

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Ninth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, February 28, 1994/
Phalguna, 9, 1915 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Doordarshan Programmes on Agriculture

*61. SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is persistent demand to increase the duration of programmes on agriculture telecast by Delhi Doordarshan and Regional Centres of Doordarshan;

(b) whether the Government have increased the duration of such programmes during 1993 according to the demand;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the time by which the needful is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Details of requests for enhancing the duration of programmes telecast by the various kendras of Doordarshan are not maintained centrally in a compiled form.

(b) While no increase in the duration of such programmes was effected by Doordarshan during 1993, the reach of the existing programmes has increased alongwith the expansion of the Doordarshan network that took place during the year.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Revision of the programme schedule is an ongoing activity depending upon the overall programme requirement of the network at a given time. No increase in the duration of such programmes is on the anvil at present.

SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a very big farmer class in India. But television has neglected the farmer's class. The Government has given more importance to improving agriculture by using fertilizers, pesticides, drip irrigation and also by giving more subsidies. But more duration has not been given to agricultural programmes on television. It is just neglected. In these circumstances, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister could provide, specifically for farmer's class, a separate channel called 'Farmers' Channel' as is given to business class and also like DD Metro, and if so, when it will be done.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: The hon. Member has said that farm sector has been neglected. I would like the House to judge whether it is neglected or not. I will give you facts and figures. Firstly, Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi telecasts Krishi Darshan on every Monday, Tuesday and Friday for a duration of 25 minutes at 7.00 p.m. Another ten minutes programme specifically meant for States like Haryana, Western U.P. and Himachal Pradesh is also telecast from Delhi.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: You should not only give the time but should also give when exactly and which hour of the day it is telecast. That is very important.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: I mentioned it as 7.00 p.m. Then for *Gramin Mahilaon ke liye*, there is a programme on 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday at 7.00 p.m. for 25 minutes; *Gramin yuvakon ke liye* again there is a programme on 2nd Wednesday at 7.00 p.m. for 25 minutes; *Gramin bachchon ke liye* there is a programme on the fourth Wednesday at 7.00 p.m. for 25 minutes. Then in the regional channels also, agricultural programmes are shown. Consultations are done with the Ministries or Departments of Rural Development, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Banking, Irrigation and Non-Conventional Energy which has a bearing on agriculture.

Consultations are also held with Health and Family Welfare Ministry, as part of the agricultural community development and functional literacy programmes. Would you like me to give the details for all the States?

MR SPEAKER: Is it possible for you to give the percentage of time due?

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Sir, with regard to Delhi, as I have mentioned, on Channel II, it is shown once a week with a duration of 15 minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: What is the percentage of the entire time allotted?

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Sir, in a minute, I will give you the details very quickly.

In Bombay, it is five days a week programme with a duration of 30 minutes on each day; in Calcutta, it is once a month and once a week programme with a duration of 30 minutes and 25 minutes respectively, being telecast at 7.00 p.m. in Madras, it is four days a week and also once a week programme in the Second Channel with a duration of 30 minutes each; in Jalandhar, it is four days a week programme with a duration of 15 minutes; in Srinagar, it is four days a week programme with 30 minutes duration; in Lucknow, it is five days a week programme with 30 minutes duration; in Hyderabad, it is four days a week programme with 35 minutes duration; in Cuttack, it is four days a week programme with 20 minutes duration and in Ranchi, it is once a week programme with a duration of 15 minutes. *(Interruptions)* What I was trying to say is that we are not neglecting it.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not convenient to give the percentage value.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: It is very difficult to give it in percentage terms because it changes from Kendra to Kendra.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Why do not give the details in percentage value from Kendra to Kendra?

MR. SPEAKER: Now the hon. Member may ask the second supplementary question.

SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA: Sir, the farmers belong to a poor class and they are unable to purchase the TV sets to see the programmes. Now, almost all villages have their own community halls where they have their own cultural activities. So, considering the fact that they belong to a poor class, will the Government, with the cooperation of the State Governments, provide these TV sets free of cost to these community halls in the villages? I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government, under these circumstances, will supply the TV sets to the community halls.

MR. SPEAKER: This does not arise out of this question.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARARAO VADDE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in spite of your persistent and clear question to the hon. Minister requesting him to express it in percentage value, the hon. Minister, is not able to give that information since he does not have that information right at the moment. We do understand that.

But it is an obvious fact that the time allotted to the agricultural sector is very very less. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, in view of the present situation where the agricultural extension work is not upto the mark, and in view of the fact that nearly one-third of the Gross Domestic Product comes from the agricultural sector, whether Doordarshan will give more time in the channels of the regional centres so that the farmers can be better educated, informed about the needs for optimum utilisation of irrigation water and requisite doses of fertilizers. Many a times, it is happening, Mr.

