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Thursday, May 25, 1995
Jyaistha, 4, 1995/1917 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Thirteenth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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CONTENTS

[Tenth Series, Vol. XLI, Thirteenth Session, 1995/1917 (Saka)]
No. 35, Thursday, May 25, 1995/Jyaishta 4, 1917 (Saka)

	COLUMNS
ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
*Starred Questions Nos. 701-703	1—19
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
Starred Questions Nos. 704-720	20—32
Unstarred Questions Nos. 7105-7288	32—176
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE	189
MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA	190
COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE	
Ninth Report— <i>Presented</i>	190
COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS	
Nineteenth Report— <i>Presented</i>	190
MATTERS UNDER RULE 377	192—197
(i) Need to set up more LPG outlets in Bilaspur district, Madhya Pradesh Shri Bhawani Lal Verma*	192
(ii) Need to provide a manned railway crossing near Padase Railway Station on Bhusawal-Surat Section of Western Railway Shri Bapu Hari Chaure	192—193
(iii) Need to maintain status-quo in respect of release of water from Indira Gandhi canal, Rajasthan Shri Birbal	193—194
(iv) Need to release adequate funds for widening the National Highway no. 43 at Nowrangpur, Orissa Shri K. Pradhani	194
(v) Need to celebrate 200th Anniversary of Ahilyabal throughout the country and set up National Awards in her memory Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan	194—195
(vi) Need to restore central aid given for development of Scheduled Castes to the Government of Rajasthan and also to allow its use for providing drinking water etc. in SC dominated villages Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava	195—196
(vii) Need to develop an airport at Muzaffarpur, Bihar Shri Manjay Lal	196—197
(viii) Need to check the rise in price of newsprint Shri Nawal Kishore Rai	197
TRADE MARKS BILL	198—216
Motion to consider	
Shrimati Krishna Sahi	198—199
Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat	199—203
Prof. Savithri Lakshmanan	203—206
Dr. Sudhir Ray	206—208
Dr. Mumtaz Ansari	208—211
Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat	211—215
Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh	215—216
Shri Syed Shahabuddin	216—220

* The Sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

220—276

Activities on Women and Problems Faced by them**Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee**

220—225

Shri A. Charles

225—228

Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan

228—233

Shrimati Santosh Chowdhary

233—236

Shrimati Suseela Gopalan

236—242

Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal

243—246

Shrimati Girija Devi

246—250

Dr. Girija Vyas

250—255

Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee

255—259

Shri Prabhu Dayi Katheria

260—264

Prof. Savithri Lakshmanan

264—266

Dr Ramesh Chand Tomar

266—269

Shri P.C. Thomas

269—271

Shri Ram Kripal Yadav

271—273

Shri Hannan Mollah

273

Shri Tej Narayan Singh

273—275

LOK SABHA

Thursday, May 25, 1995/ Jyaishta 4, 1917 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Exploration of Coal Reserves

*701. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of exploration of coal reserves carried out during the last three years;
- (b) whether any practical study has been conducted for undertaking coal mining project;
- (c) whether any report has been prepared in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) During the last three years (1992-93) under the detailed exploration programme a total of about ten lakh metres drilling has been carried out in command areas of Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) As a result of this drilling additional reserves to the tune of 11.79 billion tonnes have been established.

(b) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(b) to (d). Yes, Sir. During the last three years 83 new coal mining project reports have been prepared by Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (CMPDID). These projects envisage production step up of about 84 million tonnes per annum.

(e) Programme of development of projects is dependent on factors like availability of land, techno-economic feasibility of individual projects, availability of environmental and forestry clearances, availability of financial resources etc.

SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has replied in his reply that 83 new coal mining project reports have been prepared by the Coal Mining and Planning Design Institute Limited and there are certain constraints of resources and economic feasibility and all that. May I know from the hon. Minister if there is constraint of resources according to our new economic policy of our Government? Is

there any objection to allow the private parties to enter into these projects of coal industries where there is constraint of resources?

SHRI AJIT PANJA : The private parties are allowed mainly for two purposes at present - the iron and steel as it was originally in the Statute and a year before last the Coal Nationalisation Act was amended to bring in those who will set up power plants, will be given mining rights in respect of captive mines from where they can mine the coal and use it for the purpose of their power plants. But, no private party is allowed to mine the coal and sell it in the open market.

SHRI K. PRADHANI : The Geological Survey of India conducted a preliminary survey of the coal exploration. The Central Mining Planning and Design Institute and Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. etc. also conducted detailed studies. I would like to know from the hon. Minister if these companies are taking up, in addition to drilling, supplementary methods like geo-physical methods and remote sensing studies during the drilling to improve the coal exploration method

SHRI AJIT PANJA : These are suggestions for action. I have taken note of them.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI (Kodarma) : According to the Report of a Standing Committee, 47 coal mining projects out of 168 mining projects sanctioned during the Seventh Five Year Plan were abandoned in the midway and a total investment of Rs. 52 crore was made in all these projects. I would like to know how this study was made and why this was abandoned which resulted in this colossal loss of money.

Secondly, in Jharia 1867 million tonnes of reserve of coal has been blocked by 70 active fires. Only five fires have been extinguished till now. I would like to know why not the latest technology is being applied in order to safeguard all these 1867 million tonnes of coal reserves and why not all these remaining fires are extinguished by the latest technology.

SHRI AJIT PANJA : The study which is made by the Geological Survey of India is by regional exploration and thereafter detailed exploration is carried out. After that study, a lot of things have to be done. The actual coal would be found when the Coal India goes into the underground mine or open-cast mine. They have to find out the coal which has been located there. While going in, they meet with various natural barriers like too much of gas probably being there or the seams not as expected being there. Prior to that also, a lot of clearances are required. The first clearance is about the forest land and other areas. Other clearances are also necessary.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI : 47 projects out of 168 projects sanctioned during the 7th Five Year Plan.

SHRI AJIT PANJA : 47 projects are there. In spite of the fact that the Geological Survey of India has given clearance for exploration, while going into the actual

field, something else occurs there and if it does not become cost-effective, it is abandoned in the mean time because if more money is put in, it will be a loss for the country.

DR MUMTAZ ANSARI : Please protect me, Sir. What about the fires in Jharia?

MR. SPEAKER : It does not come out of this question

DR KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore) : According to the last three years' detailed exploration programme, it has been found that 83 project reports have been prepared. According to the survey reports, the availability of coal will be 11.79 billion tonnes. By these 83 new projects, the production per year will be 84 million tonnes. I want to know, out of these 83 new project reports, how many project reports have been cleared by the factors mentioned here like, availability of land, techno-economic feasibility of individual projects, availability of environmental and forestry clearance, availability of financial resources, etc. I would like to know how many projects are prepared for being taken up immediately.

SHRI AJIT PANJA : Sir, out of eighty-three, twenty have been approved and are under implementation.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Sir, after exploitation of coal, cavities are formed under the ground. These cavities are required to be filled up to stave off the top earth caving in. The joint study undertaken by NTPC and CMRI has pointed out that fly ash can fill up the cavities more easily than sand or top soil. And this filling up of the cavities would facilitate the exploitation of coal from the mines. So, may I know from the hon. Minister whether steps have been taken by the Government to increase coal exploitation by filling up the cavities with fly ash? If so, what is the result and how many collieries have come under such a project? And if not, what are the reasons therefor?

SHRI AJIT PANJA : Sir, this does not arise out of this question.

Usually, the cavities are filled up by stowing sand. But with the ash which is available, experiments are on to use the ash to fill up the cavities. As to in how many collieries it has been done, I do not have figure with me right now.

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN : Sir, exploration of coal is always done in two stages as stated by the hon. Minister. In the first stage the Geological Survey of India (GSI) helps to find out the potential coal bearing areas and sometimes Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) also assists GSI. In the second stage, the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL) conducts the detailed examination for exploration.

I am not an expert to distinguish between Gondwana coal, tertiary coal, prime coking coal, medium coking blendable or semi-coking coal or non-coking coal.

I only know that coal can be divided into such varieties. But I think the country's problem is this. Detailed examination for exploration is continuing in 94 blocks, spread over 21 coal fields in different States and we have achieved the highest productivity of 306 metric tonnes per month drilled by CMPDIL. But is it being done to suit our needs? We are exploring more coal than is needed in our country, but not exporting the excess coal since there is no demand for our coal abroad. Also, we are importing a particular variety of coal, which is not being sufficiently explored indigenously. So, our attention should be diverted to find out that particular variety of coal which is needed in our country and which could be exported too. I would like to know what research is being done in coal mining in this respect.

Sir, some outside consultancy jobs were taken up under hydro-geological investigations and one among them is water supply investigation in the Latur earthquake affected area. I would like to know the progress made in this investigation.

SHRI AJIT PANJA : Sir, about this particular investigation in the Latur earthquake affected area, the facts are not with me. They must be available with the Geological Survey of India, which is the nodal agency.

So far as the Gondwana coal, tertiary coal and coking coal are concerned, the companies go by the needs of the country. Therefore, they take into consideration what type of coal is in demand and in what quantity.

The third part of the question is about the shortage — whether planning is made to met the shortage of the coking coal which is usually known as steel coal from which steel is prepared. Yes, attention is being paid to find out more coking coal so that import can be reduced gradually.

[Translation]

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know whether some foreign companies have also been engaged in it or not, apart from C.M.P.D.I. and M.E.C.L. and other Indian companies, on the job given for conducting a study of the project. What amount out of the shares of the C.M.P.D.I. invested in this project has been spent? What amount of money has been spent by foreign companies in building this project and with what results? My second part of the question is that it was stated that after nationalisation good coal mines would be run by agencies of the State Government, but no agreement has yet been reached between Coal India and the State Government. There are nearly 80 coal projects which are proposed to be operated by Coal India.

[English]

SHRI AJIT PANJA : No foreign companies are involved in the exploration because our exports-Geological Survey of India and also the Mineral

Exploration Corporation of India are enough. They do whatever is necessary for the purpose of finding out coal in India.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister has just now stated that the Planning and Design Institute Ltd. has prepared a report in regard to 83 new coal projects. The reasons for the delay have also been mentioned and that the land and money required have been arranged. Then what are the reasons for delay in execution of the work?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have received the report. What are the other things that are lacking for you to make use of that report?

SHRI AJIT PANJA : 83 project reports have been prepared. Out of those, as I have already answered, 20 have been approved. Whatever permission and other things which are necessary have been cleared. Others are under examination. They are either detained in the Forest Department or detained because further study is to be made. These are given as original survey by the GSI. But after that a lot of study is required; individual feasibility of each mine is to be examined, the safety and security of the miners who will go in are to be gone into to find out whether there is a possibility of poisonous gas. All these things are to be found out; and then it is done. That is why, I said that out of 83, 28 have been approved and they are under implementation and the rest are under examination.

[Translation]

Development of Petroleum and Natural Gas Industry

*702. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain institutions are functioning in the public sector for expansion and development of petroleum and natural gas industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any assistance has been given to those institutions for the developmental work ;

(d) if so, the amount allocated for research and exploration during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95; and

(e) the amount actually spent on this work during the above period, year-wise?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (e). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Various Institutions are functioning in the Public Sector for expansion and development of Petroleum and Natural Gas Industry in the country. These are functioning both in the upstream and downstream sectors, and in the field of financing the development of the Oil Industry.

(c) to (e). These institutions get finances for the development work from their parent organisations and other sources. The amounts allocated for research and exploration to the institutions and the amount actually spent by them during the Years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 are given in the Table below :

	(Rs in crores)		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Allocation	82.59	98.44	92.32
Actual Expenditure	57.43	43.33	84.50

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question was very simple I had asked from the Hon. Minister the names of Public Sector undertakings engaged for development and extension of the Natural Gas Commission. The Minister stated that several undertakings are working on it. He did not mention the places where they are working and the number of those in public sector and private sector separately and whether they are working with the help of foreigners?

Mr. Speaker, the question of Gas is related to common man and its utility is known to all. On the one hand population is on the increase, and on the other, we face shortage of gas. I want to ask the Hon. Minister that in view of this whether any scheme has been formulated to explore new resources during 1994-95 for maintaining abedance between the two? If the reply is in the affirmative. Whether there is any Scheme for Uttar Pradesh? If so, the details thereof?

[English]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA : Sir, besides the public sector undertakings which are playing a crucial role for developing the oil industry of the country, there are various institutions which are also involved in contributing for this effort. Amongst them, we have the Keshav Dev Malaviya Institute of Petroleum Exploration, which the hon. Member will be happy to know, is located in Dehradun, UP. There are the Institute of Reservoir Studies, Ahmedabad, Institute of Biotechnology and Geotectonic Studies, Jorhat, Institute of Drilling Technology, Dehradun, UP, Institute of Oil and Gas Production Technology, Panvel (near Bombay), Petroleum Conservation Research Association, Delhi, Centre for High Technology, Delhi, Oil Industry Safety Directorate, Delhi, Indian Institute of Petroleum, again at Dehradun, UP, National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad and Oil Industry Development Board,

Delhi Besides these, there is no proposal for any more new associations or institutes nor we have any plans on the anvil

[Translation]

DR MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA Mr Speaker, Sir I want to draw the attention of the Hon Minister to the Years 1992 to 1995, during which money had been given by the Government, year wise details of which were given by him During 1992-93, Rs 82 52 crore, in 1993-94 Rs 98 44 crores In 1994-95 Rs 92 32 crores were allocated, out of which the money spent is Rs 57 43 crores during 1992-93 Rs 43 33 crores during 1993-94 and Rs 84 50 during 1994-95 The unutilised amount is Rs 25 17 crores during 1992-93, Rs 55 11 crores during 1993-94 and Rs 6 82 crores during 1994-95 He has stated that several works are being executed for development But from the figures it appears that money given for exploration has not been spent How can then development take place? It is indicative of slow speed Please tell the reasons for not utilising the money allocated and what measures are being taken by you for ensuring full utilisation of the money (Interruptions) What is the exact amount that has been allocated? You get money from the Commission as well as other organisations Please give details of the amounts received from the oil corporation and other organisations separately

[English]

MR SPEAKER Second part is not necessary to be replied You can reply to the first part Why is the amount of money not used?

CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA Sir, for 1992-93, the reasons for variation for the amount not being used was lower requirement in respect of major promotional schemes by the PCRA (Petroleum Conservation Research Association) like replacement of inefficient footvalves of diesel irrigation pumpsets soft loan for setting up model garages, etc For the Centre for High Technology, the reasons are phased implementation of on-going R&D projects by the institutions entrusted various projects For 1993-94, in regard to PCRA, it was lower requirement of major promotional schemes are reduced requirement for field activities and education campaign For the Centre for High Technology, it was phased implementation of R&D projects by the institutions entrusted various projects For 1994-95, the reasons for variation by PCRA was non-approval of office accommodation project, lower utilisation in respect of major promotional schemes of replacement of inefficient footvalves use of efficient diesel engines in road transport and soft loans for setting up model garages For the Centre for High Technology, it was again phased implementation of on-going R&D projects and delay in approval of projects

The assurance which I can give the hon Member is that we are monitoring the work being done by these institutions and we are doing our best to ensure that we get the maximum work out of these institutions

SHRI A CHARLES Sir, according to the reports available, the preliminary exploration conducted in Kerala also revealed that Kerala is rich in petroleum products However, neither further investigation nor any substantial action has been taken to find out whether the preliminary exploration is true or not If it is true, the question is how to just tap such resources From the reply given, it seems there is no constraint of funds So, may I know from the hon Minister

MR SPEAKER There are funds for research institutions and not funds for exploration and all those things

SHRI A CHARLES Sir, the main question is about expansion and development So, Exploration also comes under development Oil shortage is one of the problems that we face and we have got those reserves in Kerala I crave your indulgence, Sir, to direct the Minister to give such information Kerala will be one State that will be benefited

CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA Sir, the question does not relate to exploration However, I do not mind answering the hon Member's question Exploration is our main focus and acquiring reserves is the biggest challenge facing the country I am fully aware that this is one area in which we have been lagging behind in the past So we have taken all steps in this area, the latest being the joint venture whereby our companies in the upstream like the ONGC and OIL, are going to spend two billion dollars putting up to 40 per cent as their equity up front They are in the process of attracting, through foreign investment and technology, companies which have the requisite technology and companies which would become good partners in these joint ventures to make it a five billion dollar programme in the next three years only for exploration I can assure the hon Member and the august House that for the first time, we are going to look at the deep sea blocks beyond 200 metres, some frontier areas and other blocks in the country which, we believe, are oil-bearing with high prospects of hydrocarbons besides looking at the Kerala coastline and other areas which we have been traditionally looking at So, this is the major programme under exploration

[Translation]

SHRI CHETAN PS CHAUHAN Mr Speaker, the Hon Minister has given the names of many institutions and stated that the money allotted has not been spent, some institutions are engaged in research and development work He has named about 12 or 15 such institutions Is the Minister satisfied with the working of these institutions? What is their contribution and achievement in the production or finding out new technologies for production and exploration of oil?

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA : Sir, there are various institutions which I have already mentioned. Some of them play a major role in assisting oil industry and they are even, at present, responsible in the crucial areas of oil exploration and production.

For example, I mentioned K.D. Malaviya Institute. This Institute was set up in 1962 and it is devoted to geo-scientific activities in order to develop regional geological model and basin evaluation scheme for hydrocarbon exploration. It is a highly technical area. The thrust is on techno-economic viability of various projects. The achievements are resource estimation of 73 basins of India, 3-D genetic model over basins, detailed analysis of basins for hydrocarbon generation, the lab back-up in the exploration endeavour. They will be doing a world class job. In fact, we are satisfied.

The Oil Industry is a dynamic industry and technology in the Oil Industry is an area which is a fast changing technology. It is an ever-changing technology and our efforts are now that these institutions which are by any standard world class, should also keep updated with the latest technology and additional technology which are available now. That is why, we are going in for the joint venture, which I just mentioned, so that it is not only the investment which must come but also the latest technology so that the production costs are low and we are able to find out new oil and gas in the country and our reserve efficiency becomes high.

So, Sir, these institutions have played a very major role. But at the same time, they have to keep up with the time as far as the technological aspect is concerned, and they are aware of that

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV : Whether any research has been conducted in respect of water plants like jal-kumbhi etc. which take given a water and emanate gas, by the institutions engaged in development of natural gas? If so, whether a factory will be set up in the areas where such water plants are found in plenty.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Well, I have not grasped the question.

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA : Sir, I am not aware of any water plants which are generating natural gas anywhere..(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : The Hon. Minister has stated that he is not aware of any plant which generates gas which can be burnt.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Whether the institutions engaged in research and development work take help from abroad in their work? Whether foreign countries

gives us any information about the new discoveries made in this field? Whether we keep any liaison or not with the institutions working in this field in foreign countries and whether any benefit accrues to the Government therefrom?

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA : Sir, as far as these institutions are concerned, I am not aware of any formal tie-ups with any foreign collaborators.

But as I mentioned, the technological aspect is such that it is important that these institutions, in fact, should seek to interact with other institutions outside India to ensure that if there is a technological gap, that should be met. That is very important.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Are they doing it?

MR. SPEAKER : Yes.

[Translation]

SHRI ASTABHUJA PRASAD SHUKLA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Paraffin Wax is produced by Petroleum and Natural Gas Industry. I want to know whether production of Paraffin Wax Type-2 by public sector and Petroleum and Natural Gas Industry is in accordance with the requirement of the country. If so, whether you have given licenses to small industries for producing Paraffin Wax Type-2?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Well, it does not come out of this question but if you can reply, you can.

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA : Sir, this question is not relevant.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : In spite of a lot of research which is going on in the various public sector undertakings whose names have been mentioned now, I find that natural gas, which is a by-product of petroleum is being wasted in many of the refineries, especially in Bombay and Cochin refineries. As far as Cochin Refinery is concerned, I have personal knowledge about it. It is a renowned and a very successful refinery. However, a lot of gas is being burnt down probably due to lack of technology for its further productive use in these refineries. May I ask the Minister whether it is because of lack of research or lack of proper technology or whether it is because of lack of funds or whether something has to be done in this regard for making it useful.

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA : Our refineries are working with an efficiency rate of 106 per cent. As far as I am aware, there is no waste because of the inefficient refining operations. If there is any specific case of any particular refinery, the hon. Member may bring it to my knowledge. I can get it checked up and then given him the required information.

I may inform here that a major investment is required from the environmental angle because we are now talking about zero-lead fuel, low-sulphur diesel and so

on. These are the technologies which have to be introduced in our refineries from an environmental angle. Otherwise, our refineries are working very efficiently in excess of their full capacity. As I mentioned earlier, if there is any specific case, the hon. Member may bring it to my notice.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : I am talking about flaring of natural gas Sir.

[Translation]

Supply of Coal

*703. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :
SHRI RAM NAIK :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been short supply of coal during the last few months to the captive power plants in the country particularly in the northern region against their requirements;

(b) if so, the monthly requirement of coal of these captive power plants;

(c) the quantum of coal supplied to these plants from January to March, 1995;

(d) whether the coal supplied to these plants was much less than their requirements;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the coal was not available in the stock of the Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries; and

(g) if coal was available, the average quantum of coal in their stock during the said months?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) to (e). As against the programme of 14.11 lakh tonnes for movement of coal to the captive power plants in the northern region during the period January to March, 1995, the actual quantity of coal supplied to them by Coal India Limited (CIL) was 10.90 lakh tonnes (Provisional). CIL have reported that the coal supplies to captive power plants by rail have been affected due to short supply of wagons by the Railways. For units taking coal by road/ropeways the materialisation was about 94% and the shortfall is mainly on account of lesser drawal by the consumers.

(f) and (g). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(f) Adequate quantities of Coal are available with subsidiaries of CIL, to meet the requirements of captive power plants in the northern region.

(g) According to the information received from CIL, average stock of coal with CIL group of Companies during the said period was 40.86 million tonnes.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister has tried to avoid his responsibility by stating short supply of wagons by railways. Whereas the facts are totally different. So, I want to ask him about part (a) of my question, as to whether it is a fact that the R.L.Mishra Committee stated that :

[English]

"Deliberate and systematic over-reporting of coal production since 1983 to the extent of 75 lakh tonne valued at Rs. 233 crore, 'slaughter mining' and massive theft of coal, instigated by the top management of Bharat Coking Coal Limited is coating the nation dearly."

[Translation]

The Committee further stated that :

[English]

"The Committee has flayed the BCCL management for deliberately feeding false and misleading data on coal production to the entire nation, as coal being a basic infrastructure industry, its production data is fed to the highest levels in the country."

[Translation]

Further the Committee Stated one important thing that :

[English]

"The report indicates Coal India Ltd. and BCCL managements for covering up over-reporting of production through shortloading of wagons and dispatching stones to customers instead of coal".

[Translation]

The Committee pointed out many serious irregularities, as a result of which coal supply is not being made. The Committee was appointed by the Coal Ministry. What did you do after the report of the Committee was received? Will you place the report on the table of the House and also state the action taken thereon by your Ministry?

[English]

SHRI AJIT PANJA : Sir, the R.N. Mishra Committee had nothing to do with the supply of wagons by the railways for the transportation of coal. That Committee went in to find out whether the stock of coal that has been reported, is correct or not. If my memory does not fail me, a single man Committee went to BCCL and found, not the stocks of the last few months but the stocks of the earlier years, that is of 1989-90. The Committee found out as to what was the loss at that

time and whether there was any over-reporting or not. That report has been given. Action is being taken by the coal companies according to the recommendations of that report, after complying with law of the land.

It is not a fact that Railways Wagons are not used by CIL because in 1990-91, the percentage of growth of loading of coal in the railway wagons was 3.80 per cent. Next year, that is 1991-92 it increased to 8.40 per cent. It increased to 7.2 per cent in 1992-93 and in 1993-94 the increase is 7.3 per cent. From 135.16 million tonnes in 90-91 it increased to 168.50 million tonnes.

Sir, it is a very big country where sometimes the wagons - because of other priorities - goes elsewhere. Every week the Coordination Committee sits and on a weekly basis monitoring is done and where necessary difficulties are corrected. We are having good cooperation with Railways I have not bent in my question. I have stated actual facts. I can assure this House that we have enough coal to supply for all the wagons that are coming in due time.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA : Mishra Committee and K.S. Sinha Committee in their reports mentioned gross irregularities being committed and the manner in which scandals were being done in the coal industry has not been replied to

MR. SPEAKER : Reply of 1989 relates to that Committee.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA : Leaving that, I would ask another supplementary question. Whether it is a fact that during 1994-95, railways made you available 16793 wagons in first part, but you utilised only 15575 wagons resulting in short supply of coal to the extent of 86 lakh tonnes. Likewise, during April to June, you utilised only 15722 wagons out of 16271 wagons made available and allowed 4009 wagons to remain unutilised. Similarly, during the second half of the year only 14261 wagons were put to use as against the target of 15431 rendering 6635 wagons idle. Therefore the main reason for short supply of coal can be subscribed to dereliction of duty and rampant corruption in your Ministry and for that reason railways did not supply you wagons.

SHRI AJIT PANJA : Sir, neither any such corruption charges against the Department have come to the notice of the Government nor has the hon Member ever mentioned it to me before although I am meeting him almost everyday during this Budget Session. It is not a fact that wagons have been supplied but have not been utilised.

Sir, in the first quarter of 1994, the target was 16,272 and the supply of four-wheeler wagons per day was 15,760. In the second quarter, the target was 15,431 and the supply was 14,599. In the third quarter the target was 16,758 and the supply was 16,215. This was an improvement.

In the fourth quarter the target was 17.857 and the actual loaded per day availability was 17,217. The supply was made not according to the target but as per the actual. The coal was duly loaded as per the actual figure of wagons supplied and was despatched.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA : There are not my figures. They are there in the Government record.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, 3 lakh tonnes of Coal was short-supplied during three months from January to March on account of non-availability of railway wagons. We have with us report of R.C.C. which shows that Rs.1100 crore Railways were outstanding against Coal India and Electricity Boards using coal and railways do not supply wagons to them as a result of which coal supply does not reach there. As a consequence thereof, there is frequent Power breakdown in northern India. We have been watching it during the last 3-4-5 days. Now the Railways say that until their outstanding money is paid they would not supply wagons. But you have simply said that wagons did not come. Therefore, my question is whether you discussed about it with Railway Minister and Electricity Boards as to why such thing is happening and what are the ways to ensure supply of wagons?

[English]

SHRI AJIT PANJA : This cast position is a good suggestion and in fact it is being implemented. A Coordination Committee meets every week, in which a number of representatives are there.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : You ask the Minister. Ministers for Railways and Coal are sitting here.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not so. If you ask the Minister to do all jobs, he will not come to Parliament.

SHRI RAM NAIK : If he does not come in Parliament it will do but it is getting dark.....(Interruptions). It is not a serious situation.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let him answer in his own fashion. You cannot expect the Minister to look after everything. Let him look after the policy.

SHRI AJIT PANJA : The hon. Member will be pleased to know...

MR. SPEAKER : Now that he has suggested, you will probably meet the Minister.

SHRI AJIT PANJA : Sir, I met the Railway Minister twice and gave him a detailed report which I received from the companies. I also wrote a letter to him. He immediately replied to me the next day, suggesting the way in which a solution could be found out. Officers are meeting every week. With the good cooperation of the

Ministry of Railways and the Ministry of Coal, we are trying to resolve the problem. As I said, a huge quantity of coal is being loaded in this country and wagons carry it to the destination.

MR. SPEAKER : A very good suggestion has been made that there should be coordination between the two Ministries and the Government is looking into it.

SHRI AJIT PANJA : A coordination Committee is there which is doing very good job.

MR. SPEAKER : Probably the hon. Member wants coordination at the Ministers' level.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to say through you that there is short supply of coal and the coal being sent to plants is not of good quality. Numerous complaints have been received regarding more ash content therein. Quality of coal supplied is not proper and there is also in short quantity. State Electricity Boards also, complain of inferior quality of coal supplied to them. Will the hon. Minister take steps for better co-ordination and ensure supply of good quality of coal? Has the Central Government, formulated any scheme to supply good quality of coal to plants after removing ash from coal?

SHRI AJIT PANJA : The attempt made by the company is to supply quality coal to the consumers. In fact we insisted that the bulk consumers, like the State Electricity Boards and others, at the pithead itself can have a team of their own of can appoint an independent surveyor to check the quality of coal then and there. There are four or five mines and if at a particular loading station there is not a very good quality coal from a particular mine, they can chose another one.

After it travels 1000 km or more, it reaches the powerhouses. If a dispute is raised, about quality and quantity feel that under the law the coal companies are not responsible for the reason that sale of coal takes place at the pit-head. Thereafter, the railway receipt and the forwarding note are given which are signed by the railways, signed by the coal companies and also signed by the consumers if they had their own inspecting agents or their own inspectors. Over and above, the Coal Controller is there to check it and the Coal Consumer Council is there to look after it. Therefore, Sir, we are trying to impress upon the companies to have more coal handling plants, more electronic gadgets to look after the quantity and so far as the quality is concerned we have been asking them to put up more washeries. In fact, we have only 19 washeries now; we need 50 more. But a certain gestation period is required for the purpose of setting up these projects. Attempts are always being made to benefit the consumer of coal. But the consumer must pay, which is not being properly done in all cases.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY : I would like to ask one question about the committee referred to by Shri Panja. Whether it is a fact that the report of that committee had been received before his appointment as minister? I think he must have read of Mishra Committee's report properly. Mishra Committee report pointed out grave irregularities, about which Shri Lodha said that people are supplied with stone in place of coal. As such, Minister's statement that the report is old does not hold good.

MR. SPEAKER : That report is of 1989.

SHRI RABI RAY : Was Mishraji given any punishment after the submission of Mishra Committee report, because his report was against vested interests? Do the recommendations of Mishra Committee hold good today also and whether complaints therein still exist or not?

[English]

SHRI AJIT PANJA : On this, as I said, wherever the companies found that the report is logical, they are taking steps. We have got our statutory teams which carry out inspection quarterly, half-yearly, annually. Those teams are going into the details so far as the coal stock is concerned. But, of course, wherever the companies found that there is cogent reason for taking steps, various steps are being taken...*(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY : Was he punished or not, it is my question....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHHOTAY SINGH YADAV : I would like to know as to whether the most important agency amongst the agencies through which coal is supplied and which look after transport and handling of coal is State co-operative marketing federation? All state marketing federations enjoy major share in transport and handling. But the allotment made to them is the lowest and their supply is shortest. Will the minister give justification for their policy of discrimination in allotment against co-operative societies, which do not owe any amount to any company? Will the Minister make such an arrangement whereby proper allotment can be made through co-operative societies like others?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Are you going to use the cooperative societies for transporting coal? That is exactly what he wants to know.

SHRI AJIT PANJA : Sir, I do not know whether they are actually being used or not. I have to look into it before I say anything.

SHRI CHHOTAY SINGH YADAV : All the cooperative societies are involved in this work. They are doing this work.

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : It has become a permanent question as to whether there is shortage of wagons or coal supply. I will request you to make the ministers for Railways and Coal reply on the same day, so that reality may come to light.

MR. SPEAKER : Whatever you may do they will remain friends and will not quarrel.

PROF. RITA VERMA : From the replies we hear, it appears that both the ministries and ministers do not belong to one Government. They reply in different ways. My submission is that it is wrong to say that the report of R.N. Mishra Committee, which was referred to here, pertains to 1989. It was received in 1994 and deadline for the action to be taken was by 15th June and what action was to be taken against the persons found guilty was mentioned therein. I know numerous complaints came, particularly from Ropar Thermal Power Station, which is linked with Bharat Coking Coal, which lies in my area. Frequent complaints came that in place of coal, stone and rocks were loaded. In spite of all that the guilty persons were not punished. They are very much in service. Some of them retired, some are still in service. But any action against none of them has perhaps been taken. When action is not against any and follow up action on a committee's report is not taken, what is the use of it all. As such, the problem remains as it was. I want to ask the Minister about the number of such guilty officers under whose responsibility such things happened, punished so far, and whether the Ministry proposes to take any action in regard thereto.

[English]

SHRI AJIT PANJA : Sir, certainly, action had been taken against the persons who were found guilty. R.N. Mishra Committee had given a Report and the Government had examined it. We found that in some cases tenets of natural justice had been violated. The person against whom action had been recommended was not heard. Under the law of the land, we have to hear that person whom we are going to punish. So, I had ordered that a show cause notice and a charge sheet should be issued to those persons specifying the charges against him which should be answered by him. A lengthy charge sheet had been issued. Sir, action had been taken in one as two cases and there are cases which are still pending inquiry.

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : Whether any action has been taken on the complaint received against the Thermal Power Station?

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, bungling and theft in coal companies are a common phenomenon. I would

request the hon. Minister to go to these companies while going to Puri from Calcutta and see for himself the stocks shown on record and the actual stock in the field. Each and every coal company will show certain quantity in their records but actually that is not available in the field. It is because the shortage at the root ultimately leads to this kind of an operation. When coal is not there, naturally, stones will be there. So, you have to keep certain things in the wagon itself. Are you going to personally see the stocks of each and every company or are you going to depute one independent body, apart from coal companies, to investigate whether there are stocks actually in the field or whether the stocks are actually on paper? Have you inquired into that?

SHRI AJIT PANJA : Sir I am not an expert to examine these 44 million metric tonnes of coal stock. I do not pose that I have that knowledge. In this system there are checks and balances. I have examined them. Firstly every quarterly account is taken in respect of stocks. Then six-monthly accounts are taken in respect of stocks. And finally yearly accounts are taken in respect of stocks. These are taken by an independent Committee

Then, Sir, the Parliamentary Committee is there. Shri Jaswant Singh is the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee. It went into details and cross-examined all the officers. Whatever file was called for by that Committee, I had personally ordered that should be sent to the Committee. The files were sent to them. Last but not least, the Comptroller and detail. It is not easy to hoodwink all these checks and balances set up under the democratic framework. But I do not rule out that there may be some loopholes somewhere. But this is the system under which are functioning.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been observed that in the recent past contracts for establishing captive power plants were given by the Government to some big industrialists, which did not at all help the unemployed and the big standing problem before the Government. Am I providing employment opportunities to the unemployed remains unresolved. Government is unable to provide any financial subsidy to the unemployed youth. Through you, I would like to be enlightened by the Minister whether any co-operative societies of labourers or unemployed youths will be allowed to set up captive power plants in future? Has the Government any such proposal? Will the Government think in this direction with a view to providing employment opportunities to the unemployed youth, labourers and others in the country, whose number is very big and increasing day by day? Will some incentives or preference be given to such classes and whether Government will think in that light looking to the enormous problem of unemployment?

[English]

SHRI AJIT PANJA : Sir, it is done through open tenders. If there is any such cooperative of labourers, they can certainly quote in the tender. It has to be done through tenders. But it requires a lot of investment for putting up a power plant. If there is any cooperative of labourers, they can certainly quote in tender and there is no bar on that account.

[Translation]

SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA : I want to know from the Minister for Coal about the recent over-reporting of Rs. 67 lakh in CPC.L., regarding which the C.M.D. of the company Shri R.N. Mishra appointed an inquiry committee. What is the report of that inquiry committee. Whether the allegation has been found to be correct in the inquiry report? If so, what action is being taken by Government in regard thereto?

[English]

SHRI AJIT PANJA : Sir, I have already replied to this question.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are 2600 industries in Firozabad in Uttar Pradesh and almost all of them depend on coal or kerosene oil. There are different industries, from making bangles to manufacturing of two-wheelers and their headlights. The goods manufactured in those industries are supplied to the places not only in India, but exported abroad also. Yet those industries are not being supplied coal in accordance with their requirements. When supply of coal is made, it is of an inferior quality. Third class quality is supplied to them, which includes sufficiently big stones, which causes problems before those industries.

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask quickly as the time is very short now.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : In this connection I wrote two letters to the Coal Ministry, one during 1993, receipt of which was acknowledged by the ministry and I was told that the same had been forwarded for further action in the matter. When I sent another letter to the ministry, I received the same reply which I had received earlier. I want to emphasize that we never get any satisfactory reply from your side. What is the reason and the remedy?

MR. SPEAKER : Time is over now.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Through you, I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether Government is taking any action against the officers responsible for supply of inferior quality of coal to industries and who are involved in the corruption?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Modernisation of Postal Service

*704. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Government propose to modernise postal service in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the plan to extend postal service even to in-accessible parts of the country; and

(c) the measures being taken to enlist the support of the villages (Panchayats) with a view to extending further the postal network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The objectives of the Eighth Five Year Plan of the Department of Post *intra* include modernisation of the postal services with necessary technological inputs and also expansion of the postal network to rural areas not having postal facilities. In so far as the latter objective is concerned, targets for opening of post offices are being fixed under each Annual Plan subject to the availability of resources. During the Eighth Five Year Plan, it is proposed to open 1440 extra departmental Branch Post Offices in rural areas.

(c) in order to accelerate the programme for providing basic postal facilities to rural areas, while containing the outgo from budgetary resources in terms of recurring expenditure a new scheme viz. the Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojana has been formulated, details of which are being worked out. Under this scheme, basic postal facilities are proposed to be extended to villages not yet provided with a post office, through Gram Panchayats, on a contractual basis.

Trifed

*705. SHRI LAETA UMBREY : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED) has any offices in the North-Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total amount transacted during each of the last three years;

(c) whether any agricultural produce from the Region has been exported;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The TRIFED has one Zonal Office at Guwahati under which there are two Project Offices located at

Phuloni and Hathikali. The total amount - transacted during each of the three years is as follows :

	(Rs. in lakhs)
1992-93	5.59
1993-94	13.14
1994-95	17.51

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Since the volume of procurement has not been large and there was no export order, stock was sold in the domestic market.

[Translation]

Rate of Trunk Calls

*706. SHRI N.K. BALIYAN . Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether national and international trunk call services are provided to the customers through Government trunk exchanges and non-Government institutions/agencies/ P.C.Os;

(b) if so, whether there is a huge difference in the rates being charged by the Government and non-Government institutions/agencies/P.C.Os for trunk calls,

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether trunk call bookings through Government trunk exchanges are on decrease as a result thereof;

(e) if so, whether the Government are taking any steps to bring parity between the trunk call booking rates; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) . (a) National/ International Trunk calls are provided only through Government Trunk Exchanges in the country. No other non-Government institution/agencies/franchised PCOs are permitted to provide trunk calls to customers.

(b) and (c). Government rates for national and international trunk calls are same throughout the country. Government has given concession to the tune of 50% for trunk calls made from Village Panchayat Telephones.

(d) The booking of trunk calls in the Country is on the decrease because of the increased availability of STD Subscribers prefer to make calls on STD rather than booking trunk calls.

(e) and (f). Not applicable in view of the above.

Sale of Post Cards

*707. SHIR SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR . Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to reduce the losses being suffered on account of sale of post cards;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c). There is already a difference between the rates of ordinary post cards and printed post cards which are at present 15 paise and 60 paise respectively. Of late, there is a large scale use of ordinary post cards for responding to various quizzes and competitions in television, radio and newspaper media. It is the intention of the Government to make a further distinction between post cards used for personal communication and others used for such competition purposes by pricing the latter in such a way that the subsidy targeted for the common man is considerably reduced. The scheme when finalised will be implemented by amendment of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898.

Allotment of LPG Agencies

*708. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Government have evolved a scheme to allot LPG agencies and to provide LPG connections in all those cities of the country which are having a population of twenty thousand and above;

(b) if so, the time by which the said scheme is proposed to be implemented;

(c) whether the Government have also made any assessment in regard to requirement of LPG under the said scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the sources from which LPG is proposed to be received to meet the said requirement and quantum thereof, source-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). LPG distributorships of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies are at present opened in towns having a population of 20,000 and above as per 1991 census, in a phased manner, subject to viability of the location and availability of product. Accordingly, 623 locations were included in LPG Marketing Plan 1992-93 and 1023 locations have been included in the LPG Marketing Plan 1994-95 for opening of new distributorships. By the year 2000, LPG distributorships are expected to be opened in all urban areas.

(c) to (e). Yes, Sir. The Government have been constantly endeavouring to increase the availability of LPG in the country through augmentation of the existing sources, commissioning of new sources and enhanced imports to meet the growing demand of LPG. Besides, the Government have also decanalised import of LPG

and parallel marketeers have been allowed to import and market LPG.

The indigenous production of LPG from Public Sector Oil Companies is expected to increase from 2858 TMT in 1994-95 to 5031 TMT in 2001-02. Total requirement will be 8630 TMT Remaining requirement will be met have imports.

Source-wise availability will be as follows :

	Estimated indigenous LPG production in 1001-02 (TMT)
Existing Refineries	: 1664
New Refineries	: 993
Existing Fractionator	: 1479
New Fractionator	: 895
Indigenous total	: 5031 TMT
Imports	: 3600 TMT
Total	: 8631 TMT

[English]

U.S. Companies in Telecom

*709. DR. R. MALLU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of US Telecom companies are interested to invest in the Indian

Telecommunication sector;

(b) if so, the details of such investments proposed with the names of concerned US companies;

(c) whether such investments would be confined to particular sectors of telecommunications network in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof with the names of such sectors;

(e) whether such investments would benefit Mizoram and other areas of North-Eastern region; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The details of major US Companies whose proposals have been approved are given in the enclosed Statement enclosed.

(c) No, Sir. Foreign Investment would be allowed in all sectors such as Telecom Equipment Manufacturing, Provision of Telecom Services etc.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Such investment would help in expanding and improving the telephone services in all parts of the country including Mizoram and other North-Eastern States.

STATEMENT

Major Foreign Investment Proposals Approved with us Companies

S.No.	Name of U.S. Company	Item/Services
1	2	3
1.	AT&T USA	(a) Digital Switching System (b) Digital Transmission Equipment (c) Optical Fibre Cable
2.	Motorola Inc	(a) Data Communication (b) Pagers (c) Mobile Radio Trunked Service (d) Radio Paging Service
3.	Sprint	E-Mail Services
4.	Nynex Networks Systems Co	(a) Radio Paging Service (b) Cellular Telephone Service
5.	Hughes Networks	(a) Vsat Equipment - Manufacture of. (b) Vsat Services (c) Cellular Telephone Service
6.	Belsouth INC.	Cellular Telephone Service
7.	Millicom International Cellular	Cellular Telephone Service
8.	Cellular Comm. International Inc.	Cellular Telephone Service
9.	LCC Inc.	Radio Paging Service
10.	Century Telecom Internationa Inc.	Cellular Telephone Service
11.	World Phone Ince.	Audio Tex Service
12.	Vanguard International	Mobile Trunked Service

1	2	3
13. International Wireless Communication.		Mobile Trunked Service
14. Spectrum Products Inc.		Radio Paging Service
15. Ims Inc.		Radio Paging Service
16. Widedcom R & D		FA-X Machines
		Manufacture of

Surcharge on Aviation Turbine Fuel

*710. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil Coordination Committee has imposed a hefty surcharge on oil companies handling aviation turbine fuel (ATF) inputs;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the impact of the surcharge on price of ATF; and

(d) its likely effect on the civil aviation sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) . (a) to (d). Price of ATF sold to domestic airlines is administered. The administered prices are so structured as to make the essential products available at an affordable price. Therefore, items of mass consumption like SKO, HSD etc. are subsidised and products like ATF, MS are priced in a manner so as to provide cross subsidy. Exim policy has permitted the import of ATF under SIL. Presently Rs. 3292/KL has been fixed for using the facilities for import of ATF under SIL.

Postal Conference

*711. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether 21st Congress of the Universal Postal Union was held at Seoul during August-September, 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main points discussed and decisions arrived at the conference;

(d) whether India had apprised the Conference about the steps taken to modernise postal services and operations;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) to what extent the decisions taken in the Conference have been introduced in Indian Postal Service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) . (a) to (g). The 21st Congress of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) was held at Seoul during August-September 1994. It was attended by delegations from 174 member-countries of the Union. The Indian delegation was led by Minister of State for Communications and comprised other senior officials of the Department of Post. The Congress discussed 823 proposals. The main issues which were discussed and on which decisions were taken were . (i) organisation and functioning of the UPU, (ii) strategy of the post offices of the member-countries of the Union for the next five years, (iii) conventions of the Universal Postal Union regarding international mail service and the detailed regulations, (iv) various other matters like parcel postage rates, quality of service of international mail, reciprocal dues between member-countries for mail service. The Indian delegation apprised the Conference about the steps taken to modernise postal services and operations in India, especially the introduction of new services which are user-specific and meant to generate additional revenues and bring in efficiency of operations. The Seoul postal strategy adopted by the Congress emphasises greater customer orientation and making postal services more relevant in the age of telecommunications. The Department of Post in India has taken several steps for implementation of the Seoul postal strategy and will continue to strive in this direction during the next five years.

[Translation]

Coal Pilferage

*712. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to ascertain the amount of coal pilfered from the coal mines;

(b) if so, the quantity of coal and its value in terms of money pilfered every year; and

(c) the steps taken to check the pilferage in coal mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) and (b). No Sir. The quantity and value of coal pilfered cannot be assessed as pilferage is clandestine. However, the quantity of

coal recovered seized and its value for the last two years is as under :

Year	Quantity (in tonnes)	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
1993-94	32500	180
1994-95	23300	118

(c) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

Steps Taken to Check Thefts/Pilferage of Coal are :

1. Construction/erection of fencing wall around the coal stocks;
2. Installation of check posts on the main roads leading to collieries;
3. Installation of watch towers and providing lighting arrangements around the coal stacking areas;
4. Collection of Intelligence;
5. Surprise checks alongwith local police and colliery security personnel;
6. Round the clock patrolling by colliery security personnel;
7. Meeting with District authorities for drawing out plan to eliminate the menace;
8. Lodging of FIRs with local police;

[English]

Import of Natural Gas

*713. SHRI CHITTA BASU :
SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI :

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

(a) whether the Government have proposals to import gas from Myanmar and other neighbouring countries;

(b) whether India at present produce about 55 MMSCMD less gas per day as against the demand;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any contract has been signed with the neighbouring countries for import of gas during 1995-96; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) Feasibility studies for the import of natural gas from Oman and Iran are in progress. The

possibility of importing natural gas/LNG from Qatar, Myanmar and Indonesia is also being explored.

(b) and (c). The production of natural gas in the current year is expected to be around 62 MMSCMD while the demand from units which have been allocated gas would amount to around 75 MMSCMD.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Visit of UNHC for Human Rights

*714. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights visited India recently;

(b) if so, the name of the places visited by him;

(c) the details of the meetings held by him; and

(d) the reaction of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the situation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) He visited Jammu, Sopore and Baramulla in J&K State, and Chandigarh.

(c) During the visit Mr. Lasoo met the Prime Minister, Home Minister, External Affairs Minister, Lok Sabha Speaker, the Leader of the opposition and other high officials. He also met the members of the National Human Rights Commission and NON-governmental organisations. He met leaders of various political parties, including National Conference, Janata Dal, CPI (M) and the Congress (I) in Srinagar. He visited the migrant camps and Governor of J&K. During the visit in Chandigarh he met Punjab Chief Minister.

(d) In his meeting with Prime Minister, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights said that he had not come to investigate, discuss or pronounce on political issues. It is essentially a familiarising visit. He appreciated Indian policy of transparency and openness of protection of human rights. He was appreciative of the work that has been done by the National Human Rights Commission in the course of the past year in a number of specific areas.

[Translation]

Utilisation of Water

*715. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated quantum of water flowing in river Ganga;

(b) the quantum of water being utilised for irrigation, drinking and industrial purposes, separately;

(c) the quantum of water going waste into the sea; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to make optimum use of the water of river Ganga?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) The annual flow through the river Ganga based on seventy five percent dependability has been estimated at 60 billion cubic metre during non-monsoon and 352 billion cubic metre during the monsoon season making a total of 412 billion cubic metre.

(b) There had been no assessment for quantifying present utilisation separately for each sector. However, the total quantum utilised based on withdrawals is about 62 billion cubic metre annually for irrigation, drinking and industrial purposes. The quantum annually utilised for navigation in Calcutta Port is about 28 billion cubic metre annually, making a total utilisation of 90 billion cubic metre.

(c) The quantity of Ganga water going into the sea has not been assessed as the available flow in the river over and above that utilised in India flows into Bangladesh. This quantity is about 322 billion cubic metre annually, part of which is utilised in Bangladesh as per their requirement and the rest flows into the sea.

(d) The Ganga basin States have been advised to prepare plans for utilisation of 79 billion cubic metre during non-monsoon and 85 billion cubic metre during monsoon. Taking into account the requirement for navigation in Calcutta Port at 36 billion cubic metre annually, the total proposed future planned utilisation would be about 200 billion cubic metre annually.

[English]

Oilfields in Assam

*716. SHRI CHETAN PS CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to offer some of the blocks of oilfields in Assam to joint venture projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether foreign investment is being invited in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (d) . Government has so far offered five medium sized fields in Assam in two offers of discovered fields. Apart from this, eight small-sized fields have also been offered. Exploration blocks in Assam have also been offered in the Fourth to Eighth Rounds of bidding and in the recently floated Joint Venture Round.

[Translation]

Production and Despatch of Coal

*717. SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Ltd. and its other subsidiary coal manufacturing units had fixed target in regard to coal production alongwith the quantum of despatch thereof during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the target fixed in regard to the quantity of production and the quantity of despatch of coal;

(c) whether a huge quantity of coal was lying at the pitheads of coal mines by the end of March, 1994,

(d) if so, the total quantity thereof; and

(e) the reasons for which the storage capacity/ quantity was not taken into consideration while fixing the target for despatch of coal during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (AJIT PANJA) : (a) Yes Sir

(b) The targets for production and despatch of coal, by companies under Coal India Limited (CIL) for the year 1994-95 were 223.00 million tonnes and 228.17 million tonnes respectively.

(c) and (d). The pithead stocks with CIL as on 31.3.1994 were reported at 50.81 million tonnes.

(e) Action Plan target for despatch by CIL for 1994-95 included draw down of stocks from pitheads to the extent of 9.5 million tonnes.

[English]

Rape Cases

*718. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD : DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL .

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been increase in rape cases of minor girls in Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of such cases reported during each of the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check such cases?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B CHAVAN) : (a) and (b). The number of cases of rape involving minor girls in Delhi during each of the last three years is as under :

Years	Number of cases
1992	181
1993	224
1994	225
1995 (upto 30.4.95)	73

(c) Steps taken to check incidents of such cases of rape involving minor girls are as under :

- (i) Efforts are made to increase general awareness in society about various crimes against women in general and rape involving minors in particular. Local police officers hold meetings with the public through residents' welfare associations to impress upon them the need for not allowing their children to be tempted by offers of gifts or Sweets from strangers or neighbours. Advertisements have also been placed in newspapers advising the public to special care of the girl child
- (ii) A Special Unit, "Crimes Against Women Cell" was set-up in 1983 to enquire into complaints of women who are victims of various offences. Similar Cells have been set-up in each of the nine police districts of Delhi.
- (iii) The public is requested to help the prosecution by coming forward to give evidence against persons accused of rape involving minors which may lead to their conviction.
- (iv) Instructions have been issued to take special care while handling victims of rape due to the sensitive nature of the crime.

[Translation]

Use of Electronic Media by All Parties

*719. DR. G.L. KANAUIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any action plan for the use of electronic media by all parties and making equal opportunities available to all of them; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b). While no specific action plan is on the anvil, All India Radio and Doordarshan shall continue to include stories in their news bulletins on the basis of newsworthiness without any bias in favour of one party or another. They will also continue to provide equal time for party political broadcasts/telecasts to recognised political parties at the time of elections to the State Assemblies/Lok Sabha, as per the scheme governing such broadcasts/telecasts which has the approval of the Election Commission of India.

[English]

Indira Gandhi Canal Project

*720. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the total allocation made by the Union Government to Rajasthan for Indira Gandhi Canal Project during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether any external assistance has been made available for the said project during the above period;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the progress made so far in the completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) Approved outlay in the State VIII Plan for Indira Gandhi Nahar Project is Rs 12.09 crores for Stage-I and Rs. 430 crores for Stage-II. Additional Central assistance of Rs. 250 crore has also been provide under Border Area Development Programme.

(b) & (c). Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund (OECF) of Japan has provided a loan of 49.8 million Yen (Rs. 122 lakhs) for consultancy on remedial measures for reinforcement of main canal embankment, control of blown sand and control of aquatic weeds;

(d) The main canal, 649 Km in length, has been fully completed. Out of 8,974 Km distribution system, 5,352 Km has been completed by the end of March, 1995.

Expenditure on Advertisements

7105. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure on advertisements released through DAVP during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount payable to the newspapers outstanding against the DAVP as on March 31 of 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1995;

(c) the date of last fixation of DAVP advertisement rates; and

(d) the reasons for not revising the rates every year and for not settling the advertisements bills within a reasonable time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) The information is given below :

Year	Amount (Rs.)
1992-93	29,86,27,428
1993-94	31,49,60,257
1994-95	27,43,36,135

(b) The informations is given below :

31.3.1992	Rs. 9,83,39,940
31.3.1993	Rs. 16,21,30,111
31.3.1994	Rs. 14,67,54,881
31.3.1995	Rs. 12,56,53,886

(c) Government last revised the DAVP advertisement rates with effect from 1.4.1995.

(d) The advertisement rates were revised in 1981, 1985, 1988, 1990 and 1991 in accordance with a formula devised by an Expert Committee set up in 1977. In 1991, the Government constituted a fresh Committee to revise the Rate Structure formula which submitted its report to the Government in September 1993.

Advertisement rates have been revised with effect from 1.4.1995 on the basis of the new rate structure formula recommended by this Committee.

As for the delay in settling the advertisement bills, the payment system has been streamlined through the introduction of computers and DAVP is able to settle the bills within a reasonable time.

