the budget of this country as well as for the budget of the State Governments That is wrong The people who have vested interest are contributing only Rs 20,000 crore by way of Income Tax All the other taxes are paid equally by the people of this country. This should not be forgotten Whenever any small difficulty is faced by the urban people, we the whole House - stand up and say that their AC is not working, there is no power supply and that the red carpet treatment is not given, the employees are not provided with milk and so on and so forth All these things we are talking in this House

Sir, the rural areas of Orissa and Bihar where the people belonging to Scheduled Tribes and backward classes live, there even the water is full of bacteria and they are drinking that water. That is the condition Even the phenyl is not available in some of the district headquarters of the State Governments We are going for five star-hotels and for a common man even a digene tablet is not available in the hospitals of rural areas This is the fate of the rural areas of the country

*[Translation]*

People who work hard to make both ends meet, belong to backward classes

*[English]*

This is the only class which can keep the country's unity and integrity intact

From the very inception state, these races are very hardworking They are living by doing artisan work

*[Translation]*

In India the people who work hard, belong to backward classes They are not exploiters

*[English]*

MR CHAIRMAN It is now 6 o'clock Your can continue your speech next time

The House stands adjourned to meet on Monday, the 22nd May, 1995, at 11 00 a m

18.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, May 22, 1995/Jyaishta 1, 1917 (Saka)*

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