Speaker, Sir, that the farmers, in their anxiety to achieve more production, are applying more and excessive dosages of pesticides and fertilizers, sometimes, leading to drastic adverse effects on the fertility of the soil itself in the long run. Doordarshan is the most effective, powerful instrument to take the fruits of research to the farmer's notice. So, I would like to know, whether the Doordarshan will make its stand clear on its attitude towards agricultural sector and give more time for this.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Sir, as far as the question whether extension works are upto the mark or not is concerned, it is not my Ministry, but it is the Agriculture Ministry which has to respond on it. We have a Rural Programme Advisory Committee composed of experts from the State Governments, Central Government, Agricultural Universities, agricultural institutions and the rural development. And whatever programmes are suggested by them, the various regional Kendras follow the recommendations made by that Committee. It is not monitored from Delhi. Every Kendra has an independent Rural Programme Advisory Committee and a Programme Advisory Committee. I will certainly pass on this information to them so that they can consider the same. Otherwise, it looks as though we are passing the orders from here.

MR. SPEAKER: If necessary, in policy matters, we expect the ministry to pass the orders.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: On policy matters, yes; but we do not interfere on the question of duration and we leave it to them. They are all experts in this field.

MR. SPEAKER: Agriculturalists are not in a position to provide the money for

advertisements. And agriculture is the main business, the main avocation of our people and information on agriculture is very important.

We would rather request the Ministry to look into the matter and take a proper decision.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: What is the direction on the duration, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: This is the wish of the House.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to the question regarding increasing the duration of telecasting the agricultural programmes, the hon. Minister has said that at present no increase in duration of telecasting such programmes is on anvil. Sir, agricultural programmes are directly related to the ordinary farmers living in villages and in the present circumstances, the rural culture is deteriorating day by day. In view of this peculiar situation, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has any plan to make special arrangements to telecast more and more programmes regarding agriculture for promoting the glorious traditions of the country.

[*English*]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Is it about culture or the agricultural culture?

MR. SPEAKER: Culture is omnibus. Agriculture is a part of it.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Our culture is agriculture and it is our endeavour to show it more and more.

Hiring of Lobbyist in US

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*62. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

SHRI SUDARSAN RAY CHAUDHURI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have hired any firm for lobbying in the US;

(b) if so, the name of the firm and the salient features of the terms of appointment including fees to be paid to the firm;

(c) the criteria adopted for the selection of the firm;

(d) whether the services of associations and organisations of Indians in that country are being used to project a proper image of the country on various political and economic issues; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the results achieved thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (e) A *Statement* is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

1. On 12 January, 1994 the Embassy of India, Washington, signed an agreement engaging the services of the law firm M/s McAuliffe, Kelly and Raffaelli in association with the public relations firm of Daniel J. Edelman Worldwide Inc. The contract signed is initially for a period of six months at the all inclusive rate of US \$ 46,000 per month.

2. The selection of the firm was, based on the recommendation of the Ambassador of India to the US, which took into account several factors such as cost, access that the firm reportedly has in the legislative and executive branches of the US Government, the kind of attention the firm would be able to devote towards India, their experience as well as the reputation of the firm.

3. Efforts to project developments in India in their correct perspective are also undertaken by members of the Indo-American community. They undertake letter writing campaigns, utilizing electronic mail, to Congressmen, Senators, members of the Administration and other opinion makers. Such organisations remain in contact, where necessary, with our Embassy and Consulates and are provided with current information. Such efforts have assisted Government's ability to counter motivated, anti-India propaganda.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that on what basis the contract was signed with this firm for lobbying in U.S. What criteria were adopted for its selection? Has this firm any relevant experience in this field or not? Did the people related to this contract visit India and if so, did they visit the country on behalf of the firm? Did they discuss the subject here?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: I would like to tell the hon. Member that it is an experienced firm and it has already undertaken such contracts for two-three other countries. It has been called to India.....

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Which are these countries?

[*English*]

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: There is one other country. They have also contracted Taiwan. But at present we are having Thailand and Turkey.

[*Translation*]

They came to India, and during their visit, the Government had enquired about their experience and gave necessary briefing. Before the appointment of the firm, we had got the detailed information regarding their experience, reputation and goodwill. After ensuring all these things, our Washington Embassy finalised the contract.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Sir, I would like to know whether it is a fact that the said firm which has been engaged to contradict the anti-India propaganda, has experience in the field of taxation only and has no experience at all in the political arena. It is not providing its services to any country except Turkey and moreover, it has no reputation even in Turkey. I would like to know the basis on which this firm has been given preference to others which are already in the field of lobbying work. Whether it is also a fact that anti-India propaganda was going on there for a long time and Pakistan has taken services of many other lobbying firms to make anti-India propaganda? If so, what was the reason to delay the matter? Is it also a fact that Indians and people of Indian origin residing there have been continuously emphasising on the Indian Embassy for taking action to counter the anti-India propaganda which is damaging the image of the country abroad? Is the Indian

Embassy really unable to present its view-point properly and that is why it has taken the services of such an inexperienced firm? I would like to know the criteria adopted for providing the contract to such a firm? It has been stated that its performance will be reviewed after six months. I would like to know whether this review will be undertaken monthly, quarterly or only after six months? What will be the basis of this review? Why the services of other institutions are not being taken?