[Translation]

Raids on Petrol Retail Outlets

7106. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether raids were conducted at some of the petrol retail outlets of various oil companies in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years;

(b) if so, the outcome of these raids; and

(c) the action taken against the owners of petrol retail outlets found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (c). Raids were conducted by the district authorities at 28 retail outlets of the oil companies in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years.

Action such as suspension of sales and supplies, suspension of the retail selling licence for a specified period, etc., were taken against the erring dealers.

[English]

Foreign Suppliers

7107. SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of foreign suppliers who have rendered services and supplied various products and equipments concerning oil exploration to ONGC during the last three years alongwith the cost thereof;

(b) the total amount of foreign exchange spent by ONGC thereon;

(c) the details of plans for further procurement with identification of fields and areas of ONGC for which the company would go for procurement during the next two years from the foreign resources;

(d) whether the imported equipments have been utilised by ONGC; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

Appointment on Compassionate Grounds

7108. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some cases of compassionate appointments of dependents of the deceased employees on the workcharged establishment in the Lower Ganga Division of the Central Water Commission are lying pending since long;

(b) if so, the number of thereof;

(c) the reasons of such long pendency; and

(d) whether the Government propose to take steps to dispose of the cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. Three cases are pending in the Central Water Commission due to incomplete application and lack of required vacancies for appointment on compassionate grounds.

STD/PCOs in A.P.

7109 SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received during 1994-95 in Andhra Pradesh for allotment of S.T.D./I.S.D./P.C.Os; and

(b) the number of P.C.Os allotted in the State so far, district wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) The required information is given in the enclosed Statement.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the SSA	No. of Applications Received during 1994-95	No. of PCOs Allotted
1	2	3	4
1.	Srikakulam	701	81
2.	Vizianagaram	113	39

1	2	3	4
3.	Visakhapatnam	790	685
4.	Rajahmundry	1259	92
5.	Eluru	377	269
6.	Vijayawada	—	360
7.	Guntur	2761	686
8.	Prakasam	1450	61
9.	Nellore	986	148
10.	Tirupathi	1750	256
11.	Cuddapah	691	131
12.	Ananthapur	412	209
13.	Kurnool	571	35
14.	Mahaboobnagar	329	43
15.	Sangareddy	407	150
16.	Nizamabad	482	113
17.	Adilabad	490	60
18.	Karimnagar	384	65
19.	Warangal	223	27
20.	Khammam	546	128
21.	Nalgonda	360	47
22.	Hyderabad and RB	4756	1026

[Translation]

Increase in Strength of Police

7110. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat regarding increase in the strength of police force of State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Telecom Facility in Bihar

7111. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the position in Bihar with regard to the expansion of telecommunication facilities at national level in comparison to other States;

(b) whether infrastructural facilities and the required funds have been provided to the State; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) About 20 lakh Direct Exchange Lines are planned to be provided

in the country during 1995-96. Out of these, about 40,000 lines are planned in Bihar. The expansion plans are being drawn based on demand and pending waiting list. The total number of applicants on the waiting list in Bihar was 21225 as on 1.4.1995.

(b) The necessary infrastructural facilities and funds are being provided for implementation of the planned programmes.

(c) Question does not arise.

[English]

Programme for Oil Exploration

7112. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the latest position about implementation of the Rs. 6500 accelerated Programme for Oil Exploration (APEX) intended to make up for the petroleum exploration efforts; and

(b) the achievements made under this programme so far vis-a-vis the targets prescribed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). Accelerated Programme for exploration is under implementation since 1994-95. Details of the targets for 1994-95 and achievements made are as follows :

	Target (1994-95)	Achievement (1994-95)
A. Seismic Survey (SLK)		
Onland	38716	51337.21
Offshore	36225	40054
B. Exploratory Drilling (000 meters)	533.29	524.11

ONGC Operation

7113. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether ONGC has been expanding its operations in a big way;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of various new projects being undertaken by ONGC including locations thereof; and

(d) the incentives/infrastructural facilities being offered to the Indian and foreign companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. ONGC is steadily increasing its production of crude oil and natural

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
15. Tamil Nadu		270.72	38.40	9.12	6.74	24.69	-	14.78	9.44	9.11	-
16. Tripura		414.94	42.78	8.00	18.38	10.00	-	-	0.69	7.19	-
17. Uttar Pradesh		58.40	17.82	6.12	15.16	23.58	-	-	3.46	1.94	-
18. West Bengal		1171.67	225.60	30.60	24.26	-	-	29.56	1.03	23.38	35.00
19. A and N Island		86.13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20. Daman and Diu		23.87	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21. Arunachal Pradesh		-	32.40	-	-	-	-	-	-	57.87	-
22. D and N Haveli		-	-	43.74	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23. Meghalaya		-	79.20	-	-	-	-	-	-	34.52	-
24. Mizoram		-	34.02	-	-	-	-	14.78	-	-	-
25. New Delhi		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44.39	-
26. Nagaland		-	48.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.09	-
Total		25000.00	4000.00	249.99	267.00	200.00	-	100.00	105.00	355.00	200.00

STATEMENT-II

Funds Released to States/UTs during 1993-94 under Various Schemes of

T.D DIVISION

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	States/UTs	SCA	Article 275(1)	Girls Hostel	Boys Hostel	Ashram School	Educt. Complex	Voc. Trg.	R&T	N.G.O	STDCC
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1593.22	437.25	53.11	30.74	34.50	5.28	-	5.66	10.74	25.00
2.	Assam	1087.57	301.50	-	-	-	-	-	12.10	20.65	-
3.	Bihar	3497.39	801.00	-	-	-	-	-	12.71	31.64	-
4.	Gujarat	2234.77	668.25	19.51	39.23	-	25.32	3.46	0.55	4.33	-
5.	Himachal Pradesh	755.03	27.00	-	-	-	-	-	0.27	-	-
6.	J and K	518.60	105.75	-	5.97	-	-	-	-	-	-
7.	Karnataka	439.76	251.25	-	-	-	-	-	0.29	19.44	-
8.	Kerala	167.25	36.00	20.00	20.00	47.10	4.93	14.53	7.85	19.70	41.00
9.	Madhya Pradesh	8117.65	1651.50	27.03	39.28	-	35.20	44.34	23.35	15.86	60.00
10.	Maharashtra	2234.35	795.00	-	-	69.42	6.33	-	23.75	42.63	53.00
11.	Manipur	417.12	53.25	10.11	10.11	-	-	70.03	3.50	1.05	10.00
12.	Orissa	3603.23	815.25	77.24	29.40	16.20	31.75	44.34	3.73	43.38	50.00
13.	Rajasthan	2664.68	576.75	12.25	36.75	-	16.19	-	5.57	10.49	61.40
14.	Sikkim	73.67	9.75	-	-	-	-	4.73	-	-	-
15.	Tamil Nadu	214.05	72.00	-	-	34.65	-	-	7.39	12.20	-
16.	Tripura	372.37	80.25	7.31	8.38	10.00	-	-	6.80	-	35.00
17.	Uttar Pradesh	69.22	32.25	3.65	3.65	40.68	-	8.57	4.98	1.28	-
18.	West Bengal	1319.06	423.00	23.74	26.40	-	-	-	0.93	14.74	-
19.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	60.75	-	-	-	-	-	0.57	71.89	-
20.	Meghalaya	-	148.50	9.80	9.80	-	-	-	-	52.34	15.00
21.	Mizoram	-	63.75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22.	Nagaland	-	90.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.08	-
23.	New Delhi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29.80	-
24.	A and N Islands	77.22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25.	Daman and Diu	28.29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		29484.50	75.00.00	263.75	269.71	352.55	125.00	190.00	120.00	403.24	350.40

STATEMENT - III

Funds Released to States/UTs during 1994-95 under Various Schemes of

T.D. DIVISION											
(Rs. in lakhs)											
S. No	Name of States	SCA	Article 275(1)	Boys Hostel	Ashram School	Educt. Complex	V.T.I	R&T	NGO	STDCC	Girls Hostel
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Andhra Pradesh	1947.10	460.50	58.47	66.80	2.01	-	16.98	9.18	-	50.00
2	Assam	1112.67	315.00	16.00	-	-	-	12.55	25.94	-	-
3	Bihar	1748.70	725.25	-	-	4.85	44.34	10.63	34.99	-	-
4	Gujarat	2491.56	675.00	6.44	-	24.25	21.60	6.16	2.36	30.00	4.73
5	Himachal Pradesh	450.57	24.00	-	-	-	-	0.21	-	-	-
6	J and K	550.63	95.25	86.02	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Karnataka	409.03	210.00	-	67.50	-	-	0.63	22.16	-	-
8	Kerala	126.30	35.25	20.00	-	-	-	10.00	28.11	36.00	20.00
9	Madhya Pradesh	7535.72	1687.50	16.90	-	52.30	-	13.09	3.91	124.00	115.83
10	Maharashtra	2196.34	801.75	-	1.76	-	54.12	24.30	56.97	30.00	-
11	Manipur	432.81	69.00	-	-	-	-	2.00	3.98	10.00	-
12	Orissa	3956.55	771.00	36.00	60.00	64.99	88.68	8.59	52.87	75.00	44.00
13	Rajasthan	2202.79	600.00	-	24.50	48.19	-	6.14	11.37	30.00	-
14	Sikkim	75.10	9.75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Tamil Nadu	256.88	63.00	-	-	-	10.05	7.12	12.89	-	-
16	Tripura	480.01	93.75	29.17	19.44	-	-	10.41	4.22	-	19.44
17	Uttar Pradesh	70.41	31.50	-	-	-	-	-	3.25	-	-
18	West Bengal	1335.83	417.75	-	-	-	6.22	1.19	27.62	-	-
19	Arunachal Pradesh	-	60.00	-	-	-	-	-	83.40	-	-
20	Meghalaya	-	166.50	11.00	-	-	-	-	48.63	15.00	11.00
21	Mizoram	-	72.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22	Nagaland	-	116.25	-	-	-	-	-	64.36	-	-
23	New Delhi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	D and N Havell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37.00
25	A and N Islands	85.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	Daman and Diu	35.50	-	26.82	10.00	-	13.18	-	-	-	3.00
Total		27500.00	7500.00	300.82	250.00	196.59	238.18	130.00	496.21	350.00	305.00

[Translation]

Voluntary Organisation in Gujarat

7115. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of voluntary organisations in Gujarat to whom financial assistance has been given for welfare programmes during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the voluntary organisations in Gujarat have been submitting their accounts to the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) The number of voluntary organisations in Gujarat to whom financial assistance has been provided during each of the last three years by the Ministry of Welfare is as under :

Year	No. of voluntary organisations assisted
1992-93	26
1993-94	38
1994-95	50

(b) to (d). Yes, Sir. The voluntary organisations are submitting periodic reports, audited statement of income and expenditure, payment and receipt and balance

sheet and also utilisation certificates to the Ministry of Welfare every year Normally, the 2nd instalment of the Annual Grant-in-aid is released only after satisfactory evaluation of the progress reports and receipt of the audited accounts

Dealerships/Agencies of Handicapped

7116 SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether as per the decision of the Government 7.5% dealership/agency is reserved for the handicapped out of the dealership/agencies being allotted by the public sector oil companies

(b) if so, the number of dealerships/agencies allotted to the handicapped in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years

(c) whether the quota of 7.5% reservation has been duly met with and

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) During the last three years, 10 Retail Outlet dealerships, 2 SKO/LDO dealerships and 5 LPG distributorships have been allotted to Physically Handicapped persons in Madhya Pradesh

(c) and (d) A quota of 7.5% dealerships/distributorships to be awarded through OSBs is provided for Physically Handicapped category on State-wise and Industry wise basis Selection of dealerships/distributorships through OSB (Madhya Pradesh) is underway Quota earmarked for PH category is fully met Any shortfall in any category is made good in subsequent Marketing Plan

[English]

C.R.P.F.

7117 SHRI A INDRAKARAN REDDY Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Study questions CRPF efficiency appearing in the Telegraph dated March 19 1995,

(b) if so, the facts thereof, and

(c) the remedial measures taken/proposed to improve the functioning of CRPF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) The article refers to a draft report prepared by ASCI Hyderabad for the Action Group constituted in CRPF as part of the ongoing exercise to further tone up the efficiency of some of the administrative and operational processes The Group is still finalising the draft for submission to the Government

Telefilm on Goa Freedom Struggle

7118 SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received some proposals for the production/telecast of telefilm on Goa freedom struggle and the role of freedom fighters

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the time by which such telefilm is likely to be telecast?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K P SINGH DEO) (a) As per records, no such proposal has been received in the Doordarshan Directorate

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Criminals Evading Arrest

7119 SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether a large number of criminals in Delhi are evading arrest,

(b) whether some of them are female and proclaimed offenders, and

(c) if so, the steps taken to arrest them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI PM SAYEED) (a) and (b) As on May 15, 1995, a total of 5858 proclaimed offenders involved in various crimes in Delhi were evading arrest, of them, 263 are female

(c) The steps taken to arrest the criminals are as under

(i) Frequent raids at hideouts and places likely to be visited by criminals

(ii) Verification from sureties

(iii) Issue of hue and cry notices

(iv) Publication in police Gazette and in the media

(v) Tracking their movements by collecting criminal intelligence

(vi) Setting up special teams in each Police Station to apprehend such criminals/proclaimed offenders

MTNL's Finances

7120. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the financial position of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has improved during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the capacity utilisation, turnover and profit of the various units of MTNL during the last three years, unit. wise and year-wise;

(c) whether the MTNL has recently drawn and ambitious plan to raise substantial capital through public issue.

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating *inter-alia* the total amount to be raised, the particulars of the schemes/projects to be financed by the proceeds of the public issues, etc;

(e) whether the Ministry of Finance has given their approval and clearance for tapping the capital market; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) MTNL has planned to raise capital through public issue.

(d) The total amount proposed to be raised is about Rs. 1500 crores through issue of equity to the extent of Rs. 100 crores (face value). This is to be utilised for expansion and improvement of basic services and value added services.

(e) No approval have been received so far.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

STATEMENT

Capacity Utilisation during the Last Three Years is as under :

	As on 31st March			
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Delhi	85.4%	86.3%	85.5%	83.9%
Bombay	88.4%	92.8%	89.6%	86.9%
TURN-OVER (RS. IN CRORES)				
Delhi	692.92	827.06	1068.37	
Bombay	880.07	1033.73	1453.38	
PROFIT AFTER TAX (RS. IN CRORES)				
Delhi	77.83	106.12	150.70	
Bombay	93.40	102.25	193.46	

The income/expenditure of Corporate Office has been proportionately allocated to both the units.

Financial accounts for 1994-95 are not yet available.

Funds for Combating Terrorism

7121. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether funds are provided to States to meet the terrorist activities; and

(b) if so, the funds provided during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) There are no specific funds earmarked to meet terrorist activities. Assistance to States, however, is provided (a) under the Modernisation of Police Forces Scheme and (b) on proposals requesting assistance for meeting special problems being encountered by the States.

(b) No funds have been provided to States during the last three years to specifically combat terrorist activities.

Bomb Blasts in Bombay

7122. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :
DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY :
SHRI RAM NAIK :
SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV .
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received the final report from the CBI in regard to the bomb blast cases in Bombay;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any arrests have been made in this connection;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the final report is likely to be submitted to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (e) In criminal cases no report is required to be submitted to the Government. On completion of the investigation, report U/s 173 Cr. P.C. is to be filed in the competent Court. Accordingly, CBI is submitting supplementary charge-sheets in the forms of reports U/s 173 (8) Cr. P.C. to the Designated Court, Bombay from time to time regarding investigations carried out in the case. Bombay bomb blast cases were initially investigated by the Bombay Police. After filing of charge-sheet by the Bombay Police, further investigations were taken over by the CBI. Out of a total of 198 persons identified so

far for involvement in the crime, 160 have been arrested 38 accused persons are still absconding Efforts are being made through Interpol and local sources to know the exact whereabouts of the accused persons

[Translation]

Interest Free Loans to Physically Handicapped

7123 SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Dearia) Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government contemplate to set up a bank which will provide interest free loans to physically handicapped, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) (a) No Sir

(b) Does not arise

[English]

TCMI System

7124 SHRI RAM KAPSE Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications (DOT) has introduced a Traffic Control and Management Information System (TCMIS) for effective management of telephone traffic, particularly during peak hours and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) Yes Sir This has been introduced in MTNL, Delhi

(b) The system monitors the traffic from and to E-108 exchanges and helps in taking traffic control actions by way of diverting/blocking traffic on exceptional routes in the event of a major link failure or sudden spurt in

traffic The system also helps in optimising the performance of the junction network by providing valuable data for planning

[Translation]

Oil Projects in Bihar

7125 SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to set up any oil projects in Bihar, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) There is no petroleum project pertaining to Bihar presently under consideration of the Government

(b) Does not arise

[English]

Modernisation of Oil Refineries

7126 DR KRUPASINDHU BHOI Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for modernisation of some of the oil refineries in the country

(b) if so, the refineries identified for modernisation during the Eighth Five Year Plan

(c) the funds earmarked for the purpose, and

(d) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) to (d) The details of modernisation projects approved by the Government are as under

S No	Name of the Project approved by the Government	Approved Cost (Rs Crores)	Date of Approval	Completion schedule from the date of approval	Overall Physical Progress (%)
1	Modernisation of Digboi Refinery	346.34	May, 1993	30 months	87
2	Catalytic Reformer Unit at Digboi	112.00	8.9.1993	36 months	49
3	Catalytic Reformer Unit at Barauni	248.11	11.2.1994	36 months	43
4	Catalytic Reformer Unit at Mathura	545.00	11.3.1994	36 months	8
5	Replacement of existing Coking Unit with new Coking Unit at Digboi Refinery	118.00	31.3.1995	45 months	Recently approved

[Translation]

Demand of Steam Coal

7127 SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) the quantum of steam coal required for and supplied to the industries and other sectors in various States particularly in Gujarat during 1994-95,

(b) whether the demand of steam coal in respect of various States particularly Gujarat is being met, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) (a) to (c) The requirements of coal are not assessed State-wise They are assessed industry/sector-wise for the whole country Coal India Limited (CIL) supplies coal to the consumers based on the programmes submitted by them in accordance with the sponsorship issued by the sponsoring authorities Steam coal requirements of industrial consumers in Gujarat are mostly met from South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) and to some extent from Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) During the year 1994-95, consumers in Gujarat have been supplied Steam coal to the extent of 6.18 lakh tonnes (provisional) The supplies of coal were affected as a result of cancellation/suspension of programmes by the consumers themselves Steam coal supplies to consumers in Gujarat were also affected on account of inadequate availability of wagons, non-submission of applications by the consumers alongwith coal value to lift coal by road etc

Coal India Limited is trying to fulfil the entire programme placed by the consumers either by rail or by road In addition coal from a number of collieries has been offered under Liberalised Sale Scheme (LSS) Coal is also supplied under LSS to whole Sale Traders and Mini Traders who meet the demands of small and medium consumers

[English]

Money Order Through Satellite

7128 SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether some more stations have been brought under satellite link for delivery of money order in the country, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) and (b) The pilot project for transmitting money order through Satellite channel was successfully implemented last year with VSATs (Very Small Aperture Terminals) and other computer peripherals in six locations, namely Delhi, Patna, Lucknow, Madras, Bangalore and Shimla With the installation of the VSAT and other peripherals at Bombay GPO satellite money order service is now

available from there also VSAT stations are now under installation in 19 more locations mentioned below

1	Guwahati	(Assam)
2	Hyderabad	(Andhra Pradesh)
3	Tirupati	(Andhra Pradesh)
4	Muzaffarpur	(Bihar)
5	Ahmedabad	(Gujarat)
6	Mandi	(Himachal Pradesh)
7	Ambala	(Haryana)
8	Jammu	(J and K)
9	Mangalore	(Karnataka)
10	Ernakulam	(Kerala)
11	Bhopal	(MP)
12	Nagpur	(Maharashtra)
13	Shillong	(North East)
14	Bhubaneswar	(Orissa)
15	Ludhiana	(Punjab)
16	Jaipur	(Rajasthan)
17	Coimbatore	(Tamil Nadu)
18	Allahabad	(UP)
19	Calcutta	(West Bengal)

These stations are expected to become operational very shortly when facility for satellite money order will also become available

[Translation]

Pick-Pocketing in DTC Buses

7129 SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the number of incidents of pick-pocketing and theft of goods in DTC buses in Delhi reported during the last year, and

(b) the measures adopted by the Government to check these incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI PM SAYEED) (a) The number of incidents of pick-pocketing and theft of goods in DTC buses in Delhi reported during 1994 is 34 and 6 respectively

(b) The following steps have been taken to check/prevent such crimes

- (i) Staff in plain clothes is detailed to check such incidents at DTC Bus Stands as well as in DTC Buses
- (ii) DTC Buses are regularly checked

- (iii) Patrolling has been intensified and the staff has been briefed to keep close watch at the DTC Bus Stands while patrolling in the area.
- (iv) Instructions have been issued to the staff concerned for taking immediate action under the provisions of law as and when such incident comes to notice.

[English]

Electronic Exchanges

7130. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of electronic exchange commissioned or proposed to be commissioned in Sindhudurg, Laanja, Rajapur and Sangameshwar Tehsil of Ratnagiri district in Maharashtra;

(b) the number of places where direct dialling facility has been established or proposed by March, 1996;

(c) the villages where telephones have been provided or proposed to be provided till March, 1996 particularly in the above mentioned areas;

(d) the time by which separate telephone exchanges are likely to be commissioned for Sindhudurg district; and

(e) the reasons for the establishing TAC for Ratnagiri?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-II

(c) The details of village telephones, as on 31.3.95 and Village Panchayat Telephones proposed to be provided till March, 96 are as below :

Tehsil/District	No. of PTs as on 31.3.95	No. of PTs proposed during 1995-96
1. Sindhudurg	225	200
2. Laanja Tehsil	32	20
3. Rajapur	26	20
4. Sangameshwar	46	10

(d) There are 42 separate electronic exchanges in Sindhudurg District and one exchange out of these exchanges is situated at KUDAL the District Hqrs. of Sindhudurg.

(e) Ratnagiri does not justify a separate TAC, as per the norms of the Department. TAC formed at Circle level looks after the interests of Ratnagiri.

STATEMENT-I

The number of Electronic Exchanges commissioned or proposed to be commissioned in Sindhudurg, Laanja, Rajapur and Sangameshwar Tehsil of Ratnagiri Distt. in Maharashtra.

S. No.	Tehsil/Distt.	No. of Electronic exchanges commissioned as on 1 4.95	No. of Electronic exchanges proposed during 95-96
1.	Sindhudurg	42	2
2.	Rajapur	7	1
3.	Laanja	3	Nil
4.	Sangameshwar	8	Nil

STATEMENT-II

Direct dialling facility in Sindhudurg, Laanja, Rajapur and Sangameshwar Tehsil of Ratnagiri district in Maharashtra

S. No.	Name of Tehsil	Name of Exchanges as on 31.3.95	Name of Exchanges proposed for 1995-96
1.	Kudal	Kudal	Mangaon, Rarola, Oras
2.	Malwan	Malwan	Masure
3.	Vaibhav-wadi	Vaibhavwadi	—
4.	Kankawalli	Kankawalli Phondaghat	Kasarda
5.	Deogad	Deogad	Vijaydurg, Wada
6.	Sawantwadi	Amboli Banda Sawantwadi	Redi Shiroda
7.	Venburla	Venburla	Talawada
8.	Laanja	Laanja	Bhambad Satavali
9.	Rajapur	Rajapur	Pachal Oni Bhu
10.	Sangameshwar	-	Devrukh Sangameshwar

Allocation of fu Fnds for Irrigation

7131. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated by the Union Government to Madhya Pradesh for major, medium and minor schemes during the Eighth Five Year Plan, Separately; and

(b) the amount annually released for the completion of ongoing projects so far under the above mentioned schemes during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) :

(a) The Planning Commission has approved outlays of Rs. 1791.29 crores for Major and Medium Irrigation and Rs 728.37 crores for minor irrigation in Madhya Pradesh during the VIII Plan.

(b) The expenditure incurred/outlay approved for Major and Medium Irrigation and minor irrigation in Madhya Pradesh during the years 92-93, 93-94 and 94-95 of VIII Plan are as under .

Year	Expenditure/Outlay (Rs. crores)	
	Major and Medium Irrigation	Minor Irrigation
1992-93	314.76	125.82
1993-94	318.89	131.00
1994-95	242.10	103.23

Allocation of Coal

7132 SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether different varieties of coal have been allotted to Sikkim;

(b) if so, the details alongwith rates and periodicity of allotment of each variety, and

(c) the details of each variety of coal supplied to Sikkim during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) and (b) According to information received from Coal India Limited (CIL) consumers in Sikkim are being allotted steam/slack coal as well as soft coke on the basis of linkages/ sponsorships. These are being supplied regularly at the notified prices

(c) The quantities of different types of coal/coke despatched from CIL sources to consumers in Sikkim during the past three years were as under :

	(In tonnes) (Data Provisional)		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Steam coal	5600	3340	4200
Slack Coal	-	-	530
Soft coke	710	1500	2300
Total	6310	4840	7030

[Translation]

Fire in Printing Postal Press in Bhubaneswar

7133. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

SHRI JANARDAN MISRA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any incident of fire took place during the last six months took place during the last six months in the Printing Press of Department of Posts in Bhubaneswar;

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

(c) the estimated loss suffered as a result thereof, (d) whether any specific arrangements have been made to check the recurrence of such incidents; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) . (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An incident of fire took place in the Printing Press of the Department of Post in Bhubaneswar in the night of 28/29.3.95.

(c) The loss is estimated to be Rs. 10,60,689/

(d) and (e). Steps have been taken to strengthen security and fire fighting arrangements.

[English]

STD/ISD Booths in Tamil Nadu

7134 SHRI P. KUMARASAMY Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for allotment of STD/ISD and PCOs in Tamil Nadu, districtwise:

(b) the number of persons out of them proposed to be allotted PC.Os during 1995-96; and

(c) the steps being taken to clear the waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) No waiting list for STD/ISD PCOs is being maintained. STD PCOs are allotted after calling fresh applications by giving advertisement in newspapers.

(b) No. of STD PCOs proposed to be allotted district-wise during 1995-96 are given in the enclosed Statement

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to parts (a) and (b) above.

STATEMENT

S. No	Name of the SSA	Local PTs	STD PTs
1	2	3	4
1.	Chengalpattu	25	65
2.	Coimbatore	294	883

1	2	3	4
3. Coonoor		30	90
4. Cuddalore		18	54
5. Dharmapuri		19	56
6. Erode		154	461
7. Karaikudi		20	65
8. Madurai		128	383
9. Nagercoil		45	136
10. Pondicherry		43	130
11. Salem		143	428
12. Thanjavur		75	227
13. Tiruchirappalli		65	194
14. Tirunelveli		72	215
15. Tuticorin		45	135
16. Vellore		10	35
17. Virudhunagar		64	193

Telephone Dues

7135. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL .

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether telephone dues are pending against various ex-MPs and ex-Ministers;

(b) if so, the amount outstanding against each ex-MP and Ex-Minister as on March 31, 1995;

(c) the action taken by the Government so far to recover these dues; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be recovered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) to (d). The required information has been called for and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Recruitment of SCs and STs

7136. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates recruited in different posts during 1995 so far in ITBP, BSP and CRPF; and

(b) the efforts being made to fulfill the quota from these Communities in these forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Number of SC and ST candidates recruited in ITBP, BSP and CRPF during 1995 so far are as under :

	SC	ST
ITBP		
Assistant Commandant	01	-
Veterinary Asstt. Surgeon	01	-
BSP		
Assistant Commandant	32	18
Sub-Inspector (Steno.)	09	01
ASI (Clerk)	01	-
Constables	976	801
CRPF		
Assistant Commandant	01	01
Medical Officers	04	01
Constabulary	160	78
Enrolled Followers	63	09
Group 'D' Staff (Ministrial)	09	03

(b) Appointment of SC/ST candidates as a part of the recruitment in these forces is a continuous process and instructions issued by the Government for reservation of posts SCs/STs are being strictly followed.

[Translation]

Fire Incidents in Delhi

7137. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of fire incidents took place in Delhi during 1993, 1994 and 1995 so far;

(b) the main causes thereof;

(c) the loss suffered as a result thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to modernise the fire fighting service; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) The number of fire incidents which took place in Delhi during 1993, 1994 and 1995 (upto the 19th May, 1995) are 11982, 13063 and 5120, respectively.

(b) The main causes of fire were short-circuit, carelessness, spark of mechanical heat, fire works, naked flame etc.

(c) The year-wise details of loss of property due to fire incidents are as under :

1993	-	Rs. 22.78 crores
1994	-	Rs. 45.53 crores
1995 (upto 19.5.95)	-	Rs. 6.75 crores

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) There is a plan for adding 63 new fire stations in Delhi by the year 2001. While 17 new fire-stations have already been added, some others are under various stages of construction. Besides, sophisticated and modern fire-fighting equipments and accessories like hydraulic platform-cum-turn table ladders, soundless generators, dry powder truck, hose laying lorry, breathing apparatus van, protective clothing, thermal image cameras etc. have been added to the fleet of the Delhi Fire Service.

Assistance to Iran

7138. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI :

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Iran have sought any assistance to ameliorate its telecommunication system;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Schemes for Development of Tribal Areas

7139. SHRI RATILAL VARMA . Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes operating in Gujarat for the development of tribal areas;

(b) the funds allocated during each of the last three years under these schemes;

(c) whether the Government during propose to approve any other scheme for the development of tribal areas in Gujarat;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the approval is likely to be granted and the amount proposed to be allocated to the State for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) List of schemes operating in Gujarat with the grants given by the Ministry is given in the enclosed Statement-I

(b) Funds released for each of the schemes during last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) No, Sir. However, the Government is prepared to consider on merit proposals under the existing schemes if such proposals are received from the Government of Gujarat.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

STATEMENT-I

S.No.	Name of Scheme
1.	Special Central Assistance for TSP
2.	Grant under Article 275 (1)
3.	Aid to Voluntary Organisation for STs
4.	Grant to STDCCs for MFP operations
5.	Girls Hostels for STs
6.	Boys Hostels for STs
7.	Ashram Schools in TSP areas
8.	Vocational Training in Tribal areas
9.	Education Complex for Girls in low literacy Pockets
10.	Research and Training.
	(a) Grant to TRIs and Research Fellowship
	(b) Supporting Projects of All India or Inter State Nature for STs.

STATEMENT-II

Statement Showing Funds Released for Tribal Development in Gujarat by the Ministry of Welfare

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of Scheme	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Special Central Assistance	1855.84	2234.77	2491.56
2.	Grant under Article 275 (1)	356.40	668.25	675.00
3.	Aid to Voluntary Organisation for STs	2.79	4.33	2.36
4.	Grant to STDCCs for MFP operations	-	-	30.00
5.	Girls Hostels for STs	18.21	19.51	4.73

1	2	3	4	5
6	Boys Hostels for STs	23.00	39 23	6.44
7	Ashram Schools in TSP areas	25 00	-	-
8	Vocational Training in Tribal areas	26 10	3 46	21 60
9	Education Complex for Girls in low literacy pockets	26 10	25 32	24 25
10	Research and Training	2 19	0 55	6 16
	(a) Grant to TRIs and Research Fellowship			
	(b) Supporting Projects of All India or Inter State Nature for STs			

[English]

Improvement in Police Skills

7140 SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether Chief Ministers meeting was held recently in Delhi to discuss the points for bringing improvement in police skills,

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

(c) the follow-up action taken/proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI PM SAYEED) (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above

Accident of Tanker Lorries of Cochin Refinery

7141 PROF K V THOMAS Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether two accidents of tanker lorries carrying LPG from the Cochin Refinery Limited met with accidents at Cochin recently,

(b) if so, the reasons for these accidents,

(c) the steps taken to prevent similar accidents in future and

(d) the machinery the CRL has used to handle such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir The details of each of the accidents are as under

Truck No	Reasons of accident
1 Truck No KL-9 3973	While negotiating a curve the driver lost control over the vehicle and bullet truck overturned
2 Truck No TSB 8377	While negotiating and a curve at high speed to enter the NH-47 at Edapalli the bullet truck skidded

(c) All the drivers driving LPG Tank have been trained in the approved training centres and the trucks without trained drivers are not being allowed to carry the product in addition to this, all the transporters in the field of carrying petroleum products are required to obtain necessary approvals from Chief Controller of Explosives etc The trucks are provided with the shrouds as required by Explosives Department to avoid damage to safety release valves

(d) The rescue work for these accidents was undertaken by Indian oil Corporation Limited alongwith Cochin Refinery Limited One crane and one foam tender were provided by CRL in each of the above accidents

[Translation]

Coal Stock

7142 SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) the stock of coal available in various subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd as on March 31, 1995

(b) whether coal is being sold under L S S scheme in view of the over production of coal and

(c) if so the quality-wise quantity of coal sold and booked under L S S scheme during 1994-95, month-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) (a) The stocks of coal in subsidiaries of Coal India Limited (CIL) as on 31 3 1995 were reported to be as under

(Figs in Lakh tonnes) (Data provisional)	
ECL	61 73
BCCL	80 55
CCL	110 94
NCL	14 13
WCL	31 78
SECL	86 94
MCL	51 48
NEC	11 55
Total	449 10

(b) Coal is being sold by Coal India Limited under Liberalised Sales Scheme with a view to liquidating the stocks as well as to improving coal availability further.

(c) The month-wise total quantity of coal of different grades booked and sold from CIL sources under 'Liberalised Sales' Scheme during the year 1994-95 is

given in the enclosed Statement. The quality-wise break up of sales under LSS is not kept centrally and the effort involved in collecting the information from all the mines may not be commensurate with the purpose sought to be achieved.

STATEMENT

Booking and Despatch of Coal under LSS from CIL Sources (Provisional Figs. in '000' Tonnes)

Month	Booking			Despatch		
	Rail	Road	Total	Rail	Road	Total
April,94	26.00	466.68	492.68	27.00	423.63	450.63
May,94	66.00	428.87	494.87	34.74	394.25	428.99
June,94	38.28	277.86	316.68	24.26	311.42	335.68
July,94	22.09	203.54	225.63	26.61	185.22	211.83
August,94	20.09	191.07	211.16	13.94	180.02	193.96
September,94	65.70	216.02	281.72	37.61	199.98	237.59
October,94	37.35	247.30	284.65	63.89	226.98	290.87
November,94	106.96	378.98	485.94	75.67	296.45	372.12
December,94	204.31	525.83	730.14	118.44	387.87	506.31
January,95	255.72	547.43	803.15	85.39	510.21	595.60
February,95	172.27	677.54	849.81	83.04	572.01	655.05
March,95	81.69	600.24	681.93	92.86	504.91	597.77
Total	1097.00	4761.36	5858.36	683.45	4192.75	4876.40

[English]

STD/PCOs in Gujarat

7143. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of S.T.D./I.S.D./P.C.Os functional in Gujarat at present;

(b) the number of applications pending for allotment of new P.C.Os, district-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c). Sir, The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Killing of Manipur BJP Leader

7144. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigations (CBI) has instituted any enquiry into the killing of

Manipur B.J.P. Leader by the insurgents in February, 1995;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.

(c) A case has been registered by the State Police and investigation undertaken by it.

Electronic Exchanges in H.P.

7145. PROF. PREM DHUMAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up small electronic exchanges in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof, till March 31, 1995 district-wise;

(c) whether Government propose to set up such more exchanges in the State by December 31, 1995; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) There are 398 Small Electronic Exchanges in Himachal Pradesh as on 31.3.1995. District-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-I

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It is planned to set up 34 small capacity electronic exchanges in Himachal Pradesh by 31.12.95. Districtwise details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

District-wise Details of Small Electronic Exchanges in Himachal Pradesh as on 31.3 1995

S.No.	Name of District	No. of Exchanges
1.	Bilaspur	23
2.	Chamba	19
3.	Hamirpur	30
4.	Kangra	62
5.	Kinnaur	07
6.	Kullu	20
7.	Lahaul and Spiti	03
8.	Mandi	56
9.	Shimla	81
10.	Sirmour	30
11.	Solan	43
12.	Una	24
Total		398

STATEMENT-II

District-wise details of Small Electronic Exchanges proposed to be set up in Himachal Pradesh by 31.12.95

S.No.	Name of District	No. of Exchanges
1.	Bilaspur	2
2.	Chamba	2
3.	Hamirpur	2
4.	Kangra	2
5.	Kinnaur	1
6.	Kullu	6
7.	Lahaul and Spiti	1
8.	Mandi	6
9.	Shimla	3
10.	Sirmour	3
11.	Solan	3
12.	Una	3
Total		34

[Translation]

Coal Production

7146 SHRI SURAJ MANDAL :
SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH .

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) whether the Bihar Minerals Development Corporation has signed any agreement with Coal India Ltd. for running its 80 collieries which have been lying closed after nationalisation of Coal India Ltd;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the estimated quantity of coal produced in these mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) . (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Does not arise

[English]

Irrigation Projects

7147. DR VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR :
DR. K.V.R CHOWDARY .
SHRI N. DENNIS
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of irrigation project proposals pending with the Union Government for clearance as on March 31, 1995, State-wise,

(b) the details of the irrigation projects cleared by the Union Government during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the details of the irrigation projects included in the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(d) the names of the irrigation project proposals rejected/returned by the Union Government alongwith the reasons therefor, State-wise,

(e) the details of irrigation projects pending with the Union Government for the Central assistance, State-wise; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in regard to parts (a) and (e) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) .
(a) to (c). Statement-I is enclosed.

(d) Statement-II giving details of irrigation projects sent back alongwith reasons for returning them is enclosed.

(e) and (f). The clearance of project depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the

observations of various Central Appraising Agencies and obtain forest/environment/rehabilitation and resettlement Plan clearances as applicable. The Central Water Commission has set up Field Units at different places in the country for assisting the States in expeditious appraisal of the projects.

STATEMENT - I

S. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Number of new Major, Medium & ERM Schemes Pending Clearance as on 31.03.95	Number of new Major, Medium & ERM Schemes given investment during last 3 years	Number of on-going Major, Medium & ERM Schemes that spilled over to VIII Plan
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Andhra Pradesh	9	5	33
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1	0	0
3	Assam	3	0	15
4	Bihar	15	1	41
5	Gujarat	10	14	46
6	Haryana	3	0	10
7	Himachal Pradesh	4	0	4
8	Jammu and Kashmir	7	0	17
9	Karnataka	4	2	29
10	Kerala	2	0	12
11	Madhya Pradesh	20	1	57
12	Maharashtra	37	1	91
13	Manipur	2	1	3
14	Meghalaya	0	0	0
15	Nagaland	0	0	0
16	Orissa	10	3	16
17	Punjab	4	2	7
18	Rajasthan	10	1	35
19	Sikkim	0	0	0
20	Tamil Nadu	4	1	6
21	Tripura	0	0	3
22	Uttar Pradesh	12	3	30
23	West Bengal	3	0	22
24	Goa, Daman and Diu	0	0	2
Total		160	25	479

ERM . Extension/Renovation/Modernisation.

STATEMENT-II

S. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Number of New Major, Medium and ERM Schemes sent back.
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	Andhra Pradesh	17
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2
3	Assam	6
4	Bihar	39
5	Gujarat	7
6	Haryana	15
7	Himachal Pradesh	1
8	Jammu and Kashmir	8
9	Karnataka	5
10	Kerala	6
11	Madhya Pradesh	13
12	Maharashtra	42
13	Manipur	1
14	Meghalaya	0
15	Nagaland	0
16	Orissa	14
17	Punjab	3
18	Rajasthan	20
19	Sikkim	0
20	Tamil Nadu	8
21	Tripura	0
22	Uttar Pradesh	12
23	West Bengal	9
24	Goa, Daman and Diu	0
Total		228

Note . ERM. Extension/Renovation/Modernisation

Reasons for sending back of projects are one or more of the following .

- (i) Non-compliance of observations for more than a year.
- (ii) Basic deficiencies in project planning
- (iii) Non-resolution of interstate issues
- (iv) Non-inclusion in Plan.

[Translation]

Irrigation in Rajasthan

7148. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state.

(a) the total irrigated land in Rajasthan at present;

(b) the quantum of water released to Rajasthan through Indira Gandhi Canal from Punjab at present.

(c) the area irrigated through Indira Gandhi Canal at present; and

(d) the total land area which is likely to be irrigated after the completion of Indira Gandhi Canal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) :

(a) As per Land Use Statistics compiled by Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, net irrigated area in Rajasthan is 43.43 lakh hectare.

(b) As per the water accounts maintained by the Bhakra Beas Management Board release to Rajasthan through Indira Gandhi Canal during the period 21.5.94 to 20.5.95 was 8.596 Billion Cubic Metres.

(c) Annual Area irrigated by Indira Gandhi Canal upto March, 1995 is 7.10 lakh hectares.

(d) On completion of Indira Gandhi Canal project, the total Annual Area irrigated is likely to be 15.79 lakh hectares.

[English]

Telecom Facility in Tamil Nadu

7149. SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Modern Telecommunication facilities have been provided in all industrial and port areas of Tamil Nadu particularly, in Tuticorin;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to install a complete and modern telecommunication system there with all the latest infrastructures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS. (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) Telecommunication facilities exist in all industrial and port areas of Tamil Nadu including Tuticorin. Sipcot industrial area in Tuticorin and Tuticorin town are now being served by a Panta-Conta cross-bar exchange while the Tuticorin Harbour is served by an electronic exchange.

(b) and (c). Action has been initiated for addition of a 2500 line C-DOT electronic exchange at Tuticorin during the current financial year.

LNG from Oman

7150. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

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

(a) whether Oman has offered to supply huge quantity of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) to India through tankers,

(b) if so, whether under sea gas pipeline scheme between the countries have been withdrawn and if so, the details including the reasons therefor;

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred for taking LNG from Oman by tankers; and

(d) the terms and conditions laid down for such agreements?

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

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

Promotion under O.T.B.P. Scheme

7151. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether promotions under O.T.B.P scheme are being granted on Divisional basis in Department of Telecommunications;

(b) if so, the period during which it was given on Circle and Divisional basis;

(c) whether 40 points roster for this purpose have also been implemented on Divisional level,

(d) if so, the reasons for wrong implementation on Circle/Regional level in U.P. Circle and M.P. Circle in granting O.T.B.P. to SC/ST employees on Circle basis, when O/C employees have been granted this promotion on Divisional basis;

(e) whether the Government propose to direct all subordinate offices to implement reservation rosters at Divisional level and grant O.T.B.P on Divisional basis to SC/ST employees also; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Before introduction of BCR scheme in the Department of Telecom the OTBP scheme was given on Circle basis to Circle cadres and on divisional basis to divisional cadres. After the Biennial Cadre Review Scheme was introduced all circle cadres under O.T.B.P scheme were converted to SSA cadres this scheme is thereafter given on SSA basis.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The 40 point roster has been implemented on Divisional basis in U.P. and M.P. Circles for eligible staff. No wrong implementation has been done in either case. The roster are followed strictly as per rules.

(e) Instructions have already been issued to all subordinate offices for implementing reservation roster at divisional level.

(f) In view of reply to (e) above, does not arise.

[Translation]

Buildings for Telephone Exchanges in U.P.

7152. DR. SAKSHIJI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether new buildings for telephone exchanges are being constructed in Uttar Pradesh,

(b) if so, the details with locations thereof;

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be completed?

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

(b) As per the enclosed Statement.

(c) Rs. 14.00 Crores (Details given in the enclosed Statement).

(d) Details given in the enclosed Statement

STATEMENT

S. No	Location (Station)	Type of Exchange Buildings	Likely completion date	Anticipated expenditure Rs. in Lacs
1	2	3	4	5

TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

1	Kotdwar	'Y' type	May, 1995	23.00
2	Azamgarh	5 K C-DOT	May, 1995	90.00
3	Mirzapur	10 K C-DOT	May, 1995	110.00
4	Palia (Distt. Lakhimpur)	'Y' type	May 1995	16.00
5	Sultanpur	Extension of existing bldg.	May, 1995	7.00
6	Khalilabad (Basti)	'Z' type	May, 1995	14.00
7	Sikandara	Extension of existing bldg.	May, 1995	3.00
8	Nainital	5 K C-DOT	June, 1995	145.00
9	Doharighat	Extension of existing Bldg.	June, 1995	77.00
10	Nehru Nagar (Ghaziabad)	R.L.U.	June, 1995	5.00
11	Tilpatta (Ghaziabad)	R.L.U.	June, 1995	9.00
12	Baraut (Meerut)	Extension of existing Bldg.	Aug., 1995	20.00
13	Nighasen (Lakhimpur)	'Y' type	Sept., 1995	16.00

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Bansgaon	'Z' type	Sept., 1995	17.00
15.	Pratapgarh	5 K C-DOT	Oct., 1995	100.00
16.	Bilhaur (Kanpur)	'Y' type	Oct., 1995	18.00
17.	Safipur (Unnao)	'Z' type	Nov., 1995	14.00
18.	Chandausi (Moradabad)	10 K C-DOT	Nov., 1995	93.00
19.	Jalesar (Etah)	'Y' type	Nov., 1995	20.00
20.	Laiganj (Pratapgarh)	'Y' type	Dec., 1995	27.00
21.	Rae-bareilly	10 K C-DOT	Dec., 1995	110.00
22.	Mau	Extension of existing Bldg.	Jan., 1996	10.00
23.	Unnao	5 K C-DOT	Sept., 1996	140.00
24.	Shivpurwa (Varanasi)	10 K C-DOT	Sept. 1996	110.00
25.	Bahraich	5 K C-DOT	Sept., 1996	150.00
(A) Total				1274.00

S. No.	Location (Station)	Type of Exchange Buildings	Likely completion date	Anticipated expenditure Rs. in Lacs
1	2	3	4	5
TRANSMISSION BUILDINGS				
1.	Chopan (Distt. Bhadoi)	'Y' type	May, 1995	28.00
2.	Thakurdwara (Moradabad)	'Z' type	May, 1995	20.00
3.	Dalla (Distt. Sonbhadra)	'Z' type	June, 1995	11.00
4.	Najibabad (Distt. Bijnore)	'Y' type	June, 1995	23.00
5.	Kasar Devi (Almora)	'Z' type	July, 1995	18.00
6.	Roberts-gang	'Y' type	March, 1996	26.00
(B) Total				126.00
Grand Total (A) + (B)			= Rs. 1400.00 lacs	
			= Rs. 14.00 Crores	

[English]

Production of Natural Gas

7153 SHRI M.G. REDDY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India Limited was set up with a view to improving and controlling all kinds of activities after production of natural gas;

(b) if so, the investment made on this organisation upto March, 1994; and

(c) the earnings made during the last three years in terms of average annual net profit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) GAIL was set up with the main objectives of transportation, treatment, processing, fractionation, distribution and marketing of natural gas.

(b) The paid up capital as on March 31, 1994 was Rs. 845.32 crores.

(c) The net profits in the last three years were :

1992-93	-	Rs. 210.53 crores.
1993-94	-	Rs. 320.54 crores
1994-95	-	Rs. 360.72 crores.
(Provisional)		

Scrutiny of Certificates

7154. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY :

SHRI SULTAN SULAHUDDIN OWASI :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has directed the Union Government to introduce a uniform legislation prescribing penal consequences on persons who flout the constitution and corner the benefits reserved for the tribals by fabricating the records of their so called status;

(b) if so, whether the Supreme Court has also laid down the detailed guidelines for the scrutiny of certificates so that process of issuance of social status certificate is streamlined;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to implement the guidelines of the Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The guidelines of the Supreme Court *inter-alia*, envisage that (i) social status certificate should be issued by the Revenue Sub-Divisional Officer or Deputy Collector (ii) an affidavit with particulars of caste/sub-caste to be filed alongwith application; (iii) Constitution of Scrutiny Committee under the Chairmanship of Additional/Joint Secretary and creation of a vigilance

Cell under the charge of a Senior Superintendent of Police at the State level for verification of social status certificates; (iv) prosecution of the candidate parents, if the claim is found to be false; and (v) uniform legislation with necessary guidelines and rules prescribing penal consequences on persons who flout the Constitution and corner the benefits reserved for real tribals.

(d) The guidelines of the Supreme Court are under examination.

Requirement of Coal for Gujarat

7155. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of coal required by Gujarat for 1995-96;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps to meet the entire requirement of coal for the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) to (c). The requirements of coal are not assessed State-wise. They are assessed industry/sector-wise for the whole country. Coal India Limited (CIL) supplies coal on the basis of programmes submitted by the consumers in accordance with sponsorships issued by the respective sponsoring authorities. Supplies to power and cement sectors are made based on the short-term linkages established by the Standing Linkage Committees (SLC) for these sectors.

Coal companies are striving to meet the demand of coal in the country including that of Gujarat, within the overall constraints including availability of wagons and payments against coal supplies.

Steps taken to meet the demand of coal in the country *inter-alia* include opening of new mines, modernisation of existing mines, application of new technology, ensuring timely availability of inputs and infrastructural facilities, better capacity utilisation and maintaining good industrial relations.

[Translation]

Jelly Cables

7156. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH . Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(A) whether the Government have received underground jelly filled cables for Bombay and Madras Telecommunications Divisions from a French Firm in 1990;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any team was deputed for inspection of these cables before their despatch;

- (d) if so, the details with findings thereof; and
 (e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Total of 1800 kms of cables were ordered on two French firms for laying in various parts of the country out of which 1078 kms of cables were received for Bombay and Madras.

(c) to (e). Yes, Sir. An inspection team was deputed to the factory of the suppliers for inspection of these cables before their despatch to India. Against total order of 1800 kms, only 856 kms of cables were offered by the suppliers for inspection. There were found to be meeting the specifications. Testing of the balance quantity of cables which could not be inspected in the premises of the vendors was carried out in India by the Quality Assurance Wing of the Department of Telecommunications and found to be not meeting the specifications in some respects. The matter is under correspondence with the suppliers for a suitable price reduction in respect of the cables which were not fully meeting the specifications.

[English]

Oil Exploration in Assam

7157. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

- (a) whether Government propose to accelerate the oil exploration in Assam;
 (b) if so, the plans prepared for the purpose; and
 (c) the targets fixed thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Enhanced Seismic surveys and exploratory drilling in the State of Assam have been planned under the Accelerated Exploration Programme (APEX) for the period 1994 to 1997.

(c) ONGC has targetted to carry out 6450 SLK, 450 GLK of 2D and 344 SSK of 3D seismic surveys and drill 92 exploratory wells in Assam and Nagaland.

OIL has targetted to carry out 3800 2D SIK, 2000 2D GLK, 400 SQK of 3D and 118 thousand meters of exploratory drilling in Assam during 1995-97.

[Translation]

Oil Exploration in Gujarat

7158. SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any oil bearing structure has been found off the Gujarat coast;

(b) if so the details thereof, and

(c) the details of the plan for oil exploration in the Gujarat region in the coming year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Oil bearing structures have been found at the following places :

- (i) Gulf-A and Gulf-D in Gulf of Cambay.
 (ii) KD in Kutch Offshore.
 (iii) B-12, CA, CD, SD-1 and SD-4 in Tapti-Daman Offshore.

(c) ONGC proposes to acquire 14575 SLK and 1625 GLK of 2D data and 640 SSK of 3D seismic data and drill 41490 m of exploratory metrage in Gujarat for the next two years (1995-97).

OIL has carried out 8767 Km. of 2D seismic surveys in Gujarat. Based on these, few prespective locations have been identified for exploratory drilling, 3 wells are planned to be drilled initially.

[English]

LPG Terminal at Kandla

7159. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there was any proposal for setting up of a Liquefied Petroleum Gas Terminal at Kandla Port to handle the imports;
 (b) if so, the reasons for not clearing the proposal so far; and
 (c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) The Government as already accorded approval to Indian Oil Corporation Limited on 30.4.1993 for setting up LPG import facilities at Kandla.

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

Oil Reserves

7160. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) the target set for accretion of new oil reserves in the first two years of the Eighth Five Year Plan;
 (b) whether this target has been achieved;
 (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
 (d) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to increase oil reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SAITSH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (c). As against the 8th Plan reserve accretion target of 1325 MMT, the achievement in the first two years of the 8th Plan was 155 MMT.

(d) In order to achieve the reserve accretion target, the Government have launched an Accelerated Exploration Programme involving an expenditure of Rs 6500 crores for the period 1994-97 consisting of the following components :

- (i) National Seismic Survey
- (ii) Frontier Area Exploration
- (iii) Deep Water Exploration
- (iv) Acquisition of foreign acreages

[Translation]

Supply of Gas on Subsidised Rates

7161. SHRI DATTA MEGHE . Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government on Maharashtra has made any request to supply gas at subsidised rates,
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and
- (c) the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

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

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

[English]

Upper Krishna Project

7162. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) the salient features of Upper Krishna Project,
- (b) the estimated cost of the Upper Krishna Project (Aimatti Dam); and
- (c) the expenditure incurred and progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b). Upper Krishna project envisages construction of Narayanpur Dam and Aimatti Dam across river Krishna and the Canal System to irrigate annually an area of 7.01 lakh hectares. It also envisages construction of a Power house below Aimatti to develop 297 Mega watt of Power. The project is planned to be executed in two stages. The revised estimate of Upper Krishna Project Stage-I has been given investment clearance by the Planning Commission in September, 1990 for an estimated cost of Rs. 1,214.97 crores

envisaging annual irrigation of 4.5 lakh hectares. The project report of Upper Krishna Project Stage-II at an estimated cost of Rs. 1, 215.88 crores envisaging annual irrigation of 2.42 lakh hectares has been received in the Central Water Commission in December, 1993 for techno-economic appraisal. The State Government is required to sort out various techno-economic issues with the Central Water Commission and also obtain concurrence of basin States as it would provide physical capability to the Government of Karnataka to utilise more than 173 thousand million cubic feet of water allocated by it for utilisation through upper Krishna Project out of its share of Krishna waters.