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: The firm contacted has a wide ranging experience in economic, political and several other sectors. It was decided by our ambassador after discussion with 2-3 firms, which had applied for it. As we found this firm more efficient in this arena, we handed over this work to this firm.

You have also asked as to why the services of Indians residing abroad, other societies and institutions are not being utilised? I would like to tell that their services are being taken and these are working very well. But you have also witnessed that pro-Pakistan and pro-Khalistan lobbies have created a lot of disturbances and raised this issue emphatically. Keeping all this in mind, we have decided to appoint a lobbying firm there. Our ambassadors and High Commissions are working very well and it is not proper to say that they are not doing anything but the problem has been continuously increasing and several pro-Pakistan and pro-Khalistan lobbies have emerged there and influenced the senators and U.S. Administration. That is why its necessity was felt and a lobbying firm was appointed.

As regards the experience of the firm, I would like to say that it has

experience and its performance will be reviewed after six months. I hope that its work will be upto the mark and it will successfully convey our views and ideas to the people of U.S.A.

[English]

SHRI SUDARSAN RAY CHAUDHURI: Sir, in the USA, the methods of activities of a lobbyist firm include, among other things, if necessary, even using bribery or sharing of gifts to influence the target people as is known by the alleged scandal of one Asian country in the mid-70's in the USA. Moreover, it goes against this appointing the lobbyist firm. It goes against the very principle of open democratic diplomacy. Thus, the appointment of a lobbyist firm is a gross departure to the accepted norms of our foreign policy. In this background, I would like to ask two questions.

(a) How is it that the Government of India did not have the Parliament's expressed opinion before appointing any lobbyist firm, not to speak of this particular firm; and

(b) Is the Government ready to take this Parliament into confidence while it would make a review of the functioning and activities of this lobbyist firm after the expiry of six months?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Sir, it is a fact that formerly, we did not have any lobby at all. As I have explained earlier, due to the situation arising, now there are lot of Pakistani and Khalistani people active over there. So, it was felt necessary that we must also have a lobby. In this regard, whatever decisions will be made or whatever action will be taken by them and what is the report, ultimately, I will have to

come to the Parliament to report what achievements have taken place.

Your previous question is, why we have not taken permission of the Parliament in this regard. I think, it is a matter which we felt necessary. So many times in this House, the voice was raised that India is having a very low-key propaganda and having defence position while Pakistan is having a very aggressive position.

So, keeping in view all this, we have decided to have lobby. It is a fact of life in the American political system that all the countries have lobbies. If you want, I have got a very large number of countries which are having lobbies there. With your permission, can I read it?

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Can you tell us about the lobbies which are working against India?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Pakistan is having three lobbies and a very large number of organisations. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Can you give the details?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: I do not have the details now. But I can pass it on to you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Bhatia, you are expected to reply to the main supplementary please. Otherwise, it will go on. Please continue, if you want.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: The countries which have lobbyists there are Canada, China, Egypt, Fiji, France, Britain, Israel, Japan, Nepal, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

SHRI ANANDGAJAPATI RAJU POOSAPATI: In foreign policy, one has to work with a number of parameters. We find here that on non-proliferation of human rights on Kashmir, we are being beaten and we are being misunderstood at every quarter. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the brief given to this lobbyist firm, how they go about in their work, how they will work in evaluating eventually and how will it be decided whether to continue them or not to continue them for the organised system of influencing events because we are taking the beating and we are always in the dark on this issue.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: We have given the following brief to the lobbyists.

(a) Projecting India as an open, secular, pluralistic society based on parliamentary democracy with a free press and an independent judiciary.

(b) Highlighting India's economic liberalisation programme, the irreversible nature of these measures and promoting India as an investment destination.

(c) Focussing on India's needs for new technologies to facilitate the process of socio-economic development and the responsibility displayed by India in preventing re-export of sensitive data and technologies.

(d) Creating awareness of the richness and cultural diversity of India and promoting it as a tourist destination.

(e) Counteracting motivated propaganda launched by elements inimical to India, alleging human rights violations. In countering such propaganda, efforts are made to highlight the basic human rights enshrined in our

Constitution, institutional safeguards against executive excesses as well as action taken against erring officials.