(c) An expenditure of Rs. 1,347.40 crores has been incurred and an irrigation potential of 1.81 lakh hectares has been created.

Appointment of Chairmen

7163. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Oil Corporation and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation were functioning without full time Chairman in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure that the top posts in public sector undertakings in the oil sector are filled up in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). On account of the suspension of the Chairman, IOC, the charge of Chairman, IOC was entrusted to seniormost functional Director. Now a regular Chairman of IOC has been appointed w.e.f. 22.2.1995.

The post of Chairman-cum-Managing Director, ONGC Ltd. has fallen vacant w.e.f. 1.5.1995 on attaining the age of superannuation by Shri S.K. Manglik on 30.4.1995.

(c) Necessary action to fill up the Board level vacancies in the oil sector public undertakings through the P.E.S.B. is initiated six months before such vacancies arise and all efforts are made to fill up the vacancies in time.

Agreement with Italy

7164. SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any agreement has been signed with Italy regarding cooperation to curb terrorist activities; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b). A proposal regarding agreement between the Government of Italy and Government of India on bilateral cooperation and assistance in the areas of combating terrorism, organised crime and drug trafficking is under consideration of the Government.

Telecom System in M.P.

7165. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether communication network in Madhya Pradesh is functioning satisfactorily for the last few years;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to introduce sophisticated electronic system in the State; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) In view of (a) above the question does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The new technology Electronic exchanges to be commissioned during 1995-96 in Madhya Pradesh are as follows :

S. No.	Name of Place	Capacity
1.	Bhopal	10,000 lines
2.	Gwallior	10,000 lines
3.	Indore	15,000 lines
4.	Jabalpur	10,000 lines
5.	Raipur	10,000 lines.

Films of National Leaders

7166. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have provided any financial assistance for making film on the life of Sardar Patel and Mahatma Gandhi;

(b) if so, the amount of financial assistance provided to each film; and

(c) the criteria for financing films particularly of National Leaders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b). Government provided financial assistance of Rs. 6.36 crores for production of a film on Gandhiji by Sir Richard Attenborough through the

National Film Development Corporation Limited (NFDC). There is also a proposal to make a film titled MAKING OF A MAHATMA based on Mahatma Gandhi's formative years in South Africa, when he started his experiments in non-violent satyagraha. This will be a collaboration between the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) and the NFDC. The approximate cost will be Rs. 4 crores out of which the Indian share will be Rs. 2.5 crores.

No application for grant of financial assistance for production of a film on Sardar Patel was received either by Government or by the N.F.D.C. However, a film on Sardar Patel has recently been made by the Foundation for Films on India's War of Independence.

(c) Films Division of the Government of India produces biographical films on various national leaders from time to time. In the case of feature-length films (including those on national leaders), the NFDC given financial assistance depending upon the merits of the script/proposal.

Delhi Traffic Police

7167. SHRI TARA SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of road mishaps has been increased in the capital during the last three years;

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

(c) whether the Delhi Traffic Police has formulated a comprehensive policy to initiate measures to reduce the number of road mishaps; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b). The year-wise details of road accidents in Delhi during the last years are as under :

Year	Simple	Fatal	Total
1992	6637	1884	8521
1993	6584	1891	8475
1994	7260	1790	9050
1995	2554	665	3219

(upto 30.4.95)

(c) and (d). With a view to improving traffic discipline on Delhi roads, the Delhi Traffic Police regularly organises special checking and prosecution drives against vehicles drivers. The steps taken in this regard include checking the speed of vehicles by radar-gun; distributing Road Safety Literature; announcement of traffic regulations through public address system at important inter-sections; training of drivers; introduction of conflict-free traffic circulation pattern; introduction of traffic signals/blinkers in accident-prone areas and closing of gaps in the central verges, etc.

[Translation]

Cadre Review in CWC

7168. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of times the cadre review of group 'A' officers of Central Water Commission (CWC) has been done and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether cadre review of any other category has also been done and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any decision to shift Upper Ganga Circle of Central Water Commission which has been in Delhi since 1952;

(d) if so, the place where it is to be shifted;

(e) the number of employees likely to be affected by this shifting;

(f) whether their interests including Government accommodation have been protected; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) The cadre review for Central Water Engineering (Group 'A') service was carried out three times so far. It is done as per guidelines of the Government

(b) Cadre Review exercise of other categories of staff in Central Water Commission like Drawing Staff, Statistical and Scientific Cadre, Wireless Operators, etc. have already been initiated.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Upper Ganga Circle has been renamed as Hydrological Observation Circle and shifted to Dehradun.

(e) to (g). The shifting of Upper Ganga Circle has been done as a sequel to the regionalisation and restructuring of the field offices of Central Water Commission. Entire staff working in the Upper Ganga Circle will now be shifted to Dehradun and their interests are protected to the extent feasible.

Private Sector in Oil Exploration

7169. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to involve private sector also in the exploration work of oil and natural gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to come into effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Government of India has so far approved award of contracts for exploration of oil and gas in 11 blocks by the Indian and foreign companies. Contracts for 4 block have already been signed.

[English]

Fuel Saving Product

7170. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of a fuel saving product produced by Nagoria International called Benzoplex-M;

(b) if so, whether various agencies of the Government have recommended the use of this product; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (c). The samples of the product (Benzoplex-M) was got tested by Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA). The results of the tests have not shown any significant improvement in the fuel efficiency.

[Translation]

Irrigation Projects

7171. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state .

(a) the names of the major and medium irrigation projects of Madhya Pradesh lagging behind their original time schedule;

(b) the cost escalation as a result thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent any proposal to the Union Government seeking financial assistance for completion of these projects during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b). A Statement giving details of Major and Medium Irrigation Projects of Madhya Pradesh lagging behind schedule is enclosed.

(c) The reasons for delay in completion of these projects broadly fall under three categories :

- (1) *Technical* : Limited investigations for preparing feasibility report, and consequent changes in scope and design of project during implementation; inadequate provisions in the original estimates for infrastructure facilities, land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement and environmental safeguards, etc.
- (2) *Financial* : Rise in prices during construction, non-availability of adequate funds, escalation in the cost of acquisition of lands.
- (3) *Other reasons* : Labour trouble, contractual problems, agitation by environmentalists and the land oustees natural calamities.

(d) Various steps taken by the Government to expedite projects are (1) assigning priority to those projects which have made substantial progress earmarking of outlays to important projects (2) intensive monitoring of selected projects (3) advising the states to establish cost control cells.

(e) A request for declaring Narmada Sagar and Bansagar Projects as National Projects was received in March, 1994 from the Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh.

(f) The proposal to declare some irrigation projects as nationally important projects has not been found acceptable.

STATEMENT

Details of Major and Medium Irrigation Projects in Madhya Pradesh Lagging behind Schedule :

S. No.	Name of the Project	Approved Cost (Rs. in crores)	Latest estimated cost (Rs. in crores)	Increase in cost (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5
A. MAJOR				
1.	Kolar	25.75	157.40	131.65
2.	Paori	4.97	33.54	28.57
3.	Sindh Phase I	4.95	56.43	51.48
4.	Jonk	4.14	46.38	42.24
5.	Upper Wein Ganga	50.60	176.53	125.93
6.	Kodar	2.94	49.82	46.88
7.	Bariarpur L.B.C.	18.40	143.00	124.60
8.	Urmil	8.56	20.70	12.14
9.	Halail	13.06	24.71	11.65
10.	Mahi	27.10	129.70	102.60

1	2	3	4	5
B. MEDIUM				
1.	Ghunghatta	1.99	39.10	37.11
2.	Matiyari	4.89	48.20	43.31
3.	Balarpur Diversion	0.95	6.30	5.35
4.	Balar	2.67	10.90	8.23
5.	Shivnath Diversion	0.40	7.77	7.37
6.	Piparianalla	3.90	13.73	9.83
7.	Banjar	2.09	7.74	5.65
8.	Banki	3.13	17.75	14.62
9.	Mond Diversion	2.89	46.39	43.70
10.	Tillar	5.77	36.46	30.69
11.	Matlamoti	1.61	20.00	18.39
12.	Choral	3.97	27.40	23.43
13.	Dudhi	2.86	19.70	16.84
14.	Chandera	2.93	15.06	12.13
15.	Bundala	2.18	14.20	12.02
16.	Gomukh	3.51	29.00	15.49
17.	Kallasote	9.33	55.63	46.30
18.	Budhna	1.99	21.60	19.61
19.	Rampur Khurd	1.51	10.90	9.39
20.	Dolwad	4.68	18.04	13.36
21.	Chirpani	8.57	30.90	22.33
22.	Ball	13.98	52.40	38.42
23.	Kanhargaon	5.22	16.70	11.48
24.	Lakhundar	4.27	27.40	23.13
25.	Kaserteda	6.02	35.03	29.01
26.	Dejladewda	16.40	50.12	33.72
27.	Bandianala	1.80	11.46	9.66
28.	Sagar	10.63	32.80	22.17
29.	Kanwari Lift	1.03	3.80	2.77

[English]

Deployment of Indo-Tibetan Police

7172. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka had demanded the deployment of Indo-Tibetan Border Police force to nab Veerappan;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government had accepted the demand; and

(c) if so, the expenditure incurred by the Union Government for deployment of force in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Development of Oil Fields

7173. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the final plans submitted by Enron Reliance Consortium are much different from the original plans submitted at the time of bids relating to the development of Tapti, Panna and Muktha oil fields Development;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) its likely impact on the development of these oil fields?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (c). M/s Enron Oil and Gas India Ltd. (EOGIL) has submitted a final draft plan for the development of the Tapti field which conforms to the conceptual plan submitted by them alongwith Reliance Industries Ltd. in their bid. The final development plan for the Panna Mukta fields is yet to be submitted by EOGIL.

[Translation]

Thareja Committee

7174. SHRI MANJAY LAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the functioning of the NDMC has been taken over and placed under the Thareja Committee;

(b) if so, since when; and

(c) the composition and terms of reference of the Committee and the details of the work assigned to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) (a) to (c). The Thareja Committee was constituted in compliance of the order dated 21.12.1989 passed by the Supreme Court in several Special Leave Petitions. This Committee, presided over by an officer of the Judiciary, started functioning in 1990. It was set up to examine the application of the hawkers/squatters in the NDMC area. It was assigned the task of screening applications for allotment of sites, to ensure that those who were in occupation of specified sites prior to 1977 are allotted premises in the first round and if, after doing so, any accommodation was left, it could be allotted to those who came in later years. The report of this Committee has, however, not been submitted to the Supreme Court.

[English]

Para Military Forces

7175. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total strength of para-military personnel in various para-military forces, force-wise;

(b) the rate of growth of these forces in the last two Five Year Plan periods; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to put ban on further expansion of these para-military forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b) The information is as under :

Name of the Force	Total strength	Rate of growth from 1985 to 1994
Assam Rifles	52492	46.28%
BSF	181381	77.06%
CISF	90758	72.61%
CRPF	165346	58.03%
ITBP	30291	108.31%
NSG	7359	22.43%

(c) No, Sir.

Electronic Mail Service

7176. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of private E-Mail networks operating in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Director General of Civil Aviation of India has given 'no objection certificate' to Blue Dart Aviation Limited;

(c) whether any other company has given such 'No Objection Certificate'; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The department has issued licence to 10 Registered Indian Companies for operation of Electronic Mail Network in the country. All the licences are all India licences and the licensee is free to provide service anywhere in the country. List of licensee's is enclosed as Statement.

(b) to (d). Information is being collected from the concerned Ministry and will be laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Licence Agreements Signed

ELECTRONIC MAIL SERVICE - TEN

S.No.	Name of the Company	Date of LA signed
1	2	3
1.	M/s. ICNET Pvt. Ltd., Sorrento "8 Lattice Bridge Road Adyar, Madras-600020.	LA signed on 7.1.94. Service commenced.

1	2	3
2.	M/s. Dataline and Research Technology, 31A, Noble Chamber 4th Floor, Janambhoomi Marg Fort, Bombay - 400 001.	LA signed on 11.5.94 Service commenced.
3.	Datapro Information Pvt. Ltd., EL-21, Electronic Zone, MIDC Bhosari, Pune-411 026.	LA signed on 3.6.94
4.	M/s. WIPRO Infotech Ltd., 88, MG Road, Bangalore-560 001.	LA signed on 21.7.94
5.	M/s. Sprint RPG India Ltd., Gulmohar House, 161/B-4, Gautham Nagar, Yusuf Sarai, New Delhi-110 049.	LA signed on 10.8.94 Service commenced.
6.	M/s. Global Telecom Service Ltd., 412, Janambhoomi Chambers, 29, Walchand Heera Chand Marg, Bombay-400038.	LA signed on 24.8.94.
7.	M/s. VSNL, Videsh Sanchar Bhawan MG Fort, Bombay - 400 001.	LA signed on 25 10.94
8.	M/s. CG Graphnet Pvt Ltd., II-Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi-110 001	LA signed on 26.10.94.
9.	M/s. Archana Telecom. Service Pvt. Ltd., Grindlay Cinema Complex, Community Complex, New Delhi-110 065.	LA signed on 15.12.94
10.	M/s. CMC Ltd., 1, Ring Road, Kilokari, Opp. Maharani Bagh, New Delhi - 110 014	LA signed on 18.1.95.

Note · LA - Licence Agreement.

[Translation]

Wireless System

7177. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the theft of telephone cables is on the increase in the rural areas, where new telephone connections are being given;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to encourage wireless system in all villages; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) No Sir. However, a few cases of cable theft involving shorter lengths have reportedly taken place.

(b) FIRs are being lodged in such cases with Police authorities.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Wireless Systems (Multi Access Radio Relays) are being mainly used for providing village public telephones in case of long distance connections, difficult terrains, like hills and desert areas etc. These systems provide more reliable service and are not prone to theft

[English]

Development Plan

7178. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any new development plan for eastern region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to remove regional disparity in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG) : (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The planning and development of an area and allocation of funds for the purpose is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. The Central Government helps the States including those in the Eastern region in reducing regional disparity through Special Area Programmes and appropriate weightage for backwardness in the formula used for giving Normal Central Assistance to the States.

Violation of Jail Manual

7179. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRI P. KUMMRASAMY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item regarding violation of Jail Manual at Tihar Jail, Delhi appearing in the Hindustan Times dated May 7, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts thereof, and

(c) the measures proposed by the Government to check recurrence of such violations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

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

Modern Weapons to Police

7180 SHRI J CHOKKA RAO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are providing any special funds to the State for modern weaponry in the police force particularly extremist infected States; and

(b) if so, the nature of the systems sought by the States together with the assistance given during 1994-95 and proposed to be given during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b). Assistance provided by the Union Government under the Scheme of modernisation of police forces includes, inter-alia, the provision for purchase of modern light weaponry. In addition, ad-hoc grants are also given to States requesting assistance for meeting special problems being encountered by them. While no such ad-hoc grants have been given during 1994-95, details of actual assistance to States during 1994-95, under the Modernisation of Police Forces Scheme, and the assistance proposed during 1995-96, are enclosed as Statement.

STATEMENT

Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of State	Amount released during 1994-95	Allocation for 1995-96
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	104.780	209.560
Assam	190.860	95.430
Arunachal Pradesh	92.540	46.270
Bihar	116.560	233.120
Goa	29.480	58.960
Gujarat	-	150.180
Haryana	35.855	71.710
Himachal Pradesh	40.690	40.690
Jammu and Kashmir	121.540	81.540

1	2	3
Karnataka	150.800	150.800
Kerala	153.990	113.990
Maharashtra	125.645	251.290
Madhya Pradesh	287.179	237.820
Manipur	69.260	34.630
Meghalaya	51.880	25.940
Mizoram	87.780	43.890
Nagaland	76.860	38.430
Orissa	114.610	104.610
Punjab	84.650	84.650
Rajasthan	224.920	154.920
Sikkim	25.830	17.220
Tamil Nadu	196.750	196.750
Tripura	93.060	46.530
Uttar Pradesh	279.710	336.300
West Bengal	214.770	174.770
Total	3000.000	3000.000

[Translation]

Quality of Urdu Programmes

7181 SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the standard of Urdu Programmes broadcast through E S D and N S D News Service division of Delhi station of AIR and other AIR stations has deteriorated, and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

Demand of Coal

7182 SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated demand for coal in the country at the end of eighth five year plan, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government have formulated any specific scheme to meet this demand;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) Demand of coal is not assessed State-wise. The demand is assessed industry/

sector-wise for the whole country. Projected demand of coal in the country by the terminal year of 8th Plan i.e. 1996.97, in terms of raw coal, is 311.00 million tonnes

(b) to (d). The above demand, is proposed to be met from the following sources .

Source	(In million tonnes)
Coal India Ltd.	263.60
Singareni Collieries Co. Limited	30.20
Others	6.20
Imports	6.00
Drawdown of stocks	5.00
Total	311.00

Steps taken to meet the demand of coal in the country, inter-alia, include opening of new mines, modernisation of existing mines, application of new technology, ensuring timely availability of inputs and infrastructural facilities, better capacity utilisation and maintaining good industrial relations.

In addition, Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 has been amended to allow private sector participation in coal mining. This amendment enables companies engaged in power generation, and such other end uses as may be notified by Government from time to time, to carry out coal mining. This is in addition to the existing provision enabling companies engaged in the production of iron and steel to carry out coal mining

[English]

Fake Vouchers for LPG Connections

7183 DR P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Government have conducted any raids for detecting fake vouchers for releasing LPG connections in Tamil Nadu during the last three years,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (c). While Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has conducted raids at two places in Madurai district during 1994-95 to detect LPG connections released on the basis of fake Termination Vouchers (TVs), no raids have been conducted by Indian Oil Corporation Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited. However, some cases of fake vouchers for LPG connections have come to the notice of the Government Oil Companies. Detailed guidelines have been given to the distributors enabling them to detect fake vouchers. Wherever fake vouchers are

detected, the deposit amount is forfeited and supplies of refills suspended. In some cases equipments have been retrieved and police cases lodged.

Development of Oil Industry

7184. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any schemes for the development of oil industry during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the funds allocated for the schemes;

(c) the total amount spent during 1994-95; and

(d) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The plan allocation for the 8th plan was Rs 26552 crores

(c) Rs 9133 crores approximately have been spent in the year 1994-95

(d) Progress is as per the target fixed in this regard

Minorities Finance and Development Corporations

7185 SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state .

(a) the names of the States which have established the State Level Minorities Finance and Development Corporations with the years of establishment;

(b) the total amount disbursed as loan year-wise since the establishment of the Corporations;

(c) the amount of bank loans and the number of beneficiaries, year-wise;

(d) the proportion in which the loan amount has been shared by the Corporations and the banking system,

(e) whether the Government have issued any guidelines or instructions to the banking system in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh have so far set up State Minorities Finance and Development Corporations on the dates mentioned against them :-

(i) Andhra Pradesh on 19.1.1985

(ii) Bihar on 24.12.1983

(iii) Karnataka on 7.2.1986

(iv) Uttar Pradesh on 17.11.1984

(b) to (d). The information is given in the enclosed Statement-I, II and III in respect of States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh. However in respect of Bihar information would be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

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

STATEMENT-I

LOAN DISBURSED (in Rs. lakhs)

Year	Andhra Pradesh	Karnataka	Uttar Pradesh
1985-86	7.85	-	-
1986-87	109.09	1.98	28.09
1987-88	85.93	38.45	85.00
1988-89	78.63	23.75	123.66
1989-90	92.41	20.38	189.40
1990-91	175.04	34.01	120.77
1991-92	144.91	56.63	101.00
1992-93	154.30	142.27	53.21
1993-94	150.01	199.94	57.60
1994-95	147.45	273.75	82.57

STATEMENT-II

Year	ANDHRA PRADESH		KARNATAKA		UTTAR PRADESH	
	No. of Beneficiaries	Bank loan (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of Beneficiaries	Bank Loan (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of Beneficiaries	Bank Loan (Rs. in lakhs)
1985-86	1722	41.05	-	-	-	-
1986-87	7807	295.61	77	4.66	149	117.0
1987-88	8683	322.41	1413	105.40	681	383.4
1988-89	8043	296.82	927	57.55	1139	518.0
1989-90	5968	306.49	693	60.57	1932	751.0
1990-91	8908	596.42	1122	103.55	1317	473.8
1991-92	5943	498.83	1508	176.66	1035	504.6
1992-93	5259	341.92	4096	503.50	512	260.0
1993-94	4726	527.85	4937	698.46	506	273.1
1994-95	3868	542.66	5675	983.11	548	405.1

STATEMENT-III

KARNATAKA

S. No.	Amount of Loan	Max. Margin Money loan	% of MM in total loan	Bank Share
1.	Upto Rs. 5000	Rs. 2500	50%	50%
2.	Rs. 5001 to Rs. 10,000	Rs. 3000	30%	70%
3.	Rs. 10001 to Rs. 50,000	Rs. 10,000	20%	80%

ANDHRA PRADESH

S. No.	Unit Cost	Margin Money from Corpn.	Bank share	Beneficiary share
1.	Upto Rs. 10,000	25%	75%	-
2.	Upto Rs. 2,00,000	20%	70%	15%

UTTAR PRADESH

Year	Corporation Share (Rs. in lakhs)	Bank Share
1986-87	28.09	117.0
87-88	85.00	383.4
88-89	123.66	518.0
89-90	189.40	751.0
90-91	120.77	473.8
91-92	101.00	504.6
92-93	53.21	260.0
93-94	57.60	273.1
94-95	82.57	405.1

[Translation]

Central Secretariat Official Language Service Cadre

7186. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the translators of Central Secretariat Official Language Cadre translate technical subjects also;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to bring this cadre under technical services cadre;

(c) if so, by what time; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no such proposal.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Handling translation work pertaining to technical subjects by members of the Central Secretariat Official Language Service is not comparable with the technical work performed by technical/scientific services/cadres.

[English]

N.F.D.C.

7187. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the main objectives of the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC); and

(b) the details of the films exported by NFDC during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P SINGH DEO) : (a) The National Film Development Corporation Limited has been set up with the purpose of financing and promoting good cinema and promoting the integrated development of the Indian film industry

(b) The details of films exported are given in the enclosed Statement.

STATEMENT

*Details of Films Exported by NFDC
1992-1993*

S No.	Title	Language	Territory
1	2	3	4
1	Halodhia Choraye	Assamee	Iran
2	Agantuk	Bengali	Japan
3	Agantuk	Bengali	Australia
4	Agantuk	Bengali	Taiwan
5	Agantuk	Bengali	France and Europe
6	Aparajito	Bengali	USA and Canada
7	Aparajito	Bengali	Mexico
8	Ápur Sansar	Bengali	Mexico
9	Atmaja	Bengali	Singapore
10	Ganashatru	Bengali	Mauritius
11	Jalsaghar	Bengali	USA and Canada
12	Pather Panchali	Bengali	Mexico
13	Pather Panchali	Bengali	British Airways
14	Pather Panchali	Bengali	USA and Canada
15	Meeting A Milestone	English	Iran
16	Aaj Ka Goondaraj	Hindi	South Africa
17	Adharm	Hindi	South Africa
18	Adhura Faisala	Hindi	South Africa
19	Agneekal	Hindi	Sri Lanka
20	Ajooba	Hindi	Thailand
21	Akayla	Hindi	South Africa
22	Akayla	Hindi	Iran
23	Anadi Khiladi	Hindi	South Africa
24	Apna Jahan	Hindi	South Africa
25	Apna Jahan	Hindi	Sri Lanka
26	Apne Pareyl	Hindi	Sri Lanka
27	Bagh Bahadur	Hindi	Iran

1	2	3	4
28	Baghi Sultan	Hindi	Thailand
29	Bairaag	Hindi	Sri Lanka
30	Banjaran	Hindi	South Africa
31	Beta	Hindi	Thailand
32	Bhumika	Hindi	France
33	Burre Phanse	Hindi	South Africa
34	Char Kunware	Hindi	South Africa
35	Chhupke Chhupke	Hindi	South Africa
36	Current	Hindi	Sri Lanka
37	Daulat Ki Jung	Hindi	China
38	Daulat Ki Jung	Hindi	South Africa
39	Deewana	Hindi	South Africa
40	Deewar	Hindi	Sri Lanka
41	Devi Aur Durga	Hindi	Thailand
42	Dharavi	Hindi	Europe
43	Disha	Hindi	Australia
44	Do Qaidi	Hindi	Sri Lanka
45	Drishti	Hindi	Singapore
46	Dulhan Khud Ek Dahej Hal	Hindi	South Africa
47	Ek Ladka Ek Ladki	Hindi	South Africa
48	Ganga Ka Vachan	Hindi	South Africa
49	Geet	Hindi	Sri Lanka
50	Ghayal	Hindi	China
51	Hum Dono	Hindi	Malaysia
52	Hum Farishte Nahin	Hindi	Malaysia
53	Humla	Hindi	South Africa
54	Humshakal	Hindi	South Africa
55	I Love You	Hindi	South Africa
56	Insaaf Ki Devi	Hindi	South Africa
57	Insaniyat	Hindi	Sri Lanka
58	Insaniyat Ke Devta	Hindi	Thailand
59	Inteha Pyar Ki	Hindi	South Africa
60	Jag Utha Insaan	Hindi	Sri Lanka
61	Jagte Raho	Hindi	Australia
62	Jhoothi Shaan	Hindi	Sri Lanka
63	Jhoothi Shaan	Hindi	South Africa
64	Jo Jeeta Wohi Sikandar	Hindi	South Africa
65	Jungle Ka Beta	Hindi	South Africa
66	Kamla Ki Maut	Hindi	Sri Lanka
67	Kamsin	Hindi	South Africa
68	Karmyodha	Hindi	South Africa
69	Khuda Gawah	Hindi	South Africa
70	Khule Aam	Hindi	South Africa
71	Khule Aam	Hindi	Thailand
72	King Uncle	Hindi	Thailand

1	2	3	4
73. Kora Kagaz	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
74. Kundan	Hindi	South Africa	
75. Laat Saab	Hindi	South Africa	
76. Lakshman Rekha	Hindi	South Africa	
77. Lambu Dada	Hindi	South Africa	
78. Lamhe	Hindi	South Africa	
79. Lamhe	Hindi	Thailand	
80. Love	Hindi	South Africa	
81. Main Zinda Hoon	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
82. Manoranjan	Hindi	South Africa	
83. Maya	Hindi	France	
84. Mazdoor	Hindi	Iran	
85. Mehbooba	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
86. Mere Sajana Saath Nibha	Hindi	South Africa	
87. Meri Janeman	Hindi	South Africa	
88. Mirza Ki Shaadi	Hindi	South Africa	
89. Music of Satyajit Ray	Hindi	Mauritius	
90. Naach Govinda Naach	Hindi	South Africa	
91. Naya Zahan	Hindi	South Africa	
92. Nazar	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
93. Nehru : The Jewel of India	Hindi	South Africa	
94. Nischay	Hindi	South Africa	
95. Paayal	Hindi	South Africa	
96. Panaah	Hindi	South Africa	
97. Panaah	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
98. Parinda	Hindi	Thailand	
99. Parivaar	Hindi	Thailand	
100. Prahaar	Hindi	South Africa	
101. Pyar Deewana Hota Hai	Hindi	South Africa	
102. Pyar Ka Saaya	Hindi	South Africa	
103. Ram Avtaar	Hindi	Thailand	
104. Rupaye Dus Karod	Hindi	South Africa	
105. Sadak	Hindi	South Africa	
106. Sadgati	Hindi	France	
107. Sadgati	Hindi	Germany ETC	
108. Safar	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
109. Salaam Bombay	Hindi	Czechoslovakia	
110. Sanam Aap Ki Khatir	Hindi	South Africa	
111. Sanam Bewafa	Hindi	USSR	
112. Sannata	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
113. Sau Crore	Hindi	South Africa	
114. Shola Aur Shabnam	Hindi	South Africa	
115. Shreeman Aashique	Hindi	South Africa	

1	2	3	4
116. Situm	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
117. Slyasat	Hindi	South Africa	
118. Sone Pe Suhage	Hindi	Malaysia	
119. Superman	Hindi	Thailand	
120. Superman	Hindi	South Africa	
121. Tridev	Hindi	China	
122. Tu'sidas	Hindi	South Africa	
123. Tyagi	Hindi	South Africa	
124. Uttar Dakshin	Hindi	China	
125. Vansh	Hindi	South Africa	
126. Waarls	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
127. Yaara Dil Daara	Hindi	South Africa	
128. Yugandhar	Hindi	South Africa	
129. Zakhmi Rooh	Hindi	South Africa	
130. Zakhmi Rooh	Hindi	Thailand	
131. Zanjeerein	Hindi	South Africa	
132. Zindagi Ek Juua	Hindi	South Africa	
133. Muthinahaara	Kannada	Singapore	
134. Elipathayam	Malayalam	Australia	
135. Piravi	Malayalam	Iran	
136. Chaukat Raja	Marathi	South Africa	
137. Chaukat Raja	Marathi	Mauritius	
138. Kalat Nakalat	Marathi	Mauritius	
139. Dalapathy	Tamil	South Africa	
140. Iru Malargal	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
141. Marupakkam	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
142. Marupakkam	Tamil	Malaysia	
143. Marupakkam	Tamil	Singapore	
144. Motor Sundaram Pillai	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
145. Pesai Delvam	Tamil	Sri Lanka	

1993-1994

1	2	3	4
1. Kurinji Malar	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
2. Agantuk	Bengali	Singapore	
3. Khel	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
4. Salangal Oil	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
5. Mudhal Mariyathal	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
6. 59 Songs of Various films	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
7. Veddham Bharadaa	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
8. Ek Phool Do Mall	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
9. Pattum Bharadaa	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
10. Abhiman	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
11. Parampara	Hindi	South Africa	

1	2	3	4
12. Amrapall		Hindi	Sri Lanka
13 Saugati		Bengali	Belgium Switz
14. Aaina		Hindi	South Africa
15. Anani		Hindi	Sri Lanka
16 Annakilli		Tamil	Sri Lanka
17 Erulum Oliyum		Tamil	Sri Lanka
18. Percy		Hindi	Mauritius
19 Pestonji		Hindi	Mauritius
20 Dharavi		Hindi	Mauritius
21. Mirch Masala		Hindi	Mauritius
22 Kasba		Hindi	Mauritius
23 Maya		Hindi	Singapore
24 Orey Vanam Orey Bhumi		Tamil	Sri Lanka
25 Ankur		Hindi	Sri Lanka
26 Songs of Various Films		Hindi	Sri Lanka
27 Kirak Rajar Deshe		Bengali	France
28 Ek Doctor Ki Maut		Hindi	Mauritius
29 Main Zinda Hoon		Hindi	Mauritius
30 Manid		Hindi	Mauritius
31 Bhumika		Hindi	Mauritius
32. Mane		Kannada	Mauritius
33 Neethikku Oru Penn		Tamil	Sri Lanka
34 Gomatha En Kulamata		Tamil	Sri Lanka
35 Bharatham		Malayalam	Singapore
36. Phool		Hindi	South Africa
37 Jalsagar		Bengali	Mauritius
38. Pathar Panchali		Bengali	Mauritius
39 Aparajito		Bengali	Mauritius
40 Kanchan Langha		Bengali	Mauritius
41 Satgati		Hindi	Mauritius
42 Apur Sansar		Bengali	Mauritius
43. Policewala		Hindi	South Africa
44 Ghahre Balre		Bengali	Mauritius
45. Agantuk		Bengali	Mauritius
46. Jana Aranya		Bengali	Mauritius
47. Hirok Rajar Deshe		Bengali	Mauritius
48. Tahader Kathe		Bengali	Japan
49. Andhi Galli		Hindi	Mauritius
50. Bhavantarama		Oriya	Germany
51. Hariyall Aur Raastha		Hindi	Mauritius
52. Kati Patang		Hindi	Sri Lanka
53. Aradhana		Hindi	Sri Lanka
54. Drishti		Hindi	Sri Lanka
55. Mirch Masala		Hindi	Hongkong
56. Salaam Bombay		Hindi	Hongkong

1	2	3	4
57. Dharavi		Hindi	Hongkong
58. Garam Hawa		Hindi	Hongkong
59. Miss Beaty's Children		English	Hongkong
60. Trashagini		Hindi	Israel
61. Ek Doctor Ki Maut		Hindi	Israel
62. Mirch Masala		Hindi	Israel
63. Nazar		Hindi	Israel
64. Aasha		Hindi	Israel
65. Dharavi		Hindi	Israel
66. Debshishu		Hindi	Israel
67 Deksha		Hindi	Israel
68. Massay Saheb		Hindi	Israel
69. Tahader Katha		Hindi	Israel
70 Ek Hota Vidushak		Hindi	Israel
71. Miss Boaty's Children		Hindi	Israel
72. Caravan		Hindi	Sri Lanka
73. Bhuvan Shome		Hindi	Hongkong
74 Ganashatru		Bengali	Hongkong
75 Rudali		Hindi	Japan
76 Chaan Pardesee		Punjabi	Singapore
77 Shakha-O-Prashaka		Bengali	Singapore
78. Shola Aur Shabnam		Hindi	Singapore
79 Maa		Hindi	Singapore
80. Ram Aur Shyam		Hindi	Sri Lanka
81 Bairaag		Hindi	Mauritius
82. Maya		Hindi	Mauritius
83. Sati		Bengali	Israel
84. Adi Mimansa		Oriya	Israel
85 Mane		Kannada	Israel
86. Drishti		Hindi	Israel
87. Rudali		Hindi	Israel
88. Marupakkam		Tamil	Israel
89. Swaroopam		Malayalam	Israel
90 Piravi		Malayalam	Israel
91. Chalte Chalte		Hindi	Malaysia
92. Julle		Hindi	Malaysia
93. Salaam Bombay		Hindi	Mauritius
94. Hirak Rajar Deshe		Bengali	Sri Lanka
95. Apur Sansar		Bengali	Sri Lanka
96. Aparajito		Bengali	Sri Lanka
97. Pathar Panchali		Bengali	Sri Lanka
98. Jana Aranya		Bengali	Sri Lanka
99 Agantuk		Bengali	Sri Lanka
100. Jalsagar		Bengali	Sri Lanka
101. Hum		Hindi	Bulgaria
102. Toofan		Hindi	Bulgaria

1	2	3	4
103. Jadughar	Hindi	Bulgaria	
104. Niechay	Hindi	Bulgaria	
105. Raju Ban Gaya Gentleman	Hindi	Bulgaria	
106. Pathar Ke Phool	Hindi	Bulgaria	
107. Zindagi Ek Zua	Hindi	Bulgaria	
108. Love Love Love	Hindi	Bulgaria	
109. Shreman Aashique	Hindi	Bulgaria	
110. Quarbani Rang Laye	Hindi	Bulgaria	
111. Phool	Hindi	Bulgaria	
112. Aashique	Hindi	Bulgaria	
113. Deewana	Hindi	Bulgaria	
114. Muskurahat	Hindi	Bulgaria	
115. Dii	Hindi	Bulgaria	
116. Sargam	Hindi	Bulgaria	
117. Dii Hai Ke Manta Nahi	Hindi	Bulgaria	
118. Masterjee	Hindi	Bulgaria	
119. Indrajeet	Hindi	Bulgaria	
120. Panaah	Hindi	Bulgaria	
121. Chiral	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
122. Seeta Aur Geeta	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
123. Andaz	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
124. Brahmachari	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
125. Rudall	Hindi	Mauritius	
126. Sargam	Malayalam	Singapore	
127. Mere Jivan Saathi	Hindi	Malaysia	
128. Ek Doctor Ki Maut	Hindi	Singapore	
129. Aparajito	Bengali	Israel	
130. Apur Sansar	Bengali	Israel	
131. Pathar Panchall	Bengali	Israel	
132. Agantuk	Bengali	Israel	
133. Ballet and Chau Dance	English	Italy	
134. Bhavni Bhavai	Gujarati	Singapore	
135. Kabhi Kabhi	Hindi	Malaysia	
136. Deepam	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
137. Surabi (TV series)	Hindi	Japan	
138. Rocky	Hindi	Malaysia	
139. 49 Songs	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
140. Current	Hindi	Mauritius	
141. Suraj Ka Satva Ghoda	Hindi	Singapore	
142. Rudall	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
143. Maya	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
144. Mirch Masala	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
145. Salam Bombay	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
146. Massey Saheb	Hindi	Sri Lanka	

1	2	3	4
147. Yamanam	Malayalam	Sri Lanka	
148. Uttoran	Bengali	Sri Lanka	
149. Nitriya Bharati	English	Singapore	
150. Sunya There Suru	Bengali	Singapore	
151. Ilayum Mullum	Malayalam	Singapore	
152. Deivathinto Vikruthikal	Malayalam	Singapore	
153. Antareen	Bengali	Singapore	
154. Shilpi	Bengali	Singapore	
155. Jana Aranya	Bengali	USA/Canada	
156. Uttoran	Bengali	USA/Canada	
157. Agantuk	Bengali	USA/Canada	
158. Satgati	Hindi	France	
159. Hirak Rajar Deshe	Bengali	France	
160. Viddyan	Malayalam	Sri Lanka	
161. Bharatham	Malayalam	Sri Lanka	
162. His Highness Abdulla	Malayalam	Sri Lanka	
163. Badi Bahen	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
164. Kabi Haa Kabi Naa	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
165. Shanti Nilayam	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
166. Erattai Vaal Kuruvi	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
167. Thungathe Thambi	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
168. Nallavanukku	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
169. Mullum Malarum	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
170. Kalyanaraman	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
171. Karpagam	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
172. Anbevaa	Tamil	Sri Lanka	
173. Teefi Chor	Hindi	Sri Lanka	
174. Surabi (TV Series)	Hindi	Japan	
175. Sadgati	Hindi	France	

1994-1995

1	2	3	4
1. Agantuk	Bengali	USA/Canada	
2. Agantuk	Bengali	Sri Lanka	
3. Agantuk	Bengali	Ireland	
4. Agantuk	Bengali	Iran	
5. Antardhan	Bengali	Singapore	
6. Antareen	Bengali	Ireland	
7. Antarjali Yatra	Bengali	Sri Lanka	
8. Aparajito	Bengali	Sri Lanka	
9. Apur Sansar	Bengali	Sri Lanka	
10. Ganashatru	Bengali	USA/Canada	
11. Hirak Rajar Deshe	Bengali	Sri Lanka	
12. Jalsaghar	Bengali	Sri Lanka	

1	2	3	4
13	Jana Aranya	Bengali	Sri Lanka
14	Pathar Panchali	Bengali	Sri Lanka
15	Sati	Bengali	Canada
16	Sati	Bengali	USA
17	Shilpi	Bengali	Ireland
18	Shilpi	Bengali	Switzerland
19	Shilpi	Bengali	Japan
20	Uttoran	Bengali	Ireland
21	Uttoran	Bengali	France
22	Uttoran	Bengali	Mauritius
23	Introspection- Satyajit Ray (Doc.)	English	Iran
24	Kathkali/Bharat Natyam/ Kuchipudi (doc)	English	Ireland
25	Miss Beaty's Children	English	Ireland
26	Miss Beaty's Children	English	USA/Canada
27	Miss Beaty's Children	English	Mauritius
28	Music of Satyajit Ray (doc)	English	Ireland
29	Nehru The Jewel of India	English	Indonesia
30	Nritya Bharati (TV Serial)	English	Mauritius
31	Satyajit Ray (doc)	English	Iran
32	Aaj Ki Awaz	Hindi	Mauritius
33	Aakhri Raasta	Hindi	Indonesia
34	Aap Ki Kasam	Hindi	Malaysia
35	Aashirwad	Hindi	Mauritius
36	Agni Pareeksha	Hindi	Mauritius
37	Akayla	Hindi	Indonesia
38	Anuraag	Hindi	Indonesia
39	Aranyak	Hindi	Sri Lanka
40	Aulad	Hindi	Iran
41	Bano Begum (TV Serial)	Hindi	Mauritius
42	Bekhudai	Hindi	Mauritius
43	Bol Radha Bol	Hindi	Indonesia
44	Caravan	Hindi	Malaysia
45	Chhoti Si Baat	Hindi	Mauritius
46	Chirag Kahan Roshni Kahan	Hindi	Mauritius
47	Coolie	Hindi	Indonesia
48	Current	Hindi	Singapore
49	Desh Premee	Hindi	Iran
50	Dhaaravi	Hindi	Indonesia

1	2	3	4
51	Diksha	Hindi	Mauritius
52	Diksha	Hindi	USA/Canada
53	Diksha	Hindi	Japan
54	Disco Dancer	Hindi	Malaysia
55	Disha	Hindi	Japan
56	Doodh Ka Karz	Hindi	Iran
57	Dostana	Hindi	Indonesia
58	Dostana	Hindi	Malaysia
59	Dus Lakh	Hindi	Mauritius
60	Ek Phool Do Mali	Hindi	Sri Lanka
61	Ganga Jamuna	Hindi	Iran
62	Golmaai	Hindi	Mauritius
63	Hum Hain Rahi Pyar Ke	Hindi	Singapore
64	Insaaf Ka Taraju	Hindi	Mauritius
65	Ittefaq	Hindi	Mauritius
66	Jaadugar	Hindi	Indonesia
67	Jai Santoshi Maa	Hindi	Mauritius
68	Jawani Diwani	Hindi	Malaysia
69	Jungle Book (TV Serial)	Hindi	Mauritius
70	Junglee	Hindi	Malaysia
71	Kamla Ki Maut	Hindi	Iran
72	Karm	Hindi	Mauritius
73	Kasam Teri Kasam	Hindi	China
74	Kashmir Ki Kali	Hindi	Indonesia
75	Jungle Book (TV Serial)	Hindi	Mauritius
76	Kayda Kanoon	Hindi	Mauritius
77	Khel	Hindi	China
78	Khule Aam	Hindi	Mauritius
79	Kranti	Hindi	Iran
80	Lamhe	Hindi	Indonesia
81	Mane (Ek Ghar)	Hindi	Indonesia
82	Mard	Hindi	Indonesia
83	Massey Sahib	Hindi	Ireland
84	Mirch Masala	Hindi	Iran
85	Mirch Masala	Hindi	Air Borne
86	Namak Halal	Hindi	Indonesia
87	Naya Daur	Hindi	Indonesia
88	Naya Daur	Hindi	Mauritius
89	Nehru	Hindi	Japan
90	Nikaah	Hindi	Mauritius
91	Palaykhan	Hindi	Iran
92	Paalniri	Hindi	USA/Canada
93	Phoolwari Bachon Ki (TV Serial)	Hindi	Mauritius

1	2	3	4
94	Phoolwari Bachon Ki (TV Serial)	Hindi	Mauritius
95.	Prahaar	Hindi	Singapore
96.	Professor Ki Padosan	Hindi	Mauritius
97	Pyar Ka Mausam	Hindi	Malaysia
98.	Pyar Ka Sagar	Hindi	Mauritius
99	Rajy Ban Gaya Gentleman	Hindi	Indonesia
100.	Rudaall	Hindi	Ireland
101.	Rudaall	Hindi	USA/Canada
102.	Saboot	Hindi	China
103.	Sadak	Hindi	Singapore
104	Salim Langade Pe Mat Ro	Hindi	USA/Canada
105.	Salim Langade Pe Mat Ro	Hindi	Iran
106	Salim Langade Pe Mat Ro	Hindi	Mauritius
107	Shabab	Hindi	Singapore
108	Shakti	Hindi	Indonesia
109	Suhaag	Hindi	Indonesia
110	Surabhi (TV Serial)	Hindi	Mauritius
111	Surabhi (TV Serial)	Hindi	Mauritius
112	Surabhi (TV Serial)	Hindi	Mauritius
113	Surabhi (TV Serial)	Hindi	Mauritius
114	Suraj Ka Satvan Ghoda	Hindi	USA/Canada
115	Suraj Ka Satvan - Ghoda	Hindi	Mauritius
116.	Teesari Manzil	Hindi	Malaysia
117.	Tejasvini	Hindi	Mauritius
118.	The Train	Hindi	Malaysia
119	Trishagni	Hindi	USA/Canada
120	Trishagni	Hindi	Korea
121.	Tum Karo Vaada	Hindi	Mauritius
122	Wheel Chair	Hindi	Sri Lanka
123	Yaadoon Ki Baaraat	Hindi	Malaysia
124	Ilayum Mullum	Malayalam	Ireland
125	Piravi	Malayalam	USA/Canada
126	Mukta	Marathi	Sri Lanka
127	Deera Sumangall	Tamil	Sri Lanka
128	Harishchandar	Tamil	Singapore
129.	Karpagam	Tamil	Singapore
130.	Maunga Ragam	Tamil	Sri Lanka
131	Naalai Namadhe	Tamil	Sri Lanka

1	2	3	4
132.	Parashakti	Tamil	Singapore
133.	Raajapart Rangadurai	Tamil	Singapore
134.	Swar Raga Sudha (TV Serial)	Tamil	Mauritius
135.	Vidhi	Tamil	Sri Lanka
136.	Vira Nenjam	Tamil	Sri Lanka
137.	Swati Kiranam	Telugu	Singapore
138.	Tragedy of an Indian Farmer (doc.)		Ireland

Hydrocarbon Prospective

7188. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the US-based Earth Sciences and Resources Institute (ESRI) has joined hands with the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) to carry out a comprehensive review of the hydrocarbon prospectivity in the basin of Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a number of major oil companies, including the US oil giant Accidental, are reportedly keen on finding full scale oil hunt in the Sunderbans delta of West Bengal; and

(d) if so, the incentives proposed to be offered to these global giants to launch oil hunt in Sunderbans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The KDMIPE, ONGC and Earth Sciences and Resources Institute (ESRI), University of Utah, USA have signed an MOU for a joint scientific study entitled "A comprehensive Review of the Hydrocarbon Prospectivity of Bengal Basin, Onshore and Offshore India", on 22nd March, 1995.

(c) and (d). One block in Sunderbans area was offered in the Vth Round of bidding. So far, no contract has been signed with any private company.

Distribution System of LPG

7189. SHRI TARA SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the existing distribution system of LPG of three oil companies have created disservice to consumers in Uttar Pradesh particularly in Lucknow, Agra and Kanpur;

(b) whether for the past two months, the consumers by and large had to pay excessive premium per cylinder of LPG in these towns;

(c) whether some of the distributors are supplying underweight LPG cylinders to the consumers; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to ensure proper service through the distributors to consumers and identify the erring distributors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) Government Oil Companies keep a continuous watch on the operation and performance of their distributors and ensure customer satisfaction through various steps.

(b) No, Sir No such complaints have been received.

(c) and (d). There are clearly laid down procedures to ensure correctness of the weight of LPG refill cylinders at the bottling plants. As and when specific complaints about the sale of under-weight cylinders are received, they are investigated by the LPG marketing companies and if the complaint is established, appropriate action is taken against the LPG distributor under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines and also by the State Governments through Weights and Measures Departments.

Regularisation of Services of Seasonal Workcharged Employees

7190. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of seasonal workcharged employees working in the field offices of the Central Water Commission throughout the country;

(b) the year of engagement of those who have been working as seasonal workcharged employees for the longest period;

(c) whether regularisation of services of the seasonal workcharged employees has been contemplated;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) There are about 2,277 seasonal employees working in the field offices of the Central Water Commission throughout the country.

(b) Some of the seasonal Khalasis have been working for specific periods every year since 1973-74.

(c) and (d). The seasonal employees in the Central Water Commission are being appointed in the regular workcharged establishment as and when vacancies arise subject to fulfilment of educational qualifications, age and other conditions.

(e) Does not arise.

Welfare of Aged By NGOs

7191 SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scheme for the welfare of the aged is being implemented with the assistance of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs);

(b) if so, the norms being followed to select such Non-Governmental Organisations; and

(c) the particulars of such Non-Governmental Organisations selected in Maharashtra and the assistance provided to them during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The criteria for releasing grant-in-aid under the Scheme to a Voluntary Organisation are indicated as under :-

(1) The voluntary Organisation should be :

(a) A society registered under the Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860; or

(b) A Charitable non-profit making company; or

(c) A public trust registered under any law for the time being in force; or

(d) Any registered non-official organisation engaged in the conduct and promotion of Social Welfare.

(2) The organisation should have been in existence for at least two years before it should be eligible for applying for grant-in-aid under the scheme.

(3) It should be a well managed stable organisation with facilities, resources and personnel to undertake welfare work.

(4) It should not be run for profit to any individual or body of individuals.

(5) It should have a properly constituted managing body with its powers, duties and responsibilities clearly defined and laid down in a written Constitution.

(6) Its services should be open to all without distinction of caste, creed, religion or language.

(7) The organisation should have experience of working in that programme or related area or should show evidence of competence to take up the proposed scheme.

(c) A Statement indicating the required information is attached.

STATEMENT**Non-Governmental Organisations in Maharashtra Sanctioned Grants-in-aid during the last three years.**

S. No.	Name of Organisations	Grant-in-aid released (Rs. in lakhs)
1992-93		
1.	Mukat Dwar Unnati Mandal, Jalgaon	0.76
2.	Indian Council of Social Welfare, Bombay	0.07
3.	Bombay Suburban Sr Citizen Association, Bombay	0.09
4.	Janakibai Trust, Dhule	0.92
5.	Indian Association of Retired Persons, Meham, Bombay	0.12
6.	West Khandesh Bhagini Seva Mandal, Dhule	0.75
1993-94		
1.	Institute for Rural Health & Social Welfare Services, Chandgar, Distt. Kolhapur	1.59
2.	Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj Technical & Education Society, Gensh Peth, Nagpur	1.35
3.	Matru Seva Sangh, Nagpur	0.48
4.	West Khandesh Bhagini Seva Mandal, Dhule	0.75
1994-95		
1.	East Khandesh Bhagini Seva Mandal, Kamalbai Ajmera, Vidyanagar, Deopour, Dhule Distt., Maharashtra	1.32
2.	Instt. for Rural Health & Social Welfare Service, Kowd Taluk, Chandgad, Distt Kolhapur.	0.51
3.	Rashtrasant Tukdogi Mahraj Tech. & Education Society, Sagnar, Distt. Nagpur	0.67
4.	Matru Seva Sangh, West High Court, Road, Bajajnagar, Nagpur	0.36
5.	Kagal Education Society, Distt. Kolhapur	1.25
6.	Jankibai Trust, Dhule, Saraswati Colony, Deoner, Dhule	0.94
7.	Bombay Suburban Senior Citizens, Maharashtra	0.28
8.	Mukta Dwar Unnati Mandal, Jalgaon, Maharashtra	1.92

Petrol Retail Outlets

7192. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of petrol retail outlets allotted through advertisement and on compassionate ground separately in Andhra Pradesh during 1994-95; and

(b) the number of such retails outlets proposed to be allotted during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) During 1994-95, 15 and 6 Retail Outlet dealerships were allotted through Oil Selection Board and on compassionate grounds respectively in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) 65 Retail Outlet dalerships have been included in the Marketing Plan 1988-93 and 80 Retail Outlet dealerships have been included in the RO Marketing Plan 1993-96 for Andhra Pradesh. It generally takes about 1-2 years for commissioning of an RO dealership from the date of advertisement.

[Translation]

Supply of LNG

7193 SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government for supply of L.N.G. being imported from Oman/Iran;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). The Government of Gujarat have asked for an allocation of 20 MMSCMD out of the gas proposed to be imported from Oman.

(c) the Statewise distribution of the imported gas will depend upon the registered demand and the techno-economic feasibility of supply.

Sardar Sarovar Project

7194. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the decision given by the Supreme Court in regard to the height of the Sardar Sarovar Project; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to implement the decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU)

(a) No decision has been given by the Supreme Court in regard to the height of the dam of the Sardar Sarovar Project.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Privatisation of Directory Enquiry Services

7195. SHRI R SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that of late, the public in general and the telephone subscribers in particular, are not satisfied with the present functioning of Directory Enquiry No 197 related services of MTNL in the metropolitan cities,

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any complaints in that regard,

(c) if so, the details thereof,

(d) whether the Government have any plans to streamline the working of 197 related services,

(e) if so, the details thereof,

(f) whether as a part of streamlining the services, the Department of Telecommunications has proposed to privatise Directory Enquiry 197 related services and franchise the service of private parties on an experimental basis; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (e) The Directory Enquiry service-197 is functioning satisfactorily in MTNL Delhi and Bombay.

Occasional complaints are received mostly about the number being busy. Prompt action is taken on these complaints after appropriate analysis to identify the cause. Steps have been initiated to further improve the 197 related services as under :-

(i) Replacement of the present computerised system by a more advanced RDBMS based computer system. This is being implemented during 1995-96.

(ii) Introduction of centralised automatic changed number announcement system during 1995-96.

(iii) Decentralisation of operator positions during 1995-96.

(f) Such a proposal was considered but not accepted.

(g) In view of answer at (f), question does not arise.

Quota of kerosene

7196. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Governments have urged the Union Government to increase the quota of kerosene allotment to States;

(b) the quantity of kerosene being supplied at present to States, State-wise;

(c) the total allocation made to the State Governments during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the extent to which the allocation of kerosene is likely to be increased during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (d) Requests are received from State Government for additional allocation of kerosene from time to time. However, on account of constraints of product availability, foreign exchange and heavy subsidy involved, it is not possible to meet the dull demand of the States. It has been decided to make a 3% increase in the allocation of kerosene in the country as a whole during 1995-96 over the previous year.

The State-wise allocation of kerosene during the last three years and for 1995-96 is given in the enclosed Statement

STATEMENT

State-wise allocation of kerosene during 1993-94, 1994-95, and 1995-96

(Figs. in MTs)

State/UTs	Allocation				
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Haryana	151020	154532	153992	156469	
2. Himachal Pradesh	36588	38471	40374	42229	
3. Jammu & Kashmir	68992	68206	77815	85537	
4. Punjab	319904	322461	325679	328935	
5. Rajasthan	265136	285702	305612	327346	
6. Uttar Pradesh	914410	971517	1015016	1075789	
7. Assam	246696	249181	251586	254230	
8. Bihar	469313	518590	558436	606929	
9. Manipur	20664	21367	22262	21285	
10. Meghalaya	15196	15448	15703	16086	
11. Nagaland	10285	10184	10324	10638	
12. Orissa	155472	173952	194954	211447	

1	2	3	4	5	6
13	Sikkim	7404	7481	7556	7635
14	Tripura	21174	21493	22188	23115
15	West Bengal	733757	745094	748186	756049
16	Arunachal Pradesh	9300	9391	9566	9579
17	Mizoram	6277	6134	6422	6364
18	Gujarat	782480	790313	805680	806278
19	Maharashtra	1482364	1501193	1507874	1527649
20	Goa	27132	27132	29132	27403
21	Madhya Pradesh	382066	411534	444420	479220
22	Andhra Pradesh	585482	594223	602688	615429
23	Karnataka	451100	448427	455696	465240
24	Kerala	265008	267647	272537	274839
25	Tamil Nadu	655344	666903	668258	675273
26	Chandigarh	20928	20928	20928	21137
27	Delhi	238540	238540	238540	240925
28	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	4132	3041	4348	4630
29	Daman & Diu	2944	2944	2944	2973
30	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3108	3108	3108	3139
31	Pondicherry	14580	14720	14860	15012
32	Lakshadweep	876	876	876	885

Special Central Assistance

7197 SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state

(a) the amount of special Central assistance provided to Uttar Pradesh for the development of hilly areas under the Hill Area Development programme during 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96, and

(b) the amount utilised therefrom for the development of hilly areas in the State during 1993-94 and 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG) (a) The amount of Special Central Assistance provided to Uttar Pradesh for the development of hilly areas under Hill Area Development Programme (HADP) during 1993-94 and 1994-95 was Rs 197.06 crores and Rs 197.06 crores respectively. For 1995-96 Special Central Assistance allocated to

the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh is Rs 225.00 Crores, out of which Rs 217.07 crores has been allocated under HADP and the remaining amount from Other Special Areas Programmes

(b) The total amount of Special Central Assistance provided during 1993-94 and 1994-95 has been utilised

[Translation]

Dak Distribution System

7198 SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATDAR

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the dak distribution system in rural areas,

(b) if so, the outcome thereof, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) to (c) Yes. Sir Dak distribution system in rural areas is reviewed periodically and improved, subject to operating constraints

[English]

Guidelines for Local Area Development Scheme

7199 SHRI K PRADHANI Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state

(a) the details of the guidelines issued for the M Ps Local Area Development Scheme,

(b) whether the Government propose to revise these guidelines,

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the final authority in case of dispute between the District Collector and M P about whether any particular project/scheme is falling within the scope of MPLADS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG) (a) The guidelines for the M P Local Area Development Scheme have been laid on the Table of the House earlier

(b) and (c) The guidelines have been revised recently in December, 1994. There is no proposal to revise them

(d) According to the guidelines, all disputes regarding whether any particular project/scheme falls within the scope of MPLADS will be referred to the Department of Programme Implementation, which is the nodal department in the Government of India, for resolution.

Implementation of Assam Accord

7200. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government had given any assurance to All Assam Students Union for implementation of Assam Accord recently,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken proposed to be taken by the Union Government for the speedy implementation of this Accord?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (c). The Government is committed to and has been endeavouring towards early implementation of the Assam Accord. To this end, the progress is monitored from time to time in consultation with Ministries concerned and the Government of Assam

[Translation]

Coal Mines

7201 SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have conducted any survey to identify new coal mines in Maharashtra;

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

(c) the conclusions drawn therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) to (c). Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd. (CMPDIL) have completed detailed exploration in nine blocks in Wardha and Kamptee coalfields in Maharashtra and coal reserves of about 340.59 million tonnes have been established.

Programme for development of mines in these areas is dependent on factors like availability of land, techno-economic feasibility of individual projects, availability of environmental and forestry clearances, availability of financial resources etc.

Para Military Forces

7202. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to take certain measures to bring reforms in the para-military forces and to make their working more effective;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also reviewed the working of para-military forces in view of various enquiries and the decisions given by various courts during the last one year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (d). It is the endeavour of the Government to keep the Central Para Military Forces at the optimum level of their efficiency. Measures to make CPMFs more effective are part of the on-going efforts in this direction, based on emerging situations and inputs.

Losses in Coal Producing Units

7203. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA .
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) whether some of the coal producing units in the country are running in financial losses;

(b) if so, the details of those units which have suffered financial losses during 1994-95;

(c) the total amount of loss suffered by each unit,

(d) whether any efforts have been made to convert these loss making coal producing units into profit making units;

(e) whether any foreign investments have been made in these loss making units during the last three years;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the extent of foreign exchange invested therein during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) to (c). According to information available from CIL Dankuni Coal Complex (DCC) of Coal India Limited and two subsidiaries of Coal India Limited have been incurring losses for some years. As the accounts for the year 94-95 have not been finalised, position for the year 1994-95 is not yet known. However, the profits earned/losses incurred (before adjustment of coal price regulation account) by these units during the last three years are given below:

Company	(Rs. in crores)		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
	(+) Profit	(-) Loss	
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	(-)380.10	(-)370.26	(-)341.87
Eastern Coal Fields Ltd.	(-)326.39	(-)354.28	(-)477.98
Dankuni Coal Complex (DCC)	(-)22.95	(-)40.76	(-)36.57

(d) The efforts made to reduce losses of the coal mines include effective control of production cost, improvement of man-power planning including redeployment of surplus manpower and implementation of voluntary retirement scheme, trying out the concept of "all men all jobs", improvement in availability and utilisation of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery, implementation of cash and carry scheme in sale of coal and phasing out of uneconomic mines

(e) to (g) Foreign investments made in the loss making units of CIL during the last three years were as under

	(Rs in crores)		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
COAL INDIA PROJECTS			
1 Rajmahal	25 86	20 47	8 88
2 Kottadih	82 37	16 81	8 56
Total	108 23	37 28	17 44

Waterlogging

7204 SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether some of the State Governments have sent some schemes to tackle the problem of water logging to the Union Government for clearance,

(b) if so, the details including the estimated cost thereof State-wise,

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard, and

(d) the funds earmarked by the Union Government in this regard, State wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PV RANGAYYA NAIDU)

(a) No, Sir

(b) to (d) Do not arise

[English]

Brahmaputra Board

7205 SHRI LAETA UMBREY Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the main activities of the Brahmaputra Board,

(b) the works undertaken by the Board in Arunachal Pradesh,

(c) whether any major project prepared by the Board has been executed in Arunachal Pradesh, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PV RANGAYYA NAIDU)

(a) The main activities of the Brahmaputra Board consists or carrying out survey and investigation for preparation of Master Plans for flood management in the Brahmaputra and Barak river basins. The Board is also required to prepare Detailed Project Reports for Multipurpose Hydro Electric Projects

(b) The Brahmaputra Board has undertaken survey and investigation for preparation of Detailed Project Report for Dihang and Subansiri Hydro Electric Projects in Arunachal Pradesh

(c) No, Sir

(d) Does not arise

Post Offices in Tamil Nadu

7206 SHRI P KUMARASAMY Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the number of branch post offices, sub post offices and extra departmental post offices sanctioned for Tamil Nadu during 1993-94 and 1994-95,

(b) whether these post offices have been opened

(c) if not, the reasons therefor,

(d) the time by which these post offices are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM)

(a) The number of Branch Post Offices and Sub Post offices sanctioned for Tamilnadu during 1993-94 and 1994-95 is as under

Year	EDBO*	DSO**
1993-94	9	5
1994-95	-	2

* Extra Departmental Branch Post Office

** Departmental Sub Post Office

(b) Yes Sir,

(c) and (d) Question does not arise in view of (b) above

Minerals Production in Coal Mines

7207 SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) the details of production of minerals other than coal from the different coal mines during each of the last three years, and

(b) the total value of the products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA)

(a) Coal India Ltd (CIL) have informed that they are not producing any mineral other than coal from their mines

(b) Does not arise

Expansion/Modernisation of Telephone Exchanges

7208. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the expansion and modernisation of telephone exchanges with a view to provide more facilities to the subscribers during the current year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) . (a) and (b). Sir, during 1995-96, the Department of Telecommunications have planned to instal 35.4 lac lines (gross) exchange capacity involving expansion of the existing exchanges as well as installation of new exchanges in the country. It is also planned to replace about 6.3 lac lines of old electro-mechanical exchanges with a view to modernise the telecom network. All the new capacity to be added during 1995-96 is by means of electronic digital exchanges having facilities like dynamic STD barring, detailed billing, abbreviated dialling etc.

[Translation]

Irrigation Projects

7209. SHRI RATILAL VARMA :
SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the names of on-going major and medium irrigation projects of Gujarat including estimated costs thereof;

(b) the benefits accrued therefrom;

(c) the funds earmarked for these projects in the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(d) the amount released to these projects during the first three years of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(e) the time by which these are likely to be completed; and

(f) the names of such irrigation projects which are likely to be commissioned during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (f). A Statement giving details of ongoing major and medium irrigation projects is enclosed.

(d) The expenditure/outlay for ongoing major and medium irrigation in Gujarat during the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 are Rs. 407.08 crores, Rs. 437.08 crores and Rs. 485.98 crores respectively.

STATEMENT

Details of Ongoing major And Medium Irrigation Projects of Gujarat

S No	Name of Project	Latest Estimated Cost as Per Annual Plan 94-95	Approved outlay in VIII th Plan by Planning Commission	Ultimate Irrigation on Potential	Likely time of Completion
			(Rs. In Crores)		(Thousand Hectares)
1	2	3	4	5	6
ONGOING MAJOR PROJECTS :					
1.	Damanganga	214.95	28.10	51.56	VIII Plan
2.	Panam	84.33	10.50	49.37	-do-
3.	Sabarmati	110.72	5.00	56.68	-do-
4.	Kurjan	264.10	39.22	77.56	-do-
5.	Sukhl	113.40	5.85	25.20	-do-
6.	Sipu	97.75	25.00	22.08	-do-
7.	Watrak	63.03	7.68	18.34	-do-
8.	Sardar-sarovar	8336.27	2966.00	1792.00	Beyond VIII Plan
9.	Tankhari	78.70	2.60	24.00	-do-
10.	Bajaj Sagar (Share)	-	0.25	No direct benefits	-do-
ONGOING MEDIUM PROJECTS :					
1.	Kiran (a) -II	12.20	4.56	6.40	VIII Plan
2.	Sukhbahadar	22.05	1.70	5.41	-do-
3.	Machhundri	21.05	3.73	8.08	-do-
4.	Kalubhar	21.62	1.41	4.70	-do-
5.	Machhannula	16.82	0.65	4.33	-do-
6.	Var-II (Anli)	23.10	4.83	5.47	-do-
7.	Deo	56.98	2.50	10.16	-do-
8.	Venu-II	23.77	3.38	5.25	-do-
9.	Und (Jivapur)	38.36	18.00	9.59	-do-
10.	Bhadur (Panchmahals)	47.93	5.89	8.00	-do-
11.	Mazam	32.06	1.26	4.72	VIII Plan
12.	Haduf	25.28	0.50	5.24	-do-
13.	Guhai	71.53	4.73	7.51	-do-
14.	Kelia	21.01	2.62	3.46	-do-
15.	Harnav-II	8.20	0.98	3.44	-do-
16.	Sani	12.20	4.05	2.76	-do-
17.	Amipur	9.62	0.90	6.77	-do-
18.	Umaria	6.73	0.75	2.37	-do-

1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	Aji-II	13.61	0.71	2.38	VIII Plan
20	Aji-III	28.54	1.01	6.84	-do-
21	Jhuj	41.42	3.02	5.89	-do-
22	Uben	13.20	0.20	2.46	-do-
23.	Mukteshwar	22.80	5.22	6 19	-do-
24	Demi-II	11.13	1.34	2 42	-do-
25	Und-II (Gunucit Sarovar)	27.09	21.38	4 25	-do-

LPG Bottling Plants

7210. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

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

(a) whether the Government have enhanced the capacity of L.P.G. bottling plants;

(b) if so, the details of the bottling plants whose capacity has been enhanced during the last two years; and

(c) the details of the plants whose capacity is proposed to be enhanced to meet the increasing demand of L.P.G.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The details of LPG bottling plants whose capacity has been enhanced during 1993-94 and 1994-95 are as under :

(In TMTPA)		
Location	Original Capacity	Final Capacity
1. Haridwar	10	22
2. Baddi	10	22
3. Haldwani	10	22
4. Jalandhar	34	68
5. Jamshedpur	25	44
6. Jalgaon	22	44
7. Sholapur	22	44
8. Coimbatore	34	68
9. Tuticorin	10	20
10. Mangalore	22	44
11. Trivandrum	22	44

(c) The Details of bottling plants whose capacity is proposed to be enhanced to meet the increasing demand of LPG are as follows :

(In TMTPA)

Location	Original Capacity	Final proposed Capacity
1. Varanasi	25	44
2. Ajmer	10	22
3. Balasore	25	44
4. Cochin	25	44
5. Calicut	18	32
6. Karnal	44	88
7. Jamshedpur	44	88
8. Bhopal	44	88
9. Hubli	22	44
10. Aurangabad	22	44
11. Jaipur	10	20
12. Bareilly	10	20
13. Lucknow	10	20
14. Hissar	10	20
15. Bhitoni	44	88

[English]

Import of Bullet Proof Jackets

7211. SHRI RABI RAY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to open public tender for the production of bullet proof jackets for the security forces of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a private entrepreneur has been permitted to import firearms and test equipments in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b). Under the liberalised Industrial Policy, no Industrial Licence is required for production of Bullet Proof jackets for the Security Forces of the country.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. As Ministry of Industrial Development and Ministry of Defence had given their clearance to M/s. Tata Advanced Materials Ltd. for manufacture of protective gears, Ministry of Home Affairs had issued "No Objection" to the Ministry of Commerce for permitting M/s. Tata Advanced Materials Ltd. to import firearms and ammunition alongwith projectile velocity measuring system as part of Ballistic Proof Testing Equipment.

Plan Outlay

7212 SHRI CHITTA BASU Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that a huge gap exists between the requirement and availability of funds for the execution of NCT Delhi Plan during the Eighth Five Year Plan period, and

(b) if so, the steps taken for the mobilisation of additional resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG) (a) The Eighth Plan agreed outlay for the NCT of Delhi is Rs 4500 crores to be financed with the UTs Own Resources of Rs 3015 crores and Central Assistance of Rs 1485 crores

(b) In Addition to normal Central Assistance the Government of NCT of Delhi is given ad hoc plan assistance To mobilise additional resources the Government of NCT of Delhi has taken a number of steps including increase in sales tax and property tax collection, revision in road tax electricity tariff, stamps and registration fees and modification in excise policies etc

Plot to Kill TADA Court Judge Bombay

7213 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware of the alleged plot to kill the designated TADA court judge of Bombay in the court premises,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the steps taken to provide adequate security to him,

(d) whether a demand to hand over the case to the Central Bureau of Investigation for investigation has been made, and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a) to (e) In view of the threat to the life of Shri J N Patel, designated TADA Court Judge, trying Bombay bomb blast case, State Government has given him adequate security cover, Shri Patel already has 'Z' category security provided to him State Government is also being advised to be in a high state of alert ness in the matter

Underground Mine Project

7214 DR VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) whether China has offered to develop Parbatpur block of Bharat Cocking Coal Ltd as a greenfield underground mine project,

(b) if so, the details alongwith terms and conditions thereof, and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTREY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) (a) to (c) During the second meeting of Indo-China Working Group on coal held in December, 1994 the Chinese side had agreed, as a first step, to prepare a conceptual note for Parbatpur underground project based on available geological information Necessary technical information has been provided to them and the further action in the matter would depend on the Conceptual note when received from the Chinese side

[Translation]

Telecom System in Rajasthan

7215 PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether telephone system in Ajmer and Beawar district in Rajasthan is in order,

(b) if not the reasons therefor,

(c) the efforts made so far by the Government in this regard,

(d) the time by which the old telecommunication system there is likely to be replaced by electronic system,

(e) the places where new telephone exchanges are proposed to be set up, and

(f) the places where STD facility is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) Yes Sir the telephone system in Ajmer and Beawar districts are satisfactory

(b) and (c) Question does not arise

(d) There is on 8000 lines telephone exchange of cross-bar technology working in Ajmer and electro-mechanical (MAX-II) exchange (U/S type) of 1700 lines is working at Madanganj Kishangarh Both of them have not yet outlived their useful life However, two thousands lines of crossbar exchange of Ajmer shall be replaced during 8th plan subject to availability of equipment

(e) One electronic exchange of C-DOT type is planned to be installed during 1995-96 at Madanganj Kishangarh New exchanges are also planned at Gegal & Sampla during 1995-96

(f) As per the 8th plan objective, all exchanges are to be provided with STD facilities by March 1997, subject to timely availability of resources

[English]

Exploration and Production of Crude Oil

7216. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN :
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :

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

(a) whether according to the estimates the exploration and production of crude oil in the country requires a staggering investment of Rs. 250,000 crores during the next 15 years; and

(b) if so, the specific plans contemplated to meet this requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). The investment requirements for the next 15 years have not been worked out.

[Translation]

Voluntary Organisations in UP and Haryana

7217. DR. SAKSHIJI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) the details of voluntary organisation in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana that are receiving central financial assistance;

(b) the assistance sought by these organisation during the last three years alongwith the funds provided to them;

(c) the criteria adopted for approving funds/rejecting such demands,

(d) the assistance proposed to be provided during 1995-96, and

(e) the details of voluntary organisations black-listed and those organisations to whom assistance had been stopped?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) to (e). The information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Disconnection of Telephone in Delhi

7218 SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephones disconnected by the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd., Delhi, during 1994-95 with reasons;

(b) the number of telephone consumers, whose telephones have been disconnected for non payment of alleged erroneous arrears of telephones service charges; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to reconnect disconnected telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The number of telephones disconnected during 1994-95 for non-payment of telephone dues was 131836 In addition, telephones in some cases were also disconnected for misuse/violation of Indian Telephone Rules.

(b) and (c). a few complaints were received from those subscribers whose lines were disconnected due to non-receipt of payment particulars from some of the banks

(d) The lines are restored immediately on receipt/production of payment particulars without charging any restoration fee

[English]

Oil and Natural Gas Exploration Programme

7219. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA :
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

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

(a) whether the Government are embarking on an "enhanced oil and gas exploration programme" in the final stages of the Eighth Five Year Plan,

(b) if so, the objectives of this enhanced oil and gas exploration programme, and

(c) the manner in which the Government plan to rectify the low oil reserve situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) . (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. In order to step up reserve accretion, the Government has launched and Accelerated Programme of Exploration (APEX) involving an expenditure of approximately Rs. 6500 crores The programme has the following components:

- (i) National Seismic Survey
- (ii) Frontier area exploration
- (iii) Deep water exploration
- (iv) Acquisition of foreign acreages.

[Translation]

Supply of LPG

7220. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :
SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY .

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

(a) the extent of demand and supply in regard to LPG in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh during the last two years; and

(b) the efforts made to ensure the regular supply of LPG in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). The demand of existing consumer of LPG in the States of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh who are enrolled with the distributors of the Public Sector Oil Companies is by and large being met in full. Temporary backlogs that may arise are cleared by augmenting LPG supplies through operation of bottling plants during extended hours and on holidays and by arranging supplies from bottling plants in adjoining areas.

The LPG sales in the States of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh were as under

(Fig in MT)

	Maharashtra	Andhra Pradesh
1993-94	553550	234647
1994-95 (Prov.)	600427	253147

National Centre of Films by Children and Young People

7221. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the grants-in-aid provided by the Union Government to the National Centre of Films for Children and Young People (NCYP) during each of the last two years and current years;

(b) the measures taken by the Government to ensure the proper utilisation of funds by NCYP; and

(c) the strategy being followed by NCYP to encourage the child talent and production of children films in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) The amounts of grant-in-aid given or provided for in the budget in the case of National

Centre of Films for Children and Young People (N'CYP) are as following :- (Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	Plan	Grant-in-aid	
		Plan	Non-Plan
1993-94	111.51	—	—
1994-95	110.00	—	—
1995-96	150.00	10.00	—

(b) The audit of the accounts of the N'CYP particularly with regard to the grant-in-aid is done by the Director of Audit, Central Revenues. The annual report and the audited accounts of the N'CYP approved by its Executive Council and General Body are laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha every year.

(c) N'CYP conducts animation workshops and script workshops for children. It cooperates and supports the training activities conducted by other organisations in the form of theatre workshops and film appreciation workshops. It also organises International Film Festival for children and young people, thus providing an exposure to Indian producers to high quality children's films.

Grant of Indian Citizenship

7222. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons who have applied for Indian citizenship during the last three years;

(b) the number of persons out of them granted Indian citizenship during the said period;

(c) whether the Government are aware that a large number of persons have been residing in India for the last several years after infiltration and getting married in India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b) A Statement is enclosed.

(c) No such trend has come to notice.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Year	Number of Applications received	Number of Indian Citizenship Certificate issued	Number of cases accepted but Certificates not yet issued for want of completion of formalities	Number of cases under process	Number of cases rejected
1992	905	675	82	01	147
1993	897	582	93	48	176
1994	962	389	80	223	270

[English]

Foreign Oil Sector In India

7223. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLÚ :

DR. K.V.R.CHOWDARY :

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

(a) whether the Government are considering the suggestions from the foreign oil sector to allow them to participate in the oil sector in India;

(b) whether some foreign oil companies have suggested the takeover of some functions of ONGC;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether foreign oil companies have come forward to drill oil from fields already discovered by ONGC; and

(e) if so, the Government's reaction to this offer of foreign oil companies to come in after exploration work is over?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) The oil sector has opened for private investment under the liberalised economic policies of Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). Yes Sir. Govt. have offered blocks for exploration as well as fields for development by private companies, including foreign companies, in order to accelerate the pace of exploration of hydrocarbons and to augment indigenous production of crude oil and to bring in the state-of-art technology.

S.T.D. Timings

7224. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to reschedule the STD timings to allow subscribers to avail one fourth tariff;

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

(c) whether Government also propose to charge three slab rates from the subscribers willing to use STD facility; and

(d) if so, the details and the rationale thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SUKH RAM) . (a) and (b). One fourth tariff is already available from 9 P.M. to 6 A.M. for National Subscriber Dialling on all week days.

(c) and (d). Three slab rates are already in existence.

Full rate	:	8 AM to 7 PM
Half rate	:	7 PM to 9 PM and 6AM to 8 AM
Quarter rate	:	9 PM to 6 AM

On Sundays and National Holidays the services are at half rate from 6 AM to 9 PM

The concessional tariff rates have been made available with a view to make better use of the circuits during slack hours.

Production of Crude Oil

7225. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH

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

(a) whether the country's crude oil import will lower considerably during 1995-96;

(b) if so, whether there has been improvement in crude oil production during 1994-95;

(c) if so, to what extent imports dropped during 1994-95 in view of its increase in production,

(d) to what extent import further decline during 1995-96;

(e) the total crude oil imported during the last three years; and

(f) the total amount spent on the oil import during these three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (d). The import of crude oil during 1995-96 would depend on international prices, indigenous crude production, materialisation of the refining capacity and actual materialisation of demand

(b) As against indigenous production of about 27 03 MMT of crude oil in 1993-94, the same was about 32.23 MMT during 1994-95.

(c), (e) and (f). The import of crude oil and its value during the last 3 years was as under .-

(Quantity:MMT)
(Value: Rs. crores)

	Crude	
	Quantity	Value
1992-93	29.25	10685.86
1993-94*	30.82	10688.52
1994-95	27.35	10316.03

* (Provisional).

[Translation]

Flood Control and Soil Conservation

7226. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted any scheme to the Union Government for flood control and soil conservation for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Mining and Marketing of Coal

7227. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Damodar Valley Corporation has shows interests in undertaking intensive mining operations and marketing of coking coal,

(b) if so, whether the Government have agreed to the proposals submitted by D.V.C.; and

(c) if so, the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) It is presumed that the Hon'ble Member is referring to mining and marketing of coking coal. The Government in the Ministry of Coal has not received any proposal from Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) for undertaking intensive mining operations and marketing of coking, coal.

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

Microwave System

7228. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any improvement has been effected by the Government in the Microwave system in the country particularly, in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, circle-wise, during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The improvement in Microwave Systems has been effected

by inducting the Digital Microwave Systems all over the country including Gujarat. These Microwave Systems are superior in performance, reliability and compatibility with the modern digital telephone exchanges.

(b) The Circlewise details of the Digital Microwave systems commissioned during 1992-93, 93-94 and 94-95 in different Circles including Gujarat are given in the enclosed Statement.

Systems Commissioned during 1992-93

S.No.	Name of the Circle	Route KMs of Microwave systems Commissioned		
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	391	772	693
2.	Assam	-	6	196
3.	Bihar	-	-	253
4.	Gujarat	32	274	180
5.	Haryana	-	205	293
6.	Himachal Pradesh	72	196	904
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	316
8.	Karnataka	350	442	445
9.	Kerala	30	142	25
10.	Maharashtra	342	103	109
11.	Madhya Pradesh	550	110	710
12.	Orissa	252	143	74
13.	Punjab	59	60	446
14.	Rajasthan	250	231	856
15.	Tamil Nadu	21	267	364
16.	Uttar Pradesh	495	5	1294
17.	West Bengal	17	498	399

Seizure of RDX

7229. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be please to state :

(a) whether RDX brought from Dubai was seized by the authority concerned in Goa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any smuggled RDX has been taken to Gujarat;

(d) if so, the quantum reported to have been transported; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken to curb such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Demand of LPG

7230. SHRI MANJAY LAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted market survey for demand of LPG in urban and semi-urban areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the demand and supply of LPG per annum, and

(d) the steps being taken to meet the demand of LPG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir Before VIII plan, LPG market studies were based on LPG absorption programmes linked with indigenous LPG production from the Refineries and fractionating plants. The primary objective was to reduce kerosene imports. However, growing popularity of LPG as a domestic cooking fuel and highly subsidised price led to high demand potential which exceeded indigenous availability. Keeping in view the growth in wait-list, Government asked the Oil Industry to draw up a comprehensive LPG demand saturation programme during the VIII plan period, which apart from augmentation of LPG production would also include development of LPG import facilities so that the demand gap can be met through imports. Accordingly the VIII plan LPG programme was formulated, under which demand at the end of VIII plan was estimated to be 4536 TMTPA. It also envisages increase of indigenous LPG production from 2.278 MMTPA in 1992-93 to 3 818 MMTPA in the terminal year and new port facilities at Kandla and Mangalore of 0.6 MMTPA import capacity each to come up by 1996-97.

Allotment of Petrol Retail Outlets

7231. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of cases are pending for allotment of petrol retail outlets with the Oil Selection Boards of various States;

(b) if so, the number of such cases pending upto March 31, 1995, State/U.T. wise;

(c) the number of cases recommended and allotted during 1994 and 1995 so far by the various Boards, and

(d) the target fixed for 1995 and 1996 for allotment of dealerships in various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Oil Industry has reported that as on 31.3.1995, 374 retail outlet

dealership proposals were pending with Oil Selection Boards.

(c) During the period 1.1.1994 till date, Oil Selection Boards have advised merit panels for 671 retail outlet dealerships to the Oil Marketing Companies. Out of the above, Oil Industry has issued LOIs for 469 retail outlet dealerships.

(d) No target as such for allotment of dealerships has been fixed for OSBs.

National Overseas Scholarship Scheme

7232. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have made an assessment about the working of the National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of the society,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that many students are unable to complete their studies within the prescribed time limit, and

(d) if so, the remedial measures proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) Assessment of the Scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes etc. candidates through feed back from students, Indian Missions and Universities abroad towards increase in existing facilities under the Scheme, is an ongoing process.

(b) The Scheme was last modified with effect from 1.4.1992 and details of modifications are as follows :

(i) the number of awards were increased from 25 to 30,

(ii) the maintenance allowance rates and duration of various levels of prescribed courses as well as other permissible allowances were also increased, details of which are given below :

(1) increase in maintenance allowance rate from US \$ 5400.00 to US \$ 5940.00 per annum with increase in permissible duration to complete the course with scholarship from 3 years to 3 years and 6 months, in case of Bachelor's Degree,

(2) increase in maintenance allowance rate from US \$ 6,000.00 to US \$ 6600.00 per annum in case of Master's and Ph. D level courses with increase in permissible duration to

complete the course with scholarship from 2 years to 3 years in case of Master's degree and from 3 years to 4 years in case of Ph.D,

- (3) increase in maintenance allowance rate from US \$ 7,000/- to US \$ 7700/- per annum with increase in permissible duration to complete the course with scholarship from 1 year and six months in case of Post-Doctoral research/training.
- (iii) increase in contingency allowance for books, essential apparatus, study tour, typing and binding of thesis from US \$ 350/- to US \$ 385/- per annum,
- (iv) increase in equipment allowance from Rs. 1,000/- to Rs. 1100/-.
- (v) increase in incidental journey expense (each way) from Rs. 200/- to US \$ 15/-
- (vi) income ceiling of Rs. 5,000/- per month of parents/guardians/earning beneficiaries was fixed,
- (vii) Poll Tax US \$ 150/- was allowed, wherever applicable,

(c) and (d). In case of a few students where on review of their academic performance, the course supervisors and the concerned Indian Missions abroad recommended time extensions for specific period to enable them to complete their studies, such time extensions were provided by the Government

Development Schemes for Oil and Natural Gas

7233 SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) the development schemes costing above Rs. 100 crores for oil and gas separately being carried out by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation at present;

(b) the cost of each scheme with details of development work undertaken/to be undertaken under it and the likely date of its completion;

(c) the confirmed and unconfirmed reserves of oil and gas separately in each field under development; and

(d) the annual output of oil and gas separately in each such field if already in production alongwith further development and the schemes proposed for field development in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (d). The information is

being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Sardar Sarovar Project

7234. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has expressed doubts on returns from Sardar Sarovar Project;

(b) if so, the details of observations made by the World Bank, and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) :

(a) No, Sir

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

Sriramsagar Project

7235 SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sent Sriramsagar Stage-II Project to the Union Government for clearance;

(b) if so, when and present stage of the project;

(c) whether Mandakini Canal which is a part of the said project is also pending with the Union Government for clearance; and

(d) if so, the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) :

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The project was received in the Central Water Commission in September, 1986. It was sent back to the State Government in May, 1989 as water availability had not been established. The hydrological studies have now been finalised and the State Government required to comply with the observations on irrigation planning and submit modified project to the Central Water Commission.

(c) Mandakini Canal is a part of Sriramsagar Project Stage-II and is therefore, linked with the main project clearance.

(d) The clearance of project depends upon how expeditiously the State Government is able to comply with the observations of the Central Appraising Agencies and obtains clearance from environmental and forestry angle from Ministry of Environment & Forest and clearance of welfare plans from Ministry of Welfare.

[Translation]

National Minorities Commission

7236. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of reports presented by the National Commission for Minorities after attaining the status of statutory commission;

(b) the number of recommendations made therein;

(c) the number of recommendations accepted out of them; and

(d) the details of the action initiated on the accepted recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) to (d). The National Commission for Minorities functioning since 17 May 1993 as a statutory body has not submitted any Report including its Annual Report so far. The Commission has, however, submitted the 14th Annual Report of the erstwhile Minorities Commission for the period 1-4-1991 to 31-3-1992 on 2 February 1995.

The report is under examination.

Recommendations of Mandal Commission

7237. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :
SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the complaints regarding non-compliance of the recommendations of Mandal Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective measures being taken by the Government in the Matter?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) to (c). The Government have taken the following decisions based on the recommendations of the Mandal Commission :

(a) Vide its OM of 8.9.93 the Government has provided the following :

(i) reservation of 27% of vacancies in direct recruitment for other backward classes in civil posts and services under the Government of India subject to the exclusion of socially advanced persons/sections ('creamy layer').

(ii) candidates belonging to OBCs recruited on the basis of merit in an open competition on the same standards prescribed for general

candidates shall not be adjusted against the reservation quota of 27%.

(ii) the scheme of reservation has been made applicable in direct recruitment to all Ministries and Departments of Government of India, public sector undertakings and nationalised banks under the Government of India.

(b) Vide its order of 25 January 1995, the upper age limit prescribed for direct recruitment has been relaxed by three years for OBC candidates;

The number of attempts in the case of OBC candidates who are otherwise eligible has been increased to 7 in respect of Civil Services Examinations.

(c) Vide its order of 22 October 1993, the Government had revised the existing reservations rosters in order to accommodate the 27% reservation for OBCs in the case of direct recruitment on all India basis by open competition.

(d) Vide its order of 29 December 1993, the Government has revised the rosters with regard to filling up of posts by direct recruitment on all India basis otherwise than by open competition;

(e) Vide the order of 29 December 1993 revised rosters with regard to direct recruitment to Group 'C' and 'D' posts, normally attracting candidates from a locality or region has been issued;

(f) The National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) has been set up on 13.1.92 for the purpose of promoting the economic development of the backward classes granting financial assistance to them for setting up viable self-employment ventures and upgrading their technical and entrepreneurial skills.

Necessary instructions have been issued on all the above items to the concerned authorities to ensure their proper implementation.

Demands have been received from some quarters for implementation of the remaining recommendations of the Mandal Commission. The Government has not taken any decision in this matter.

[English]

Investment for Agriculture Development

7238. SHRI NURUL ISLAM : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the investment made for agricultural development in the country during the last three years and current year. Sector-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken to enhance the investment for agricultural development by public sector and private sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG) : (a) The details of the latest information available on Sector-wise gross fixed capital formation in agriculture from 1991-92 to 1993-94 and State-wise gross capital formation from 1990-91 to 1992-93 are given at enclosed statement.

(b) During the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97), significant level of investment is proposed in favour of areas in agriculture and allied activities like horticulture, fisheries, rainfed farming, creation of infra-structure for minor irrigation, post-harvest management, etc. In order to encourage investment in infra-structure for agriculture, it is proposed to establish a new Rural Infra-structural Development Fund within the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). This fund will provide loans to State Governments and State-owned corporations for completing the on-going projects relating to medium and minor irrigation, soil conservation, water-shed management and other forms of rural infra-structure.

STATEMENT

(a) Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) in Agriculture (at current prices)

(Rs in lakhs)

State	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1 Andhra Pradesh	N A	N.A	N.A
2 Assam	N.A.	N.A	N.A
3. Gujarat	39285	N.A	N.A.
4 Haryana	47431	N.A	N.A
5 Kerala	N A	N.A.	N.A.
6 Madhya Pradesh	94832	102345	111898
7. Maharashtra	120654	127584	15365
8 Orissa (1)	33972*	44406*	47113*
9. Punjab	79415	N.A.	N.A
10 Rajasthan	N.A.	N.A	N.A.
11 Tamil Nadu	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

Source - State Directorates of Economics and Statistics

N A - Not Available.

(1) - excludes private corporate sectors.

* - excluding figures of Central Government administration.

(b) Sector-wise Gross Capital Formation in Agriculture during 1991-92 to 1993-94.

Year	(At 1980-81 prices)		(Rs. in crores)
	All India	Private Sector	Public Sector
1991-92	4497	3496	1001
1992-93	4617	3552	1065
1993-94 *	4695	3621	1074

* Quick Estimates

S.T.D. in Tamil Nadu

7239 DR. P VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide STD facility in various telephone exchanges of Tamil Nadu during the Eighth Five Year Plan Period, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) The objectives of the Eighth Five Year Plan of the Department of Telecommunications envisage provision of STD facility to all the exchanges in the country, including the exchanges in all districts of Tamil Nadu, by March, 1997.

LPG Agencies

7240. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of LPG agencies in Karnataka at present, and

(b) the number of new agencies proposed to be allotted during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) As on 1.4.1995, there were 275 LPG distributorships in Karnataka.

(b) In addition to the 22 LPG distributorships included in the Marketing Plan 1992-94, 43 LPG distributorships have been included in the LPG Marketing Plan 1994-95 for Karnataka.

Plan Outlay

7241. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state

(a) the original plan outlay, sector-wise, approved for the Eighth Five Year Plan for the Centre and States;

(b) the total estimated expenditure, sector-wise, during the first three years of the Plan by the Centre and the States;

(c) the extent of excess of shortfall in (b) above sector-wise. In absolute figures as well as percentage of original outlay; and

(d) steps taken to accelerate public investment in order to achieve plan target during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG) . (a) and (b). The requisite information is given in enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d). The excess and shortfall in the first three years Plan expenditure cannot be estimated in absolute terms as the original Eighth Plan outlays are for a period of five years and hence, not comparable with the three years expenditure. The progress of performance in the Plan expenditure is reviewed every year at the time of Annual Plan discussions and various remedial measures are suggested so that as far as possible Plan targets are achieved.

STATEMENT

Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) - Approved Outlays and Expenditure for First Three Years - 1992-95

S. Sectors \ No	Eighth Plan Approved Outlays (Rs crores at 1991-92 Prices)			Expenditure during 1992-95 (Rs. crores at 1991-92 prices)			% of 8th Plan
	Centre \$ UTs	States \$ UTs	Total	Centre	States	Total	
1. Agriculture and Allied Activities	11118.00	11349.21	22467.21	5824.00	6683.00	12507.00	55.67
2. Rural Development	24170.00	10255.36	34425.36	5650.00	11574.00	17224.00	50.03
3. Special Area Programmes	0.00	6750.16	6750.16	0.00	3488.00	3488.00	51.67
4. Irrigation and Flood Control	1500.00	31025.29	32525.29	610.00	12923.00	13533.00	41.61
5. Energy	66795.00	48766.09	115561.09	45642.00	21108.00	66750.00	57.76
6. Industry and Minerals	37539.00	9382.75	46921.75	21384.00	4044.00	25428.00	54.19
7. Transport	40977.00	14948.57	55925.57	25055.00	7424.00	32479.00	58.08
8. Communications	25097.00	12.98	25109.98	15638.00	7.00	15645.00	62.31
9. Science, Technology and Environment	5139.00	3902.69	9041.69	2933.00	136.00	3069.00	33.94
10. General Economic Services	988.00	3581.52	4549.52	1678.00	1995.00	3673.00	80.73
11. Social Services	34445.45	44566.45	79011.90	15237.00	21074.00	36311.00	45.96
12. General Services	116.55	1693.93	1810.48	305.00	861.00	1166.00	64.40
Total	247865.00	186235.00	434100.00	145880.00	85393.00	231273.00	53.28

(\$) Provisional

Digging of Wells

7242. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI . Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Board has dug any well in the State of Orissa under the Scientific Ground Water Exploration Programme,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some wells have also been dug in the hard rock areas in Orissa;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the action taken/proposed to be taken to dig wells in the hard rock area in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V RANGAYYA NAIDU) :
(a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Central Ground Water Board has drilled 630 boreholes in the State of Orissa upto March, 1995 of which 438 are exploratory wells, 114 observation wells, 21 slimholes and 57 piezometers.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The details of the boreholes drilled by the Board in hard rock areas of Orissa are as follows :

S. No.	Name of District	Boreholes drilled	
		Exploratory Boreholes	Observation Boreholes
1.	Kalahandi	41	9
2.	Sambalpur	53	14
3.	Sundergarh	40	7
4.	Koraput	45	14
5.	Phulbani	26	1
6.	Keonjhar	39	10
7.	Mayurbhanj	14	—
8.	Bolangir	39	11

(e) In view of above, Question does not arise.

Laying of Cables in South Delhi

7243. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1761 on December 19, 1994 and state :

(a) the manner in which the MTNL authorities determined the rationale of the amount paid to the Delhi P.W.D.;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up a cell of its own consisting of experts to scrutinise the

propriety of the charges claimed, and to ensure that the job had been done properly;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether despite repeated representations from residents of South Delhi, no action has so far been taken to plug the gaping holes left uncovered by the Delhi PWD, resulting in the seepage of water in the ducts; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and steps being taken on the representations of the residents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The amount of compensation to be paid to the local agencies including Delhi PWD is determined by MTNL based on their respective schedules of rates, prevalent from time to time.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The roads, pavements, footpaths etc. where the cables are laid are the property of the local agencies concerned. MTNL pays only reinstatement charges to the local bodies as a compensation for damages to roads and pavements etc. Such reinstatement charges are as per bills preferred by the local authorities based on their schedule of rates prevalent from time to time.

(d) The matter pertains to the local bodies including Delhi PWD. MTNL has been requesting the local bodies to complete the works of reinstatement where MTNL works have been completed.

(e) MTNL does not have any monitoring mechanism for watching the reinstatement work, by local bodies etc.

Allotment of LPG Agencies

7244. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to allot LPG agencies and petrol retail outlets to freedom fighters on priority basis are pending;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (c). 78 Retail Outlet dealerships, 30 LPG distributorships and 19 SKO-LDO dealerships have been reserved for Freedom Fighters' category in the RO Marketing Plan 1988-93, LPG Marketing Plan 1992-94 and SKO-LDO Marketing Plan 1989-93, respectively, selection for which is already underway through Oil Selection Boards. It generally

takes about 1-2 years for commissioning of dealerships/distributorships after issue of advertisement. For the RO Marketing Plan 1993-96 and LPG Marketing Plan 1994-96, 3% dealerships/distributorships are reserved for Freedom-Fighters category.

[Translation]

Sea Erosion

7245. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government to amend the existing criterion laid for providing Central assistance to prevent the coastal areas from sea erosion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard, and

(d) the amount of assistance provided by the Union Government to Gujarat during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PV RANGAYYA NAIDU)

(a) No such proposal from Government of Gujarat to revise the criteria regarding Central Assistance to prevent the coastal area from sea erosion has been received

(b) and (c). Do not arise

(d) As a measure of decentralisation, Central Loan Assistance for anti-sea erosion works has been discontinued in the VIII Plan. However, National Development Council in its meeting held in December, 1991 approved 7.5% weight for meeting the challenge of special problems under revised formula for allocation of Central Assistance. As such no Central Assistance was provided to the Maritime States including Gujarat during 1993-94 and 1994-95 and no such provision has been made for 1995-96 also. However, the Planning Commission has approved outlays, exclusively for Anti-Sea-Erosion projects for the State of Gujarat. The approved outlay for 1993-94 and 1994-95 is Rs. 20 lakhs each. The proposed outlay for 1995-96 is Rs. 26 lakhs.

[English]

Coal Mining

7246. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) the details of the Indian Companies who have offered for joint venture in coal mining in the country; and

(b) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) According to information received from Coal India Limited, they have received proposals from following Indian parties who have shown interest for forming joint venture with Coal India for coal mining;

1. M/s. RPG Industries/Calcutta Electric Supply Co.,
2. M/s. Nippon Denro Ispat Limited.
3. M/s. Bhagat and Co ,
4. M/s. Hindalco Industries Ltd.,
5. M/s. Eastern Mineral and Trading Company,
6. M/s. Indo Gulf Fertilizer and Chemical Ltd.,
7. M/s. International Longwall (India) Ltd.

(b) Government has not approved any joint venture proposals for CIL, coal mining

[Translation]

Digging of Canals

7247. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Maharashtra for Central assistance for digging of canals in the State,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PV RANGAYYA NAIDU)

(a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Sardar Sarovar Project

7248. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA .
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA .

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the study conducted by the Sardar Patel Institute of Economical Social Research wherein it has been stated that the percentage of profit likely to be accrued from Sardar Sarovar Project is around 15.25%;

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

(c) whether the Government have made any assessment in regard to the percentage of profit likely to be accrued from other major irrigation projects;

(d) if so, the average percentage thereof; and

(e) the names of the projects having minimum and maximum percentage of profit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) :

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. According to the study, Internal Rate of Return of Sardar Sarovar Project at financial prices and at economic prices range from 14.69% to 20.00% and 16.77% to 21.88% respectively.

The Government are satisfied about the economic viability of the project.

(c) to (e). At present, the Benefit Cost Ratio method is generally used in economic evaluation of Irrigation projects. As per the norm of the Planning Commission, the projects which yield Benefit Cost Ratio of at least 1.5 : 1 should be normally approved for implementation. A lower limit of 1.0 is acceptable for Irrigation Projects in drought prone areas. The average value of Internal Rate of Return in respect of 9 major Irrigation projects accepted during the last three years by the Advisory Committee on Irrigation, Flood control and multipurpose projects comes to 15.01%, the maximum and minimum value of Internal Rate of Return being 25.75% and 9.26% for Omkareshwar multipurpose Project and Gargi Diversion Project respectively

Coal Loading

7249. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Union Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "CIL accused of not utilising, wagon capacity" appearing in the "Observer" dated February 27, 1995,

(b) if so, whether the railway wagons are not being departed in time by CIL for coal loading,

(c) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(d) the amount of demurrage paid by CIL during each of the last three years for withholding the railway wagons with them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) . (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Wagons placed by Railways at colliery sidings are required to be loaded within the specified time stipulated by Railways. By and large, wagons are loaded within stipulated free loading time. However, in some cases loading can not be completed within the "free loading time" leading to detention of wagons

However shortage of Railway wagons in CIL are as follows :

(in FWWs per day)			
Month	Target	Actual	Shortage
April, 95	17344	16787	557
May, 95 (up to 15th)	17888	16230	1658

(c) According to Coal India Limited, delay in loading of wagons occur in some cases due to dislocation caused by heavy rains, supply of covered wagons in place of open wagons, placement of wagons at odd hours, power failures and other breakdowns affecting loading.

(d) According to Coal India Limited demurrages paid to the Railways by its units/subsidiary companies during each of the three years were as under :

Year	Demurrages Paid (Rs. in crores) (Data provisional)
1992-93	16.54
1993-94	16.50
1994-95	19.98

[English]

TADA

7250. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :
SHRI DATTA MEGHE :
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :
SHRI SOMJI BHAI DAMOR :
SHRI P. KUMARASAMY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he called the meeting of all opposition parties and the Chief Ministers of all the States recently to discuss issues regarding TADA and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the main points suggested by the opposition parties and the Chief Ministers;

(c) whether any concrete proposals for amending/repealing of TADA has been finalised; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the changes are likely to be introduced in the regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (c). The Government has consulted the Chief Ministers/Governors of States/UTs and leaders of the various political parties in this regard. In the light of the views expressed by the Chief Ministers and Government as also the leaders of the various political parties, the Government has decided not to extend TADA but to bring forward a new Legislation, namely, the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, 1995 for the prevention of and for coping with the terrorist and disruptive activities.

[Translation]

Private Agencies Recognised by PIB

7251. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the private agencies recognised by the Press Information Bureau;

(b) the criteria/norms adopted in this regard;

(c) whether all these agencies are complying with the said norms; and

(d) if not, the action taken against defaulter agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) List of private news and feature agencies accredited to the Press Information Bureau is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The eligibility criteria for recognition/consideration for the grant of accreditation to representatives of news agencies is :-

(i) The contents of items circulated/produced by agencies should include news and information emanating from the Headquarters of the Government of India

(ii) The news agency should use telegraphic or electronic facilities and should have paying subscribers in news media organisations spread over not less than 6 States.

(iii) A news photo agency should have minimum of 6 paying subscribers and annual subscription income of Rs. 30,000/- and a television organisation of Rs 50,000/- from news media organisations as certified by an established firm of Chartered Accountants.

(iv) A feature agency should have not less than 12 paying subscribers in news media organisations.

(v) Wire Agencies should provide services to news media organisations including audio-visual networks on a regular commercial basis and shall produce certificate from an established firm of Chartered Accountants about their subscription income.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

A. WIRE AGENCIES

1. Asian News International—India.
2. Hindustan Samachar
3. Press Trust of India
4. PTI (Bhasha)
5. United News of India
6. Univarta

B NON-WIRE AGENCIES

1. Asian films
2. Age of Enlightenment News and Feature Service

3. Cartographic News Service

4. Cine India International

5. Development News Service

6. India News and Feature Alliance (INFA)

7. India Press Agency

8. National Press Agency

9. Newstoday, News and Feature Agency

10. News from Non-aligned World

11. Press Asia International

12. POT Analyses News Service

13. Sambad News Service

14. Syndicated Journalist News/Feature Agency

15. Vana Views and News Agency.

16. Sambad Parikrama News/Feature Agency

17. Shabdarth Sanchar Feature Agency.

C. FOREIGN NEWS AGENCIES

1. Agence France Presse (AFP)

2. Italian News Agency (ANSA) -

3. Associated Press of America (AP)

4. CNN (Cable News Network)

5. DNA (Depth News Asia)

6. DPA (German Press Agency)

7. Dukas News Agency, Switzerland

8. E.F.E. Spanish News Agency

9. Gemini News Service, London

10. Inter Press Service Third World News Agency, Italy

11. Iraqi News Agency, Baghdad.

12. ITAR TASS News Agency, Moscow.

13. Korean Central News Agency.

14. Knight-Ridder Financial News, Japan.

15. Kyodo News Service, Japan

16. Reuters, London.

17. Syrian Arab News, Agency

18. US News and World Report, USA

19. Vietnam News Agency

20. Xinhua News Agency, China

21. British Broadcasting Corpn., London

22. Bharat Vani, New York.

23. China Radio International, Beijing

24. Ec-Televisa, Mexico City

25. German TV Network, Germany

26. German Radio and TV, Hamburg

27. N.H.K. (Japan B' Casting Corpn.,) Tokyo

28. National Broadcasting Corpn., New York

29. Pakistan Broadcasting Corpn., Islamabad
 30. Radio Netherlands, Holland
 31. Radio Harmony, England
 32. WTR, Londaon.
 33. Visnews, London
 34. Voice of America, Washington
- D. INDIAN NEWS PHOTO AGENCIES**
- 1 ANI-TV (India), New Delhi.
 2. Ashoka News Photos, New Delhi.
 3. Asian Films, New Delhi.
 4. Bedi Films, New Delhi.
 5. Black Star Photo Agency, New Delhi
 6. Capital News Photos, New Delhi.
 7. Central News Photo Service, New Delhi.
 - 8 Cine Indla International TV News Agency, New Delhi.
 9. National News Photos, Delhi
 10. Para India, New Delhi.
 - 11 PTI Photo Service, New Delhi
 - 12 PTI-TV, New Delhi.
 13. Punjab Photo Service, New Delhi
 14. Spot Films News Agency, New Delhi.
 15. UNI (Photo), New Delhi
- E. FOREIGN TV ORGANISATIONS**
1. American Broadcasting Company, New York.
 2. CBS News, New York
 3. European TV Service, Germany
 4. German Radio & TV
 5. German TV Network, Germany.
 6. Independent TV Network, London
 7. WTN, London
 8. Visnews, London.
- F. FOREIGN PHOTO AGENCIES/NEWSPAPERS**
1. Associated Press of America, New York
 2. Gamma Liaison Agency, New York.
 - 3 A.F. Paris.
 - 4 C.N.N. USA.
 5. N.H.K., Japan
 6. Neur Berliner, Berlin
 7. Information Agency, Novosti, Moscow.
 8. PAN-ASIA, Tokyo
 9. Reuters, London.
 10. Sipa Press, Paris
 11. Sygma, Paris.

[English]

Tribal Development Projects

7252. SHRI LAETA UMBREY : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Tribal Development Projects assisted by the International Agencies, State-wise,

(b) the amount of assistance provided by the International Agencies of these Projects;

(c) whether any project has been proposed in the tribal dominant States of North-Eastern Region;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) to (e). Information has been called for form the concerned States and will be laid on the Table of the House on its receipt.

Aviation Turbine Fuel

7253. DR. R. MALLU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of imported vis-a-vis indigenous Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) per kilolitre;

(b) whether the Government are planning to stop the import of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF);

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) its impact on airlines operating in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) The ceiling selling ex-storage point price of ATF is Rs. 9852.33/KL exclusive of Excise duties. The domestic Prices of petroleum products are not always comparable with the international prices.

(b) to (d). The import of ATF is permitted under special Import Licence. The review of Import Export Policy is an ongoing process.

Demand and Supply of Natural Gas

7254. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the production vis-a-vis demand of natural gas at present per day;

(b) whether there is a large unfulfilled demand for natural gas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to wipe out the gap between demand and supply of natural gas in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) The production of natural gas in the current year is estimated to be 62 MMSCMD. The current demand from units which have been allocated gas is around 75 MMSCMD.

(b) and (c). Apart from the allocations already made, the demand registered with GAIL amount to 260 MMSCMD.

(d) Steps taken to increase the supply of natural gas include the additional development of existing fields, development of new fields etc. The Government is also examining the feasibility of importing natural gas

Commission for Safai Karamcharis

7255. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state .

(a) whether the National Commission for Safai Karamchari has since been constituted,

(b) if so, the composition thereof;

(c) whether the Commission has been provided with office, staff and other facilities by the Government; and

(d) if not, the time by which all these facilities are likely to be provided to the Commission?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) and (b). The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis was constituted on 12th August, 1994 in pursuance of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Act, 1993 (64). The Commission comprises of the following members .