(f) Countries negative reports in the USA media centering on social issues such prevalence of child labour, its use in certain export industries such as carpets and jewellery, dowry deaths, etc.

Briefs on all these points have been given to them.

SHRI ANANDGAJAPATI RAJU POOSAPATI: Are you knocking at the right door at the right time?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: That is their job.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, I want to ask supplementary in the next question, if you permit.

MR. SPEAKER: But you raised your hand.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I did.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not correct. You should have thought about it when you raised your hand.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I am sorry, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to know from Shri Bhatia as to when did the Government feel that it has become essential to appoint a Lobbyist in America? I want to know it, through you, from the Minister because during the course of his reply he has

mentioned about the Pakistani elements, and particularly the Khalistani elements who had been indulging in anti-India propaganda there. It has come to our notice through newspapers, that the Indians there do not get any information documents from our embassy. Although they visit it time and again. The Ambassador, appointed there, is not able to provide them adequate literature to counter the anti-India propaganda being carried out there. My specific question is—whether the Indian embassy and its entire machinery has failed in projecting the overall image of India and has not been able to counter the anti-India propaganda being carried out by the embassy of our neighbouring country and that is why the decision to appoint a Lobbyist has been taken?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not agree with this view that our embassy has failed in projecting India's true image. Secondly you have said that full material and information is not being made available to the Indian Associations there. This is not true. The Indian Associations established there are helping us. Some of them are; National Federation of Indian American Association, Association of Indians in America, Indo-American Forum, Indo-American Political Action, Globalisation of people of Indian Origin. The list is quite long. All publications are provided to them and often discussions and Question-Answer sessions are held. They are briefed also. But they were not active earlier. When certain elements there made hue and cry, the Indians residing there became active and they are now helping the embassy which provides typed materials to all associations. Regarding why it was not done earlier, I would say that it was under our consideration (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, please reply to the main supplementary.

[Translation]

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: We did not feel the need as our embassy was doing its work satisfactorily, as it is being done now. When the Organisations making hue and cry indulged in anti-India propaganda... (*Interruptions*) Other Governments, nations and companies appoint Lobbyists, we felt that, we too should take the benefit of this system.

[English]

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have heard the replies of the hon. Minister. I want to clear one doubt which persists in my mind. As far as these lobbyists are concerned, I feel we have no proficiency or capability in advocating our case before that Government. That is why we are seeking the help of the lobbyists. But there is one thing. Whenever lobbying is required. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Here we don't want the rationale for appointing the lobbyists, We want the question.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Whenever lobbyists are required, they should be very close to the Government in that country so that our lobbying can be effective. In my opinion, that should be the criterion. But the Minister in his reply has stated that...

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing this kind of a question. Let it be very clear. You please come out with your question.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: I would like to know in categorical terms as to why this particular firm has been selected or recommended by the Embassy of India in that country.

MR. SPEAKER: Very good question! What are the criteria?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: As I explained earlier, our Mission is doing good work. But as you know, these lobbyists are experts and they have access to the State Department.

AN HON. MEMBER: Who told you that they are experts?

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Here we want to know the reasons for selection. What are the criteria?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: The criterion for appointing lobbyists is to project India's image outside and take their expert advice. That is how we have engaged those lobbyists.

To an earlier question, I have now got the information. I would like to inform that there was an assurance in this House by the Government about lobbying. This question arose about five years back. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Speaker, Sir, it is within my own experience that the Indian diplomats in USA feel very cornered, even today—and I found them so in November-December when I was there—because of the propaganda of Pakistan regarding human rights violation by India in Kashmir. They think that their only duty is to counter this propaganda and nothing more. When I asked them as to why they do not give out the Pakistan's

own history in the sphere of human rights, their reply was that everybody knows about it. But, on my personal enquiry I found that nobody knows because at least in the United Nations all the diplomats from the developing countries are very young people. They have no idea how Pakistan came into being; what has been the record of Pakistan in the field of Human Rights and so on. Ultimately, a Paper was prepared and then the Pakistan withdrew its resolution on Human Rights.

There is definitely a policy to go on countering what Pakistan is doing, but there is no policy on our part to take offensive. I would like to know from the Minister, what was the Government of India's policy regarding this earlier and whether they have changed it or they are going to change this policy in the near future.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Our Missions abroad are giving information to other governments. We are also providing information to the embassies of different countries. We always apprise them of particular situation and our Missions are constantly in touch with the respective governments and they are providing all the information that is required.

SHRI UMRAO SINGH: Sir, the Indian communities abroad, of which the majority belongs to my State and my constituency, have their genuine grievances.

MR. SPEAKER: That is a completely different thing.