Shri Mangi Lal Arya	- Chairperson
Shri I.P.D. Salappa	- Vice Chairperson
Shri Vasuneorao Changre	- Member
Shri Mangal Ram Premi	- Member
Smt Maya Devi	- Member
Shri Ishwarbhai Patel	- Member
Dr Hanuman Prasad	- Member

(c) and (d). The Commission was provided temporary office accommodation out of the accommodation allotted to the Ministry of Welfare in R K Puram to enable the Commission to start functioning immediately after its constitution. The Ministry of Urban Development have allotted office accommodation to the Commission in Lok Nayak Bhavan. However, this is subject to the final approval by the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation. The Commission is expected to shift to Lok Nayak Bhavan shortly. A skeleton staff has also been provided to the Commission by Ministry from its own strength. The remaining staff is expected to be provided in the near future. The Commission has been provided transport facilities by hiring the services of taxi operators. Other facilities such as telephone, office equipment etc. have also been provided to the Commission.

Supply of Gas Imported from Oman and Iran

7256. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra have requested the Union Government about possible supply of natural gas proposed to be imported from Oman/Iran,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Maharashtra have also offered land free of cost for locating the shore terminals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government to the said proposal of the Government of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). The Government of Maharashtra have requested for allocation of 30 MMSCMD of gas out of the gas proposed to be imported from Oman

(c) to (e). The Government of Maharashtra have proposed the setting up of a new gas terminal at Usar and higher allocation of gas from the Western offshore to units in Maharashtra and have offered free land for the terminal. However, the gas projected to be available from the Western Offshore fields is fully allocated and it is not feasible to consider higher allocation at present. In so far as the Statewise distribution of imported gas is concerned, this will depend on the registered demand and the techno-economic feasibility of supply.

[Translation]

P & T Services in Ajmer

7257. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state .

(a) whether any representations have been received by the Government about post and telegraph services in Ajmer district of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b).

Department of Post : Yes, Sir. Representations were received about irregular delivery of mail in Adarsh Nagar, Old Octroi, Vigyan Nagar and Subhash Nagar areas of Ajmer Town, non-availability of Supervisors and discourteous behaviour of postal staff of Nasirabad Road Post Offices, Nasirabad in Ajmer District.

Department of Telecommunications :

One complaint about telephone services of Ajmer was received from Bhartiya Janata Party on 21.4.95. The representation was about providing new connections, rebate to subscribers for having telephone out of order for more than 7 days laying of underground cables, STD services of Kekri, poor services of 197, 198 and 199, cross connection of lines, congestion of STD lines and defects in exchange, delay in printing of new telephone directory and malpractice by staff.

(c) *Department of Post* : Necessary arrangements have been made for satisfactory mail delivery in the areas mentioned in (a) and (b) above. The other complaints were unfounded.

Department of Telecommunications :

- (i) In Ajmer, one E-10B exchange of 5000 lines was commissioned on 10.3.95. 2700 subscribers of electromechanical exchanges having STD facility were transferred to E-10B exchange.
- (ii) Target of new connection has been achieved in time,
- (iii) Rebate in rent is being given to subscribers automatically when telephone remains out of order for more than 7 days;
- (iv) In majority of the cases, cables are laid underground only. In Mansarovar Colony, few cables were laid overhead to provide new connections. The same will be replaced by U/G cables at the earliest.
- (v) In Open House session, all efforts are being made to invite representations of various groups;
- (vi) The STD services of Kekri are provided through Kekri-Malpura UHF system. It is working quite satisfactorily. Services of 197-198 and 199 are generally satisfactory. It is being monitored at higher level also.
- (vii) Regarding Cross connections and other such faults, corrective actions are being taken immediately whenever these are noticed. New Telephone Directory is being provided in Ajmer and shall incorporate the suggestions made in the representations. Overall services in Ajmer are -satisfactory;
- (viii) In case of any complaint regarding malpractice is received, action is taken as per departmental rules.

[English]

Casual Staff in NDMC

7258. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Ministry of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of casual staff in New Delhi Municipal Committee, category-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to fix permanent cadre for the casual staff of NDMC;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) The category-wise number of casual labour in NDMC is as under :

A	B	C	D
NII	NII	98	3572

(b) to (d) Casual labourers who have completed 750 days as on 31.3.1995 have been taken on regular muster-roll making them eligible to be considered for regular appointment against future vacancies.

Media Commission

7259. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA . Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up of a Media Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (c). No decision on this subject has been taken.

D.I.T. Policy

7260. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated a new policy called Develop-Invest-Transfer (D.I.T.) for development of oil fields;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) since when the said policy is in operation;

(d) whether a new thrust has been given to this policy in 1994-95; and

(e) if so, the details of foreign and Indian companies which have shown interest for investment under the said policy?

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

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

Vamsadhara Project

7261. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of components of Vamsadhara Project alongwith estimated cost thereof,

(b) the present stage of the Vamsadhara project Stage-I and Stage-II;

(c) the time by which the Vamsadhara project Stage-I is likely to be completed; and

(d) the time by which the work on Vamsadhara project Stage-II is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) :

(a) Vamsadhara Project Stage-I comprises of 467 metres long barrage across river Vamsadhara at Gotta and 105 Km long contour canal on the left bank alongwith its distribution system. Vamsadhara Stage-II project comprises of a barrage across river Vamsadhara at Neradi (58 km. upstream of Gotta), 6 km long flood bank on right side, 3.8 km. long masonry flood protection wall on left side, irrigation sluice on the right bank, provision for head sluice on the left side, 42 km long flood flow canal from the right flank of Neradi barrage to Hiramandalam Reservoir Hiramandalam Reservoir with a capacity of about 538 million cubic metre, 30 km long high level canal from Hiramandalam Reservoir, a link canal connecting Hiramandalam Reservoir and Gotta barrage and 58.825 km. long right bank canal from the link canal.

(b) Vamsadhara Stage-I Project was given investment clearance by the Planning Commission in February, 1972 for an estimated cost of Rs 8 77 crores. The latest estimated cost of the project is Rs 78.60 crores and an amount of Rs. 64.41 crores is anticipated to have been incurred upto March, 1995

(c) Vamsadhara Project Stage-I is scheduled for completion in VIII Plan.

(d) Advisory Committee in December, 1991 for an estimated cost of Rs. 275.74 crores subject to clearance of rehabilitation and resettlement plans by the Ministry of Welfare and Environment and Forests clearances by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The State Government is required to obtain these clearances

Indo-Oman Pipeline Project

7262. MAJ GEN. (RETD.)

BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI

SHRI RABI RAY .

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE

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

(a) whether the \$5-billion deep sea Indo-Oman Pipeline Project is facing any operational problems,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Oman has offered any alternative gas supply channel to India in lieu of the pipeline Project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the estimated expenditure on the proposed alternative project?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Do not arise

Long Distance Telephone Lines

7263 SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any discussion was held with Japan regarding offer for long distance telephone lines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) . (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Development of Command Area

7264. DR SAKSHIJI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount provided to Uttar Pradesh for the development of command areas; during the last three years,

(b) the targets of irrigation network in the command areas in Uttar Pradesh during the above period; and

(c) the achievements made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) .

(a) the expenditure incurred including Central assistance released to the Government of Uttar Pradesh for development of Command Areas during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in Lakhs)	
Year	Expenditure incurred
1992-93	3,300.14
1993-94	3,711.73
1994-95	4,589.26
	(Revised outlays)

(b) and (c). The targets and achievements of field channels for irrigation network in the command areas

in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years is as under :

(In Thousand Hectares)

	Field Chanis	
	Targets	Achievements
1992-93	268.00	90.16
1993-94	128.50	130.26
1994-95 (Anticipated)	129.00	129.00

LPG Import Facilities Project

7265 SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the LPG Import Facilities Project is likely to be completed at Mangalore in Karnataka,

(b) the total cost of the project alongwith the expenditure incurred upto March 31, 1995;

(c) the budgetary allocation for this project during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) The LPG Import facility at Bangalore in Karnataka is expected to be completed by September, 1996.

(b) The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 175.65 crores. As on 31.3.1995, an expenditure of Rs 54.60 crores has been incurred by Hindustran Petroleum Corporation Limited towards implementation of the project

(c) An amount of Rs. 70.00 crores has been allocated for the project during the year 1995-96

Sharing of Water

7266. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the approximate surplus water of Ravi-Beas rivers;

(b) the basis of allotment of water amongst the basin States;

(c) the total demand of water made by Rajasthan from Ravi-Beas rivers' water;

(d) the quantum of water being supplied to Rajasthan at present; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to release the full share of water to Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU)

(a) Surplus Ravi-Beas Waters assessed are 21.19 Billion cubic metres

(b) Surplus Ravi-Beas Waters are being shared by the basin States as per the agreement signed by Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan on 31.12.1981.

(c) and (d). Demands made by Rajasthan, its shares as per the 1981 Agreement and the deliveries made during the last 5 years are as under :

(Billion Cubic Metres)

Period	Demand	Share	Deliveries
21.5.90 to 20.5.91	11,285	8,462	10,543
21.5.91 to 20.5.92	11,927	7,946	10,002
21.5.92 to 20.5.93	10,367	3,82	9,108
21.5.93 to 20.5.94	12,208	7,021	7,299
21.5.94 to 20.5.95	12,011	9,119	10,619

(e) Does not arise

Conference of D.Ge of Police

7267. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY . Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Conference of the Directors-General of Police was convened by the National Human Rights Commission in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the recommendations/suggestions made at the Conference; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (c). A conference with some Directors General of Police and Inspectors General of Police was convened by the National Human Rights Commission on 2.5.95 to discuss about the human rights training programme for police personnel of various ranks. Inputs on human rights in police training syllabi in different police training institutions and academies were discussed. The Conference was convened with a view to work out a model human right training syllabus for police personnel of different ranks. Nine Director General of Police/ Inspector General of Police attended the Conference. Commission proposes to hold another meeting with the remaining Directors General of Police before finalising the human rights syllabus.

Seminar at Bangalore

7268. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken note of various conclusions and recommendations made at a

five day Asia-pacific nations seminar on resource mobilisation for the telecommunications sector, held at Bangalore recently;

(b) whether in one of their recommendations, the member countries of the region have been asked to adopt a stable, transparent and healthy policy and provide regulatory environment for the growth and sustained development of telecommunications in their respective countries; and

(c) if so, reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(b) and (c). The National Telecom Policy '94 of Government of India takes account of this recommendations

Krishna River Water Dispute

7269. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the conclusions arrived at by the Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka to settle the disputes on Krishna river water,

(b) whether the issue is pending with the Union Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) .

(a) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has objected to the construction of Hippargi Project, Upper Tunga Project and increasing the full reservoir level of Almati Dam whereas the Karnataka Government has not agreed to Telugu Ganga Project. These issues have to be mutually settled by these States.

(b) and (c) In the case of Telugu Ganga Project, the Chief Ministers of Krishna basin States have already held 3 meetings to settle the issue but have not reached an agreement. In the case of objection raised by Government of Andhra Pradesh for Karnataka Project, the Centre is of the view that water utilisation proposed under the 3 project is within the allocation made by the State Government of Karnataka out of its overall share under Krishna Water Disputes tribunal Award. However, planning of Upper Krishna Project State-II is such that it would give capability to Karnataka to utilise more than 173 thousand million cubic feet of water allocated by Government of Karnataka for this project out of its overall share of Krishna waters. The Government of Karnataka is required to obtain concurrence of Krishna basin States.

Funds for Collegee under Dandakaranya Project Area

7270 SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the funds were allotted for five colleges at Malkangiri, MV 79, Balenela, Umerkota and Tunudhini in the

Dandakaranya Project Area in Koraput district of Orissa before the Project was wound up;

(b) if so, whether funds were released for these five institutions;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) to (c). A total amount of Rs.120.00 lakhs was released to the State Government during 1988-89 as 'On account advance' for educational institutions including +2 colleges, towards maintenance and deficiency. Further amount was not released to the Govt. of Orissa for want of utilisation/audit certificates.

The sanction for the construction of +2 college buildings at Umerkets and Tunudihi was issued in September 1987 but no amount was released because the Project was not executed nor any expenditure was incurred by State Government during the validity of sanction till September 1990.

Damage to Telephone by Monsoon

7271. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether during monsoon season the telephone cable get damaged and functioning of telephones are disrupted as a result thereof,

(b) whether MTNL, had set up any Committee to analyse this phenomenon;

(c) if so, the details and findings thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to protect the telephone infrastructures from damage by rains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir Underground telephone cables at times get damaged due to digging operations, carried out by various agencies. Water enters in such cables causing service break down. Round the clock repair work is carried out to restore the faulty telephones in the shortest possible time.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) and (d). A Committee of senior officers of MTNL was constituted in 1993 to study the causes of cable break downs during monsoon and recommended preventive measures to reduce such breakdowns. Based on the recommendations of

the Committee steps have been taken to prevent such recurrence in future as under :

- (i) Protection of joints by half round RCC pipes/ bitumen.
- (ii) Patrolling of Cable routes.
- (iii) Flooding of Cable trenches prior to monsoon.
- (iv) Co-ordination with local authorities engaged in digging operations.

Pending Bills

7272. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the titles of State Bills pending with the Government for the assent of the President as on April 1, 1995;

(b) the original date of passage of the Bill by the State Legislature;

(c) the date of submission of the Bill to the Union Government; and

(d) the time by which these bills are likely to accorded President's assent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) A statement of Bills reserved by Governors of various States for consideration of the President and the date on which they were received in this Ministry is enclosed. The State Legislations call for examination by the concerned Departments/Ministries of the Government of India and consultations with the State Government wherever necessary. The concerned State Governments and the Central Ministries/Departments are reminded constantly to expedite their views in the matter. Discussions are also held where necessary, to expedite the clearance of the Bills.

STATEMENT

Position as on 1.4.1995

S.No	Date of Receipt	Name of the Bill
1	2	3
1.	29-05-86	The Madras Race Club (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertaking) Bill, 1986.
2	17-04-89	The Indian Electricity (Haryana Amendment) Bill, 1989.
3	09-08-89	The Assam Highways Bills, 1989.
4.	11-09-89	The Manipur Home Guards Bill, 1989.
5.	01-11-89	The Sikkim Alienation of Land (Regulation) Bill, 1989.
6.	01-11-89	The Sikkim Transfer of Land (Regulation) Bill, 1989.
7	20-11-89	The Andhra Pradesh Highways Bill, 1989.
8.	28-11-89	The Andhra Pradesh Industrial Workers (Representation Participation in Management and Relief) Bill, 1989.
9.	20-06-90	The Assam Land Grabbing (Prohibition) Bill, 1990.
10.	29-08-90	The Rajasthan Tax on Luxuries (In Hotel and Lodging Houses) Bill, 1990.
11	20-04-91	The Kerala Women's Commission Bill, 1991.
12.	08-07-91	The Tripura Forest (Regulation as to Removal of Timber) Bill, 1991.
13.	29-10-91	The Tamil Nadu Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling on Land) Amendment Bill, 1991.
14.	01-06-92	The Uttar Pradesh Prevention of Cow Slaughter (Amendment) Bill, 1992.

1	2	3
15.	15-09-92	The West Bengal Correctional Services Bill, 1992.
16.	29-10-92	The Limitation (West Bengal Amendment) Bill, 1992.
17.	07-12-92	The Rajasthan Flood Plain Zoning Bill, 1990.
18.	09-12-92	The Manipur Prevention of Malpractices at Public Examinations Bill, 1992.
19.	11-02-93	The Andhra Pradesh Prevention of Disfigurement of Open Places and Prohibition of Obscene and Objectionable Posters and Avertisements Bill, 1992.
20.	01-09-93	The Orissa Limitation of Expenditure on Marriage Bill, 1993.
21.	27-09-93	The West Bengal Government Land (Regulation of Transfer) Bill, 1993
22.	30-09-93	The West Bengal College Service Commission (Amendment) Bill, 1993
23.	13-10-93	The Payment of Gratuity (West Bengal Amendment) Bill, 1993.
24.	13-10-93	The Payment of Wages (West Bengal Amendment) Bill, 1993.
25.	31-01-94	The Tamil Nadu Land Encroachment (Amendment) Bill, 1993
26.	23-03-94	The Tamil Nadu Hindu Religions and Charitable Endowments (Second Amendment) Bill, 1994.
27.	26-04-94	The Andhra Pradesh Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 1993.
28.	23-05-94	The Punjab Minerals (Vesting of Rights) Bill, 1994
29.	16-06-94	The Tripura Land Revenue and Land Reforms (Sixth Amendment) Bill, 1994
30.	08-07-94	The Code of Criminal Procedure (West Bengal Amendment) Bill, 1994.
31.	08-07-94	The Tamil Nadu Compulsory Elementary Education Bill, 1994.
32.	11-07-94	The Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Third Amendment) Bill, 1994.
33.	25-07-94	The Howrah Municipal Corporation (Second Amendment) Bill, 1994.
34.	25-07-94	The Durgapur Municipal Corporation (Second Amendment) Bill, 1994.
35.	36-08-94	The Prevention of Corruption (West Bengal Amendment) Bill, 1994.
36.	26-09-94	The Indian Penal Code (Orissa Amendment) Bill, 1994.
37.	02-11-94	The Indian Electricity (West Bengal Amendment) Bill, 1994.
38.	02-11-94	The Electricity (Supply) (West Bengal Amendment) Bill, 1994.
39.	11-11-94	The Rajasthan Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) (Amendment) Bill, 1994.
40.	23-11-94	The West Bengal Government Premises (Tenancy Regulation) (Amendment) Bill, 1994.

1	2	3
41.	14-12-94	The Himachal Pradesh Aided Colleges (Security of Services of Employees) Bill, 1994.
42.	19-12-94	The Madras City Tenants Protection (Amendment) Bill, 1994.
43.	19-12-94	The Tamil Nadu Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling on Land) (Second Amendment) Bill, 1994.
44.	21-12-94	The Tamil Nadu Apartment Ownership Bill, 1994.
45.	03-01-95	The registration (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Bill, 1994.
46.	16-01-95	The Arunachal Pradesh Panchayat Raj Bill, 1994.
47.	25-01-95	The Talcher Thermal Power Station (Acquisition and Transfer) Bill, 1994.
48.	30-01-95	The Arunachal Pradesh Protection of Customary Laws and Social Practices Bill, 1994
49.	02-03-95	The Madhya Pradesh Sampathi Virupan Nivaran Vidheul, 1995.

Telephone Exchanges in Rural Areas

7273 DR. R MALLU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the number of rural telephone exchanges, State-wise,

(b) the number of electronic exchanges out of them; and

(c) the time by which the remaining exchanges are likely to be converted into electronic exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b). As given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) As per Eighth Plan objectives, all existing MAX-III and MAX-II (L.F.type) and other worn out electromechanical exchanges are planned to be replaced with electronic exchanges by March, 1997. Remaining electromechanical exchanges are planned to be replaced progressively on the expiry of their useful life.

STATEMENT

Statewise details of Rural Telephone Exchanges as on 31.03.1995.

S.No.	Circle/State	Number Rural Telephone Exchanges	Number of Electronic Exchanges
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1794	1235
2.	Assam	192	192

1	2	3	4
3.	Bihar	663	663
4.	Gujarat	1188	1188
5.	Haryana	578	578
6.	Himachal Pradesh	393	393
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	125	87
8.	Karnataka	1670	1670
9.	Kerala	596	541
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2363	2362
11.	Maharashtra & Goa	2022	1965
12.	North East		
	Arunachal Pradesh	50	50
	Manipur	10	10
	Meghalaya	26	26
	Mizoram	27	27
	Nagaland	22	22
	Tripura	39	39
13.	Orissa	581	581
14.	Punjab	632	623
15.	Rajasthan	1210	1210
16.	Tamil Nadu	1023	1009
17.	Uttar Pradesh	1359	1320
18.	West Bengal & Sikkim	374	374
Total		16937	16145

Oil from Iraq

7274 SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any tie-up with Iraq for oil supply, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). Crude oil import from Iraq was suspended from August 1990 due to embargo on trade with Iraq.

[Translation]

Pending Projects/Schemes

7275. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME Implementation be pleased to state

(a) the names of the projects/schemes pending with Planning Commission for investment clearance. State-wise; and

(b) The time by which the projects/schemes are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG) : (a) and (b) No project/scheme of the States is pending for action with the Planning Commission.

[English]

Oil Fields to foreign Companies

7276 PROF UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have drawn up a time table to handover developed gas fields and oil fields to some foreign companies in 1995-96,

(b) the details alongwith schedule of this transfer to foreign companies,

(c) whether any public announcement will be made before handing over such fields; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). To attract foreign capital and technology, Government have evolved a policy for inviting private companies to develop oil/gas fields under production sharing arrangements.

Requirement and Availability of Petroleum

7277. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had appointed any committee to go into the requirement, availability and production of petroleum products in the country;

(b) if so, whether the committee has submitted its report,

(c) if so, the main recommendations thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to implement the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (d). A 'Strategic Planning Group' on restructuring of the National Oil Industry, with members comprising top management from public and private sector and leading experts from academic and research institutes, has been formed. The report of the committee is awaited

Cellular Telephone

7278. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the terms and conditions on which cellular telephone licences have been given to private parties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) :

The licensees have been granted to Indian registered companies for a period of 10 years on a non-exclusive basis. The service has to start within one year of signing the licence agreement.

The licence fee payable to the licensees & Ceiling tariffs within which the services have to be provided are given in the enclosed statement-I & II.

STATEMENT

Payment of Licence Fees

1 The Licence fee payable by licensee for each service area shall be regulated as follows :-

LICENCE FEE FOR

Service Area	(Rupees in crores)		
	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year
Bombay	3	6	12
Delhi	2	4	8
Calcutta	1.5	3	6
Madras	1	2	4

4TH YEAR AND ONWARDS

@ Rs. 5 lakhs (Five Lakhs) per 100 (one hundred) subscribers or part thereof, subject to the minimum shown below .-

MINIMUM LICENCE FEE FOR

(Rs. in crores)

Service Area	Fourth to Sixth Year (for each year)	Seventh Year onwards (for each year)
Bombay	18	24
Delhi	12	16
Calcutta	9	12
Madras	6	8

2 On completion of three years from the date of commissioning provision of services, the Authority reserves the right to fix the share of the gross revenue from rental, air time charges for all other services provided from the cellular network of the Licensee, as additional licence fee

STATEMENT-II

CEILING TARIFF

- 1 Monthly rental for the Service - Rs. 156/- per month
- 2 Security Deposit - 3000/-
- 3 Installation Charges - 1200/-

4. CALL CHARGES :-

4 1 For calls originated by the Mobile subscriber :- Air time charges @ 10 seconds per unit call plus call charges as applicable for the fixed network for Local STD, and ISD calls. For mobile to mobile calls within the same Cellular Service area, only air time charges will be levied

4 2 For calls terminating on th Mobile subscriber - Air time charges @ 10 seconds per unit Call will be levied No charge will be levied to the mobile subscriber if the mobile subscriber terminates an incoming call within 5 seconds

5 NOTES ON TARIFF

- 5 1 Call duration will be on air time basis for mobile subscribers.
- 5.2 The air time unit call shall be charged at unit rate applicable to the highest of the DOT's fixed new work (Rs.1.40 per unit at present). The unit rate shall be applied as above for all call and there are no telescopic rates.
- 5 3 Call charges for the air time during peak hours shall be fixed at rates not exceeding double the rates prescribed in para 4 above. Peak hours shall be restricted upto a maximum of 4 hours per day.

5 4 Call charges for the air time during Sunday and 3 National holidays (15th August, 26 January & 2nd October) shall be half the rates prescribed in para 4 above.

5 5 For calls from mobile subscriber to the fixed net work, the licensee shall charge the mobile subscriber at the rates prescribed by the Authority according to time and day of the call. Unit rate for such calls shall be the highest slab rate of the DOT's fixed net work (Rs. 1.40 at present). The unit rate shall be applied at above for all calls and there are no telescopic rates

5 6 There are no free calls to be given in the air time

5 7 For calls originating from the fixed net work to mobile the mobile subscriber will be charged for the air time and DOT will not have to pay any access fee in the Cellular Operator. The air time charges will be collected by the Cellular Operator

5.8 For mobile to mobile both caller and called party will be charged.

6 All tariff increase shall be subject to prior approval of the Authority However, the lower rate of tariff for the service may be charged by the Licensee from the Mobile Subscribers with-out prior approval of Authority

7 The rental does not include the mobile set (Subscriber's terminal) The subscriber is free to buy the mobile set from any source.

Leakage of Raw Oil

7279. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA . Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether in the middle of June 1994, there was a leakage of raw oil from L.P.G. Project of ONGC at Uran near Bombay,

(b) if not, whether any enquiry was constituted in the matter;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken to avoid recurrence of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. There was an incident of a very minor seepage of oily water from the sump at ONGC'S LPG Plant Complex at Uran near Bombay. This was as a result of overflow of the sump due to stoppage of sump pump because of dip in the power supply.

(b) and (c). No enquiry committee was constituted

(d) Maharashtra State Electricity Board has agreed to provide a dedicated feeder for steady supply of power to ONGC's instalation at Uran.

Violation of FCRA

7280. SHRI SAANT KUMAR MANDAL . Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been invited to the news-item captioned, "Act comes in the way of a mission" appearing in 'The Times of India' dated April 23, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the nature of violations of Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) committed by the society involved; and

(d) the action taken/being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) to (c). The matter is subjudice

Autonomy to ONGC and Oil

7281. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL . Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether the R-Group, constituted to review the petroleum sector, has recommended granting virtual autonomy to Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd (OIL);

(b) if so, the salient features of the recommendations made by this Group regarding Exploration and Production (E&P); and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto, particularly to the grant of more autonomy for ONGC and OIL motted by the above Group?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) . (a) to (c). A 'Strategic Planning Group' on restructuring of the National Oil Industry, with members comprising top management from public and private sector and leading experts from academic and research institutes, has been formed. Its report is awaited.

[Translation]

Development of Backward Areas

7282. SHRI N.J. RATHVA Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted any scheme to the Union Government for the development of backward areas in the State;

(a) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have approved the said scheme; and

(d) if so, the funds earmarked by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG) : (a) Planning Commission has not received any specific scheme for approval from the Government of Gujarat for the development of backward areas in the State during 1994-95 other than various programmes under implementation in the State's Annual Plan.

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

[English]

Unskilled Workers in Coal Sector

7283 PROF UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of unskilled workers in the coal sector has been identified;

(b) if so, the approximate number of unskilled workers in the coal mining sector,

(c) whether the Government have any plan to make an effort to enhance their skill, and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to give this large labour force additional skills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) and (b) There are 3,74,635 unskilled workers in Coal India and its subsidiaries

(c) and (d) They are provided basic training, refresher training, on the job training and training in special categories at Mines Vocational Training Centres and at technical training centres to upgrade their skills as also to develop multi-skills and to prepare them for examinations for selection to different skilled categories of posts.

New Oil Refineries

7284 SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether the public sector oil companies have any proposals to set up new oil refineries in the Northern Region

(b) if so, the details of the refineries proposed to be set up indicating inter-alia the particulars of the oil company sponsoring the new refinery, expenditure involved, method of financing the projects, estimated production, locations and the period within which to be set up;

(c) whether the Government have also any plan for expansion of the Mathura Refinery; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). Govt. has already approved the setting up of a 6 MTPA capacity refinery at Panipat

by IOC at an estimated cost of Rs. 3868 Crores. The project is financed through internal resources of IOC and is scheduled to be completed by April, 1997. There is also a proposal to set up a grass-root refinery in Uttar Pradesh. The details of the proposal are being worked out.

(c) and (d). There is no proposal for expansion of Mathura Refinery at present

LPG Connections in Orissa

7285. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Orissa have requested the Union Government to give additional gas connections to the State,

(b) if so, whether the State Government have also requested to appoint Orissa State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd as LPG dealer; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) Requests for increase in allotment of LPG connections are received from time to time from various States including Orissa. Allotment of new gas connections is not made on State-wise basis. New LPG connections are released depending on total new customer enrolment at country level, slack available with distributors in the State, waiting lists and product availability. Efforts are constantly on to release connections to as many applicants and as early as possible. The main reason for lower enrolment and release is constraint of Product availability. For this purpose plans have been drawn for higher availability of LPG by increasing the capacity of existing production sources putting up new plants and augmenting the supply through imports.

(b) and (c). As per existing policy, State-owned Corporations can apply against the advertisement of Oil Marketing Companies under 'Open' category for allotment of LPG distributorships through Oil Selection Board for the State. Their candidature is considered by the concerned OSBs on merit along with other candidates. OSBs are empowered bodies having a Retired High Court Judge as Chairman and two other Members who are prominent persons, one of them belonging to SC/ST/other weaker sections of society. Government considers allotment of LPG distributorships direct to State Civil Supplies Corporations only at remote and low potential economically unviable hilly areas.

Complaints Received by NHRC

7286. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of complaints received by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) where para-military forces were involved; and

(b) the action taken by the NHRC/Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b). A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

(a) National Human Rights Commission Received 20 complaints against the para-military forces since its inception in October, 1993 till 31.3.1995.

(b) Details given below :-

S No.	Name of the Complainant	Para-military forces involved.	Action taken
1	2	3	4
1	Suo motu based on press reports.	B.S.F.	Report from the J&K State Govt has been received and the matter is being placed before the commission.
2	-do-	-do-	Report awaited from J&K State Government.
3	-do-	-do-	On receipt of the report from the State Govt. of J&K Commission directed to close the case.
4	Shri Gh. Ahmed Bhat	-do-	Report received from J&K State Government is being placed before the Commission.
5	Shri Noor Mohd.	-do-	Report from Home Secretary Government of J&K is awaited.
6	Shri Gh. Mohiuddin Hajam	-do-	Report awaited from J&K Government.
7	Shri Mohd. Muqbool Wani	-do-	-do-
8	Shri Moin-ud-din Malik	-do-	-do-
9	President, J&K Medical Employees Federation Unit.	-do-	-do-

1	2	3	4
10	Shri Abdul Hamid Qazi	-do-	-do-
11	Bar Association J&K High Court.	-do-	-do-
12	All Parties Sikh Action Committee, Jammu	C R P F	Report has been received from J&K and is being placed before the Commission.
13	Mrs. Harima Quassian	C.R.P.F.	-do-
14	Shri Ali Mohd. Bhat	B.S.F.	-do-
15	Shri Ghulam Mohd. Dav	-do-	-do-
16.	President, Anjaman Islamic Bhadewar	-do-	Report from J&K Government is awaited.
17	Workers of Thermal Station-II, Neyveli Lignite Corporation.	C.I.S.F.	Report from the Ministry of Coal is awaited
18	Manipur student's Association and Shri N. Sanajaoba	B.S.F.	Report from Government of Manipur is awaited
19	Mohd Rashi Ali	B.S.F.	Report from Government of Tripura is awaited
20.	Mohd. Mohlall Hossain	-do-	-do-

Unauthorised Sale of LPG Cylinders

7287. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a good number of domestic LPG cylinders are being illegally supplied by some LPG distributors to business establishments and unauthorised consumers in big cities and towns;

(b) if so, the number of such unauthorised sale of domestic LPG cylinders that have come to the notice of various public sector oil companies in four metropolitan cities during the last two years, company-wise;

(c) whether the Government have issued any guidelines to the public sector oil companies to conduct checks periodically to ensure that domestic LPG cylinders are not diverted for commercial use;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has proposal to phase out gradually supply of gas to non-domestic consumers at the present subsidised prices;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) Reports of domestic cylinders finding way for use by unauthorised customers including business establishments are sometimes received.

(b) Number of unauthorised sale of cylinders detected is as under :

Name of the Company	1993-94	1994-95
I.O.C.	720	46
B.P.C	-	-
H.P.C.	103	234

(c) and (d). Checks are continuously made to detect and counter diversion of domestic LPG cylinders. In established cases, suitable action under the marketing discipline guidelines, which have been made more stringent recently, as well as under the LPG Control Order, is taken. Oil Companies occasionally conduct raids on unauthorised users and confiscate the cylinders, etc., and initiate action under the LPG Control Order. Action such as imposition of fine, warning, suspension and even termination is taken against errant distributors.

(e) go (g). As progressively the parallel marketeers start supplying LPG to non-domestic consumers, Government oil companies can concentrate on domestic supplies

Demand for Creation of Ministry of Minority Affairs

7288. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA . Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great demand from various quarters for creation of a Ministry of Minority Affairs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) Except for a communication from the National Commission for Minorities saying that a separate Ministry for Minority Affairs be set up at the Centre, there have been no requests for creation of such a Ministry;

(b) There is a separate procedure outlined in the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992 for dealing with the recommendations of the Commission.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you later.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow one after the other to speak.

Shri Hari Kewal Prasad.

[Translation]

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD (Salempur) : Mr Speaker, Sir, our country is mainly agricultural and ceiling Act is applicable on farmers here. We have a tradition to get land from landlords and to distribute it among poor farmers, which is good, I think. Agriculturists suffer due to natural calamities, floods, draught or fire. Still he is under the Ceiling Act But there is no ceiling applicable in cities. Landlordism has not come to an end in areas of Municipal Committees, town areas, Municipal Corporations etc. The condition of poor of backward classes living there is pitiable When they start building of their house they have to please their landlord by making some payment and till then they cannot construct their house Their living condition is horrible I want to appeal to the Government of India through you that on the analogy of the ceiling Act being applied to agriculturists, land reforms, being carried out, and distribution of land to the eligible persons, all rich persons in the country should also be brought under the ceiling Act in Urban areas also, so that similar provision apply in cities and society based on equality may be created. Therefore, I demand that even after so many decades of independence a big chunk of population still lives in cities under slavish conditions and is dependent on others, while on the other hand, the other group of people lives there in luxuries The Government should put an end to this double standard prevailing in the country that is my demand from this Government.

[English]

SHRI Y. S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY (Cuddapah) : Sir, in Andhra Pradesh, in a district called Anantapur, a bye-election is taking place in Gorantala Assembly constituency. This Gorantala also holds the holy land of Puttaparthi from where the great Saint Sai Baba comes.

You are aware that Sai Baba being a holy Saint is spending hundreds of crores of rupees towards humanitarian projects there, whereas in the same place, unfortunately some people in the guise of Telugu Desam are creating such a law and order problem which is unimaginable and which has no parlance in the history.

Sir, unprecedented violence has started since 23rd of this Month, just on the eve of the polls. On the 23rd, in all the four Mandals, which comprise this Assembly

segment, three-four jeep loads of Telugu Desam youths had gone sporting AK-47 Rifles calling all the Congressmen by names and threatening them that if at all any Congressman goes into or near about a polling booth, he will be smashed. In fact one Minister by...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Name is not going on record.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : Sir, election is going to be held on the 27th. This should not go on record. Mr. Speaker, Sir, can you allow me after him? ...(Interruptions) This is not correct. This is for political reasons...(Interruptions) They are going to be defeated there, therefore, they are making allegations . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

Sir, they are moving with AK-47

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Afterwards...(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack) : Sir, We should also be allowed to speak as to what is happening in Orissa...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you later.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Well it is very difficult to take a very correct and legal decision in these matters because in the past also such matters were raised when I resisted, resisted, resisted and ultimately gave in. Now it has become impossible. Please have some limitations in saying things and put it in a proper perspective so that if there is anything which has to be looked into, may be looked into.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SURENDER REDDY (Warangal) : Sir, when we are saying something, we should be allowed to speak .(Interruptions) Please listen to us. They should have the patience to listen to us. Then they have the right to reply.

MR. SPEAKER : That is exactly what we are doing.

SHRI Y. S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY: Sir, on the 23rd, the day before yesterday, after coming to know that the Congress candidate and the ex-MLA had gone to a particular village for campaigning, one person in authority had gone with all his henchmen, with all weaponry including AK-47 and right in front of the polling booth, started harassing, threatening, calling them names and pelting all sorts of abuses at them. The Congress candidate and the ex-MLA had to literally run for their life and since day before yesterday night, they are not able to go back to their constituency. Yesterday,

* Not Recorded.

the District Congress Committee and all important people met together. The local officers said that they were ready to give protection. But when the Congressmen insisted and asked them, "Will our lives be saved if they go into the polling booths?" they had no reply. Sir, this is the situation

Sir, I will have to narrate a little background about this area. This particular area, in Anantapur District, comprises four Assembly segments. The names of these Assembly segments are : Gorantla, Penugunda, Dharamavaram and Tadipatri. In this area, for the last three or four months, a reign of terror had been let loose. Sir, can you imagine that in a civilised area, a land mine blast took place, in which eight Congressmen travelling in a jeep died.

They were all dead today. Not only that, Sir the houses of three important Congressmen have been blasted. Probably there is no parallel in the history of civil democracy. There is literally a fear psychosis in that area. Unfortunately even the Press is not able to report. The day before yesterday when this much of harassment of Congressmen took place, the Press report said that there was an intra-party rivalry within the Congressmen. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : This is what all the national papers have said so...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI Y. S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY : The Press report said that both the ex-MLA, Mr. Ravinder Reddy and the present Congress candidate Mr. Ramana Reddy had clashed, which resulted in the death of a man. It is not so. Even the Press is being forced to write all distorted versions. Sir, absolutely there is no Press democracy there.

Sir, in the just concluded local body elections, three months back, in these entire four Assembly segments, which comprise many Municipalities, many Panchayats, many Mandals, many Zila Parishad members, not a single person from any other party other than the Telugu Desam party was allowed to file his nomination. The Telugu Desam party forced others not to file their nominations. And that resulted in all these four Assembly segments returning Telugu Desam people in a so-called unanimous way. This is how democracy is functioning there.

Sir, it is not an election which is going to take place on 27th. On the eve of the election, a reign of terror has been let loose there. I am very sure that if this sort of a situation continues, there can not be a fair election there. And that was the reason why, the Congressmen had taken a decision to boycott the polls.

Sir, if the Central Government can come to our rescue and save us, then we feel that justice prevails in that area. The Central Government just cannot say that law and order is the responsibility of the State Government and they can shy away not responsible to

this issue. Sir, they will have to get a proper report and they will have to give a proper report on this to the Election Commission. We absolutely demand that this has ought to take place.

Sir, the Home Minister is here. he will have to reply...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let us hear from the other side also
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is exactly what I have been saying.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Even if this is true, what this House can do?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : That is exactly what we have to consider.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : What is that great constitutional authority doing in this matter?
...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : What is the role of the Election Commission? The Election Commission is only for Bihar!

[Translation]

The Election Commission is only for Bihar ! I have come from Punjab yesterday. Similar incident took place in Punjab also. People are scared there...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed him

[Translation]

Please go through the earlier speeches. You will come to know what is their role.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Faizabad) : Mr. Speaker, you are requested that discussion is being held in regard to Uttar Pradesh also...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU (Tenali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is unfortunate that very ugly allegations are being levelled against Telugu Desam Party and also against a responsible Minister in the Cabinet of Shri N.T. Rama Rao's Government in Andhra Pradesh. We condemn if there is any untoward incident that has taken place in the process of ensuring democracy. Shri N.T. Rama Rao and the Telugu Desam Party are there for safeguarding democracy and democratic values. He is the first man to keep up...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let him have his say please.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack) *(Interruptions)*
From this sequence, you can draw the conclusion.
Sincerely,

MR. SPEAKER: I have been drawing conclusions.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) :
Democracy is being throttled...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU (Tenali) :
Sir, our Party is more committed for the democratic values, particularly in election processes. If at all, there are any electoral abuses and any such distortions are there, that is only the culture of the Congress Party which they have been establishing over several years in Andhra Pradesh, particularly during all these days.

MR. SPEAKER : Let him have his say, please.

SHRI R ANBARASU (Madras Central) : It has got to be expunged from the record. He says that the electoral abuses is the culture of the Congress and we are establishing that in Andhra Pradesh.

MR. SPEAKER : I will look into it. Please be brief.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : I am very brief.

MR. SPEAKER : No, you are not brief.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Sir, two days ago, a gunman of an Ex-MLA has fired on the Telugu Desam worker who has died in the process. This is what the Congress party is doing. It is on the record. It has appeared in the newspapers. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI Y. S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY : It is absolutely wrong.

[Translation]

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar) : Please go to the people and see whether they care for them or not...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Sir, terrorism was actually bred and brought up only by the Congress people in Anantpur district. Election abuses were never there in the history of Telugu Desam. The Telugu Desam Party did not encourage terrorism or any election abuses at any time in Andhra Pradesh. There is no such thing on record. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, soon after the incident took place, has ordered a proper enquiry. If anybody is found guilty, however great he is, action will be taken against him. Shri N.T.Rama Rao is committed for democratic values in the State.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad) :
Mr. Speaker, Sir, by-elections are being held presently

in Andhra Pradesh, as also told by the Hon. member Shri Ray Chaudhuri. There, particularly in Anantpur district, very sensitive atmosphere is prevailing, which falls in Rayalsema region. Discussion was held about Rayalseema during the earlier session also. There many violent incidents are taking place. Two parties tried to exploit the same by politicising the situation. It was started by Congress first, and now the Telugu Desam party is doing the same thing. The reason is that the persons earlier in Congress have now joined Telugu Desam and have been its MLAs also. ...*(Interruptions)* If the Janata Dal people do not know about it, please try to understand.

Today there is reign of terror and people are scared. Violent incidents took place there and people of our party were killed. Whosoever creates violence there, can be a congressman only. I so believe. 18-20 people were killed during the bye-elections and local bodies elections held in the present conditions. Law and order situation is not satisfactory there. A judicial inquiry into the cases of murder which took place was asked for. Telugu Desam Chief Minister Shri N.T.Rama Rao ordered a judicial inquiry. The most unfortunate thing in the present circumstances there is what the people with criminal records were ministers in the previous Government. Even the existing Cabinet has 3-4 persons in Rayalseema have formed private armies and several groups and this has disturbed the law and order situation there. Election Commission should take responsibility on its shoulders for conducting elections properly there and to ensure maximum voting it should deploy forces, particularly Central forces to see that free and fair elections are held and law and order situation is not allowed to deteriorate ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker: Sir I was in Andhra Pradesh from 19th to 21st and yesterday only ...*(Interruptions)* yes, I came with you...*(Interruptions)* is it unparliamentary...*(Interruptions)* to say that I was in Andhra Pradesh from 19th to 21st is unparliamentary?

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI (Siddipet) : What is the reality, please see and then speak...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I said only this that I was in Andhra Pradesh from 19th to 21st. What is unparliamentary in it and they started interrupting me.

MR. SPEAKER : They are saying about whether you were there or not.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I can say it with certainty that security money of their party is being forfeited. Election Commission should make arrangements for conducting fair and free elections there. In spite of doing all that the security deposits of Congress party candidates are going to the forfeited. Second thing I want to say is...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : How can he discuss in this House about Panchayat, village Panchayat, Zila Parishad etc?...

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN Second thing I want to say is that in many states *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI Y. S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY (Cuddapah) : What does Shri Ram Vilas Paswan know about Andhra Pradesh? He must have just gone to Hyderabad and come back

MR. SPEAKER : Please discuss these things in the State Legislatures

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER . There is no point of order at this time

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI HARPAL PANWAR (Kairana) Sir, I rise on a point of order Whether this certificate of Security deposit has been given by the House, who has given him the authority? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN · Elections are being held in several states being ruled by different parties *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharsa) · You speak here and look to correspondents

MR. SPEAKER : It is all right

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN · Elections are being held in several states, some ruled by Congress, some by Janata Dal also Every party has its government in one or the other state and elections are being held I have come from Punjab yesterday. When I was in Giddarbaha I observed that there is only one candidate from the opposition side The entire machinery of the State Government is engaged there and ministers of Punjab Government are camping there *(Interruptions)* I am not speaking about Andhra Pradesh Why are you creating disturbances? Punjab people have an apprehension that votes will be cast there under the threat Police force People there are scared even now. The same story is having repeated in Orissa also *...(Interruptions)* If the Election Commission cannot conduct even ten bye-elections independently and in a fair and free manner, what can it do? I, therefore, demand that whether it is election in Punjab Andhra Pradesh or Orissa or Bihar or any other state, or it should be fair and free *...(Interruptions)* I said about Bihar also *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay-North) Fair and free elections are being conducted in Rajasthan.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Do not invite a discussion...

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN · Bye-elections are being held in Bihar too I am happy that no member of any party has made any allegation about Bihar that some irregularity is being committed there. These wrongdoings are being done in Congress ruled states Very serious things are likely to happen in Punjab and Orissa I, therefore, demand from election Commission that it should make arrangements for free and fair elections in Punjab and Orissa *...(Interruptions)* The Hon. Prime Minister had won Nandayal with a margin of 5 1/2 lakh votes. Whether independent elections held there? *(Interruptions)*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) Sir, this is objectionable He is talking about the Prime Minister's election These things should not go on record

[Translation]

They will start speaking whatever comes in their mind *(Interruptions)* what is said is correct, and all the rest is wrong *(Interruptions)* If you speak like that, we shall not tolerate *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER Please take your seats

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER . Well, I know very well that matters of this nature cannot be discussed. Even then, if the Members in their wisdom, want to discuss it, well the House is yours and you can use it in whatever fashion you like. But at least do it one after the other.

SRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack) . Sir, I want to speak

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is exactly what I said You have agreed. You please sit down now and you get up when I call your name.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, if it is restricted to election matters, how will you be able to draw a line? Once in the name of election if everything is being discussed how can it be stopped? Please draw a line.

MR. SPEAKER : Somnathji, I hundred per cent agree with you. You do not know what my agony is. And

yet I am helpless because if all want, I cannot do anything because the House is, after all, yours. You can use it in whatever fashion you like.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : What will happen then?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Sir, in all fairness, I plead that this is a very sensitive issue and it is going on with a political motive. This issue should not be politicised. I feel that this august House has a responsibility to keep democracy and the unity and integrity of the country intact...*(Interruptions)* The reports coming from Gorantla constituency are very alarming. There is total breakdown of law and order machinery there. The ordinary people cannot go out of their houses in safety. This is the agony of the people there. Even regarding press people, there are reports that terrorists are going to the houses of the press people and threatening their wives and children that if any reports come against them, they will be wiped out.
(Interruptions) So, I would request that if an all-Party delegation could go from this august House it would be good. The elections are to take place on the 27th of May and today is 25th and there are hardly two days left. This only way is to send an all-party delegation to that place to have an on-the-spot study and report back so that the guilty can be punished and we will save democracy of this country. This is a very serious issue...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, all the political parties have agreed to adhere to the model code of conduct. The Election Commission is to implement the model code of conduct wherever the elections are taking place, whether it is the general election or a bye-election.

SHRI A. CHARLES : Your party is also involved in. The charge is on you also... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : MR Charles, I am going to that. If anybody violates the model code of conduct, people will approach the Election Commission. The people in the case of Andhra Pradesh also, where if the model code of conduct has been violated, the parties who are fighting the election there can well go to the Election Commission.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am very happy to know this thing from you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack) : The point is, there is a bye-election taking place in Orissa also on the same date, the 27th of May where the Chief Minister of Orissa is contesting the bye-election from Begunia constituency. Fifteen Members of Parliament went to the Chief Election Commissioner and approached him and told him that 400 vehicles have been deployed by the

Chief Minister, in that constituency and anybody can see it ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Nayak, I will allow you to speak. Please sit down.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, thousands of people from different parts of the State, from different constituencies have been deployed to rig the booths there. We went and approached the Election Commission officials in Orissa and the Chief Election Commissioner here also. Money and material are being distributed openly in the dead of night. If Shri Santosh Mohan Dev, who went there as an observer, goes there now he will know it openly as to what is happening in Begunia constituency. There is no question of free and fair poll there. If there is a free and fair poll, I tell you Santoshda, that the Chief Minister of yours will be defeated by a margin of 20,000 votes.

Therefore, I demand that the Election Commission be allowed to conduct the elections there in the same way that they had conducted in Bihar and the same attitude should be adhered to in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh also. If there is any violence in Andhra Pradesh, the Chief Minister has already announced that a judicial enquiry will be there.

But, in Orissa, the Chief Minister should adhere to the model code of conduct in this bye-election...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, I demand that the Chief Minister should implement the model code of conduct and whatever is happening in this constituency in Orissa that should be looked into...*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : This is not going on record.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK (Phulbani) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very surprising that Mr. Jena could raise this issue of bye-election in Begunia today in the House. Till yesterday, he was silent and he did not raise it in the house. Sir, nothing of this sort, which Mr. Jena has said, had happened there.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I think you have not read the newspapers. If you want, I will show you the Press cuttings.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Let me have my say. You have got to listen to me.

Sir, I can firmly and confidently say in the House that in the last Assembly elections, when the Janata Dal was in power, they had misused the power, they had misused the power and spent a lot of money. Even forged ballot papers were found out in the ballot boxes during the counting.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: How much money have you spent here, in this constituency?

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : You have got to hear me.

* Not recorded.

Sir, if my statement is proved to be untrue, I will resign from this House. Let him say whether there had been forged ballot papers in the last Assembly elections or not. How could it happen? It had happened like that because of Mr. Biju Patnalk's rule. I am sure that nothing of that sort had happened in Begunia now ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : Sir, 48 hours before the results were announced, the then Chief Minister rang me up and said: "The Congress Party is getting eight seats only." He said that he was winning and the Congress Party is getting only eight seats That was his allegation. I am quoting the then Chief Minister. .. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : That is why you have increased the quota.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : I have defeated your people in your parliamentary constituency You are a hero here and you are a zero there I know it *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, in my parliamentary constituency, for your information, out of seven assembly constituencies we got three constituencies. In one constituency, we were defeated by a margin of only 50 votes and in another constituency, we were defeated by a margin of 200 votes. Mr. Sontosh Mohan Dev, I defeated your Chief Minister by a margin of two lakh votes. I defeated your Chief Minister's wife by another two lakh votes and this time also I will defeat your Chief Minister by another two lakh votes.

MR SPEAKER : Mr. Jena, please take your seat now.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I have defeated your Chief Minister twice.

MR SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER . I do know whether we understand the meaning of the statements that we are making on the floor of the House and if allegations are levelled from all sides, if anything suffers, it is the democratic system.

(Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER : Do you want to say something?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : Sir, I am responding to the Chair.

* Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : I am not insisting that you should make a statement. If you want to make a statement, you can make a statement.

(Interruptions)

SHRI Y. S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY : Sir, democracy has been raped there. The Minister of State for Home Affairs should respond to it...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Do not put the Minister also in an awkward position. He should know the facts. You ask him to get the facts first.

(Interruptions)

SHRI Y.S RAJASEKHAR REDDY : Sir, some sort of a response has got to come from the Minister ..*(Interruptions)*

MR SPEAKER : Let him understand first. Let him get the facts Please do not put him also in an awkward position.

(Interruptions)

12.39 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Y.S. Rajasekhar Reddy and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table)

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER Let him collect the information

(Interruptions)

12.40 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Ram Kripal Yadav and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

(Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.30 p.m.

12.40½ hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till thirty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.37 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Thirty Seven minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now papers to be laid on the Table.

14.37 1/2 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**Special order issued by President under the Governors (Emoluments, allowances and privileges) Act 1982.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI PM SAYEED) On Behalf of Shri S.B. Chavan, I beg to lay on the Table:- A copy of the special order(Hindi and English versions) issued by the President authorising Governor of Uttar Pradesh for additional expenses during the year, 1994-95 in respect of 'Electricity' and 'Improvement' of Schedule III to the Governors (Allowances and Privileges) Rules, 1987, under sub-section (3) of Section 12 of the Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Act, 1982

[Placed in library See No LT 7690/95]

Indian Wireless, Telegraphy Commercial radio operator's certificate proficiency and license to operate global maritime Distress and safety system Rules,1994.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) . On behalf of Shri Sukh Ram, I beg to lay on the Table -

A copy of the Indian Wireless, Telegraphy (Commercial radio operator's certificate proficiency and license to operate global Maritime Distress and safety system) Rules, 1994 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 42 in Gazette of India dated the 28th January, 1995 together with a corrigendum (In English version only) thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 163 dated the 1st April, 1995 under sub-section (5) of Section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1985

[Placed in library See No. LT 7691/95]

Notification under Delhi Municipal Corporation Act 1957

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : I beg to lay on the Table .

A Copy of the Notification No.F.22(11)/UD/94/12758 (Hindi and English versions) published in Delhi gazette dated the 2nd December, 1994 containing corrigendum to the Notification No.F.22(11)/UD/94/11422 dated the 24th October, 1994, issued under sub-section 2 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957.

[Placed in Library See No LT 7692/95]

14.38 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha .

"In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule(6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1995 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 17th May,1995 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

14.38 1/2 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE**Ninth Report**

SHRI SATYENDRA NATH BROHMO CHAUDHURY (Kokrajhar) : I beg to present the Ninth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Absence of Members from sittings of the House.

14.38 3/4 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS**Nineteenth Report**

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (Hapur): I beg to present the Nineteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Petitions ..(Interruptions)

14.39 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Y.S. Rajasekhar Reddy and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

(Interruptions)

14.40 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Y.S. Rajasekhar Reddy and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are all men of great patience. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have been hearing the hon. Members for the last two hours. I think it started immediately after the Question Hour. It was raised from all sides of the House. I heard the hon. Member from the BJP. I share his sentiments. He said that things are not very proper in Andhra Pradesh. If I am right, he mentioned about Andhra Pradesh. The other Members, even some Members from the Treasury side, have also made their complaints. If the House is feeling so much agitated, if your goodself desires, we can get a report from the State as to what has been done, why this has been done, about the Complaints made by the hon. Members. There is no harm in getting a report. So, if the Chair desires, from the Government side, we can ask what were the cases about which the hon. Members have made their complaints, about which they are in an agitated mood. We can get the facts about it
(Interruptions)

SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY (Cuddapah) Sir, it is a question of a ...* Minister in the Ministry of Andhra Pradesh.
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seats
(Interruptions)

SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY . Sir, through you, I am requesting the hon. Minister to get the facts about this incident... (Interruptions). Also, the bye-election for Gorantla Assembly Constituency in Andhra Pradesh cannot go on in a peaceful manner under the Circumstances. Is there any fear psychosis or not? On these three aspects, please see that a report is obtained from the State... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR (Gaya). Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir this is a matter concerning one Minister, without investigating the Case...* It has been said, Therefore, it should be expunged from the records.

[English]

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU (Tenali) : Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that the words* (Expunged as ordered by the Chair) Minister in the Ministry of Andhra Pradesh" should be expunged

SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY Why?
... (Interruptions)

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU . Yes. What is the terrorism involved there?.. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The chair will examine if there are any unnecessary uncalled for, unwarranted, unparliamentary words and if there are any, such words shall be expunged.

(Interruptions)

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: The law and order is very much in tact in the State. Proper Inquiry will be held by the State itself. There is no question of making allegation that there is a ..* Minister in the Ministry of Andhra Pradesh... (Interruptions) Therefore, I request that these words should be expunged from the record... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will examine all these things. I do not allow you to be hurt

Now, we take up Matters under Rule 377.

14.43 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) Need to set up more LPG outlets in Bilaspur District, Madhya Pradesh.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAWANI LAL VERMA (Janjgir) . Mr Speaker, in my Lok Sabha Constituency of Janjgir, district Bilaspur in Madhya Pradesh having population of about 20 lakhs and several industrial towns-Korba, Champa, Nalla, Janjgir etc. The number of gas agencies is not adequate. There is only one agency working in Korba city having population of 2 lakhs. Due to population increase one more agency is badly needed. Janjgir town has population of 30 thousands and Champa town has the population of 35 thousand and both are industrial towns. Each of the two towns fulfill the criteria for opening gas agencies.

A demand is being made by the people there for a long time and the State Government of Madhya Pradesh has also submitted a proposal for setting up of L.P Gas agencies in those places.

I, therefore, demand from the Central Government that L.P. Gas agency should immediately be sanctioned for Korba, Janjgir, Nalla and Champa towns in Bilaspur district of Madhya Pradesh.

- (ii) Need to Provide a manned Railway Crossing near Padase Railway Station on Bhusawal-Surat section of Western Railway

[English]

SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE (Dhule): Mr, Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is an urgent need to construct a gate over the Railway line near Padase Railway Station on Bhusawal-Surat Section of Western Railway to connect Nardana and Amalner via Betawad MDR No.28 (Major

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

District Road) which passes through both Dhule and Jalgaon districts in Maharashtra

In the absence of a gate, the vehicles have to pass under a Railway bridge No 294 which is very narrow, only 10 feet wide. So, traffic is blocked or totally jammed for hours together specially during rainy season and there is no alternative way. Vehicles are not allowed to pass under the bridge. So the Government of Maharashtra have not constructed about 1/2 km Pucca road sides of the Railway line.

Unless the gate is constructed it is not possible to connect the roads approaching the Railway line from both sides.

I therefore, request the Central Government to construct a Railway gate near Padase Railway Station at the earliest.

- (iii) **Need to maintain status-quo in respect of release of water from Indra Gandhi Canal, Rajasthan.**

[Translation]

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir Water allowance in the Indira Gandhi Canal project has been decreased from 5.23 cusec to 3.00 cusec. It will cause substantial reduction in production in that area.

Reduction in water allowance has been said as Sem Water logging. But in no branch or minor of any canal in this area is totally affected by Sem Water logging. Only a small portion of branch or minor is affected by Sem Water logging. Only a small portion of branch or minor is affected by Sem Water logging. Reduction in Water allowance is not at all justified as it will adversely affect production of crops in the area.

Good crop and production of paddy in Kharif has been achieved in the affected area during the last three four years. Reduction in water allowance will make paddy cultivation impossible and the fields will remain uncultivated in which quick growing bushes will come out and make the land barren. It will be very difficult to reclaim such fields for production of crops. The problem of Water logged area can be solved by use of modern equipments or by drainage system or some other alternative.

On the pretext of water logging, water is being given in second stage instead of first stage, which is highly detrimental to the farmers of the area and totally unjustified. The first stage land is Dumat, while second stage land is mostly arid. Its land yields good crops. Therefore, water allowance reduction is not justified. In spite of all this the water allowance is reduced. It will invite a big public agitation against such a wrong and unjustified step.

I, therefore appeal to Central Government to maintain status quo of water allowance of 5.23 cusec in Indira Gandhi Canal project.

- (iv) **Need to release adequate funds for widening the National Highway No. 43 at Nowrangpur, Orissa.**

[English]

SHRI K PRADHANI (Nowrangpur) Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir I wish to raise the following matter under Rule 377.

The National Highway 43 runs through Nowrangpur parliamentary constituency from Raipur to Andhra Pradesh. The road transport is the only convenient transport available to the three districts of Orissa, namely, Nowrangpur, Koraput and Malkangiri as it touches the nearest railway line at Vijayanagaram. It is much shorter time. The road is narrow but slowly it is being widened on the hills. The road between Eastern Ghat and Salur is much lower in height equivalent to the paddy fields and as a result of that during rainy season the flood water always logs on the road and damages it regularly, causing much hardship to the motor vehicles passing on this road.

I therefore, urge upon the Government of India to release sufficient money for widening the road on the hills and to raise the level of the road from the hills to Salur town as early as possible to enable the vehicles to pass on this road without any trouble in shorter time and prevent damage of the road during rainy season.

- (v) **Need to celebrate 200th Anniversary of Ahilyabai throughout the country and set up National Awards in her memory.**

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir Dev Ahilya Bai Holkar is a great honorific heritage of our country. She ruled over her state very efficiently 200 years ago and established a mark in the whole country about her governance and administration. She while maintaining integrity, sovereignty of the country and cultural heritage renovated several temples of worship. She erected ghats at rivers and travellers rest houses (Dharam Shalas) at several places. She performed this noble work at pilgrimage Centres in all the corners of the country in a systematic manner. She was our able statesman, efficient administrator and a great environmentalist who looked after food and life of birds and animals including fish and made satisfactory arrangements therefor. Such a great and noble lady died in 1795 on Shravan Badi Chaturdashi. Her 200th death anniversary falls during the current year. She became mother for the people due to her status as a queen. The whole country should

remember that venerable and worshipable lady. Keeping this idea in mind her 200th death anniversary should be celebrated on national level.

For the purpose, a national committee should be appointed by the Government and it should also set up national awards in the name of great Ahilya Bai, to be given to such great ladies of the nation, who contributed a lot in any of the four fields such as politics, administration, Service of humanity, preservation of Dharama (Righteousness), which had been the four main and sacred pillars of the life of Ahilya Bai. Similarly postal stamp should be issued in her memory and serial on her wonderful and pure life be broadcast on television network.

- (vi) Need to restore central aid given for development of scheduled castes to the Government of Rajasthan and also to allow its use for providing drinking water etc. in scheduled castes dominated villages.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, an amount of Rs. 18 crores was used to be allocated every year by Central Government for the development of Scheduled Castes to Rajasthan State Government but this year this amount has been reduced to Rs. 8 crores only, out of which only Rs. 2 crores have been given. For the remaining Rs. 6 crores, a condition has been laid that the amount will not be allowed to be spent on the schemes of drinking water, electricity and road development in the villages inhabited by scheduled castes. Whereas emphasis is being given to the works of development in the villages inhabited by scheduled castes in other states.

Therefore, Central Government, is requested to remove the restriction put on the use of money by State Government of Rajasthan and the full amount of Rs. 18 crore be given to the State Government on as was given earlier and that amount needs to be further increased to at least Rs. 25 crores.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I have a point of order. Earlier the Central Government used to reply to the issues raised through Rule 377 within one or two weeks, but that practice has been put to an end. I want to urge to the Government that reply should be given to the members in regard to the matters raised under rule 377 as was the practice earlier.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I have raised such an important matter under Rule 377. If the Government does not reply to the matters raised here, what is the use of our being members of Parliament? Shri Rajesh Pilot, Minister of State in the Ministry of Home affairs is sitting here and the Minister for rural Development is also

present. If they choose to remain silent on such an important issue, what is the use of our raising issues of Public Importance here ?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Girdhari Lalji, Government will respond to it.

- (vii) Need to develop an Airport at Muzaffarpur, Bihar.

[Translation]

SHRI MANJAY LAL (Samastipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir land of northern Bihar is very fertile. Many small and big rivers flow there. Rainfall is also sufficient. But northern Bihar is a victim of floods and droughts. Fruits, vegetables, flowers grow in plenty there. If the Central Government develops Muzaffarpur aerodrome properly and make arrangements for export of fruits, vegetables, flowers etc. direct to Arabian countries from there then the poverty, unemployment and backwardness of northern Bihar can be removed thereby and the regional imbalance will not also remain

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to properly develop Muzaffarpur aerodrome and make arrangements for export of fruits, vegetables, flowers etc. from northern Bihar to Arabian countries directly.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is also another subject under Rule 377.

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): Whatever happened about Prof. Rawat's suggestion, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister concerned to this. Mr. Rajesh Pilot assured that hereafter the Government will respond to the suggestions made in rule 377. You also said that will be done, but whether it has come in the record.....

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I checked up with my colleague about what is happening with the question relating to Rural development. He said that we are answering all those issues which are raised in Matters under Rule 377...(Interruptions).

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Deputy Speaker, we do not get replies to the matters raised by us here under Rule 377, which we should get.

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: I found that the spirit behind the statement was very very sincere. I checked it up with my colleague. I asked him, "Is this happening?" He said, "No, we are replying all matters raised under Rule 377. This is what I was talking to him...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He is assuring us. He is giving the assurance.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: I assure you one thing that I will check up with the concerned Minister and also with the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. My colleague is here. But such issues must be replied back to the hon. Members so that he can go and tell his area people what steps have been taken.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Deputy Speaker, we have not received replies to such matters during the last one year...*(Interruptions)*

ONE HON. MEMBER : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I have to make one request that a ruling should be given by the chair that we get replies to such matters from Government.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Government itself has come forward to respect to your request. Therefore, there is no need of any direction from me?

SHRI RAM KAPSE : I really thank the Deputy-Speaker and the hon. Minister, Shri Rajesh Pilot. It is our fortune that even the Parliamentary Affairs Minister is present. So, we would like that this assurance is followed by all the Ministers and that will be very helpful to the people at large.

(viii) Need to Check rise in price of News-Print

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarhi) Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a grave crisis has overtaken the newspaper industry due to about 50% increase effected in the prices of news-print during the past six-seven months. Importance and role of newspapers has increased enormously in the changing political scenario than before. But due to abnormal increase in the prices of newsprint, starting of new newspapers is impossible, even the existing newspapers find it difficult to sustain and they are being closed gradually one by one. The newspapers of Indian languages are worst sufferers as a result thereof. It is most unfortunate for the democracy in the country. Not only news-print, prices of other kinds of paper are also increasing enormously as a result of which books, note books, exercise books etc. are also becoming costlier. Education is also getting costlier as a result thereof. The Government should pay adequate attention towards this problem and suitably rectify the situation.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to put a ban on the rise in the prices of news-print.

14.56 hrs.

TRADE MARKS BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE "MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : I beg to move:*

"That the Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to trade marks, to provide for registration and better protection of trade marks for goods and services and for the prevention of the use of fraudulent marks, be taken into consideration."

That the Trade Marks Bill, 1993 seeks to amend the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958. The need has arisen to amend the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act because of developments in trading and commercial practices in India and abroad. There is also a need to encourage investment source and transfer of technology apart from the need for simplification and harmonisation of trade marks management system and to give effect to important judicial decisions. The most significant amendments proposed in the Bill are provision for registration of trade mark for services, provision of collective marks and establishment of Appellate Boards for speedy disposal of appeals and ratification applications. The Bill which was introduced in the Lok Sabha in April, 1993 was referred to Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry. The Committee presented its Report on the Bill making suggestions for amendments in certain sections. The Government have agreed with the suggestions of the Committee and had accepted the amendments. I will be moving the Motion for carrying out these amendments in the Bill.

Sir, with your permission, I now ask for leave of this august House to take the Bill into consideration.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved:

"That the Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to trade marks, to provide for registration and better protection of trade marks for goods and services and for the prevention of the use of fraudulent marks be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now the time allotted to the subject is three hours and the time allotted to each political party is like this.

I request all hon Members to kindly note it so that we should not face the music which we had faced yesterday

Congress	- 1 hr 27 minutes
B.J.P	- 37 minutes

* Moved with the recommendation of the President

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Only 37 minutes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You can put that word 'only', of course.

15.00 hrs.

CPI (M) eleven minutes, Janata Dal seven minutes, CPI four minutes, Samata Party four minutes, AIADMK four minutes, Janata Dal (A) three minutes, Telugu Desam two minutes, JMM two minutes, all other parties put together six minutes. The initiation of the debate and the Minister's reply, all these things are included within these three hours. It cannot be bifurcated.

Hon. Members can send slips duly signed by the recognised Whips of the political parties. May I request Shri Bhagwan Shanker Rawat to initiate the debate?

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : Sir, the Trade Mark Bill was introduced in 1993 but it could come up for discussion in the Lok Sabha today only. There is vast difference between the trade situation and policy of the Government of India at that time and as prevalent today. I feel that despite being a good Bill it will not be able to meet all the requirements which Government has in mind. It is because of this, that the Government also does not want to update the whole matter. That is why, the hon. Minister moved a number of amendments to the Bill today, although these amendments could have come at the time of its introduction thereafter. These provisions could be made at the time of its consideration by the Standing Committee and Joint Parliamentary Committee. I adversely comment upon the policy of indifference of the Government on such an important issue and also express my dissatisfaction over it.

The Government, has accepted only one out of several recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee. Article 226 of the Constitution provides that every High Court has the power, throughout the territories in relation to which it exercises jurisdiction, to issue writs. The Government says that because of this provision, there is no need of any new provision.

But the Parliamentary Committee opined that it should not be made a lawyer's paradise and advised to have such a provision under which the legal proceedings will not be costly and time consuming. I congratulate the Government for realising its importance. There is a saying in Urdu that it is better late than never... (Interruptions) However, I have reservation over one point that Joint Parliamentary Committee, which consisted of Members of both the Houses and had proportional representation of parties, did a great exercise, conducted 18-19 meetings, visited Bombay and even recorded evidences of many people, but, unfortunately, the suggestions given by that

Parliamentary Committee have not been accepted by the Government.

I would like to draw attention to Section 19. It was proposed to amend this Section by inserting Section 19 (a) to provide protection to the interests of services, artisans, literateurs, professionals and artists etc. But these suggestions of the Parliamentary Committee have not been accepted. I feel, the Government should give due weightage to what the Joint Committee of Parliament recommends unanimously and seriously look into the recommendations with a view to accept them. My grouse is that whereas interests of big persons have been protected but the interests of artists, literateurs etc. have been overlooked and by not accepting the recommendations made by the Parliamentary Committee in regard thereto.

Administration of rights of owners by Copyrights Society has not been incorporated therein. 'Copy rights Society to file a statement of fees charged on royalties' and 'Payment of remuneration by copyrights society' have also not been included therein. Many recommendations of great significance like resale share right in original copies in Section of new section 53 (a) have also not been included. Therefore, I would like to say that it would have been better if the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee were examined seriously by the Government. The need of this Bill arose because the old Bill had become obsolete and that could not meet the present day requirements. Section 38A deals with intransferable rights. It should not be there, as has been continuing till today, that teachers, professors, intellectuals write the books and the publisher purchase all their rights by paying a small amount and enjoy the royalty therefrom throughout his life. That man who by using his intellectual excellence creates some literary work or conducts scientific research or makes some piece of art or composes some music or produces some other art creation, should not be allowed to suffer on account of his poverty. Under this Section, there is a need to provide them protection. But protection has not properly been provided in this Bill. Whereas, the Committee had recommended inclusion of such a provision. I know that the evidences of the intellectuals, including professors, advocates, Artisans, literary persons, film song composers or singers, dramatis or drama artists, music instrument players or any other type of artists or creators as well as writers and journalists were recorded. In the evidences recorded by us, it was emphatically told by the film world artists that they were lured by moneyed people for a very small amount due to their helplessness and now they were unable to make full use of their art.

Secondly, I would like to say that this provision is a must. But, there are two shortcomings therein one is about registration of those trade marks which are not registered so far. If a trade mark has been continuing for a long time, say 20 or 40 years and is known to all

that it belongs to such and such company, there is no provision in this Bill to restrict and prevent any other person to fraudulently get it registered in his name. In a poor country like India, which has majority of uneducated people, this problem is very common. There are a large number of Ayurvedic medicines including herbs and neem, which are not registered but medicines are prepared by using them. After medicines are produced, no trade mark is given to them. For those people who are engaged in traditional production, there is no provision in the Bill for protecting their interests. I would like to invite Government's attention to this problem. This issue has also been discussed in the Standing Committee meeting. Perhaps, it escaped the Government's attention. The people engaged in manufacture of traditional items should get protection.

The third point is globalisation. The aims and objectives of the Bill, as stated by the Hon. Minister, are very accurate. But, when we hear about globalisation of trade, we become nervous. I have got the figures to establish that these foreign companies would get the trade marks of their products as well as our products registered in their names and thus, would render us as foreigners in our own country. For example, one Ribok Company has entered into a collaboration with Phoenix Shoe Company. Now Phoenix has become extinct and Ribok is flourishing. Now Ribok shoes will be sold by that Indian company which was once the leading shoe company in India.

When, I was young, Bata Company was called the king of Indian industry. Then, Tata, Bata and Birla were three top capitalists here. Now Bata has also entered into a pact, under globalisation of trade, with ADIDAS. As a result thereof, Bata has also been reduced to a seller of their shoes. I, therefore, strongly urge upon the Government to provide protection to indigenous companies and industries in the matter of registration of brand names. It has also been recommended by both the Committees of Parliament in their reports but the Government has failed to appreciate the necessity for making such a provision.

I have got the information that Suzuki Company of Japan, which has collaboration with Maruti Ltd, will launch its new product to be manufactured in India in the brand name of Suzuki and Maruti's name will be deleted therefrom. What will be our position then? We shall be compelled to provide them cheap labour only, which is nothing more than the job of a sub-contractor. But we will not be able to become their partners. The partnership will be there till Maruti's name is clubbed with Suzuki. When a car of Suzuki manufactured in collaboration with Indian Company will be exported, it will carry the name of that Indian Company. Then we can have a feeling of satisfaction that we are partners. In the Trade Marks Acts, there is a provision that foreign companies can get their names registered here. There is no provision to provide protection to Indian

Companies. In this way, these companies will be left with the job of providing labourers to foreign companies.

In Section 33, it is provided that even if an objection is not filed within five years period by the person earlier registered, against a trade mark registered later on the restriction will continue. I would like to say that if due to ignorance of the earlier registered person, the theft of trade mark is detected after five years, then in such a case there should not be any time bar or limitation.

The Government should make a strict provisions to provide protection in regard to transferable rights in the interest of artists, literary persons, intellectuals, services, artisans etc. as has been recommended by the committee. It would be better if two recommendations of the Standing Committee are included by the hon. Minister.

The Committee in its Eighth report has stated that in the trade mark Bill, there should not be any derogatory and obscene material. However, no such provision has been made in the Bill. No such thing should be there which may hurt the religious feelings of a community or a class of people. Had these recommendations of the Standing Committee been accepted by the Government, it would have been better.

The recommendations of the committee, inter-alia, stated:

"Some members of the committee have expressed the desire that limitation must be imposed in regard to assignment and unregistered trade marks should not be allowed for assignment. Members also opined that assignment certificate should be issued for the validity period of the assignment instead of Registrar's approval".

But this provision has not been made. Strict provisions will have to be made to encourage investment flow and transfer of technology without destroying India's talent. A large number of people in India are educated unemployed. Those unemployed persons should get employment. Further, their talent should not go waste, there should be no brain drain and foreign companies should not dominate here. It is, therefore, necessary that we should pay proper attention towards it.

Global trade is also being talked about nowadays. India's industrial activities and trade should not get crushed on account of the dominance of multi-national companies. It is essential to pay proper attention to it. Concern and anguish has been expressed all around in this regard.

When the Bill was before the committee, GATT was not signed. Had GATT been signed before the Bill came up for consideration of the committee, it was possible that more suggestions and amendments to the Bill would have been made by the Committee. I, therefore, invite your attention to the situations which arose thereafter

and caution that if such a provision is not made a great harm will be caused to our country.

With these words, I finish my speech. While supporting this Bill, I would once again invite attention to the points raised by me. I hope the hon. Minister will keep these points in mind while replying to the debate and ensure that interests of our country and people are safeguarded and trade and industry in the country flourish.

[English]

PROF SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN (Mukundapuram): Sir, I rise to support the Trade Marks Bill because it is to amend and consolidate the law relating to trade marks, to provide for registration, better protection of trade marks for goods and services and for the prevention of the rise of fraudulent marks, as stated by the hon. Minister on the floor of the House.

Even Though '13' is not considered as a lucky number, the 13 chapters of this Trade Marks Bill are dealing with all the possible matters concerned with this particular Bill. All the amendments are for the well being of our nation. Take for example, the amendment for sub-section (2) in section 20 (1) of the Companies Act, 1956. The said sub-section says

"without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, a name which is identical with, or too nearly resembles, the name by which a company in existence has been previously registered, may be deemed to be undesirable by the Central Government within the meaning of sub-section (1)"

And the amendment to that sub-section says

"without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, a name which is identical with, or too nearly resembles, - (i) the name by which a company in existence has been previously registered, or (ii) a registered trade mark which is subject of an application for registration, of any other person under the Trade Marks Act, 1993, may be deemed to be undesirable by the Central Government within the meaning of sub-section (1)."

That means, "a registered trade mark which is subject of an application for registration of any other person under the Trade Marks Act, 1993" is added to sub-section (2) in Section 20 (1) of the Companies Act, 1956.

Take the second amendment for sub-section (1) in Section 22, which says

"If through inadvertence or otherwise, a company on its first registration or on its registration by a new name, is registered by a name which, in the opinion

of the Central Government, is identical with, or too nearly resembles, the name by which a company in existence has been previously registered, whether under this Act or any previous Companies Law, the first-mentioned company -"

Sir, this point is being amended as:

"If Through inadvertence or otherwise, a company on its first registration, or on its registration by a new name, is registered by a name which, -(1) in the opinion of the Central Government is identical with, or too nearly resembles, the name by which a company in existence has been previously registered, whether under this Act or any previous Companies Law, the first mentioned company, or (ii) on an application by a registered proprietor of a trade mark, is in the opinion of the Central Government identical with, or too nearly resembles, a registered trade mark of such proprietor under the Trade Marks Act, 1993, such company" Provided that no application under clause (ii) made by a registered proprietor of a trade mark after five years of coming to notice of registration of the company shall be considered by the Central Government

That means in this amendment too, only a portion is actually added which clarifies that:

"on a application by a registered proprietor of a trade mark, is in the opinion of the Central Government identical with, or too nearly resembles, a registered trade mark of such proprietor under the Trade Marks Act, 1993, such company - Provided that no application under clause (ii) made by a registered proprietor of a trade mark after five years of coming to the notice of the registration of the company shall be considered by the Government."

Sir, in my opinion, these two amendments - I had taken them as examples - are directly helping the young aspirants of our company and paving the way to achieve their goals.

So, let me congratulate the Ministry for introducing a new Bill with these amendments to the old Act.

Since per annum, an additional 10,000 applications are expected, it is a must that to facilitate the applicants in a proper way, Trade Marks Registry should be strengthened. An additional Rs. 12.3 lakh for recurring expenditure and Rs. 2 lakh for non-recurring expenditure is nothing when one considers the long pending queue of the new applicants and the volume of workload borne by the existing Department. Also, Rs. 15.5 lakhs and Rs. 4 lakh as recurring and non-

recurring expenditures respectively for the composition of the Appellate Board should be taken into consideration, considering the fact that the Trade Marks Appellate Board could effectively handle the problems of appeals made by the desperate applicants who feel that their genuine request in somehow or the other denied by the registrar.

So, my conclusion is that the financial memorandum accompanying this Bill is also justifiable, taking into account the benefits that the Indian citizens are getting by a meagre amount spent by the Government of India.

Sir, I had gone through clauses 1-160 of the Trade Marks Bill. Relevant changes are made throughout, only for the betterment of those who seek new trade marks. It should be noted that a trade mark reflects reputation of a particular product. So, in order to satisfy the expectation of a producer, it is better to have a new Bill instead of making a number of modifications and amendments to the existing Act which is followed for more than 30 years so far. We have consider the increasing globalisation of trade also. As far as I could understand the new Bill, when it covers the clauses for registration of any mark as a trade mark, is very distinctive. In no way does it create any confusion. Moreover, it does not hurt the religious susceptibilities of any class or section of our people.

The area 'Services' which was not covered so far in the existing legislations, is now incorporated in this Bill. When we introduce 'Services', it means services related to so many fields such as advertising and business, insurance and finance, construction and repair, transport and storage, material treatment, boarding and lodging, education and entertainment and so on. It is my humble opinion that any one with some common senses will appreciate these changes.

There are many effective provisions in this Bill. Imitations of well-known trade marks are absolutely prevented. The two-tier system of maintaining registers of trade marks in Part A and Part B is totally taken away. This, I think, helps a lot in distinguishing a trade mark which is distinctive in the marketplace as well as in the eyes of the law.

The Appellate Board for speedy disposal of appeals and the Registrar who is holding the final authority of registration in place of the Central Government will make the procedure relating to registration of trade marks much easier. Moreover, as in the case of the Copy Right Act, there is a provision for minimum punishment of three years for offences relating to trade marks also.

The provision for the publication of a alphabetical index of classification of goods and services which is a new one, surprised me a lot. I wonder that so far there was no such provision, even though it is absolutely necessary for easy handling of registration.

The clauses which deals with the use of names and representations of living person or persons recently died, or which provides for an application either after acceptance or before acceptance so as to afford the public an opportunity to oppose a registration of the mark, or which provides for correction of any error in, or in connection with the application either before or after acceptance etc. are either identical or almost correspond to the existing Act. There is no provision for opposing all those things, instead we have to appreciate them.

The proposal to increase the duration of registration from 7 to 10 years is to be considered in the light of international practices also. I am not elaborating such proposals. In short, I am happy to observe that most of the clauses are identical or corresponding to the existing Act with sufficient modifications. So, I fully support the Trade Marks Bill, 1993 and hope that it would be unanimously passed by this august House.

DR. SUDHIR RAY (Burdwan) Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Bill was first introduced in Parliament in 1993. Later on, this Bill was referred to a Standing Committee of Parliament. The Committee made an in-depth study and listened to the arguments put forward by different organisations and subsequently made unanimous recommendations. I would, therefore request the Minister concerned to accept all the recommendations of the Standing Committee and make the proposed bill more leak-proof.

Sir, a trade mark is generally a visually perceptible sign used in relation to goods and services. The primary purpose of a trade mark is to identify the commercial or trade origin of the goods or services. As such a trade mark distinguishes a particular product from another product. It offers an assurance to the consumer that when he is buying a particular brand, he is assured of its quality. So, a trade mark reflects the goodwill and reputation of a particular product. It is statutory, not compulsory, for somebody to register a trade mark. If a trade mark is registered by someone, in that case, he has an in-built right to the safety of the particular product.

Now, to qualify for registration as a trade mark any mark must fulfill the following criteria

(a) it should be distinctive, that is, it should be something which could be separated from other marks; (b) it must not call for any confusion or deception, (c) it must not contain any scandalous or obscene reference and; (d) a trade mark must not hurt the feelings or sentiments of any religious community living in India.

The registration of trade mark does not confer any new right on the holder of a trade mark. Now, the proposed Bill seeks to replace the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act of 1958. It is for 37 years that this Act is in existence and in the meanwhile, the country

has signed the GATT agreement and there has been a sea-change in the world of trade and commerce. There have also been many judicial pronouncements and verdicts. Therefore, to make it up-to-date, the new Bill has been proposed. In some cases, as a result of increasing globalisation of trade, some lacunae has also been found in the existing Act, as in the case of non-tariff barriers. Hence the Government felt it necessary to bring in this Bill.

Now, the present Bill is more comprehensive and more transparent as it includes not only goods but also services, and registration of trade marks which are imitations of old and well-known trade marks is not to be permitted. The grounds for refusal of registration have been enlarged. The system of maintaining two kinds of registers of trade marks is to be given up. So long two registers were maintained but the Bill proposes to maintain only one register. The Bill also proposes to simplify the procedure of registration of the registered owner. The Bill proposes to establish an appellate board for speedy disposal of appeals which presently go before the courts. Due to heavy pressure of work speedy redressal is not forthcoming and, therefore, this provision of an appellate board is welcome.

The final authority relating to registration or certification of trade marks would be left to the Registrar instead of the Central Government. The Bill proposes enhanced punishment for offences relating to trade marks at par with Copy Right Act to prevent sale of spurious goods. The punishment for misusing a trade mark would be three years while it has been only two years so far. It would be a cognizable offence. The Bill proposes to prohibit use of someone else's trade mark like the name of corporate company or a business concern.

True, there are some who criticise this Bill, Sir, as we have signed the GATT, there are apprehensions that taking advantage of this proposed Bill the multinationals will make a happy hunting-ground of the Indian market and our indigenous companies would suffer. Therefore, it has been argued even at the Committee stage that trade marks should not be given to foreign companies at present and that there should be more discussion and it should be further delayed. There were arguments that after the signing of the GATT treaty, we should have waited for some time as Indian Patents Act, 1970 is soon to be reviewed.

Sir, my humble submission is that the Bill contains many gaps which may lead to unfair trade practices. It may give some players a monopoly position. It will be against the interests of the general public. These gaps should be filled with suitable clauses so that unfair trade practices are stopped.

The definition of a mark as given in the Bill includes a device, the shape of goods and also the packaging which unlike other items possess functional values. If

exclusive right of use is given to any such functional items, it may lead to restrictive trade practice. In that case other would be denied to enjoy that functional advantage. Hence, no such item having functional use should be registered as a trade mark. Rather they can be separately dealt with by patent law. Otherwise, the use of these functional items should be properly defined or conditioned or qualified in such a manner as to provide an in-built mechanism.

The Bill should have provided adequate safeguards regarding right to use for those who are independently using or preparing to use the same type of device, or shape which has been registered as trade mark by someone else.

The Bill should not lead to such a situation as to confer exclusive monopoly right on the functional use of a particular device, shape or packaging to someone who has, incidentally, managed to win the race to register a particular device, shape or packaging since trade mark is not intended for functional use. The Bill must provide for suitable amendments to prevent such things.

The Bill provides for a series registration and also for cancellation of registration for non-use in two different clauses. But the Bill does not clearly stipulates as to what be the fate of the registration in series, if a part of the said series is subjected to non-use. There is no provision for partial cancellation. If, in spite of long non-use of some of the names in a registered series, registration is allowed to continue, it may give rise to dubious practice of getting registration in series of a wider range. The purpose would be to block the entry of new competitors. The long non-use of certain trade mark in a series would also ill-affect the consumers

So far as the Associated Trade Mark is concerned, it also smacks of a possibility of monopolising a particular line of products, possibility of some organised establishments dealing in certain type of goods and services and forming an association, and preventing entry of others cannot be entirely rules out. Hence there should be a clear provision that association of person dealing in the same or identical goods and services would not be permitted to use collective trade mark, unless it has open membership. In other words, there should be no restriction in respect of membership of the Association, once the basic criteria are fulfilled by the intending entrants. In other words, caution should be exercised in giving collective trade marks.

With these few words, I conclude

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI (Kodarma): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, these days a large number of goods and services are being produced all over the world. Previously also, this trade mark was assuming such more importance. Nowadays, we have a complex production process. Different types of articles of

consumption are being produced all over the world. Identical things are being produced. Identical goods and services are being produced. A large number of identical commodities are being produced. Commodities of identical character; commodities of identical colour; and commodities of identical shape; are being produced. That is why in the set of circumstances, in these prevailing conditions, this Trade Mark Bill assumes much more importance. It was pending since 1993 and now it has been put forward before the House. So, I welcome such a Bill.

But, there are a number of anomalies also so far as registration of trade mark is concerned. A long procedure has been adopted or has been formulated by the hon. Minister for the purpose of registration. This is also a long and tedious process. Moreover whatever fees have been earmarked, they are also exorbitant.

Similarly, the periodicity ranging between seven and ten years which has been given here is also very long. It is because we see that a large number of producing units which are in existence today, after the expiry of five or six years or whatever may be that period, a large number of units will be closed down. That is why, if all these units are closed down and you just give a registration of trade mark for a longer period of time in that case it is not justified to keep the trade mark pending for such a long period of time.

Similarly, there must be some sort of a procedure for de-registration of trade mark also. This is an age competition. In the age of competition, we find that a large number of goods produced by one producer are also being produced by other producers and some time identical type of trade mark is being issued. So, there must be some sort of procedure and in the light of these provisions, there must be some sort of a short cut also. There must be a Tribunal, there must be an authority also before which representations can be made, before which appeals can be made.

That authority should decide which producer or the producing unit should use a particular trade mark. This should be decided by the authority. There is a proposal for establishment of the Tribunal Board. All such cases would be referred to the Tribunal Board or Appellate Board, whatever the name might have been assigned to it. So, this is my appeal, Sir, that in every State there must be some sort of such Appellate Boards because if it is centrally-controlled, centrally-sponsored and centrally-regulated authority, then it will not be possible for the smaller producers, owners of producing units to approach such types of Appellate Boards. That is why, the production may be made in any remote part of the country, the production may be made bearing a trade mark, maybe in the remotest corner of the country, maybe production made by certain poor class of persons, poor categories of persons. That is why, in order to provide

more facilities, this is one of my important suggestions, Sir, that whatever proposal for the establishment of an Appellate Board is there, if it is centrally located at some metropolitan place like Delhi, this will not be possible for the smaller units or those smaller and poor persons who are producing such types of units so that they can represent before the Appellate Board. That is why, this is my suggestion that if it is possible, such types of branches of Appellate Boards must be established in different States or if it is not possible, then on region-wise basis also, Sir, the whole country may be divided into certain regions and region-wise this type of Appellate Boards should be established.

The other point that I want to make is that many commodities and articles are imported from foreign countries also. If these products also bear the identical trade marks, in that case it will also create a lot of confusion in the minds of the people here in our country. So, if identical trade mark bearing products are being imported by our own countrymen, in that case there must be some sort of a clear-cut division between them and if such type of identical trade mark bearing products are being imported into our country, in that case there must be some sort of a provision for inflicting some sort of a punishment on them and if it is possible, in that case type of identical trade mark bearing products should not be allowed to be imported by our countrymen here and there must be some sort of restriction over there.

Similarly, about the company's name, according to the provisions of the Indian Companies Act 1956, it has been laid down that once a company is registered under a particular name, the same name should not be assigned to any other company. If such a type of anomaly is there, in that case, according to the provisions of the Indian Companies Act, 1956, there must be a provision for rectification also and this rectification process must be very much simple, simple in the sense that a simple resolution or an ordinary resolution can be taken to that effect or a copy of that simple resolution or an ordinary resolution can be sent to the Office of the Registrar of the Trade Mark. In that case, that can be just rectified because the companies, which are in existence, are having a reputed name and this becomes a goodwill. Once a company has been registered under a name and a company which has been working for the last many years and this has gathered reputation and goodwill over the past many years, in that case if that name will be just borrowed by any other company, it will create confusion and it will erode that goodwill of that reputed company also. So, in this case also, there must be some sort of a provision which lays down that if such a type of name has been assigned or just given to any other company and if there are some sort of conflicting claims between two or more companies, in that case there must be a clear-cut decision in this regard and it can be decided by a simple resolution, by an ordinary resolution, there should not be any need of

a special resolution and once an ordinary resolution is passed to that effect and if it is forwarded to the Registrar of that company, according to the provisions of the Indian Companies Act, 1956, accordingly that must be rectified. There should not be any need for a special resolution.

Similarly, Sir, the Object Clause of the company is very important. Now-a-days what is happening? The Object Clause is a different one.

The persons who are collecting money from different nook and corner of the country and from different categories of persons, are diverting those funds to different other channels of investment for their own ulterior purposes. That is why, once the Memorandum of Association is being drawn up by the company and once the object clause has been fixed up, according to that object clause the transaction must be carried on, the business must be carried on and the trade must be carried on. If there is some sort of deviation from the given path and according to that object clause, it should not be allowed because this is creating a lot of speculation in the country. This speculation is going on and so many scandals have also taken place. So many Directors and Managing Directors of a Shoe Company, this company and that company, I do not want to name all them, have been arrested and put behind the bars because they were deviating from the object clause. For whatever object the company was established, they were not trying to achieve those aims and objects, rather they were deviating and diverting the funds. So all these things should be provided for.

Similarly, there must be a provision for certain punishment. If any trade unit is just trying to adopt the same name or an identical name which has been assigned under the Trade Mark Act to any other company or if any forged company or fake company is trying to adopt that name and if it is trying to just have that reputation and in that case if they are just making infringement of all these trade marks, in that case there must be some sort of provision of severe punishment. If it is possible, the highest amount of fine should also be imposed upon them so that there should not be any sort of misuse of trade name or trade mark or whatever name has been assigned to them because this is a matter concerned with reputation and goodwill of that producing unit.

With these words I close my speech, thank you, Sir

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to welcome the Trade Marks Bill, 1993, being presented by the Government in 1995 because the Government intends to improve and regularise the expanding trade and industry in the country by rationalising trade marks. I, therefore, support the Bill.

Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the problems, complexities and anomalies experienced in the working of the Trade Marks Act, 1958 during the last amendments in the new Bill because frequent amendments may cause difficulty for us in future. World has become a family today and no country can remain unaffected by the other countries in the field of industry and trade. It has been stated that after liberalisation of economic policy of India, signing of several trade agreements with foreign countries and signing of GATT, the doors of India have been opened for multi-national companies. We are liberally inviting inflation. I want to ask whether India's trade will increase in the competition with those foreign companies? Will it be able to maintain its credibility, progress and quality in India and world market? We should devote full attention to this aspect, lest our market will be flooded with the products of MNCs and the goods of our trade marks will be gradually reduced to subordinate position or secondary status. In this way foreign trade mark goods would obtain priority position.

Generally we have such mental desposition that when we purchase something from market, we look for the products made in Japan, America, Germany, England etc. In case Indian product is found better than the foreign product, we do not purchase Indian product. We are not able to understand this change in our mentality. Perhaps, we feel proud to purchase a product with foreign trade mark. The main reason behind this is that feeling of pride in indigenous goods is losing ground gradually. While supporting the Bill, I caution the Government, through you, not to surrender before MNCs and not to allow our industry and trade suffer. It should not happen that our companies of repute invite MNCs by entering into collaboration with them and set up joint ventures and gradually lose their names. I give an example of 'PEPSI', which came in India and launched its cola under 'Lehar PEPSI'. It is not thinking of removing 'Lehar' from its name to retain 'PEPSI' or some other foreign name.

Sir, my friend has just related the story of 'Maruti' which was earlier a Government Undertaking and later on, transferred to Private Sector. It entered into an agreement with 'Suzuki' of Japan for manufacturing cars. Now it is talking of removing 'Maruti's name and retaining only 'Suzuki'. I caution the Government not to allow such things to happen. Similarly, 'Procter And Gamble' is entering in the field of consumer goods and it is establishing its dominance gradually, thereby throwing goods of Indian trade mark into disuse. Therefore, it is the joint responsibility and duty of Indian Government and Chamber of Commerce and Industry to promote Indian Companies and Trade Marks to enable them to face competition with MNCs in an effective manner.

It has been stated that the Bill intends to provide adequate and proper protection to various services,

trade goods and to get their trade marks registered. It is a good sign that the procedure of registration has been simplified and permission has been given for enlarging the use of trade mark. Trade marks to collective marks issued by Associations, Establishments and Appellate Board is the main feature of this Bill. Till now, such a provision was very complicated. Provision for Appellate Board for speedy disposal of disputes has been made in this Bill. Instead of High Court, now the Appellate Board will dispose of appeals, applications and rectifications

16.00 hrs.

We welcome these provisions. But, I want to know whether after signing GATT, any pressure from foreign multi-nationals or I.M.F. or World Bank was there which compelled us to make all these changes or are we bringing these changes with a view to establish prestige of India's trade, extend the standards of Indian trade marks publicise Indian trade marks and to make available foreign markets to Indian goods? If that is not the intention of the Government being bringing all these desired changes Then what made the Government to sleep over the Bill for 2 years? What are the recommendations of the Standing Committee or Joint Parliamentary Committee to which the Bill was referred to for consideration? Whether these recommendations have been incorporated in the Bill?

Everybody knows about the popularity of Dhaka's muslin. When East India Company came here, they saw our artisans who could pass a full length standard size muslin cloth through a finger ring. Such a good quality cloth used to be manufactured in our country in those days but the East India Company destroyed our artisans' traditional vocation of world fame with a view to open Indian markets for the goods made in Britain. Later on, I want to say that as there are provisions for the protections of copyright literators, artists alongwith their works, creations, activities etc as well as of various schools of arts like Kangra, Himachal, Devgarh, Nathdwara etc., we should also make suitable provisions in the relevant Bill/Act, to ensure their credibility and protection of trade mark.

We are today living in the world of competition. Hence, there is an urgent need to promote the feeling of - Be Indian, Buy Indian i.e.-Swadeshi. If this feeling develops in our mind that first of all, we are Indians and we should use Indian goods on priority basis, it would augur well for the nation. I am afraid that despite some good provisions made in the Bill, I foresee such a situation in which a burnt child dreads fire. For example the countries like Singapore, Japan and South Korea have their models in trade marks field. They have made these models popular worldwide so as that their trade could reach a great height. Those countries are now advancing towards self-reliance. We should also follow them. Foreign multi-nationals are entering into

our country openly. We should restrict their entry and allow them only in those areas in which we need upgradation of technology. In the remaining areas goods of Indian Trade Marks should be promoted so as to inculcate the feeling of Swadeshi and give boost to Indian industries. Foreign Companies should also be asked to float their names in Indian languages. We, should exercise control in the matter of name so that our trade is not put to harm at all. In our country, only goods of Indian trade marks or brand be allowed to sell. Foreign goods should not be given any protection or encouragement. We shall have to pay special attention to this important aspect.

Sir, sometimes fake brands also gain currency A person gets a trade mark registered but some other person fraudulently sells fake goods with that name For example, real Seven O' Clock' shaving blade is not available but fake one is available in plenty in the market As a result, consumers have to suffer a lot. There should be stringent provisions for action against misuse of trade marks We have examples of Prem Chand, Nirala and Prasad before us.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, there is a small request. You know the Chair was very liberal yesterday and there were bitter comments Therefore, it is better that all the hon. Members stick to the time. No injustice should be caused to any other hon. Member. It is your responsibility.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : I will take only one minute more.

[Translation]

Now, the Registrar has been given all power which have been conferred or given to Registrar as were earlier vested with the Central Government. He has been made the Registrar of Certification also. The Time limit for renewal of registration has been enhanced from 7 years to 10 years These are good provisions, but if a person by mistake does not get the registration done, we should adopt the policy of "To err is human to forgive is divine". Many people in the country are ignorant of law. If they do not get the registration done in the absence of any knowledge of the law they should be provided protection from any action, transfer of his registration to any other persons or its misuse. All efforts should be made to provide Government protections to Indian Small Industries, commercial goods produced in the cooperative sector as well as services made available by them. The foremost thing is to retain Indianism, reliability, originality of Indian goods.

Sir, our labour is undoubtedly cheap and all sorts of resources are available here. Therefore, the multi-nationals should not be allowed to exploit or misuse that cheap labour and resources in the name of making

money and converting our country into a market of consumerism. Care shall have to be taken to provide safeguards against such exploitation.

With these words, I support the Trade Marks Bill brought forward by the Government and thank you for giving me time to speak on this Bill.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER I am thankful to you for finishing your speech.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Trade Mark Bill, 1993 because it intends to put a check on the wrong practice of fraudulently misusing trade marks or brands or goods manufactured and sold thereunder. It also provides for honouring artistic and literary creations and services.

Sir, firstly, it will further strengthen the Trade Marks Act. It was discussed in the Standing Committee meeting as well as Joint Committee of Parliament. The report of these Committee have already been submitted to the Government. But the recommendations made in those reports of Parliamentary Committees have not been fully accepted by the Government. The Government has not acted well by not accepting the recommendations of Parliamentary Committees.

16.10 hrs.

[Shrimati Santosh Chowdhary *in the Chair*]

Secondly, this Bill introduced in 1993 was delayed till now i.e. mid-1995. Everybody knows that many fake goods are being sold in the market. When a mark was issued to a particular person after registration how did another person bring a fake article under the same trade/brand? The result is that consumers are at a great loss because they get fake goods by paying price of a genuine article. The people in Jahanabad and other places in the country have suffered thereby.

Madam Chairman, the important point is that how will the Government implement the provisions of the Bill brought forward here? It cannot implement the Bill properly due to prevailing corruption and several shortcomings in it. Honesty is the necessity for implementing anything properly. This Bill cannot be implemented without honesty. In spite of its passage here by voice vote it is a good piece of legislation. It will be so only when implemented honestly and properly. We observe that a person gets his article registered, but some other person fraudulently sell its fake brand. In the existing Act, it is treated as genuine one. In such cases, money matters and with strength of money a fake things is turned into a genuine one. How will it be checked? The provision of stringent punishment has been made but nothing concrete has happened so far.

The first and foremost requirement for proper implementation of the Bill is to stop fake goods to enter

the market. Fake Sunlight soap is being sold in plenty in our markets. Why the officers responsible are keeping mum? They will have to find out its reason. Secondly, a number of good quality articles are there without any trade mark. For example, statues of Mahatma Budha are made in a village under my constituency. These are sold in Japan for eight to fifteen lakhs of rupees. But the Government has no information about that. Efforts should be made to identify such areas and develop them. Similarly, our artists, writers, literators, painters and other schools of arts are not provided any protection or encouragement. The people in villages generally do such works. The Government should make the people know about these provision to enable them get the registration done for issuing trade mark and avoid exploitation by others.

It is good that some amendments are proposed to be made in the existing Act to plug these loopholes. In Section 158 of the proposed Bill, a provision is being made to empower to Central Government. In the Trade Marks Act, the process is too complicated for getting registration. Now some improvement has been proposed to be brought. The provision of 10 years is a good step.

In trade, multi-national companies are being invited. We will have to see whether our small traders who are given registration by the Government, will be able to stand before them or not. Foreign companies should not be allowed to bring such goods in our markets which are already being produced and sold by our companies. We have also observed that a company which get registration but later crashed down and its trade mark was used by another person. We should find out the reasons behind it. It may be that the fake company started producing goods bearing the trade mark of genuine company and it resulted in its downfall. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) Madam Chairperson, we had a Trademark and Merchandise Act in operation since 1958. It is obvious that over a period of time we found certain flaws, certain lacunae in it. And generally speaking, it is good to review a law in the light of the experience. But I have a suspicion in my mind, which I wish to share with you- the timing of this new Bill when it was drafted.

And now that it is being brought forward after a lapse of two years or two-and-a-half years it gives rise to a feeling that, it was drafted and being discussed under a certain amount of foreign pressure. Now the Bill has many welcome features. It simplifies the procedure. It increases the period for the protection of the trade mark and brand name. Had it applied only to Indian trade and services Indian trade marks for goods and services produced in India, one would have happily

and willingly welcomed it. The fact is that in the Statement of Objects and Reasons itself the *raison d'être* of this Bill has been related to the globalisation of the world economy, globalisation of trade and industry, the need to encourage investment flows and the need for simplification and harmonisation of the trade mark management systems which of course is welcome

But today after the World Trade Organisation has come into existence we are, perhaps, being pressed to legislate on the subject. Now, the element that I have in my mind is the principle of reciprocity. Are we giving these concessions unilaterally to one side to one way flow of goods and services or are we going to reap reciprocal benefits with the countries which are going to supply these goods and services whether they will also give reciprocal protection to our goods and services in equal measure? But it is a different matter altogether that we may not be able to take advantage of it fully. Obviously that will depend upon whether we have goods to sell and services to offer.

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane) We have

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN In some cases we may have, in some cases we may not have. But at least, in principal, the door should be opened. Therefore, any extension of the facility under this Act to any goods or services of foreign origin must be subjected to the condition of reciprocity, that is, in principal that country must also, by an equal legislative measure, offer equal protection and reciprocal protection to our goods and services of a similar nature, if and when we are in a position to offer them. I see no such indication in this Bill and that is where I really feel a bit unhappy. Otherwise, the Bill has many excellent features and, as I said, I welcome them.

Having made this basic point, Madam, I would like to make one or two other small suggestions. For example, there is the membership of the Appellate Board. It says either a person "is or has been" I would think that the Government should have a wider field of choice, not only that a person "is or has been" at a certain position, but that he is eligible to be so appointed. That will give the Government a wider choice when it comes to appointing the Members of this Appellate Board. I think that should be welcomed, because many people who are not actually serving within the Government or have not actually served within the Government, but possess the necessary qualifications and experiences may be considered for these posts. Therefore, wherever the phrase "is or has been" has been used, it should be added or eligible to be so appointed. That should be added.

Secondly, why should the technical membership be limited only to a member of the Indian Legal Service and why not extended to other fields? There are people in the administrative services, there are people in the

judicial services who have got, because of their posting and because of their particular job that they have help, the necessary expertise. I would rather think that, perhaps, if the idea is to bring in people who belong to the bureaucracy, the field should, again, be wider and members of other services should also be permitted to come in.

The third point that I would like the hon. Minister to consider is Clause 14, which is about use of names and representations of living persons or persons recently dead. This is a very welcome provision. But here again, there is a lacuna which again puts a limit. It says:

" . any living person or a person whose death took place within twenty years prior to the date of application for registration of the trade mark..."

Trade mark here applies to the services. Supposing I were to open a hair cutting saloon and I call it 'Mahatma Gandhi Hair Cutting Saloon' or a particular style of hair dressing, what would happen? Of course, Mahatma Gandhi had a particular style of hair dressing. But to relate it to Mahatma Gandhi and say 'Mahatma Gandhi Hair Dressing Saloon' and I want to have it registered then in that case, this 20 years limit does not make sense to me. It should be an unlimited period so that you cannot, really, relate a brand name to the name of an eminent person whose name is saleable or marketable. The name of dignities and important persons should not become a marketable commodity and that is where my hackles rise at the particular provision given here.

Madam, I know that the hon. Minister has accepted some suggestions made by the Joint Parliamentary Committee as well as by the Standing Committee, but not all. I would like the hon. Minister, in deference to the House and in deference to these bodies that were created by the Parliament, to explain or at least to give a rationale as to why some of these suggestions and recommendations have not been found acceptable.

You are the master. You can do what you like. But at least you owe it to the House to stand up and say, 'We have accepted certain recommendations but we are not able to accept all the recommendations, for certain reasons'. I think, we should establish such a convention in this Parliament that the recommendations and suggestions made by Parliamentary bodies should not be taken lightly or brushed aside easily. I am granting, I am conceding your right to accept some of them and to reject some of them. But at least please inform the House as to why you reject some of them and you may have very good reasons for that; and you may be able to carry the House with you. The House will consider that you are not doing anything in an arbitrary manner; that whatever you are doing - either accepting or rejecting - you are doing it after due thought and

consideration and after showing due deference to the standing of these Parliamentary bodies.

Now, having made the point, I am happy that some of the recommendations were accepted. But still I personally do not feel very happy with the definition of the word "service". It appears to me to be very wide. This is just a feeling that I want it is easy to define 'goods' but it is rather difficult to define a 'service'. I know it is easy to define 'goods' but is rather difficult to define a 'service'. But the definition here is so broad that almost anything could be brought in anything related here is so broad that almost anything could be brought in anything related to its trade, to all its paraphernalia, to its financing aspect, to its public relation aspect, to its promotional aspect—almost anything could be brought in under the term "service".

What I am afraid of is that through these means we are opening the doors to services of foreign origin. Above all, our economy must resist the entry of foreign services because it is here that we are likely to be totally subdued and totally over taken. There are many goods which compete with the foreign goods and therefore even when you open the door, they could stand on their own and defend their standing in the field. But when you open the door to 'services'—particularly because we are so foreign conscious—in that case what will happen is, the nascent service within the country - whether they are in the field of public relations or whether they are in the field of advertising or whether they are in the field of promotion or in the financial or insurance sector— are likely to be overwhelmed. Therefore, I would rather say that you do not extend indiscriminate protection to services of foreign origin. That is what I would like to plead with you to kindly consider in the light of the Indian psychology. The Indian ethos today is very much— shall we say burdened with the foreign consciousness? Even a shirt bearing a brand mark of foreign origin is considered to be a matter of prestige. Although we might be able to produce equally good shirts of equally good textile within our country, yet if it carries the foreign brand name, it has a certain prestige value. This is because, globalisation is introducing into our country certain elements of consumer society, certain cultural certain elements of consumer society, certain cultural patterns, which I feel, in the long run, would be deleterious to the interest of the country. Therefore, under the guise or under the cloak or under the make of a purely technical law relating to trade marks or labels, we should not really— shall we say - encourage accelerate this process. I know we have opened the doors. But we should take protective measures; and we should try to change the psychology. I do not know whether we can change the psychology of the people or at least of psychology of the elite who are consumer, who are the basic customers of this foreign culture and this foreign goods and foreign brand names. Whether we can eliminated this brand

consciousness from the minds of the people. I do not know. Whether any Government can do it, I do not know. But at least I would request you not to aid this process; not to encourage this process. On the other hand, as one friend said here on the floor of the House, 'Be Indian, Buy Indian', should be promoted deliberately as a matter of policy by the Government.