SHRI UMRAO SINGH: They have a problem regarding dual citizenship and such other problems which they face locally. Similar problems had occurred in

UK and US also. In UK, Indian Overseas Congress has done a very commendable job and we do not need any lobby there. I would like to know from the Minister why cannot we have a similar organisation in America which shall be composed of all Indians and it should help us in creating a lobby, as is being done in United Kingdom.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: As I have explained earlier, there are a number of Indian organisations regarding which I have just now given the information. They are all doing a good job. We are assisting them with the necessary information and they are playing a good role. We cannot coordinate all of them because there are different types of people who are working at different levels. For instance, students are involved, lawyers are involved and even business people are involved. In their own sphere everybody is contributing towards it. All of them are doing a good job.

[Translation]

US Views on Kashmir and Punjab

*63. SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:

SHRI PARASRAM
BHARDWAJ:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent views expressed by the US President and the other high officials of the State Department of that country on Kashmir and Punjab;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the US authorities; and

(d) if so, their response in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (d) *Statement*
is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Government are aware that on February 14, 1994 at the ceremony on the occasion of Pakistan's Ambassador to the US Maleeha Lodhi's presentation of credentials, President Clinton said that "increasing respect for human rights around the world is a pillar of US foreign policy". He shared "Pakistan's concern about human rights abuses in Kashmir" and also said that the US opposes "infringements of individual human rights as a result of extremism and fanaticism, whether of a religious or secular nature, wherever it occurs".

2. In a statement on February 16, 1994 our official spokesman said that India is committed to uphold human rights as part of our heritage and as enshrined in our Constitution and our laws. It is unfortunate that the President has made common cause with Pakistan in his remarks on human rights in Jammu and Kashmir and has not taken into account the proven role of Pakistan as a State sponsor of terrorism. We regret that no concern has been expressed for the human rights of the victims of the terrorists armed, trained and sent into Jammu and Kashmir by Pakistan.

3. Prior to this, Government's concern at President Clinton's response to Ghulam Nabi Fai's letter was conveyed by Ambassador Ray in a letter to US Under Secretary (for Political Affairs) Peter Tarnoff. Attention was drawn to the fact that Fai is a paid lobbyist of the Kashmiri American Council, a front organisation involved in funding and promoting militancy and terrorism in Kashmir. It was disconcerting to see that an individual like Fai, who is in the forefront of the campaign for dismembering India, should seemingly receive recognition and encouragement from the highest political authority in the US. Any suggestion that the US President appreciates his inputs and looks forward to working with him is liable to serious misunderstandings.

4. In response to media queries, our Official Spokesman said "we trust that when the US President referred to respect for human rights, it was in the context of gross violations of human rights by militants and terrorists aided and abetted from outside India. We entirely share the growing global interest in the strict observance of human rights and we are committed to strengthening the institutions relevant to the upholding of human rights".

5. On receiving information about President Clinton's reply of December 27, 1993 to Congressman Condit that he "shares" the latter's "desire for a peaceful solution that protects Sikh rights", Government immediately reacted with a strong statement nothing that the US President's letter to Congressman Condit came in the wake of a series of negative pronouncements by US Authorities on issues such as Kashmir, human rights and Punjab. The situation in Punjab was peaceful and a solution had been attained

by democratic means whereby rights of all India including Sikhs, are protected under the law, irrespective of religion. It was emphasised that India's commitment to human rights and democracy is axiomatic to India's existence and no external prescriptions would be accepted. It was categorically stated that such official pronouncements by the US Government, including at the highest level, cannot but have a negative impact on Indo-US bilateral relations. Ambassador Ray also met Assistant Secretary Robin Raphel to convey Government's concern.

6. Government also noted the remarks regarding Kashmir by Assistant Secretary Robin Raphel at a speech in Washington on 9 February 1994 to the Asia Society wherein she compared "the civil war in Afghanistan" to the "insurgency in Kashmir". She said that both conflicts will remain high on her agenda for US South Asian policy. Responding to questions she reiterated that the US believes that Kashmir is disputed territory and, as a practical matter, the people of Kashmir have to agree and accept any solution to the dispute as otherwise it would not be a stable solution. She said the history of this State is not necessarily the key to its future. It is a tortured history. When questioned about how the views of the people of Kashmir would be ascertained, she said that the US does not have a formal view on how this should be done.

7. In an official statement on February 11, 1994, Government pointed out that no comparison can be made between the situation in Afghanistan and J&K. The former is a by-product of the Cold War whereas J&K has been facing a massive campaign of terrorism aided and abetted by Pakistan. The only link between Afghanistan and J&K is that

weapons and mercenaries have moved from both Afghanistan and Pakistan in support of terrorism in J&K. Government hoped that the US Administration will recognize that Pakistan sponsored terrorism is the major obstacle in restoring peace and tranquillity in J&K. Repeated references lacking in balance and proper perspective regarding the situation in J&K by responsible US Administration officials tend to provide encouragement to Pakistan and terrorists sustained by them to continue with their violent activities. Such references are unhelpful and hinder resumption of the democratic political process and a return to normalcy which the Government of India are striving to bring about.

8. Government constantly monitor developments having a bearing on India's national interests. Government are pursuing a policy of considered and constructive dialogue with the US. Government remain committed to policies in consonance with India's national interest and to take all steps necessary to safeguard India's territorial unity and integrity.

9. All the developments listed above have been discussed with the US Government both in Washington and Delhi. Their response has been that these do not constitute and should not be construed to imply and change in US policy.

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
Speaker, Sir, it is only last week that the House passed a resolution, supported by all the parties, on Kashmir. But, India has taken too long to assert its position on Kashmir. Due to this failure, it is subjected to intense diplomatic pressure in every international forum; in the United Nations, Vienna, Brussels and Geneva. Besides

continuing with Article 370, that is giving special status to Kashmir.....

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not read out the question. You have to put the question.

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN: I am coming to the question, Sir. All this is very important. Besides continuing with Article 370 and not highlighting the plight of migration of nearly 5 lakh Kashmiri pandits and other Muslims and Sikhs and failure to counter terrorism sponsored by Pakistan has aggravated the matter further. Is the Government aware of the third option theory of United States of independent Kashmir? What measures the Government is taking to counter this, because the very accession to India has been questioned by the USA?

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: The Government of India is doing its best to apprise the people of the true situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

AN. HONOURABLE MEMBER: That is not good enough.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: If you want to be good enough, I would say...

MR. SPEAKER: You are all the time responding to the interjections. Please confine yourself to the main Supplementary. The best way to do is to address the Chair. No responding to the interjections. Otherwise, you will reply something else.

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: The Government of India is doing its best to explain to the people all over our point of view so far as Jammu and Kashmir is concerned; we have also explained to the people all over the world, all the

governments, all the institutions through our Missions that whatever is happening in Kashmir is as a result of the terrorism sponsored by Pakistan; and this fact is known to the people all over; and if again and again, Pakistan is raising the question of human rights, our reply is very clear that as soon as terrorism sponsored by Pakistan continues, this question will always be there. But we consider Jammu and Kashmir an integral part of India and we will not brook any interference of any kind in our country.

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN: He has not answered about the third option. Are you aware of the option of the United States for an independent Kashmir?

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: This is a bilateral matter between India and Pakistan and only two Governments can sit and have a dialogue over this; and there is a Shimla frame under which we can have a dialogue. We cannot consider any other mediation, any other method or any other theory with regard to this.

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN: President Bill Clinton has written to 16 legislators about the situation in Punjab and protection of Sikh rights.

This has encouraged the terrorists in Punjab and also the protagonists of Khalistan. Normalcy is returning to Punjab, terrorism has been controlled and demand for Khalistan was also died down in Punjab.

What steps the Government is taking so that this kind of aggravating matters are not raised by the officials of the United States? It is said that some one in the State Department who does not know even where India is...

MR. SPEAKER: You are again reading.

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN: I am not reading; I am referring to my notes. It is said that somebody who does not even know about India, somebody who does not even know where Kashmir is in India, is drafting these letters; and these are being signed by the high officials of the United States.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: It is true that President Clinton has sent a letter in reply to some Senator there with regard to the situation in Punjab and with regard to Khalistan; but our Ambassador immediately reacted and met the officials in the State Department and made it clear that this kind of a reference, whether it is at the level of what you have mentioned at the lower level or at a higher level, will affect our relations between India and USA. We have categorically told them that these things will stand in the development of relations between the two countries.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Parasram Bhardwaj — not present. Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: On three very important occasions not only the officials of the State Department but the President of the United States of America himself made very, I will say, anti-India statements. One occasion was a very important one when newly appointed Pakistani Ambassador on February 14, 1994 was submitting her credentials, the President said that he shared the views of Pakistan about the abuse of human rights in Jammu and Kashmir. On another occasion to a paid lobbyist of Kashmiri American Council, Mr. Fai, in reply to his letter, President

made an anti-Indian statement. The third occasion was last year, December 23, when in reply to a letter of congressman Mr. Condid said that he shared the concern of the abuse of human rights in India particularly in Punjab and Kashmir.

He also spoke about the Sikh Rights; in defence of the Sikh Rights, when Punjab problem has been very smoothly solved to the satisfaction of our countrymen.

Sir, I am sorry to say that the President of the United States of America made anti-India remarks on three occasions but our Government has taken it very lightly and rebuttal has been made at a very low level. Not even the Foreign Minister, not to speak of the Prime Minister, has till today said anything. It is not an ordinary thing that the President of a country is continuously making anti-Indian observations and our Prime Minister is keeping quiet; our Foreign Minister is keeping quiet. They are saying that they had expressed their concern through our Ambassador. It is a shameful situation.