On the one hand, as I have said, let the foreign goods and services enter India but only on the condition that reciprocal and equal measures of protection are available to our goods and services in those countries so that when we come of age, we can at least take advantage of them and to the extent that we can take advantage of them today we can. And on the other hand, let us try to preserve the Indian individuality, the Indian uniqueness perhaps the pride of being an India, the pride of being one of those or perhaps the only developing country which produces almost everything that society needs.

With these words, Madam, and with certain reservations I welcome the Bill.

16.30 hrs.

DISCUSSIONS UNDER RULE 193 Atrocities on Women and Problems Faced by them

MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY) : It is 4.30 p.m. and now we have to take up discussion under Rule 193. Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee to raise the discussion regarding 'atrocities on women and problems faced by them'

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Madam Chairperson, I thank you for giving me the opportunity at long last, though you are not responsible for that long last, for raising the issue of atrocities on women and problems faced by them.

On 12th August, 1990 I raised the same issue under Rule 193 where I said that I rise with a "bleeding heart and a burning shame". Today, nearly after five years, when I rise to move the same thing again, I do not know how to describe my feeling. If any word can at all be used to describe it, it is 'suffocating'.

The fact that atrocities on women are increasing constantly cannot be denied by any quarter. On 13th May, this year, *Anand Bazar Patrika*, a widely circulated Bengali Daily reported about a survey which said that in India today one woman is being raped in every 54 minutes...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): A little more senior Minister should be here.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): I hope, at least the Ministers who are in-charge of Home Affairs will listen that in every 54 minutes there is a rape taking place in our country.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHI P.M. SAYEED) : I am listening.

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): Mr. Sayeed is listening.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum). That does not prohibit other Members of the Council of Ministers to be present here.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Please do not interrupt

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI) : I am here and I am listening.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : I know that when the subject is this, it is not the Ministers alone and as far as Members are concerned, I will have to mainly address the microphones. That shows their feeling.

Anyway, let me come back to where I was. We know that even these figures are the tip of the iceberg. Such rape cases often go unreported due to the social stigma attached to the rape victims.

Another extremely disturbing feature in this respect is the proportion of the rape of minor girls which are on the increase. Even such inhuman case of a father raping his own child is taking place. Custodial rapes and gang rapes are also increasing. Of late, a number of cases of poor women, Harijan woman, being paraded naked on the streets as well as being gang raped have appeared in the Press and a number of such cases have been raised in this very House. The cases of sexual abuse of working women by their bosses or higher officials are not always reported in the Press. But I often hear such complaints from working women. Cruelties on women for extorting dowry and dowry deaths are also on the increase. Despite the fact that Police do not always take the complaints, let alone acting *suo motu* as provided by the law, the figures of dowry deaths given in an answer to a question in Parliament shows that in 1985, the number of dowry deaths were 837 and the figure went up to 5,817 in 1993.

Let us recall that this happened despite the excellent amendments to Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and Indian Evidence Act passed in the beginning of the present decade against extortion of dowry, for causing death to women for not being able to meet the demands of husbands and in-laws.

A description of the atrocities committed on women can be endless. I do not want to take more time for such an exercise.

Let us straightaway to the root causes of these and other kinds of atrocities as I see them.

- (1) Unequal status of women in every field in this male-dominated society;
- (2) The denial of political, economic, social, educational and medical justice to the vast masses of women in the exploitative structure of our society;
- (3) Constant depiction of violence in the films including those shown in the TV;
- (4) Increasingly invading vulgar and consumerist culture corroding the healthy social culture;
- (5) The neo-fundamentalist attacks in the name of religion which in reality nothing to do with genuine essence of religion;
- (6) The increasing patronisation of criminals by politicians as well as the rich.

If we all agree that it is the bounden duty of the decent people in our society, be they men or women then we have to wage a relentless battle in the spheres mentioned above

For that, first of all, let the parliamentarians — since at the moment no parliamentarians are there, at least their representatives — ask themselves do they do that always ?

If the answer could really be 'yes', then half the problems could have been solved.

Let us take the political field. Wherever one-third reservation of seats for women in panchayats and municipalities has been effected and the elections took place, it is seen that there has arisen a great upsurge among the women and they are trying to utilise their empowerment. Even then, are they getting the unstinted help of their families even when the family is political? Look at the Assemblies and Lok Sabha. How many political parties are setting up enough women candidates? Up to now, the proportion is very small considering that half the voters are women.

Let us take the social field. How many political leaders and cadres, let alone their followers, are coming out with a vow that they will not want dowry while getting their sons and daughters married or while they themselves are marrying? Unfortunately, not yet many. Then how shall we influence the situation obtaining due to dowry? Here, I must mention that in this field, we women ourselves must be vigilant that their behaviour while marrying their daughters and sons must be the same and as in-laws, they must not behave cruelly with their daughters-in-law. Unfortunately, that is not the situation now.

Let us take the economic field. Among the members of this House, there are a number of farmers. Can all

of them claim that they pay equal wages for equal work to the women agricultural labourers that they employ? How many of them fight for greater employment for women?

Can we claim that all of us have waged a relentless battle to eliminate violence from the small and big screen? Women MPs raised the matter on 9th March last year, but despite their attempts, the situation has not changed substantially. Can we claim that all of us are free from consumerist culture?

Certainly not. Can we say that all our political parties refuse to protect anti-social elements and all our parties are free from the act of criminalising politics? Certainly not. Unless we, the Parliamentarians, can change ourselves in these respects, effective fight against atrocities against women and the problems faced by them cannot be effectively fought

I, therefore, appeal to all in the House and those who are not present, I appeal to them through their leaders to ponder over these questions. I also appeal to all the political and social workers in the country to rise to the occasion to face this challenge. I am also sorry that the media is absolutely, practically absent. The media has a special role to play and I hope that that media will also take note of the fact.

Next, for dealing with the problems regarding atrocities on women, some new initiatives have to be taken. Some laws need to be improved. The National Women's Commission have suggested some such improvements. Some of my women colleagues in both the Houses have brought forward some non-official Bills. Those should be placed before Parliament and should be considered without delay. The non-official Bills should be considered without delay and the ones which have been recommended by the Commission should be placed before Parliament quickly. But the biggest problem is the implementation of laws. The good laws already existing are not being implemented properly. The National Commission for Women was formed with that purpose particularly, so that they can do the monitoring. Unfortunately even the National Commission for Women is now functioning only with two members and the rest have to be filled immediately. . . (Interruptions). Of course, there are only two official members and the non-official members are still to be nominated and it has no Chairperson

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI : One non-official member is there. One official member is there.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE . The non-official one is so non-official that practically he is not known to many of the small fries like us.

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling) How many members are there?

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Seven. But my point is that this must be done. Further, the Commission

at the national level is not enough. At the State level, some States have formed it. So far so good. But some other States have not formed it. I feel very strongly that if this monitoring has to be done really in a country-wide scale, then, the district level Commissions will have to be set up and those district level Commissions may be asked to submit their report to the Municipalities and the Zilla Parishads which are elected bodies.

SHRI INDER JIT . At the district level, you should have a Committee, not Commission.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : I am coming to that. I am coming to another thing also. I am saying about the Commission. There is a person because people come to the Commission all the time. Even about the State level Commission, I am seeing that so many cases are coming to my notice.

SHRI INDER JIT : Then, you call it Sub-Commission.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : You can call it Sub-Commission or Zero Commission or anything you like. The question is substantive (Interruptions). The question is that there should be a formal body which will have powers as the National Commission has. It is not that the National Commission has got big powers.

Apart from that, the situation regarding the problem of pending cases can be understood from one example. Upto 1992, the number of people accused in pending rape cases in various courts of the country were 50127. Upto now, 80 per cent of the cases still remain pending. Only 34.4 per cent of the accused have been punished. As it is, the Police is generally not so active in taking up these cases. On top of that, if the situation in the courts remains as above, then, naturally justice delayed will be justice denied. Therefore, it is absolutely essential to spread a network of family courts in every State.

The opening of women's courts is also necessary. The issue of opening of women's court was also being discussed in the National Commission. They want it. They had discussions with us also.

Sensitising the police and administration in relation to atrocities on women is one of the important steps. Unfortunately, we have still a long way to go in this regard. In some states women's cells have been established in some police station. This is to be expanded to all the police stations in every State. Moreover, Advisory Committees consisting of women's organisations and organisations working for social justice need to be formed to interact with the administration at all levels.

In the field of education, spread of literacy, general and vocational education, has to be spread much more. Legal literacy also has to be much more wide-spread. Constant campaign against fundamentalist and feudal attitude towards women has to be waged by both men and women. In this also, we must be much more active.

I particularly appeal to my male colleagues to come forward for all this. For this, I want to quote a famous line of a poetry by the Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam for them:

*"Konokale eka hoiniko joyee purusher tarabari,
Prerana dieche, shakti dieche, vijaylaxmi naree"*

It means, "victory was never achieved by the swords of men alone, the inspiration and the strength was always supplied by the women who are really the goddess of victory." This is true. There is no movement in India which ever became successful where women did not participate in a very big way. Therefore, whatever we want to do, this is absolutely essential.

Finally, I appeal to all my colleagues that all of them must rise above petty political considerations and act across their political view on other questions to act for justice to women, protecting them from atrocities and for creating conditions for their equality. On my political questions we may differ with each other. But when it is the question of women, we can unite if we rise above petty political considerations. This is my fervent appeal to the House, to all the Members in the House - some Members may not be present today but through their colleagues who are present here - that we shall not be able to face the situation without uniting together. If this discussion can appeal to the hearts of some of my colleagues who are at least present here, and inspire them in fighting for the above cause, in that case, I shall consider this discussion fruitful.

MR. CHAIRMAN . Thank you Geetaji, Now Mr. Charles, I want to tell you and others that the time allotted for this discussion is only two hours. There are quite a large number of speakers also.

SHRI A.CHARLES (Trivandrum) : Madam, I think, when you are in the Chair, I am sure, you will give sufficient time for this very meaningful discussion because after all when there is a crime against women, the women should be more concerned, not that the men are less concerned.

I must congratulate the hon. Minister Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee for bringing forward this Resolution to have a discussion on such a vital, important and social evil.

I have one more point on which I want to congratulate the distinguished lady Member of Parliament. I remember, I think, it was in 1986, she had brought forward another Resolution about the Progress of women in the International Decade of Women. It was she who initiated the discussion on that subject also.

I remember there was an embarrassing situation in the House. About 12 persons participated in the discussion. All the 12 were women. The then Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shri H.K.L. Bhagat ran about to find out whether there is any man who is willing to speak on this subject. Finally, he came to me. I said I was willing to speak. I paid glowing tribute to

the women who had played a great role in the building up of this nation. Women are the mothers; women are the real life in our home. At that time, I remember that I very emotionally expressed my appreciation of the great lady of the century, Indira Gandhi. She was the greatest lady of the century and this whole nation should be proud of her, for her great leadership and for guiding the destinies of the nation for several years. So, many contributions have been made by women in this great country. Even when we go back we can see a long line of illustrious persons, VIZ., the JHANSI KI RANI. We should be proud of them.

So, when we discussed on the atrocities committed on women, I feel we on this side have a greater responsibility to see that these atrocities are put to an end. What about the details of the crime committed against women? It is shocking. One statistical information given by the Crime Records Bureau is really shocking to the mind. The crime has doubled in the last one decade. A crime against women is committed every six minutes in the country; a woman is raped every 47 minutes; a woman is abducted every 44 minutes; one-third of our women is subjected to cruelty, either by their husbands or by their relatives, including in-laws and mother-in-laws; 17 dowry deaths are reported every day and in the last year alone, the total crime against women has gone up to 82,818. I think it is a national shame. It is a national shame not only on men, it is a shame on the whole society and on the whole community.

Coming to dowry deaths, it is a great agony that the main cause for the dowry deaths in many cases in women or the mother-in-laws or in-laws who instigate either the brother or the son to get more dowry from the poor women. What is the fate of those women? Recently in 1983, the law has been changed, I.P.C. has been amended, Evidence Act has been amended. But in spite of all these amendments to the laws, the position, I am afraid to say, has not substantially changed because more depends on the attitude of the society. The laws are stringent and the onus, in the case of sexual offence, especially rape, has been shifted to the male partner. In spite of that hardly few cases are reported and in those cases reported, the convictions are very very rare. So, the whole society has to come forward, and understand the magnitude of the offence. We have to create awareness that our women are respected and women are loved. Only with the social changes, I must say, not only the crime, but this great evil in the society, can be removed.

Madam, I feel that economic liberty of the women is very important. I am happy that the hon. Prime Minister is here and the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana, recently introduced has gone a long way to give employment opportunities to the educated youth, especially of rural areas.

I request that at least 50 per cent of this shall be exclusively reserved for women, so that our women in the rural areas can have the opportunity to start some self-employment, agro-based activity, so that they can also earn. It is often the economic subordination that is creating this evil. Illiteracy is another main reason for this perpetration of crime. In most cases the girl child is not given the opportunity for education. Education goes a long way in creating the social awareness. So also the sharing of political power. We speak a lot about it. I am happy in the Panchayati Raj, one-third of the posts of Panchayat members and Panchayat Presidents are reserved for them. That is a revolutionary change. The vision of Rajivji has now been implemented by the hon. Prime Minister. We are grateful to their leadership which have given greater power to women. Can we not think of getting one-third membership of the Parliament also reserved for women?...*(Interruptions)* I think Mrs. Gopalan will also support that because she come from a very great revolutionary family.

We all have concern for the motherhood. Just imagine the home without a mother. The whole life, the whole build up of the society is depending on the affection, the care, the love, the support of women. But, in spite of that, we think that they are the weaker sex, they have to be subordinates, they are here always to serve with a servitude mind. Our whole thinking has to be changed if proper liberation is to be given to women. So also in high places, in decision making bodies they have to be there. I am happy that, Madam, you have been a member of the Public Service Commission, you were the Chairperson of the Public Service Commission also. When a women occupies such a high place in the judiciary, in the public sector undertakings, in decision making bodies, if they are given the right place, their whole social status will rise. It happens only by strengthening them, by supporting them, not by making legislations alone. Legislations are enough. There are legislations with teeth which can be enforced. But in how many cases will they be able to go to the court of law? Even if they go to the court of law, the problem of getting the accused punished is very difficult. So, we have to create an awareness and give them the opportunity, so that our women shall be a great force along with men in the building up of the society.

I think it is high time that we not only speak and discuss about this, but we have to make decisions and implement them for giving education, for strengthening them by giving them economic liberalisation, by giving them political powers and by giving them place in the decision making bodies. It is often said that women are the salt of the earth because they are the ones who energise the life of the children, the family and the whole set of our society.

Madam, you are looking at me. So, with these few words I congratulate once again our hon. distinguished

Member, Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee for giving us an opportunity for this discussion. I think it is high time we make the legislation, implement it, make the social awareness, so that we may think of our mothers whenever legislations on women come.

17.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SMT. SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) : Madam Chairman, this discussion here in the House on this subject has its own significance. It should not be taken otherwise. The discussion is regarding atrocities on women and does not mean that it is against men. We consider ourselves to be representatives of ten lakhs of people each. The leader of people means one who carries people alongwith him and guides the society. He also has the power to effect changes in the thinking of people. Unless we exchange our views on bringing down the rate of atrocities being committed on women and giving a new direction to the society, how can the discussion be meaningful on this subject? Thus, this discussion assumes great importance.

Years before we used to pronounce the words 'Stri' i.e. one who creates and 'Nari' i.e. one having no enemy. The women used to be held in high esteem then. With the pronunciation of these words when one feels proud tries to understand something and look up opening doors or one's mind, the suppression starts. We consider woman to be creator of society and inspirator of creations. But today when we pronounce the word 'Nari' our body shivers. The significance of the word 'Nari' has been rendered insignificant. When we discuss injustice against women, the things come back to square one. We hear about the efforts being made by people not to allow the birth of female foetus. Discussion continued for years to bring forward a suitable Bill in Lok Sabha on this subject, but no concrete implementation was perceptible. Atrocities on women start even before her birth takes place. Even after her birth her rights as a human being, as a female child and other rights in respect of food, health, education etc. are denied to her. If we go through the data of girl education, the drop out rate among girls in schools is coming down. The hon. Minister, Kumari Selja has readily admitted that the drop out rate is descending. If we go to villages and see the real situation. We would find that the rate of drop out among boys is not different than the girls. It manifests the extent of exploitation of children of both sexes. Reports in newspapers substantiate my point. At present, four lakh girls are engaged in prostitution. Out of 10,000 cases of rape 20% girls are found to be below the age of 10 years.

It shows that the atmosphere of child exploitation and insecurity prevails in our country. Leaving aside the cities, we had dreamt of a healthy environment in villages but how far we have been able to make it true?

The situation today is that girls cannot go alone to a distant place.

Environment in cities is vitiated and security of girls and ladies is a matter of great concern. Do we have such an environment in villages where a girl can go alone to see and enjoy the beauty of nature like sunrise, sky, sun-set, flowing river, rainy season etc. fearlessly? Even so many years after independence, we have failed to bring about such an order in our villages.

If we say that today women have got equal rights with men in all matters and they have moved out for work, in reality, the percentage of such women is very small. The percentage of women working in unorganized sector or women agricultural labourers and workers may be more. But the position in regard to women working in other sectors is quite different. The reality is that we have such a mentality which makes us feel that no woman can work as an engineer. We shall have to find out the percentage of employment among women. There are examples of women who with strong determination and efforts have become engineers, drivers, pilots, etc. but these working women undergo great tests and hardships. Due to this mentality, they are subjected to numerous harassments including mental torture.

To talk of tortures in family, the ugly custom of dowry is on the increase day by day. It has many reasons behind it. Women are subjected to other types of family tortures also. Many a times the incidents of torture do not come to light. As of today out of 20 lakh girls below 19 years age 50 percent are married. It shows the extent of exploitation in our society. They are confined to the four walls of their house and are barred to speak to public. Several laws have been enacted for them but their benefits do not reach them. If we go into the past history, the reality of widows and childless women will come before eyes. Still, some greatmen of our country made yeomen efforts for amelioration of the condition of women. Mahatma Gandhi was one leading personality among them. With their sincere efforts, some awakening was seen among women who came forward and spoke fearlessly.

Madam, Raja Ram Mohan Ray also championed the cause of women. Today, a helpless widow or childless woman is charged with committing a theft or levelled as a witch. She is burnt openly and the Panchayat award the punishment of naked parading of her in public.

The problem of atrocities on women has been raised in the House time and again but the mentality behind rape of women is very disastrous and when it takes the form of mass and gang rape it assumes further dimensions. With a view to suppress a particular class or a community mass rapes take place and the women

become the ultimate victim. It is also happening in politics. When a woman is elected to Assembly/Parliament by defeating a person of bad character. She is made a victim of numerous tortures. Rapes are committed to suppress women and to take revenge against them. We talk entering into twentieth century but I feel, we are still living in a mediaeval age.

Madam, history tells that when foreign attacked India, they had a sword in one hand and a cup of wine in the other. Mass rape of Indian Women were committed by the invaders with a view to ruin India's image. Today there is no invader but due to our mentality, the incidents of mass rape are increasing. We see that man-father or brother or son or husband-achieves some high position, the woman feels proud of it. I feel to the contrary, When woman achieves some heights or hold high position, men should also feel proud of her and should not be jealous of her achievements, it does not happen? we shall have to change such a mentality. Unless it is changed, mass rapes will continue.

Madam, though police is a part of our society, their morality has gone down so much but that a judge had to comment "Police is an organised gang of criminals". We should introspect why such a situation developed in our society. The reason is not far to search. It is that when we misuse a force, Government or state machinery for our personal gain, particularly when the misuse is by an authority and once the habit of misuse is by an authority and once the habit of misuse develops, there is no end to it. That is why the judge had to comment adversely on police.

In earlier days people had confidence and belief in police personnel and whenever any girl moved out of her house her mother used to say to her daughters to seek help of police if any difficulty arises. But now we have to advise them not to enter that street or lane which is lonely and where a policeman is seen standing or strolling. This difference has come about during these years

17.14 hrs.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

We will have to ponder over that why such a situation has come. Many such incidents happen today. Today Kashmir problem is there. Though, the situation is different, but it is the women who are the victims at the hands of terrorists. If you go to Doda, you will find that the women have been the target of the terrorist activities. They do not see as to whether she is Hindu or Muslim. For them it is sufficient that she is woman and she becomes their target. Whenever there is upheaval or disturbance anywhere and by any one in the society the evils of medieval age come to surface and women are victimised. Whether it is Kashmir or at the brick kiln in Allgarh. When anyone is to be exterminated from the society, there also woman becomes the victim of mass rape.

Our mentality towards woman is also one of the reason. When there is a rape case and the woman is taken for investigation by police, she again becomes victim of rape of police custody, it is evident from the incident happened in MP and more ironical; that the minister gives a statement that it is all right that the woman has been raped and compensation will be paid to her and if again she is raped, double compensation will be paid. We have developed such a mentality as if compensation is the price for rape, we should be ashamed of it. Law making is good, but changes will have to be made as and when necessary. Procedure of investigation will have to be changed and improved. I do not want to repeat what my hon. sister Geeta has said here. The suggestions given here will have to be pondered over.

Why all this happens? I feel two types of mentalities are behind it? It seems that we have taken wrong meanings of some words and thereby a woman suffers from inferiority complex. It is not that only men are at fault. Pandit Salwatokar gave beautiful meanings of some words, for example 'Athaham' means 'limitless' by adding 'Aa' before that, similarly 'Aparampar', 'Aparimit' which means great power. Similarly the word 'Abala' should mean 'having limitless power'. Why the meaning of 'Abala' is taken as 'Durbal'(weak) ? It does not mean she is 'Nirbala-without power', but it means 'she has enormous power'. In 'Durga Saptashati' there is a shloka in which mother goddess says that as to what kind of husband she would like.

She says that :

"Yo me jyeshyati sangramme,
Yo me Darpo vyapahati,
Yo me Sambalo Loke,
Same Bharta Bhavishyati."

It means that :

One who will be victorious name in battle.
Who will kill my pride and ego.
who will be equal in strength.
he will be my husband".

I, therefore, feel that a woman is not weak, but embodiment of strength or power. By giving meaning to the word 'Abala' we have created a complex of inferiority in the minds of women, because man wants to dominate over her by becoming strong and powerful. That is the reason why she is being tortured, victimised and atrocities are being committed on her.

Such a situation can be changed by giving her certain rights, by changing law, and rousing conscienceness and compassion of the society. Till when there is no use of giving rights alone. Not only, myself, but Dr. B.R. Ambedkar has also remarked the same thing in the case of minorities that you can give rights

to anyone but mere giving rights will not suffice. He said that :

[English]

"Rights are protected not by law but by the social and moral conscience of society. If social conscience is such that it is prepared to recognise the rights which the law chooses to enact, rights will be safe and secure. But if the fundamental rights are opposed by the community, no law, no parliament, no judiciary can guarantee them in the real sense of the word."

[Translation]

This consciousness and awakening will have to be generated. He further stated in experiences of united Nations as under :

[English]

"In spite of all this, it is generally realised that a real guarantee for the present preservation of human rights, civil liberties and fundamental freedom lies in the level of consciousness of the common man and in people to people relationship on the soundbasis of international understanding."

[Translation]

Several other great personalities have also expressed such ideas that it is all right that we can make an institutional frame-work. But the feelings, thoughts and mentality of the society are also needed to be changed and upto when this is not done no improvement can take place. By only changing institutional frame work you can not achieve this goal place. We should discuss not only the atrocities, but also changes in the social framework today and direction to which our society is moving. Today, even the concept of family has also changed, it has not remained as an institution rather disintegrated. Maximum production, equitable distribution and restrained consumption, was the motto of our Indian life. But now we are gradually adopting westren culture and adopting a foreign base which is guided by the theory of 'social contract'. Our's is not social contract theory. We admit a person is a part of the society, a person has some duty towards society that by developing himself he has to give something to the society, 'All is one' feeling is to be adopted, for that, we shall have to rise above political consideration of selfishness, mere law making will not serve the purpose. We see here that when a case of rape on a Harijan woman is raised here, caste feelings are surmounted by a political party and the matter becomes very sensitive. When a woman is tortured or humiliated or molested, she is woman, whether she belongs to any caste or religion, it is an attack on the 'mother power' we should adopt this feeling so as to put an end to atrocities on women. The man committing a rape gets acquitted. Feeling should be that the woman is not at

fault. But fingers are raised on the woman who is the victim. Therefore, the things happened in Jalgaon or Delhi or elsewhere have become common these days. When such things are concealed, it arises in mind why she did not have confidence, why mother and daughter did not have affection for each other. Why mother could not timely understand the situation.

But can the mother even after understanding the position, say boldly to the society that her daughter was not at fault? Can she move along with her daughter and say that her daughter was the victim? Whether the society will punish the culprit and make the guilty man have his head down with shame and admit his fault? Will the society despise him for his ill-act? Unless there is a complete change in the mentality we may discuss here any number of times, nothing substantial will emerge and the situation will remain the same. Reservation and Rights for women and a law made in her favour will not go to achieve the desired result, so long we do not bring a change in the social outlook for womenfolk.

But, much can be achieved by these steps. When women develop their determination, will power, capacity to take decision and there is political will is the nation in this regard, things will change. By enactment of this Bill more women should be able to occupy positions of decision making and be powerful enough to withstand the present situations and causes underlying it. I feel, it is necessary to provide more power to women so as to enable them to ameliorate their pitiable condition by determination, will power and capacity to fight against onslaught being made against them.

SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY (Phillaur) : I congratulate and thank Smt. Geeta Mukherjee for raising this discussion under Rule 193 regarding atrocities being committed on Women.

I have been witnessing in this House that some discussion takes place, as and when there is a happening or atrocities on women anywhere in the country. Women did not get independence completely even after attaining freedom from Britishers. In spite of fervent appeals made and views expressed by greatmen in this House, the situation instead of improving has deteriorated further. I am very sad and sorry over it. Representatives of people bring here and discuss burning problems of people, but we have not been able to solve any problem. We shall therefore resolve to develop strong will power for ensuring solution of burning problems of people.

Ours is an independent country. Republic day is celebrated every year. Independence does not mean that anything in mind should be done. Condemn such a mentality that allows atrocities on women and forbids any solution of it. How such a person can be called as an Indian who does not have even any feeling and knowledge of his Indian culture and heritage. Many

cultures and mutual harmony between different cultures have taken birth here. Today such a situation has come that we do not use our wisdom to understand the causes of atrocities being committed on women. The evils of orthodoxy, castism, Parochialism and communalism etc. have closed our brains and we cannot utilise our brain when atrocity is committed on women. That is why we have been unable to put an end to atrocities on women. It is a great social disease. A victim of atrocity may become made, well-knit family gets broken and looked down by the society, such incidents generate communal riots and several innocent persons have to lose their lives. Such a cancerous disease will ruin the entire society. We are greatly concerned and agitated over it.

All of us know since when atrocities started on women. Its roots are hidden in the history and can be located. Women are tortured due to poverty, ignorance, helplessness, dependence or others, starvation and similar other factors. There are various types of atrocities and today also it is present in a changed form.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, who are the people who commit atrocities on women? They are those people who are brainless, can be excited and made to indulge in wrong acts and whose tendency is of base type and who can be made to kill or do such heinous crimes, can commit atrocities on women. This in human tendency of man when aroused or aggravated or excited, can be very dangerous. People having more money, more power are prone to commit more atrocities on women. Atrocities are also committed due to social discrimination, personal enmity, political influence, wrong use of police force, bait of dowry, drug addiction, co-education, ignorance of head of family, misuse of Government help and machinery, inferiority complex, ignorance to all small events etc. In every family, some quarrel between husband and wife takes place. Husband beats his wife with hand, stick legs etc. and wife tolerate all such tortures and proud of being an Indian Woman. Women are confined to the four walls of house only the woman is doubted. Women have not been given their due place in the family.

Such incidents take place not only in the poor and uneducated families but rich and educated families are also equally affected by this. Though, poor and Harijans women are the worst sufferers. But nobody has ever cared to think over it that atrocities on woman is a blot on a family, society and the nation.

The hon. members, who expressed their views have termed rape as a heinous crime. Even the innocent girls and old ladies are raped. Harijans and poor ladies are worst sufferers. Those who oppose it are crushed and done to death.

Reports about killing of women by dousing them with kerosene appear daily. Brides are killed by mother-in-law, brothers-in-law and others. Such reports about men seldom appear. Daughter, Daughter-in-law took

poison and die. No one cares why she took such a step. No living creature can tolerate pain even of one pinch of a needle. Why do the women die suffering such a grave pain? The torture they face, compel them to put an end to their lives. India's prestige will go down abroad till such atrocities are continued on women"

India is a developing country. If atrocities on women are not stopped by appropriate measures. We shall be doomed as dead and our prestige will be spoiled in the World Community.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, most of the atrocities are committed on poor and Harijans women, which society has embraced Harijans? They are considered low people. Their women are tortured and misbehaved. Poor, Harijans and rural ladies are subjected to all kinds of atrocities at the hands of mosqueraders of the society. Since they are working outside their houses, in fields, and elsewhere, they are put to innumerable troubles and raped at will, because they are helpless, poor and not powerful enough to oppose and they have seen results of opposing in total ruination of their homes and families. Only ladies have to tolerate tortures of the entire society. This is a very shameful state of affairs and should be set right quickly.

This issue of atrocities on women must have been discussed in the House by great leaders and members many a time. But it is misfortune that even after 47 years of independence women are not independent more are they free from this heinous crime, which has been on the increase every day. There are so many reasons and we will have to do something to put an end to these. I support the views expressed by Smt. Sumitra Mahajan in this regard. I being a lady had the opportunity to serve the Public service commission as Member and Chairperson for six years each. I belong to scheduled caste. But I say that I had to wage a great struggle before I got that coveted post and I had to suffer a number of mental tortures and humiliations. I faced them boldly and advanced further. I say that if our mental outlook becomes correct, this problem will get solved.

We say many things in this House everyday and probably because of the Vote Bank. The ground reality is quite different. It has been written in Shastras that woman is goddess, but in practice she is not treated as such that is an unfortunate part of it.

All the members here should resolve to solve completely this serious problem of atrocities on women. First of all, mental outlook should be corrected and changed. Law is also essential for the purpose and the law must be made applicable sternly and stringently. The main problem arises after an atrocity is committed on woman how to go to Police Station and get first information report registered there. If an F.I.R. is registered, police personnel harass the lady frequently

at her house and call her in the Police station for investigation or the like. Such things are rampant in rural areas. I belong to Punjab and I can say that it is not correct that position of womanfolk is very good there. I come from Punjab and to say that the position of woman there is good is not correct. I read in some newspaper that data have been collected and it has been found that their condition is very pitiable there. The main reason of that is drinking of wine. For that we all can try to find out some solution.

Sir, I urge upon all the members of this House belonging to every political party to resolve to put an end to this problem of atrocities on women completely. Womanfolk must come to know that they are not bereft of the independence achieved and that they have all rights of protection against any kind of atrocity or torture against them. With these words I conclude my speech offering thanks to the Chair.

[English]

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN (Chirayinkil): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a subject which we have discussed several times in this House. In 1980s, the women's organisations fought in Bombay against certain existing laws following the Mathura case in Bombay. They fought for a change in the Criminal Law. We had joined many organisations and had many struggles. We had fought against dowry deaths.

Then, two Select Committees were constituted. I had served in both the Committees. Those Committees have made several recommendations for changes in Criminal Law and they were fully accepted. After that a legislation was enacted.

As far as Dowry Prohibition Act is concerned actually, the Congress Party was not bold enough to accept the unanimous recommendation made by the Committee constituted for bringing forward amendment to anti-dowry law. I still remember that we had picketed before this Parliament House and we were taken into police custody. The Magistrate heard our case. They told me : "You have committed a grave mistake. You have committed a crime because you did not allow the Members of Parliament to go in. That is a big mistake. You are fighting for a noble cause. So I free all of you and I also wish them success in your endeavours." He thought that by passing this legislation, something could be done. But what is happening atrocities on women are increasing day by day.

I have a Parliamentary publication with me. It says in 1985, 6355 rapes were committed and in 1993, 17,242 rapes were committed. In between, there are so many figures but I do not want to read those figures. In 1985, 15160 molestations were committed and in 1993, 20,925 molestations were committed. In 1985, 8440 kidnappings and abductions took place and in 1993 11,837 kidnappings and abductions took place. In 1985, 835

dowry deaths took place and in 1993, 5870 dowry deaths took place. In 1985, 3531 cases of eve-teasing were registered and in 1993, 12,809 cases of eve-teasing were registered. What is happening to the convictions? In 1992, the dowry deaths reported were 129, in 1993, the dowry deaths reported were 127. In 1994, the dowry deaths reported were 146. In 1992, 1993 and 1994, the dowry deaths casualties were zero.

The pending cases are respectively 124, 112 and 106. The rest are acquitted or cancelled. The figures for Delhi for the year 1994 are 284, 315 and 309 respectively. The convicted cases for 1993 and 1994 is two and zero respectively. The pending cases are 228, 238 and 248. The rest are acquitted or cancelled. The reported cases for 1993 is 809, 946 and 982 respectively. In 1992 no one was convicted, in 1993 only one person was convicted and again in 1994 nobody was convicted. So, what is the use of registering cases? Enough laws are there. But everyday the atrocities are increasing due to callous attitude of the administration. I can cite you several examples. Recently in newspapers we read about a case involving an Under Secretary in the Home Department raping his our child. He was arrested. But the girl has named four other people from the Home Department. Have you taken any action against them? I know several other cases. When I went to Rohtak, I was told about a murder of married woman, Poonam of Katura village of Sonapat District. Her body was recovered one month after her disappearance. But no one was arrested She went to the field and did not return. Everybody knows who did that But no one was arrested. No action was taken. Dr. K R. Punia, the former Minister of Haryana had led a delegation a fortnight ago to the Union Home Minister and held a protest demonstration in Delhi. What has happened to that? Did you take any action? We ourselves brought several cases to the notice of the Home Minister. But action is not taken. I brought one case to the notice of the Railway Minister. In that case the person was not punished but the girl was transferred. I do not think there is any use talking in this Parliament. There is a 30 per cent reservation for women in panchayat institutions. Have you implemented it? In Kerala no election has taken place. There would not be any panchayat elections where Congress is ruling. Is it not? What is the use of giving this 30 per cent reservation?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum) : We are committed to panchayat institutions. In Kerala panchayat institutions came into existence twenty years ago. The first panchayat elections took place in 1952 and all along the panchayat institutions are working there. Panchayat schedule had been published.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN (Chirayinkil): I am talking not only about Kerala but also about several other States...*(Interruptions)*

What was the difficulty in conducting elections ?

MR. SPEAKER : Mrs. Gopalan, in almost all the States, I think the law has been amended and under the amended law elections have taken place and the ladies have got themselves elected to the offices. This is a fact. Let us check it. You can check it.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN (Chirayinkil): They may come but one year has passed. Within that time why elections were not held?

MR. SPEAKER : It is done, Madam. You check up.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : I may tell you that in Zila Councils women were given 30 per cent reservation...

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI : Not only 33 per cent of women have been elected in Taluka Panchayats and Zila Parishads but there are a number of women Chairmen who got elected. We have conducted awareness camps for such ladies to make them aware of the existing laws and constitutional provisions through legal literature manuals. They are working very well.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : In Karnataka it was formerly there. At the time of Janata Dal Government, reservation was given to women and it was working Those Panchayats were dissolved when Congress Party came to power. That is also a fact. I know it because it is our neighbour State and I go there quite often. So that was functioning very well long ago, even before the Panchayati Raj Resolution was passed. In Kerala Zila Councils 30 per cent reservation was given but all the powers of the Zila Council were taken away. So I am saying whatever legislation is passed that is actually not being implemented.

What about employment and empowerment of women? How can we give them employment? One of the important things for women is to give them employment. About 90 per cent of our women are working in the unorganised sector and 70 per cent in agricultural sector. How are we going to save them? This is only possible if the land legislation is done. How are you going to help the rural masses without land legislation?

Otherwise, production will go up and that will go to the funds of the big landlords. What is happening in the rural areas in North India? Have you even implemented land legislation? What is the state of affairs of Adivasis and other sections of the society? They are suffering. The important thing is to give them land. That is not given. Unless that is done, there is no way out to improve their position in the countryside. No labour legislation in that way is also implemented where women are working more.

I went to Rohtak today where 23 people, including 13 women and six children, died yesterday. What about labour legislations? Do the Labour Inspectors go there?

All labour laws are violated where women are working. How can you say that you are helping the women? There should be a political will to implement them.

The economic status of women is also very much important. For that steps have to be taken. Even in Razgar Yojna how many women are benefited? We can see it in the Standing Committee Report also. How it was being implemented? Just by presenting it, it can not be implemented. So for women employment is the biggest criteria for saving them from atrocities.

What is happening in adivasi areas? In Vainad area, I know the condition of unmarried mothers. We have taken up their cause I am working in that area also. But what is happening there? The O.W.A Cost is demanded. But did the Government come to help them. I wrote to the Central Minister also. Let there be some attempt to help them.

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI : Would you yield, Madam? Shall I explain to you the employment point? What about Jawahar Rozgar Yojna where we are giving 40 per cent reservation to women under this scheme? What about Mahila Samridhi Yojna which were have introduced very recently and how many ladies we are employing under that? What about Rashtriya Mahila Kosh where lakhs of women are being given employment? What about Anganwadi Scheme where lakhs of women are being employed? Our Prime Minister was kind enough to universalise this programme. So, we wanted to cover the entire country within a period of two years. There are 12,500 creches already working in the country. We have opened a National Creche Fund, and yesterday only I replied it on the floor of the House. All these are coming one after the other to create employment for women

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : I am prepared to talk about all these things. How it has benefited the women? What percentage of women has been benefited by these? What is the state of affairs of these schemes? How it has helped to women?

I am prepared to discuss all these things including Anganwadi workers. When I say all this, the Speaker will not allow me to talk. What is their fate? How many hours are they working? You will have to take certain steps for them. The women, who were working in the fireworks factory, went with their small children, one-year and two-year old children, were burnt. Is there any creche for them? Only 12,000 creches are there in the country. Are you prepared to increase the number of creches? That is what I ask. So, several things are there. Legislations have to be implemented. Conditions have to be created. Actually, the cases of rape and other atrocities are taking place on Harijan women, Adivasi women and also on those who are poor. In order to prevent this, so many things have to be done. Are you prepared for a proper discussion on these things? I am prepared to talk on each and every aspect

of the project that you have been implementing. And that, is only going to serve the purpose. I can tell you that many things are there. If this Government has a political will, it can do many things. Women's Commission is there. What has been done with regard to that? Have you implemented their recommendations? The Sexual Assault Bill was drafted by the Women's Organisations jointly and submitted it to the Women's Commission and the Women's Commission in turn had submitted very early to the Government. What have you done about it? Out of the three cases of rape, which were reported in Delhi, two cases were minor children. What have you done with regard to these cases? You are complacent about it? We will have to go into each and every aspect of it. I am working in the Women's Organisation also. So, I know what is actually happening throughout India. But you are not implementing laws. Without a political will, you can never help and you will never be able to implement these laws, the atrocities on women will increase. That is going on increasing and no solution will be found out. Also because of the New Economic Policy culture that is generating in the country is one of the reasons for increasing the rape and other atrocities on women. What is happening even in the cities? I had complained to Shri Pilot one case. Some girls, who were studying in Jamia, have to go during night for their course and they were staying in a House. When they went into the House

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Madam, please let me know how much time would you need because we would like to identify the problems and we would like to suggest the solutions also and that would take the discussion in a correct direction. Otherwise, you know, there are problems and cases. If we go on discussing them, there may not be enough time for us.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A. CHARLES : Sir, this is a social evil and she is making a political speech, which is very unfair.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : It is political also because criminalisation in politics is increasing....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI A. CHARLES : We also share her concern. I also spoke on this subject...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : I know these cases. Criminalisation of policies...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN : Madam, do you mean to say that all these atrocities are done by the Congress people and the Congress Government is protecting the culprits etc.? If that is your intention, then I am not agreeing with you... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : These problems have to be dealt in the States. In the States different Governments are working and they belong to different parties. It is not a

question of one party or the other party or the other Government... *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN (Chirayinkil): Certain principles have to be evolved.. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Sir, It is perfectly right, as she also suggested, that we should try to have an approach, which is non-partisan. But to equate non-partisanship with non-politicalness, I mean, would be a mistake.

18.00 hrs.

All these problems are rooted in the political and economic structure and we have to look at it that way.

MR. SPEAKER : Let her take her own lines she wants to take She has a right to take her own line

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : It is not independent of politics. Certainly we should try to divorce it from political partisanship which is a different matter altogether.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : Mr Speaker, Sir, criminalisation in politics has also aggravated the atrocities on women because, in any crime, criminals are being protected by the politicians. Are you prepared to take out your hands from there? Will you take an oath that you will not protect the criminals? Our political leaders want goondas with them in their work It is a correct thing? I am telling this out of practical life. Can any Party do that? Are you prepared to take a decision that you will not support criminals? Then we will deal with them. It is an uneasy thing. Let an awareness actually be created among the people We are also doing this but the Government has to come forward.

MR. SPEAKER . I think, this is Six o' clock now. We should sit for some more time so as to conclude the discussion on this point. So please be on points. Let us point out what are the problems but suggest what solutions can be found so that the discussion is fruitful and useful.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : So, in these things, several things have to be done. The legislation that we have passed is not fully implemented and several other legislations are needed because even now women are being treated as second-class citizens in our country. Is Hindu law fully helpful to women? Several things have to be changed in the Hindu law. Have the women got the Coparcenary rights? In fact, in many States, it is not there. The women have no full property rights and custody of children. In so many other things, we are not equating them. Do not say that any other law - whether it is Muslim law or Christian law - is equating them. All laws are discriminating the women. So a non-partisanship view should be there. We have to impartially look at it and legislate laws on all these things. Our Constitution envisages that step by step we should go for equality of law. But what have you done? Instead,

we have gone backwards. I am not going into that again because there will be controversy.

Instead of that, are you prepared to have, at least, the registration of marriages? If, at least, the register is there, there will be some record. One by one, after creating the conditions, we can go to a common law. But the present position is not like that. We have also recommended several other laws and the Cr. PC 125. Actually I myself have introduced a Bill here but because of ballot system, it is not coming and we could not debate it here. On that, Maharashtra State has made an amendment raising the ceiling. West Bengal has raised it to Rs.3000/-. In Bombay, there is no limit to that But what is the law we are introducing? Here the ceiling limit is Rs.1,500/-. Parliament has to review the whole law and make amendments to that Several other laws are there to protect the women. They have to be taken up.

Factory legislations have to be implemented properly. Children are working in hazardous industries. What is the position there? I accept that this should be implemented in a non-partisan way. But certain conditions have to be created. The most important thing is to improve the poor economic status of women. To improve that, certain measures have to be taken. Land legislation is one of them. Regarding other things, such as giving employment and all that, including Rozgar Yojana and how it has benefited the women, so many reports have come. Even our own experience is there But are you prepared to mend or rectify the mistakes and then implement it? Then only, we will be able to do something because it is a very vast subject.

It is a very vast subject. I hope one by one, all these legislations will have to be redrafted and then introduced again.

As far as atrocities on women are concerned, we have a number of recommendations. There should be Committees in the police stations and in the DSP's head Offices. There can be an Advisory Committee comprising of women organisations. We can appeal to that and if any mistake is committed then we can correct it also. This was a long pending demand. How much has been done in this regard?

So, there should be a joint effort to rectify all these things. Then only we will be able to change the position.

MR. SPEAKER : I think Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal and one or two gentlemen also should speak. It is not only for the ladies to speak.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Please allow me to speak for five minutes.

MR. SPEAKER : Certainly. May I request that this is an opportunity given to us to discuss as to what are the problems, also to discuss what solutions can be found and if we do not do that and if we discuss the individual cases, probably we will reach nowhere?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shrimati Girija Devi's name is there and she will certainly speak. Now, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal will speak.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Sir, traditionally Indian society has accorded a very high pedestal to women. Her position and role as mother, as sister, as consort are all treated as sacred and perhaps it is only Hinduism where women are worshipped. We have goddess of knowledge.

MR. SPEAKER : St. Mary is also worshipped

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : I stand corrected. Despite the fact that the position accorded to women is indeed very high in our society, yet it is a sort of contradiction that because of the social taboos, women continue to suffer under the shadow of a traditional and conservative society with high illiteracy, ignorance taboos and orthodox beliefs.

It is in this context, it would be pertinent to refer to what the Women's Conference in Calicut, a few years back has observed. I quote:

"A women faces violence from the time she is conceived in the womb. Amniocentesis is the latest technical way of murdering female children before they can fight back and the implications are far worse because the mother is coerced through all the available social and psychological pressure on her. Her home is the main area of attack. Drunken husbands, dowry hungry in-laws, financial problems and young female children deprived of nutrition exemplify the force with which a woman is attacked within the four walls of her social haven."

Sir, the exploitation of women, the assault on her, whether physical or mental, is only a symptom of malaise that lies within the social structure.

The forms of atrocities against women take many forms and are perpetuated in varying degrees of harassment and intimidation. That is the position of her whether it is at home or at workplace.

Very eloquently, reference has been made to the rising incidence of rape, molestation and other forms of crime against women. Though we have the figures of the number of rape cases in the country, yet it is a common knowledge that a large number of rape cases go unreported for the simple reason that the victim fights shy of reporting the same, for the reason that there is an indelible stigma attached to it. It is perhaps the only crime where it is the victim and not the offender who is looked down upon by the society.

Faced with harassment, shame and humiliation, in a very large number of cases, the victims of rape do not venture out to even report. And that is precisely the reason why we come to the conclusion that despi.c the

fact that over the years, very many meaningful amendments have been made to different provisions of law, whether those be of the I.P.C. or the Cr.P.C., yet the position continues to be as pitiable as it ever was. We have a provision that post mortem has to be conducted by a team of two doctors, that no-objection certificate can be given by the police only after the body has been identified, has been seen by the close relatives of the victim, yet we do come across cases where lacunae in law really hamper the delivery of justice. There are cases which one does not have to be an expert to find out that the poor victim, the girl, has been strangled to death by the greedy in-laws and thereafter the body partially burnt, yet the experts in the courts of law argue and hold that the guilt has not been proved against the accused. If we really mean business, it is time that we must set up specialised tribunals dealing with cases involving murder or attempted suicide in case of women, as we have been doing the various other cases, and such tribunals should have as its members, judges, as also distinguished social workers. The strict letter of law should not come as an impediment in the final dispensation of justice.

Education is an important agent and an important catalyst in according equality to women and to make them aware of their rights. Education plays an extremely important role in removal of gender stereotyping and discrimination. Education can bring about the much needed change in attitudes and social structure, including that of the family. It is heartening that the education policy which, at times, is adversely commented upon by some of our hon. Members, lays greater emphasis on providing education to women, as also providing legal education to them.

Sir, the need of the hour today is to sensitise the planners, the policy-makers and the enforcement machinery about the role that women have to play in society, about the place that women have in society and in this context I must congratulate you, as also Geetaji, for this discussion in Parliament today. I am sure, this would go a long way in bringing about the desired result. May be at times, we go astray, in our zeal to be what we always are, that is to criticise each other, to find fault with various matters. But, by and large, I am sure, this discussion today would enable us to focus on a very important issue which, despite the fact that various measures have been taken by the Government from time to time, continues to haunt us, continues to bring about a bad name to our society.

I know that the incidents of rape in even developed countries - if you go by the number of rapes per lakh population - may be high. But, somehow, given the position where in over 54 per cent of the cases rape is committed on young, innocent girls of the age of 7 to 16 years, and even below 7 years, I think it has to make us sit up and think about it as to where the malaise lies and what has got to be done about it.

I think the National Commission for Women, is one important step in fighting the malaise that afflicts our society. I know it does not have the teeth which we would wish it to have. But, nevertheless, I think some useful work is being undertaken by the Commission because it has a specific mandate to study and monitor all matters relating to constitutional and legal safeguards provided for women. It looks into specific complaints as well and I think if this Commission were to work on a day-to-day basis an environment could be created where attention could be focussed to atrocities committed against women, to problems faced by women and we in the Parliament and in the State Legislatures would be well advised by the Commission to bring about necessary amendments wherever required - not only amendments but plug the loopholes, to fill the lacunae which often enable the guilty to go unpunished when they commit crime against women

I know the most important thing that can be done to bring down the incidents of crime against women is women empowerment. That is the structural change I was referring to when I used the word earlier. And a major and very bold step has been taken in that direction despite cynicism by many people. That was to make reservation of not less than one-third of seats for women in the local bodies and Panchayats. I would not really doubt what has been said by hon. Member Shrimati Gopalan. But I think it may be only initially that in certain States time-limit may have been ignored in setting up the local bodies. But I am sure that given the mandate in those two revolutionary constitutional amendments we - and anybody for that matter - will not be able to put off elections to those bodies for very long. May be, there was a lacuna that the six months condition does not apply to the initial constitution of a Panchayat or a municipal corporation. But I am sure slowly and slowly elections are taking place and women are getting their due and women are getting the right place in society and they are getting an opportunity to play their role of leadership in the society.

Sir, a beginning has got to be made whether it is in poverty alleviation or in training women for self-employment. The programme announced recently by the Prime Minister, that is, the Mahila Smridhi Yojana may not catch the fancy of some people, but, I think, Sir, this is a revolutionary step, given the resource constraints that we have, given the level of poverty that we have in the rural area. This is a measure where our women, in their own name, start an account in a Post Office and if they deposit a sum of Rs.300/- in a year, the Government contributes another Rs.75/-. Sir, people may consider it to be a small step, but this is a very significant step. So far, the grouse was that the mother of the child cannot go to the branch of a bank in school and deposit the fee in the account as the account had to be opened in the father's name. This is a revolutionary departure from that. A women can open an account in,

her own name and deposit that money and earn the subsidy thereon.

Similarly, there are schemes like the Development of Women and Child in Rural Areas, STEP, NOPAD, etc. I am sure, Sir, that given the determination of the government, these problems which have been faced by women over the years would be sorted out. To conclude, I would only say, Sir, that in granting equality, not women in the society, well meaning voluntary organisations run by women have to be recognised and encouraged to play a greater role. One major activity which such organisations have taken up at different places is the running of Short Stay Homes for women in distress. Much more could be done through them.

Sir, it is the bringing together of the efforts of the governmental agencies and the non-governmental voluntary organisations which could go a long way in helping women in distress, in bringing to public notice, to public gaze the atrocities unleashed on women. I am sure that if the voluntary organisations are encouraged we will be able to attain greater success. With these words, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER: Now Girija Deviji will speak. Girija Deviji, we are discussing this matter after a long time. We waited, waited and waited. If we are very sharp on the point, it will help us

[Translation]

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI (Maharajganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will try to express here whatever I have felt in society on the basis of my feelings

MR. SPEAKER : No, you may take as much time as you like.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : I have neither to praise the Government unduly nor to speak for or against any.

MR. SPEAKER : You may take as much time you like.

[English]

I am saying that if we do that way, it will be more helpful. There is no time constraint.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : This issue has been pending for two years and atrocities on women are continuing. Gradually a time has come when Parliament took it up to have a debate on atrocities being committed on women.

Atrocities are of many kinds at family level, society level, at mental level and physical, religious, economic level etc.

In the census of Twentieth Century Women population was 990 against one thousand males, which

has now further decreased to 910 with the development of scientific techniques. Atrocities start even before taking birth and it has assumed an explosive proportions.

The figures of the cases of rape, dowry death, molestation, abduction of girls, compelling girls to carry on illegal occupations etc. given here are not complete. We never got any survey conducted so far. We do not have placewise and category wise figures of atrocities committed women. No doubt great women like Gargi and Maitreyi were born here and empowerment of women started here.

In our sub-continent, Shrimati Bhandarnaike in ceylon, Shrimati Indra Gandhi in India, Shrimati Benazir Bhutto in Pakistan and Shrimati Jiya in Bangala Desh took birth, Chinese in Burma are in prison. Despite so much energy and power in women what is their position and condition ? Our daughters are being insulted openly and daily They have to weep and they are insecure in their houses and outside If you go to police, you will see an employee of home department rapes his own daughter in a hotel starting a blue film while raping her. Under the procedure of justice where shall one get justice ? Whatever rules you have framed or laws changed or strengthened, can a girl of eight years, who has been raped, go and get justice, because there are loopholes available in Indian Penal Code for escape from all such cases A case of rape after every 54 minutes, molestation after 26 minutes, kidnapping after every 43 minutes, eve-teasing after 51 minutes, dowry death after 42 minutes, act of cruelty after every 33 minutes is taking place in our country. From occurrence of incidents such, it appears clear that one criminal act against women is being committed after every seven minutes. This position is inspite of several laws made or changed on being introduced. The figures quoted above are from Government record, which are less than 50% of the actual figures

We made efforts in this connection again and again at Government level as well as non Government level by associating voluntary organisations and groups of Women workers. In the Actions taken by Government include setting up of a Women crime Branch. Its condition is that one officer of what branch had an ill eye on a women employee of that branch When women went to Saharanpur in connection with the case of Usha Dhiman, the condition of those employees was that a women had raised fund to bribe police. Home department is meant for protecting us, but its nude pictures shows that he has thrown away its sense of shame with a view to a shame that woman and act shamelessly. We have to save ourselves, whether it is a case of Usha Dhiman of Uttar Pradesh in which a girl was killed under suspicion of her desire to marry her cousin brother, or it is a case of Haryana in which a woman of Meena caste was raped by the son of the village Panch and a threat was given that if any one

from her house came forward to give evidence, he/she will also meet the same fate. Due to fear psychosis one came forward to depose evidence. In Punjab working girls/ladies were tatoood on the forehead as being pick-pocket. Has any man ever been treated like that? We have such a tradition here. My predecessor stated "Yatra Naryastu Poojyante, Ramante Tatra Devta." We give women the place of goddess and SumitrajI just spoke in praise of Goddess Durga. When I read hymns in praise of Durga, I see her in bad shape. The demons who were incited to face her included a Demon named Dhumraiochan who was a creation of Lord Vishnu and who had caught hold of her hair from forehead and asked her to accompany him and marry his master. Then she told him that he was powerless. Today time has come to infuse strength in women to enable them to rise and save themselves from acts of oppression and suppression. Government has made several changes in the penal code and anti dowry provisions have also been given teeth and their evidence strengthened. How they shall avange their death after they die? One who has dies or the one who has become 'Sati' cannot enjoy mundane pleasures.