They have not lodged any protest, they have only conveyed their concern. The Americans say that it does not mean that there is a change in their approach towards India. Does the Government of India agree with the Government of The United States of America that there is no change in their policy towards India or do they think that these remarks are anti-Indian? Do you think that they are not going to affect our relations? Keeping in view the strong emotions and feelings of the Indian people, will the Prime Minister take up this matter at his level with the President of America?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): Mr.

Speaker, Sir, the United States is very concerned about human rights all over the world. They referred to the human rights violation in India and in many other countries. That is the line that the President is following in his domestic policy.

Now, whenever any statement is made, we respond to it. We felt that this kind of a statement was not worth that either the Prime Minister or I should give a reply. The spokesman's reply was quite sufficient, in my opinion. What do I do?... *(Interruptions)*... That is your opinion and this is my opinion. what do I do? *(Interruptions)*

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: It is the President of United States who said this.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: It may be the President, but what should we do? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Sir, the Minister's statement is a worthless statement. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DINESH SINGH: If you are not interested to listen to me, what do I do then? *(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, our Ambassador's statement in the United States was sufficient to answer this. The President may make a statement. My friend may think that the President's statement should be replied to by the Prime Minister, it is not always necessary because the statement made by the Government of India, by our representative in America carries sufficient influence in the United States.

We have made it clear again and again that Kashmir is a part of India and

will remain part of India. It is our domestic affair. If they do not listen and go on saying something, what do I do? We also make our statements. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Is India so helpless that you cannot do anything? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Even after that if they say that their relations, their attitude towards India is same, what do we do? Should we tell them that it is not the same? *(Interruptions)*

They have themselves corrected their statement. I do not think that we should attach too much importance to this. The Resolution that has been passed by this House has gone all over the world and it carries more power than any statement made by any of us could have carried.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KAPSE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have objection to what the Minister is saying. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are three aspects of this question: The State of Jammu and Kashmir and its status, the question of Punjab and the question of human rights.

MR. SPEAKER: May I intervene? One can understand the feelings of the Members on this question but we should also understand that somebody is trying to internationalise it and we should not fuel it.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Absolutely. On these three subjects, the

State of Jammu and Kashmir and its status, the question of Punjab and the overall question of human rights and the supposed violation of human rights in India there have been occasions when the President of the United States, orally, in writing and the Head of South Asia Desk again orally have made certain comments. Notwithstanding what the United States of America has said that there has been no change in their policy, taking into account the collectivity and the cumulative consequences of these statements what is the interpretation of the Government of India? Does this amount to a change on these three subjects in so far as the Government of the United States of America is concerned, firstly, or can it be attributed to insufficient and inefficient briefing and lack of maturity and experience in the officers as those hold high office in the United State of America?

MR. SPEAKER: That is not going on record.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, I am talking about officers.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, 'Officers' is all right.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: All that I am asking is: Is it a change of policy? Can it be attributed to inefficient and insufficient briefing on the part of the State Department and officers of the United States of America? Conversely, mindful of the concern about human rights, in which India is second to none, would the Government of India also consider expressing its great concern about the violations of human rights, particularly when it comes to the Blacks of the United States of America?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: It is true that at various levels these statements have been made.

MR. SPEAKER: If there are two statements, the last statement carries weight.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: They have made the statements and they have themselves corrected it by saying that America's position is the same as in the past. So we should accept that they have made these earlier statements wrongly.

SHRI M. GHANEDRA REDDY: I am putting a direct question to the hon. Minister. Is it a fact that the Pakistan Government is encouraging terrorism and militancy in India? If so, is the Government of India considering declaring Pakistan as a terrorist state in view of the gross violation of human rights by Pakistan aiding militants and terrorists and whether the Government of India is considering the sponsoring of the issue, to declare Pakistan as a terrorist state in the UNO?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: All we have done is that we have put up all the information to all the Governments and friendly countries about what Pakistan is doing in Jammu and Kashmir, how terrorism is being sponsored by them, how weapons are being supplied by them and how the human rights arise out of the interference by Pakistan. That has been explained to all our friends and all the countries.

[Translation]

Chinese Delegation

*64. SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR:
SHRI CHARANJEET
YADAV:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Chinese delegation visited India recently to hold talks with Indian counterparts in pursuance of the agreement on peace and tranquillity along the line of Actual Control on the India-China border;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any agreement was signed during the visit;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(e) the progress made in regard to comprehensive settlement of boundary issue between the two countries?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) A Chinese delegation visited India for the first meeting of the India-China Expert Group held in New Delhi from February 2-4, 1994.