There is a talk of empowerment of women, on the other hand you give only Rs. 25 on a deposit of Rs. 75 how that will empower them. How many women have been thus empowered by oepning of a fund? Your participation of only 33% therein exposes you. In the Cabinet there are only 20% ladies and only one of Cabinet rank, only four State Ministers and one Deputy Minister. Condition of protection is that there are two lady Ministers in the Ministry of Human Resources A Anganwari lady worker working under one of them was raped, who ultimately committed suicide. As per an another news published on 1st December, 1992, Principal of Navodaya Vidyalaya-which comes under her charge raped a girl student of his school. There have been 48 rape cases in Navodaya Vidyalayas Teachers of the school are also involved in the cases ..(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What can be done to stop it?

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : I am taking very less time No other Speaker took this much little time.

MR. SPEAKER : We would like to know as to what can be done to curb such happenings.

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI :There are measure for it. We should give teeth to those laws ...(Interruptions) I will speak if you allow me two minutes time.

MR. SPEAKER : You take 10 or 15 minutes but let us know that measures an be taken.

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : Prior to it an official of Home Ministry had raped his daughter and when that incident was raised...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not repeat it again and again. It has been said and it is not necessary to repeat it.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : A Government assurance was given to the effect that if a statutory change is required that would also be resorted to the teeth of your laws. Besides framing a law, convene in all party meeting where in each Member of Parliament may take on oath that if any of their kith or kin got involved in a rape case, they will spearhead the mob seeking their execution, and will not join their saviours. Similarly, incidences of dowry death also occur to often. If we are found giving or taking dowry, our members present here to pledge that they would eschew dowry I am ready for it. This is how dowry practice can be eradicated within a minute and it will not take any more toll. Dowry death are taking place in Delhi just beneath your very nose but we are not equipped with any social or legal means to stop it. Therefore besides empowering us legally, the people's representatives here should feel it their responsibility to take anti dowry pledge. Hon'ble speaker, Sir, you are our Ombudsman, leader and master. You call each of them and ask them to make a pledge to eschew dowry. Similarly in the prevailing trend of treating girl child with difference, it is not men alone, but women as well indulge in perpetrating atrocities on girls.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am trying to make them understand this, but they are not coming forth.

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI : Please give us your suggestions on how to prevent such atrocities on women. I would like to have the suggestions from you. I would like to entire House to give me the suggestions. I welcome the suggestions; I welcome the critics' suggestions. Please give me the suggestions on how can we reduce these things.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : I have suggested to call those brutal persons and punish them. Because you did not do that, so I had to say this. I repeat that because I am distressed over torture of that lady worker. As regards unequal status of girls, a Bill has been introduced in Rajya Sabha. Why did we not pass the Bill? Veenaji once suggested for vesting or equal rights and told that when we go to our in-laws' house, we have to wait for distribution of property of his parents so that we may be entitled to our share in that property. Why do we not get our right at the time of our marriage? In the house of husband also, a wife gets her share only after partition or property. If we have to think for empowerment of women. First of all we shall have to amend our property laws. A bill was brought forward in

regard to Parasis, which was passed by us all happily, in which girls was to be paid 50% share.

With all these things said and the condition prevailing all around, I feel it is futile to lament within wilderness on all these things. I, therefore, while thanking you for giving me time to speak on this issue express my heart felt concern for all those hapless girls living a wrecked life and conclude.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Udaipur) : I thank the chair for affording me time to speak despite my late coming.

I agree with the sentiments expressed by my predecessor and Speakers I genuinely feel that poet Sahir's feelings cannot be irrelevant where he says -

"Madad Mangti hai ye Radha ki Beti.
Yashoda ki humjan, jubeda ki beti."

I cannot forget an old Egyptian story of Afigniya—once there was drought and priests declared that drought cannot be removed unless the most beautiful girl is sacrificed. The girl and her mother opposed it in the first instance. But in the man-dominated society, who cares for the woman? I want to carry the House with me to that scenario when she was being taken to the altar of sacrifice and the priests were chanting religious incantations and saying that Afigniya fortunate and temples and churches would be constructed in her name because she was sacrificing her life for the sake of her religion and the country and that if she had any last desire, she could express that. Afigniya, in the first instance, refuse to express her last wish, but on reaching the altar she suddenly turned back and said that the females of the coming generation should not be treated as chattel, they should rather be treated as human being. Saying so Afigniya died.

Even today all women of the world shall unanimously and unequivocally would say that they should be treated as human beings and not as commodities. We cannot therefore forgive those persons who committed atrocities on women in the name of religion or politics or on any other pretext. Rama may be worshipped in spite of doing injustice to Sita, I cannot deny it, I do not want to give the example of Ahilya, but it has to be quoted that one person disguised as her husband raped her, but her husband cursed her to become a stone and then she waited for lord Rama to come for her protection and safeguard.

I want to submit to the hon. Minister that we shall have to translate the dreams of our freedom fighters in reality. Mahatma Gandhi wrote in the 'Harijan' in 1920 that independence and freedom are meaningless until and unless all persons standing in a line get equal rights. But the law makers gave that right to women, although we were nowhere in the line, and we got those political rights which are not available to women else where in the world. We should, therefore, take independence as a bliss and feel grateful to these

freedom fighters and law makers. Thereafter the scenario changed and efforts were made to change the whole scenario through Five Year Plans. We are thankful to you for this.

Though the first three-four plans were women-oriented very few chances were provided for women and only 102 women were nominated. It need not mentioned that what type of women they were. From that it can be construed how welfare oriented schemes had been formulated. That is why the perspective of 4th, 5th and 6th Plans were changed and these were made development-oriented. You made those plans development oriented and for that I congratulate you. Many programmes of women welfare were included in them. But in the 7th and 8th Plan you advanced one step for ward and the Government looked after women upliftment and awakening of women. All the programmes were formulated because of awareness among women. For that I congratulates womanfolk.

I cannot forget Rajiv ji in this context Indiraji provided strength to the women. She came forward as power embodied. I will not be hyperbolic if I say that Rajeevji had more compassion and piety for women He tried to translate Gandhiji's idea into reality that persons standing in one line should be best owed with equal social, political, economic rights so that the independence that we have achieved may prove meaningful. That is why he brought forward Panchayat and municipal council Bill as model for the world to emulate it. He wanted to provide rights to women on reservation basis but unfortunately the Bill could not be passed during his time I express my gratitude to the Prime Minister and both the Houses of Parliament for passing that noble Bill. Thereafter male mentality found some change. Had there been a feminine outlook, the Bill could not have been passed by both the Houses of Parliament.

I thank you also Mr Speaker for taking initiative in this noble task of providing us political rights. We shall find our country is much ahead such countries as have bestowed of not even 5 to 6 percent of political rights to women. Here we have 33 percent participation at the lower level. The Prime Minister has materialised Shri Rajiv Gandhi's dream of giving economic rights to women by taking a small step in the form of Women's Prosperity Scheme. Now it is our responsibility to complete that task. We may criticise the Government to any extent, but I would like to submit to you that had the Government not been aware of it then the perspective plan upto 2000 could not be prepared, which we have already formulated. How the idea of providing women with social economic, political and legal rights would have surfaced in them.

I agree with Smt. Girija ji's assertion that the figures are really disturbing and distressing. Ratio of figures has been increasing by 10-12 percent. There is no end

to other types of atrocities on women Intention of our Government is not bad. I think. If she happens to see the condition of those women who are confined in short stay homes or Mahila Welfare Villages, she will shed tears. Today goonda element go there and commit adultery with ladies in Welfare Villages. They are safe in homes but unsafe in Police Station. We shall have to think in this regard in a different way.

As far women's status in present days none can deny there are two attributes to it-first, the social set up in which women might have ever taken a initiative during certain period of history. In this regard Jaan Paul Satre had stated

"You are condemned to be free."

We may be obsessed to be free, but we shall have to recall the atrocities which women had to bear and make sincere efforts to curb them. Earlier whatever decision used to be taken by the head of family, was implemented, but now the circumstances are very serious. Tulsidasji had rightly put down that "Nari Na Mohey Nari ke Roopa."

Though we may raise our loud voice against the atrocities that are being perpetrated on women, while sitting like an armed chair philosopher, but it cannot be denied that today women are themselves, perpetrating atrocities on women. In such a situation, what will the law do? We have enacted laws. I, therefore, urge upon woman members of Parliament to rise above five star culture and go to villages and ask the women about their plight and share their sorrow and pleasures. Now the ball is in our court. Despite so many political, social and economic rights given to us, the tragedy is that these are not being implemented. We shall have to do self-introspection and find a simple reply. Seminars are held on Government money in five star hotels, but its recommendations are not implemented at grassroot level I urge upon the hon. Minister to have stringent laws and if necessary, these can be amended from time to time. For example, the issue of share in property had come up before the House that women should get right to the property of her husband.

Suppose it is done then what will be the form of social structure? In Maharashtra 33% jobs have been reserved for women. I congratulate the State Government for that. But the society has not accepted the position which has emerged from behind the scene. Therefore, first of all, we shall have to create awareness. A brother came to me and said if 33% reservation in jobs for women is given, his unmarried sister will get a job but what will be his position after she is married. On the other hand the husband says that he will remain unemployed. Unless social changes are brought about law cannot law cannot be implemented successfully. Therefore, we all should follow what Rajivji had said about the drafting and shaping of our five year plans

where in we may make concerted efforts to achieve that objective.

It cannot be denied that this Ministry has set up a women's commission. A few days back, there was a discussion on Women's Commission. It is ridiculous that an hon. Member raised the issue of rape of a man and thus ridiculed the issue. The fact is that the cases referred by the Commission are not attended to by any of the concerned Ministries. Through you I would like to ask the minister to think in this regard. It is not sufficient on the part of a ministry to say that things have been pending in other ministries. That won't help in redressal of our complaints. There is a need to give teeth and nails to the commission to confer executive power to it.

As you have said that we should come up with suggestions, I agree with you. We shall have to make the provisions of I.P.C. and Cr. P.C. a bit more stringent. Unless special courts are set up, pending cases relating to atrocities on women would remain unsettled. In addition, there is necessity of police stations exclusively in every state. For this purpose a police station for a population of 1 or 2 lakhs women can be set up. In Rajasthan, mobile vans have been put into service. Maximum number of cases are being reported from Jaipur. Telephone facility is available to them. Whenever dowry death cases were reported mobile van reached the site within fifteen minutes. Arrangements should be made for providing mobile vans in big cities in the co-operation of the Home Ministry. Every state not having a Woman Commission. It should be ensured that women commission are invariably set up in all the remaining states within three months. As far the education system, both Job oriented education and Awareness education should form part of women education. In many states free technical education is being imparted to girls where as many other states have not made any such arrangement. The Education Minister should direct them to impart free education and technical education to women. Jobs for women should be divided into three categories i.e. for widows, for divorcees and general category. We made an experiment in Rajasthan after eradication of practice of Sati, keeping widows and age barred women outside those jobs. It fetched good results and created a social awareness among them and the widows got jobs. Similarly, we should provide jobs to divorced ladies and direct the state Governments accordingly. Financial aid is provided to women through WDP, NAFED or Dwakra, but there is no proper co-ordination among them. I had written a letter to you requesting for entrusting the programme of total literacy to Anganwari workers, Dwakra workers and WDP women workers. If the Government cannot enhance their pay scales, it can at least entrust them with the responsibility of literacy programme by paying some amount as honorarium. In this way these women will run both the programme, one before noon and the other in the evening. For this,

they should at least get one thousand rupee each. This experiment was implemented in Rajasthan and it fetched good results. I want to say that on the one hand, we have given 33% political rights to women, but on the other hand, in Copenhagen, a film on child marriage is shown daily.

Thereafter having delivered speeches that we have delegated all Social-political rights to them. We felt ashamed to see on TV children of 4-5 years age getting married. Here too, alongwith stringent laws awareness is absolutely essential. When I was Minister incharge of this Department, in Rajasthan, the Home Ministry could act only in two cases, but the workers of women Development Project successfully stopped 200 child marriages. It is regretting that same WDP is being discontinued by Rajasthan State Government. In this regard, I request your intervention and to exert your influence to persuade the State Government to continue WDP, not only in that state but also in other States. The main problem is increasing population. We can not afford to overlook the menace. Despite several laws framed by the Government, there is lack of awareness among the people. You should not sit complacent with the figures supplied by the collectorate but should go to the bottom to see the reality, You should organise most of the camps through WDP, Dwakra or Anganwari Workers and Members of Parliament State legislatures and other statutory bodies should be associated with those programmes. In my area, the MLPs or MIAs are not invited to participate in these programmes. We must be invited so that we could contribute constructively.

There is no doubt that atrocities on women are on the increase but besides that awareness has also increased simultaneously, be it the case of dowry deaths, rapes or legal separation, today, women themselves are coming forward to struggle for their rights. For effectively implementing the organising programmes for imparting education and job-oriented courses. With this, I am sure, the day is not far when we will be able to make the dreams of Mahatma Gandhi come true.

In regard to jails, I am to say that 80% to 90% women are implicated without sufficient reasons or they get themselves emotionally involved in such cases. Men get themselves bailed out anyhow. Sir, I am conducting my research work there. I would like to tell you that when women confined in jail, under section 302 and 307 get released, nobody comes to see them, not even their husbands, sons, in such a condition we should run some programmes in jails so that they become self-sufficient before their release. They also form a part of our society. If we confine them forever, they will never be able to get out of it.

The Government is determined to give them full rights so that they are able to live with their full

individuality. Now the women have themselves become aware and they have got elected to Panchayats, Municipal Councils etc. with some an idea to materialise their dreams. Even uneducated and semi-educated women have started reading and writing. They have given a slogan 'Alongwith home and hearth, we shall become Pradhan also'. There is perceptible change in mental outlook of men and women. Male MPs deserve congratulations for passing this Bill and releasing that in 21st century they cannot keep women in the condition in which Seeta, Panchali, Ahliya lived in old days. However, women are now aware that since they can neither go with women liberation, nor want to be treated with utter contempt. They will have to follow mid-path so that they could enjoy social, political, economic rights alongwith discharging their household responsibilities. Before, concluding, I would like to quote following complot :

"Abhi Tewar Kahan Badle Hai Inke, Abhi apna Daur Hal Inqalabi Ka, Abhi Bhi Sehra Hai, Tapish Baki Hai, Abhi Mausam Kahan Gulabi Ka."

They will still have to create further awakening that they, as women are one society. With this concept gaining ground, stringent laws and their proper implementation together with unity of women will take them further and remove all bottlenecks coming in the way of their progress. I thank you, Sir, for allowing me time to speak.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE . Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will, as advised by you, try to suggest a few things. But perhaps I cannot begin without thanking you

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Are you thanking me?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJE Do you want my thanks?

I thank the Chair because there were so many subjects which could have been picked up and I believe the most important one has been picked up. I would like to thank Geetaji also. Let me give you a story. We came to the political movement almost together. We are of the same age group. We were having our matriculation. One of the first and almost electrifying actions in Calcutta at that time was when she was a student when one male member tried to heckle her at a busy junction. She was the first person, as far as I could remember, who used her shoes to beat him up on the street.

Of course, I must also thank all the other women activists here particularly because unless women activists are able to rise against what is in a denigrating sense characterised as the second sex, we ourselves feel debased. Therefore, my thanks go to all those who not only participated in the discussions here, but to all those who are activists in preventing atrocities on

women. That is just the tip of the ice berg. The basic question is the question of inequality as between the so called first and the second sex. I will come to that

I feel tempted to make another mention. I had a hand in it to this extent. There is one factor which we nurtured from our student days. Our approach was a very rigorous, no-nonsense, scientific approach of scientifically viewing the affairs of the society. In fact, it is that which led some of us to Marxism. We knew there were other fields. The heart is there, but the heart must guide the head also.

19.00 hrs.

But wherever it is a problem of the head, the approach has to be scientific as rigorously as possible

With that approach, let me mention another fact in which I have no hand but like to take pride. I was born as was usual in our cases at that time-in my maternal uncle's house, my mother's parent's house. The house where I was born-that house in Calcutta-was the house where Shri Ishwar Chandra Vidyasaagar's first widow remarriage took place. It was in that house that I was born. So, those things come to my mind when I speak on this question.

Before I come to the constructive suggestions, let me try to eliminate some of the fallacies, some of the misconceptions are still prevalent. Now, for instance, let us not demean ourselves too much. Let us remind ourselves that centuries had to pass before franchise to women could be granted in what is considered to be the most democratic country in the world, the United Kingdom. They got franchise for the elite first, then for the adult male; and only in the first quarter of this century could the adult women also get their franchise. Let us take pride in this that we had that as soon as we got independence. Why should we demean ourselves? She has made a reference and very correctly so that it is a very strange phenomenon in the Asian context. We have the most number of women premiers, women leaders in the political field. She has mentioned Pakistan; she has mentioned Sri Lanka. We are, of course, there and Bangladesh is also there. In Myanmar also, it would have been possible had that lady not been arrested. In Philippines also, there was a women President.

In the past of this subcontinent also, we were, that is our women were exceptional in the field of science, in the field of arts and in any other field. In the ancient ages, we had exceptional women. But at the same time let us remind ourselves that these were exceptions. We had exceptional women, but these were exceptions. Why is it so? And here, let us try to understand that there are some fallacies in our understanding of certain things.

There was a stage in our society when it was the women it was the women who dominated. We know

that is known in history as matriarchal period. They were absolutely dominant during that period. Then certain things changed. Some of its remnants are still there in the tribal regions of Himachal Pradesh and in some areas in Kerala. But then, the economic activity of the womankind changed and a new kind of economic relations began to develop. I will not go very long into the past, but at least into two modes of the past in the economy. In the feudal mode and in the capitalist modes, women's enslavement—not only impairment, but far from it, enslavement—began to occur. Look at our kings. We had princesses also. But rest of them had a big harem of so many wives.

They had so many wives. All this was prevalent in the feudal days. Women were treated like any other property in the household. The capitalists obviously were a cleverer lot. On surface, they will show praises which are more than due, in order to cover up to equality and they will be extra courteous to women. But as we all know in this period of society where profit is the dominating motive, everything is translated into whether or not that production is saleable and everything becomes a commodity. It was pointed out here What is dowry? Even the love between the husband and the wife was looked at in terms of cash. Even the relationship between the children and the parents in this phase of society was looked at in terms of funds. Should parents remain in the family? Are they too burdensome or are they useful for our children? After considering this, the family may retain them. So, new dimensions were entered into and new ways of enslaving women took place against which the so-called second sex began to battle. They got the franchise. It is in this context that it was pointed out that unless in the field of economy itself certain changes are made, the basic requirement that equity among the sexes cannot be fulfilled. It is not my point to say that with basic changes in the economy or social structure, equality would be automatic; that is not so. Extra additional efforts have to be made to get rid of so many thousands of years of ideas and practices of inequality.

But the important point remains that while the house not merely a base, there is a structure above that. All the same, the superstructure cannot exist without the base. So, we have to handle that; we have to lay the base before we construct. It is here that important questions arise and it is here that certain solutions have to be found out.

To the extent I have been able to understand and appreciate comrade Suseela Gopalan's statement, she made a reference—I think, Shrimati Gestaji also made it, I do not remember—that in the countryside the basic problem of inequality arises because of ownership of land. It is there that we have to handle—as you say, cutting across party lines but not cutting across politics—together the problem. Even then, that is not enough. It

is sometimes suggested— as our honourable and sympathetic Minister was suggesting, the suggestion about *anganwadi* was very good - that are we not employing women or are we not giving work to women through the *anganwadi*? Well, there is a fallacy in that statement. It is not true that the women are without work. In fact, it is the opposite and they are over-worked. In the families and in the fields, they are over-worked than men. Males can relax in the evening, but they cannot even relax. So, it is not a question of unemployment in the sense of occupation, but what we are trying to do is certainly good. All this is unrecognised in terms of current value of income. All this is considered to be unpaid labour and since they are unpaid, they are not valued. Therefore, whenever we raise the question of payment to *anganwadi* workers, that question arises.

We have to understand it that way. They are unpaid. They are not without work. Now, if you pay them Rs.100, you say that you have started paying. But Rs.100 will not get them equality. It is from that context that the question arises again and again. If you want to introduce equality among women, this under-payment has to stop. She has made a suggestion and I fully appreciate that suggestion. They try to increase it and give them that kind of a job which can be justified in terms of economic strength of the country also. But that is one very positive suggestion.

Sir, there was various levels of solution of these problems - short term and long term ones. I know that during pre-Independence days and perhaps even now, when you talk only of atrocities, we offered very simple solutions. In our own families, we asked our girls— may be sisters or whoever she may be -to take to *Ju-jitsu* training. During the freedom movement, we had jobs to train women in lathi wielding and handling knives. That is one level of approach. If women can take charge of their own physical safety in physical terms, that is one level but that cannot be done everywhere. But, all the same we did try to approach at the micro level also that whatever can be had, let it be had. There is no objection to that. But there is no solution.

The second thing that has to be done is this. I do recongise— let it be very candid— that it is not a party matter. The fact of reservation in panchayats and local self-government is of tremendous significance for the country. There is no escaping the fact. We were in trouble, frankly speaking. We have to find out where from we get 30 per cent and who are people because in the normal day-to-day living, we have not succeeded even if we wish to generate such enthusiasm among the so-called *second sex* so that there are enough activists to occupy these positions. The very fact of reservation, the fact that we are all forced to do it is changing the contours of society. This is a path in right direction. Mind you, they are 50 percent. Even if the fraction is a little less, we are still saying it as 30 per cent. The condition of equality, quite often, is in equal rights. If

we want to achieve equality, then we have to provide unequal conveniences to those who are suffering. This is true between one country and another also. This is what I mean when we say that we want to protect their rights. This is not free competition in terms of equal base. The same thing applies here also. That is why, there is reservation which is an unequal situation. But without that inequality, you cannot arrive at the equality that we desire. Now, Sir, if this is accepted, let us try to reason out this. Should we not take further steps along these directions? We have also provided unequal relationship in terms of 50 per cent reservation like the OBC reservation and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes reservation. Why cannot we say that there must be 50 per cent reservation not only in the field of panchayat system but also in other areas such as civil services examinations, etc.? This will not violate constitutional rights because within that, we can have it exactly as we are having it in the panchayat system. Why cannot we say that there must be 50 per cent reservation if they are appearing in civil service examinations? Some people may raise the question of quality. Initially, there will be sufferings as there were utterances in the case of even Scheduled Castes reservation.

But in every sphere of life where income generation takes place, where property accumulation through income generation is possible, if we try to introduce these kinds of provisions, only that will lay the basis ultimately against these atrocities. That is not enough, but ultimately that would lay the basis.

Rest of it is going on it is. I believe, this discussion is not the conclusion of what Shrimati Geetaji has initiated but another beginning for another spot ahead. And always, as it has been said again and again, nobody can liberate somebody else. Liberation has to come from the person who wants to be liberated. This applies to even folk also, so called 'second sex' also. They have to organise themselves much more than it is today. What we can do is not to feel, not to say that they are doing it for themselves but to believe they are doing it for us and therefore for the entire society. It is due to this movement among the women organisations, striking power and empowerment the United Nations Conference is going to take place in Beijing in another few months' time. Empowerment is becoming the central theme. Empowerment means, 1) give them power in the field of economy, give them power even it appears to be unequal, give them more power; and 2) allow them to organise, provide for all instruments which help them to organise and strike hard at the mind of the people who have inherited the bias in a very unreasonable manner. It is there that the laws become important.

But much more, as has been pointed out, than laws would be the struggle of the women led by activists who are all MPs here across the party lines for the sake of sake

MR. SPEAKER : Very good.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Ferozabad): think you for giving me time to speak, and Geetaji also for raising such an important issue.

Even so many years after independence of India, woman is still called 'Abala' (A weaker sex). The way in which women are being raped and subjected to various kind of brutalities is certainly condemnable. I belong to Brijbhumi in Uttar Pradesh. There has been an incident of rape of scheduled caste women in a planned way in a brick kiln of Parsi in Aligarh district. Such an ignoble act was done by people who are socially influential and maintain political circle. I visited the site of incident and heard them sitting among those 17 women whether they belonging to either political party or official team.....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: We are not discussing the individual cases. We are discussing the problems and solutions.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: It is not an individual case, Now I am telling what happened

MR. SPEAKER : I agree with your viewpoint

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : The way in which officers investigating into the matter interrogate a particular lady again and again that what happened thereafter and so on, she would certainly feel embarrassed and will not be able to open her mouth. Such behaviour has been meted out to women at many a places. I have got the opportunity to visit approximately ten places in Uttar Pradesh. Whether it is the case of Budaun or Allahabad or a case of rape of 7 years old girl, the victims belonged to down trodden communities. However neither U.P. Government nor Central Government has arrested the accused so far and they are roaming freely. The condition of woman in this country today is so pitiable that they are compelled to think what they should do. The patriots, at the time of independence, did not imagine of such pitiable condition of women and depressed classes in independent India.

Mahatma Gandhi had declared that India will not be considered an independent country until and unless the poor, depressed class, rural, scheduled caste and scheduled tribe people in the country were uplifted.

Sir, I congratulate late Rajeev Gandhi who in his short tenure had understood well the circumstances prevailing in the country and had given serious thought to the welfare of these classes of people. I do not want to repeat the figures of crimes. In U.P. 14048, in M.P. 11378, in Rajasthan 13973 and in Andhra Pradesh 8300 cases were registered. In addition, there are many

women belonging to poor, scheduled castes & tribes and depressed classes whose F.I.R. have not been registered in police stations. A woman is a woman, whether she belongs to high or low caste or depressed or scheduled caste. A house, village, country, city or a place where women are insulted or ill-treated, is a hell for her. Who is responsible therefor and who will listen to their distress? In regard to atrocities on women and down-trodden communities, we shall have to rise above party politics. Otherwise, no useful purpose will be served merely by making laws. Laws are already there, but FIR of many women are not registered even today.

I had an opportunity to see a case in Itawa. However, I should not like to quote the names. Hands and legs of the father of a seven year old girl were tied in her presence and he was made to hang from a Neem tree. Thereafter, the girl was raped at 10 o'clock in the night. Two ministers of our government went to Lucknow. There, the correspondents of newspapers wanted to know from them about the action on the incidents of Itawa, Muzaffarnagar and Parsi. A woman, whether she belongs to any caste is ultimately a woman. The Minister, while replying to queries of the correspondents, said, "a proper decision will be taken at an appropriate time." What does it mean? Such persons are unfit for the positions they are holding. Had Krishna uttered such words when modesty of Draupadi was being outraged in the very court of the Kurus, could Draupadi's honour be saved? Such decisions on the part of the minister will be not at all justified.

MR. SPEAKER : Here, everybody knows about it.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Such a disease spreading in the society cannot be cured by merely passing a law. Today politics has been criminalised and a criminal has no caste or religion. If criminals are at the seat of power, how can poor people, women, scheduled castes and down-trodden sections get justice?

First of all, we should make stringent laws in this Parliament, the greatest Panchayat of the country. If after investigation into the matter, by the CBI or a judicial authority it is found that a person of a political party is involved in such a crime, his membership should be revoked by amending the People's Representation Act suitably. If that person does not admit his guilt, his membership from the political party should also be revoked. Only such stringent actions can help in stopping such crimes against women and improve their condition.

I feel distressed to find that there is not a single department in country, be it Panchayat, legislature, judiciary, executive or other statutory bodies which is free from corruption. Anybody and everybody today says openly that white collared and khadi clad are involved in corruption. Our head shall remain down with shame unless this corruption is rooted out until then situation in the country cannot improve. Today an FIR is lodged

in a police station, it is got cancelled at the instance of an influential person. If a person intends to go to a court...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, please help us. This is not on the point. We are going tangent.

[Translation]

There are many such problems but today we are going to discuss only one problem.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : I am saying something about corruption. Action against small criminals are not going to affect the society unless the criminalisation of politics is stopped.

MR. SPEAKER : It is alright. You have raised a good point. Now come to the next point.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : I would like to say that mere suspension of incharge of a police station will not suffice. There is no use of arresting petty thieves unless effective law is enacted to take stringent action against the guilty persons in the ruling party.

MR. SPEAKER : Please come to the point. Otherwise I will not allow.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : I am coming to the point. I would like to say that nothing can be done without enacting an effective law to check corruption. Please give me a little more time.

MR. SPEAKER : What is this? you are going on speaking.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : It is a fact. Public will humiliate us on roads if we do not mend ourselves. We should be aware of our responsibilities and duties. A Member of Parliament is elected by approximately 20 lakh persons.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER . We will discuss the issue of corruption on some other day. Now we are discussing atrocities on women.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : How can we reform others without reforming ourselves.

MR. SPEAKER : It is a good point.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : First, we have to reform ourselves. An effective law should be enacted to stop criminalisation of politics.

MR. SPEAKER : You have raised good points. Now give time to other Members to speak. I have not stopped anybody if he has tried to speak on a point.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Today, we see Western people flooding our country. Daily such serials

are telecast on T.V. which depict nudity. While viewing such programmes our heads hang in shame. I am not in agreement with one thing said by Smt. Grijja. If we look at the history, the Indian woman has throughout been respected and honoured. We always chant 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai' and not 'Bharat Pita Ki Jai'. Similarly we enchant Radha Krishna and Sita Ram respectively and not Ram-Sita or Krishan-Radha because women are hailed first and the man later. It is our Indian culture and civilization which have always honoured women. The situation prevailing in the country today is the result of selfishness and indecisiveness on the part of the people in power. If we are not able to do justice to our people, they will not forgive us. Is the Government so weak that it is unable to stop nudity or semi-nudity being exhibited by westerners coming into India? We have respect for foreigners. Our country hold women in high esteem whereas, the status of women abroad is different.

Man and woman are two wheels of the Chariot of life and both are complementary to each other. Any attempt to create a wedge between the two will generate animosity. As a chariot cannot run with one wheel, similarly man and woman will have to give regards to one another and live together.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, secondly, women should be an ideal of affection. However, where this affection will come from? Feeding powder-milk to children cannot generate affection. In our history, a mother has inspired her son to go to battle field to defend his nation, in the name of the milk fed to him by her. But today instead of breast feeding, milk powder is fed to children and that too by Ayahs. Breast feeding by mothers can create a feeling of love for the society and nation.

Sir, my next point is that today our food system is not in accordance with our culture. 'Tamasac' food will not generate humane feelings. Nowadays one observes how our leaders make false promises but do nothing. Therefore, we should understand our responsibilities. Unless we leave 'Tamasac' food, there cannot be welfare of the nation. When we shall eat meat, chicken or fish, what will be the difference between we and animals? Unless such harmful food is forsaken and there is proper regulation over diet and food, proper feelings towards human beings cannot be developed. We shall have to recognise the dignity of man and women.

Sir, laws should be made sufficiently forceful and implemented properly. It should not remain on paper alone. It should be given due publicity through electronic and press media. Wide publicity should be given to the punishments awarded for the crimes and cases of atrocities against women. It will send a message to the people in villages and cities that Government take such offences seriously and give severe punishments. Once it has its affect, people will keep themselves away from such acts.

Sir, laws remain only on paper. Who is guilty therefore? I don't want to go into party politics. I congratulate Indrajai. What concerns me is that what percentage of women living in rural areas have been imparted education? Right to education is the fundamental right of every citizen. Has the 65% population living in villages got proper education even after 47 years of independence.

MR. SPEAKER : You have to conclude now.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am concluding. This country with its 65% population living in rural areas cannot progress without proper education. The condition of women will not improve without the participation of peasants and labourers. Today's bureaucrats can't build such a nation as our freedom fighters had dreamt. Therefore, education is necessary among poor womenfolk.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, if you will not conclude, I will not allow it to go on record.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Education brings awakening in society. A woman will be subjected to humiliation in any society unless basic right of education is given to her. Man and woman are supplementary and complementary to each other. Welfare of women is not possible in the absence of a stringent law

"Binay na manat jaladhi jab gaye teen din beeti
bole Ram sakop tab bhaya bina hoye na priti"

Without a stringent law, such cruel, anti-social elements will continue to nourish ehmfity.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak and conclude.

[English]

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN (Mukundapuram) Mr. Speaker Sir, as suggested by you, I will not narrate the problems faced by individual women. Everyone admits that women are facing problems and the sort of problems faced by women are known to all. In general, the problems faced by women can be divided into three or four categories.

Firstly, women are denied opportunities in many fields.

Secondly, women are raped occasionally. According to the statistics given in this august House itself, there are 47 rape cases every minute, age no bar, ranging from two years to seventy years. And, thirdly, there are so many other types of molestations done through several fields, through advertisements, through posters, through mass media, through official media, and through films. I would not narrate it because it is known to everyone of us.

Lastly, there is the problem of lack of laws and proper implementation of the existing laws. To resolve this particular problem, I feel that the Ministry of Law and the Ministry of Home Affairs can do a lot. It is their duty to chalk out various activities to implement the existing laws and to formulate new laws if needed. For the rest of the problems, I think, making women conscious to their issues is needed at a vigorous level. I know that the Government of India is doing a lot to improve the pathetic conditions of women through its different departments like Education, Women and Child, Health and Family Welfare, Youth Affairs etc., and I appreciate it* I would not narrate them also because we as parliamentarians know each of them. But the problem is that these attempts done by our Government are not well-known to the common public of our nation. For this, my first plea is that all efforts should be made to improve the conditions of women by giving publicity through all possible ways. Each Ministry could formulate its own methods to publicise programmes for upliftment of women.

My second suggestion is, one-third reservation should be provided for women not only in panchayats, municipalities, zilla parishads, but also in Legislative Assemblies and both the Houses of Parliament also.

MR. SPEAKER : Good.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE . There should be reservation in the selection of Ministers also.

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN : Even Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee should appreciate the tremendous improvement made after reservation in panchayats. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : My feeling is that she was on the verge of accepting it.

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN : Thank you, very much, Sir. I would not narrate this point also; this can be discussed later.

My third suggestion is that there should be reservation for women in all kinds of jobs. I will add something to what Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee said here in this august House a little while ago. By reservation for women, I do not mean that some percentage should go for women from out of the total percentage reserved. Let me narrate a little bit, Sir, to make this point clear. If some percentage of reservation is given for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people, 50 per cent of that reservation should go to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe women. If some percentage of reservation is given for minorities or OBCs, please reserve 50 per cent from that pool exclusively for minority or OBC women. And if some percentage is given for candidates who come on merit, please reserve 50 per cent of that category for women who are selected on merit.

Thus, you fulfil the ambition of giving 50 per cent reservation to women. Otherwise, it may lead to Constitutional crisis also.

At this juncture, I have one more plea. To be more specific, please reserve a fixed percentage for widows from among this 50 per cent reservation for women. Without explaining anything regarding widows that point could easily be swallowed by everybody sitting in this august House. In every field, whether it is the question of allotment of houses or any such thing, I think some percentage should be allotted for women. In nutshell, if you feel that giving this type of reservation is very difficult at the first instance, you may please choose some such fields. You can choose teaching jobs, clerical jobs, etc.

As I mentioned earlier, you please implement 50 per cent reservation for women first in some select fields. Then, gradually, you may please give reservation to women in every field in which we are dealing with. If you give opportunities to women in jobs, then only their status could be raised and atrocities on them could be controlled.

I would request all the political parties, through you, Sir, not to politicise things when the problems of women come up. I do remember a number of events but I am not quoting any such events now. When there is a decision to remove the uterus of mentally retarded girls or women perfectly on hygienic reasons, please do not run to some human rights organisation for petty political interests. When occasions like that come in front of us, please be united for the sake of humanity.

Lastly, I express my happiness that 50 per cent of the Members of Parliament present here at this late hour are women even though women hardly constitute only 10 per cent of the total number of Parliamentarians

[Translation]

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (Hapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Smt. Geeta Mukherjee deserves congratulations for raising this important discussion here. I hope some sound policy and concrete strategy will be evolved by this House to put an end to atrocities on women. The Members rising above party politics has taken note of the seriousness of the problem and need to stop such incidents. The number of incidents of atrocities on women have more than doubled during the last one decade and on an average one crime is committed against a woman every 6 minutes. A woman is raped after every 47 minutes while a woman is abducted after every 44 minutes. Thus, every third woman is being victimised by her husband or other relatives. As regards dowry cases, seventy women are daily pushed to the hutches of death. Last year, 82818 women were subjected to one or the other kind of crime. Rape cases have registered 100% increase during the past 20 years. Moreover, there has been 30% increase in the cases of abduction and elopement through allurement during that period.

Majority of cases of brutal acts on women have been reported in villages where rate of literacy among women is very low and they are not aware of their rights. Many women do not get the cases of atrocities on them registered due to the fear of infamy. We shall have to promote literacy among woman. Financial problem is another cause of atrocities on women. Many gangs are active in tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh where they compel adivasi girls to resort to prostitution. We should raise their economic level to stop such atrocities on them.

Government have, no doubt, started several schemes aimed at ameliorating the conditions of women. There is talk of "Mahila Samridhi Yojana". I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any survey has been conducted to find out the extent of benefit derived by rural women through these schemes. It should also be assessed that what percentage of rural women take part in such schemes and programmes. How can rural women participate in 'Mahila Samridhi Yojana' when they are unable to get even food for subsistence. The Government should start such schemes in which majority of rural women can participate and thereby their economic status could be raised.

It is a matter of shame that where the ruling party people are involved in atrocities on women, the matter becomes more serious there. In Uttar Pradesh, there is a S.P., B.S.P. coalition government ruling over the state for the last 1½ years. Frankly speaking, there is no district in that state which is free from atrocities on women. The minister MLAs and leaders of S.P. and B.S.P. are guilty for such crimes. You shall have to take action against ruling party persons, if atrocities on women are to be stopped. I can quote a number of incidents. In Muzafarnagar, women coming from Uttarakhnad were subjected to atrocities. In my Ghaziabad constituency, a woman named Prakashwati was abducted. In another incident five women labourers were raped. People belonging to the ruling party were involved in all these incidents. That is the reason the state Administrative machinery did not take any action against the guilty. We should, therefore, ensure that suitable action is invariably taken against such guilty persons without fail.

When women participate in Government, even then, atrocities on them are committed. In Khagaria Assembly constituency in Bihar, election of Smt. Chandramukhi as M.L.A. resulted in atrocities on her family members. Passage of Panchayati Raj Act, providing, 30% reservation for women in Panchayats, is a good step. But in U.P...*(Interruptions)*

The family members of the lady M.L.A. Smt. Chandramukhi, were severely beaten, man-handled and humiliated. The Government is seized of this issue.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : You should say only what is authentic.

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : It is not concerned with you, it has already come up in the House ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Tomar, we are not sitting in a court. We are not recording evidence and hence, cannot give judgement on it. Please raise a general point.

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : It is a welcome step to give 30 percent representation to women in Panchayati Raj Act. In U.P., women took part in Panchayati Raj elections but they were subjected to oppression. In the election to the President of district Panchayat in Lucknow, a woman called Tara Devi ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will not allow you time for this

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : I will conclude my speech in a minute. Since this incident has taken place in my constituency, I will conclude by speaking on it

MR. SPEAKER : Alright. If it concerns your constituency, then you may speak.

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : A woman, named Tara Devi wanted to fill nomination papers for the election to the post of President, district Panchayat but a legislator of SP kidnapped her and did not let her fill the nomination papers. If women interested to participate in power are subjected to such oppression, how can these women take part. A woman named Amlesh Chauhan was going to cast her vote in the election of District Council Panchayat President in my constituency. When she entered the room of the Presiding officer...*(Interruptions)* She was manhandled by another candidate who tore her clothes and did not let her cast her vote. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs should collect all the facts and inform the House accordingly. If we wish to put a check on the oppression against women, then we will have to create awareness in women society

Perpetration of atrocities on women is a social evil. This perpetration of atrocities against women can only be stopped by creating a social awareness. The woman will not have to struggle for it. In fact, the mentality of the whole society will have to be changed. Unless there is a change in the present social scenario, the atrocities on women will continue.

MR. SPEAKER : It has already been raised in a proper manner.

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : The pace of our judicial process is slow. We should make such a stringent legislation which can check perpetration of atrocities against women. This crime could be stopped only when the atrocities against women are viewed as a social crime and not as a personal issue. I demand that those women against whom atrocities are being perpetrated...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You do not have to make a demand. You should tell us what has to be done.

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : For women-related cases special courts should be set up. People found guilty of committing crimes against women should be severely dealt with and punished. I thank you for having allowed me time to speak.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Sir, the word 'woman' has been parallel or equated to a drop of tear. It is poetically done. It was done in the ancient days but it is unfortunate that this poetic definition continues even now or it sticks even now.

I will only raise a few points with regard to atrocities which are taking place. One is, as mentioned by all the Members, crime against women; second is, the attitude of not treating women as equal to men; third is, social stigmas attached to women or to the fields in which they come up; fourth is, lack of economic and educational emancipation of women; fifth is, exploitation of women; sixth is, lack of legislations or plugging loopholes in legislations which are already there; seventh is, lack of will for implementation of the legislations or the provisions already made, and lastly, I would refer to the way in which women are kept out of power.

I am not going into the details but I will just refer to these points. Regarding crime against women, so many points have already been mentioned, especially with stress to the crime against Adivasies and the poor sections, that is the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. There is also another class to which this applies too much nowadays, that is, the hapless women who live together without protection from men, for example, the Nuns. They are being attacked in many areas and many of them are cruelly killed for several purposes which are known.

Regarding equality, I would like to mention that this is not an aspect where man alone can find a solution. I think, women are also rather shy enough or rather not absolutely ready to assert their equality.

Regarding the social stigmas attached, even not giving proof or evidence regarding crimes are affecting them too much. I can just say about the evidence taken in a court of law. No woman can give free evidence in a court of law or even if she can, she finds a lot of difficulties to withstand the way in which cross-examination is being done. It is also true that because of the social stigmas attached the women, they cannot go to a police station or police authorities to make a complaint or to substantiate their complaints.

Now, regarding economic and educational aspects, I think, a lot has to be done in this regard as is being done by the Government as well as by the State Governments. Now, something much has to be done in this regard.

Regarding the legislations, much has already been spoken about the new legislations which are necessary and the loopholes in the existing legislations. One loophole, which I would like to point out specifically, is regarding Section 10 of the Indian Marriage Act on divorce to a Christian woman. If a Christian woman wants to get a divorce, she has to prove against her husband adultery read with cruelty. That provision has been found to be wrong by the Court. Whereas, for a man, it is only adultery to be proved and he need not prove cruelty. Such a lot of difference which has been there in the legislation and which was in the law book for long and which has been pointed out to be wrong recently by the Supreme Court. I think, steps are to be taken for some kind of an amendment in this regard. Sir, I am not going into other legislations, which I thought I would make a mention, because of the paucity of time.

Now, the solutions, of course, are many. But I would like to point out a few of them. The main thing that I would like to state is the change of attitude, the change of attitude against so many aspects, which I have already mentioned. It is the change in the society that has to come. It is the change amongst us that has to come. It is the change in all walks of life, in all spheres where we are working, that has to be brought out. Now, I would think that education is one thing where much can be done in bringing up the social change. But education does not mean mere education in colleges or schools or even at the primary level but education taken up by so many other agencies is also important. Literacy programmes are also very important and I suggest that the amounts which are earmarked for education and literacy programmes must be increased.

MR. SPEAKER : All those points have been made by other Members.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, I am not detailing them. I only say that the involvement of voluntary organisations must be given a more stress.

Then, the question of low wages regarding exploitation has already been dealt with. But I would like to submit that this is one aspect where not only legislation but also very active struggle by the workers involved is necessary.

Now, regarding jobs, it has been mentioned that equal opportunities are not given to women in jobs. We have so many examples for that. It is agreed by all. But how can we give equal opportunity? That is also one question. How to give equal opportunity to women in jobs? Of course, one thing is reservation. But we cannot expect that by reservation also, jobs can be filled in all spheres. I would suggest that there are areas, where women can go for very good jobs and can earn very much and they have already proved their prominence in very many fields. For example, take nursing. Nursing is one field, where...*(Interruptions)*

MR SPEAKER Please conclude

SHRI PC THOMAS I am concluding my speech I was just submitting that that is one field where the income of women could be increased in a very high way This is one sphere where they have worked so efficiently and throughout the world they have shown that this is a field where they can do well I would suggest that we must go for starting some University for nursing so that in this field more and more people could be involved in the study

Now, in judiciary also, I would also submit that there is a necessity for inducting more participation from the women

Regarding politics, apart from power, which has already been said, I that where (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER Do you favour 30 per cent reservation in State Legislatures and in Parliament?

20 00 hrs.

SHRI PC THOMAS I very much agree

MR SPEAKER Because I got the confusion

SHRI PC THOMAS I think that is a welcome suggestion Unfortunately my Party has got only one Member and I do not know it could be divided

MR SPEAKER The Member will be replaced

SHRI PC THOMAS We accept that this is a very good suggestion and this is something which could be implemented I am only suggesting that apart from this kind of percentage given in the State Legislature, Parliament and in other bodies, we must also see that the political Parties should give representation in all their fora and I think the representation given now is meagre Sir, I am not going into the other points because of paucity of time I thank you very much for the opportunity given

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) Hon members have expressed their view and suggestions in regard to the problem of atrocities on women Without repeating them I will say that uneducated women have become a problem by themselves Therefore the Government should undertake a comprehensive literacy scheme to educate women in all villages throughout the country and bring awareness among them about their rights and status in the society and the courage of fighting against atrocity being committed on them Half of our population constitutes women and they are comparatively less educated than men Therefore there is an urgent need to educate them all even in far off villages They will become strong after getting education and their generation will also be strong from the view point of education We should give education of women

top priority, for which a very comprehensive and inspiring programme of imparting education to all, particularly rural women, should be undertaken by the Government soon

Secondly, social distinction between man and woman in our society will have to be removed to do away with inequality It needs political will power Leaders of all political parties should sit together and pass a unanimous resolution, in this regard Political leaders will have to come forward and start a movement to achieve this objective This work cannot be accomplished by social organisations alone To remove the existing inequality between man and women, which has made woman a burden instead of a responsible part of the society we shall have to translate our unanimous resolution into action with strong will and determination The Government should take initiative to educate and awaken women particularly in villages

The dowry problem has put women in a piquant situation and it is necessary to put an end to it at the earliest to solve the problems of women to a great extent Today even before birth of a child, parents become worried about the possibility of birth of a girl child on account of prevailing dowry system All members of Parliament, Assemblies etc should take a vow not to accept or give dowry on the occasion of marriage of their sons or daughters Political parties should also ask their members to take such vows Only such a strong determination can stop dowry system and reduce atrocities on women

Women should be given equal rights in property When she will get it, a number of her problems will be wiped out For this purpose, a stringent law should soon be brought forward and passed Provision for strict and severe punishments against guilty persons should be made the review this will also help reduce problem of women to a great extent

I will make a suggestion to all political parties and groups to rise above politics and sit together and devise ways and means to put an end to the problem of atrocities on women If the intention of the Government is clear on will power is strong, it can itself implement the existing laws properly and strictly and ensure substant reduction in cases of atrocities on women, even by amending the law, where considered necessary or desirable

Women is power In our country, she has been worshipped in the form of mother for centuries But today woman instead of being worshipped is being put to same by committing atrocities on her I would urge upon the Government to given sound thinking to this problem and find ways and means for its solution and bring forward a concrete proposal based on the sentiments expressed by Hon Members here, to take appropriate steps If we do not take strong steps now, the situation will worsen further and create a dangerous

situation impossible of solution in future. With these words, I request for early necessary action in the matter.

[English]

SHRI HANNAH MOLLAH (Uluberia): Sir, I join myself with the views expressed in this House by my other colleagues.

First of all, we should remember that it is not only a question of mercy shown to the woman but also it is the duty of the entire society to defend and protect the women. Only woman's upliftment can lead to social upliftment.

We need a very strong social reform movement and in that social reform movement this issue should be brought in the fore.

So, I will appeal to you that on behalf of the House you may move a Resolution appealing to the whole nation that in this social reform movement, all the political parties, organisations and individuals should join in this great endeavour.

I want to mention one thing more here. In the western countries, in spite of material development, the sexual harassment is increasing enormously because of moral and social degeneration. We have to fight against this growing menace.

So, along with all the suggestions given by my other colleagues, a very strong social reform movement should be initiated. You can also appeal on behalf of this Parliament to the nation so that we can fight unitedly with this great menace of civilisation...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (DUMDUM) : After Shri Tej Narain Singh completes his speech, let the Ministers' response come tomorrow, instead of now.

MR. SPEAKER : I think, if the Ministers' want to reply tomorrow, I will find the time for them to reply tomorrow.

[Translation]

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAY) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, know only one speaker Shri Tej Narayam Singh has to speak. only I am listener, all there are speakers.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think if you want to reply tomorrow, I shall find time for that.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : Okay, Sir.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : That will be much better, Sir, because then they can think about a comprehensive approach to this problem.

MR. SPEAKER : In a comprehensive and in a complete fashion you can reply tomorrow - both of you, if you want to.

[Translation]

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar): Mr Speaker Sir, Many types of atrocities are being committed on woman and what ever legal help is provided in the statute book is not made available to them. According to law man and woman should be given equal wages, but they do not get it. Labour laws are there, but labour inspectors do not perform their duty to ensure payment of equal wages to women. Hence, the time has come to change the Act. Penal provisions should be made in the laws for punishing the guilty.

Dowry system has taken toll of many young women. For this not only men are at fault, but women are equally at fault. If father of the boy says that adequate dowry has not been given by parents of the daughter, boy's mother also support him. I think that a woman speaking against another woman is more dangerous.

In films we see women harassing other women in various ways. She doesn't hesitate killing other women. Therefore schools should be opened in all villages to educate them and make them understand that the daughter-in-law is also their sister or daughter. If such education is imparted the rate of dowry deaths can be brought down substantially. If women prepare themselves not to demand or accept dowry, this problem will be solved to a great extent. But it is unfortunate that women too venture to victims and trouble even to the extent of taking life of other women.

Both Hindu and Muslim religions here downgraded women. Muslim women are not permitted to enter a mosque. Among Hindus, only son is entitled to lit the prayer of father. The hatred against women shown in religious traditions should be shunned away.

The population of men and women being equal in the country, women should be provided reservation in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies in proportion to their population, so that they may enter Parliament and Assemblies in increased Numbers.

In government jobs too, there should be reservation for women. Under article 256 of Hindu law, daughter cannot get her share until and unless distribution of property takes place between father and son she has got the right of maintenance only. So, there is need to change both Hindi and Muslim laws. If the present day laws are amended suitably and implemented properly, atrocities on women will come to an end.

I congratulate Supreme Court judges, who held that in rape cases medical report is not necessary. Before the law was enacted, there was no necessity of medical report in a rape case and the dependent could not be convicted. But the Supreme Court held that in

the absence of medical report, if a women gives written statement, the accused can be convicted on the basis of that report. I feel that if such kind of a law is framed, in which even if there is no evidence, the conviction of the accused should be permissible. I feel such a law can put an end to 50% of crimes in the country. I, therefore, think that by effecting necessary amendments in law, atrocities on women can be curbed.

I congratulate and thank Smt. Geeta Mukherjee for raising this socially important matter, and wish her a long life. While expressing my gratitude to the Chair for giving me opportunity to speak, I conclude.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Well, Mr. Minister, when would you like to reply? Will you reply tomorrow?

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Sir, if you permit, the reply can be immediately after Question Hour tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: That will be better. If the reply is immediately after Question Hour, there would be so many Members also. If today we are not in large number, tomorrow, at the time of reply there will be more Members.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Let them also get the benefit of hearing the reply. Sir, both myself and Shrimati Basava Rajeswari will speak.

DR GIRIJA VYAS: Sir, the hon. Minister Shri Ram Lakhan Singh Yadav has been listening all through the debate.

MR. SPEAKER: I think very good points have been made. They can be culled out and pointed replies can be made to the extent possible. There are points made on laws, education, social conditions and coming from perspective plan and so many good points have been made.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Sri, good points on legal education and judiciary were made.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Points on legal education and others were made.

I think you can reply tomorrow.

Well, we would like to thank the hon. Members for showing keen interest in this debate.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: We also thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you provided us time to speak. We express our gratitude for the same and request for being kind like this in future also.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow, the 26th May, 1995 at 11 A.M.

20.17 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till eleven of the clock on Friday, May 26, 1995/
Jyaishta 5, 1917 (Saka).*