(b) to (d) In its first meeting, the Expert Group reached basic agreement on many issues relating to its mandate, future tasks and methodology. No

agreement was signed during this meeting.

(e) There has been an all-round improvement in India-China relations over the last few years. On the complicated boundary question, Government have maintained a useful dialogue with China on this issue in an atmosphere free of rancour. The two countries are committed to work towards a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution to this question. It is hoped that concrete steps taken by India and China to enhance mutual confidence and harmony in the border areas will help in creating a climate that is conducive to a boundary settlement.

[Translation]

SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, I congratulate the Indian Government and specially the Prime Minister that he is determined and has always been making efforts to improve our relations with our neighbouring countries. The Chinese delegation had agreed on many basic issues when it visited India. I would like to know, through you, from the hon. Minister as to what are the main factors which play an important role in the maintenance of peace, tranquillity law and order, and development of the country?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: As I have said earlier, it was an expert group to whom was assigned the task of giving suggestions to bring the needed changes on the line of Actual Control. It was asked to give its opinion on very few issues. It was asked to work according to the mandate, and to chalk out a programme for future and suggest the modalities. The task of the expert group was limited. The group did not take any decisions on substantial issues, neither was it

authorised to do so. They could only recommend within these parameters.

[English]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, after 18 years of my membership in Lok Sabha, I found that my name has been wrongly printed. My name should be corrected.

MR. SPEAKER: The rose will smell the same by any other name.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Thank you very much.

The hon. Minister has said that this Expert Group had reached some common agreements and it had made certain recommendations; it had agreed to certain modalities for the future task of the Indo-China Joint Commission. May I know as to what are the main recommendations of this Expert Group? Are they only confined to the border issues or do they suggest certain things to improve our trade relations and also our joint actions in this Asian region?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Sir, I would like to explain the mandate given to this Expert Group. They are: clarification of the line of actual control, that is, the two sides to jointly check and determine the segments of the line of actual control, where they have different views; force re-deployment, that is, to work out the extent, depth, timing and nature of reduction of military forces along with the LAC on the basis of principle of mutual and equal security; other confidence building measures such as prior notification on military exercise, meeting of border personnel and prevention of air intrusions; and verification measures for

the reduction of military force and the maintenance of peace and tranquillity. This Expert had discussed all these modalities.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government has been saying since long that China has occupied a large part of our territory. Regarding the delegation that had come for talks, it has been learnt from the newspapers that India is going to give up its claim on Aksai Chin. I want to know clearly from the Minister, whether India will cease or will continue its claims on the territory, which it claims, was occupied by China, after the 1962 war.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the news published in the papers is baseless. In our talks, it has been decided that we should make changes on either side of the line of control, where both sides have differences. It is wrong to say that we have ceded any territory to China or intend to do so. Our position is same, as before ...*(Interruptions)* I will reply to his question, not yours. This is what I have been asked to do. The news appearing in press that we were going to cede any territory to China is wrong. On this matter, the expert group will give its recommendations and it would be placed before the Parliament. The Parliament is empowered to accept it or not.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If the hon. Minister wants to reply to the first question, he can do so.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I only wanted to clarify that

we are not discussing the border issue with China. Let us not confuse the issues. This was only the Line of Actual Control and we want peace and tranquillity on that. So, if there is any difference on that, this Expert Group tries to resolve that. The hon. Member raised something about the border issue, I do not think that we should bring it in just now. We are having good relations with China and both the countries are trying to build confidence with each other. Let us continue with this very important issue.

Therefore, let us not say something which the newspapers may print but which should not be brought in this House.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Sir, the relations between India and China are vital not only to the peace and stability of Asia but also for the world. The only issue of dispute which we have inherited is the boundary issue. The boundary dispute by its nature is very complex and has its implications on national politics as the question of Shri Mohan Singh has clearly identified. There is a requirement of national consensus. I would like to know whether the Government is taking any step to evolve a national consensus to formalise our approach and secondly whether the Expert Group has identified the areas of dispute on the Line of Actual Control and the modalities for resolving the same.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: From the early times, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, always said that there is no dispute between China and India on border issue. The border is traditionally known. It is only a question of arriving at an understanding on it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Through you, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware of the resolution accepted unanimously by the Lok Sabha that concerted effort would be made to take back the entire Aksai Chin region from China? If you are aware of this, will you make efforts in this meeting or at some other time to take back the territory occupied by China in 1962? China has occupied thousands of kilometres of our long territory.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my submission is that boundary dispute should not be raised now.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Joshi you may, have a talk with Shri Vajpayee in this regard.

[*English*]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Should we surrender? Are you saying that we should surrender?

MR. SPEAKER: I think, that question has already been replied.

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether it has come to his notice that recently one book was released by the former External Affairs Minister of Government of India, Shri Natwar Singh, wherein it is written that merger of Sikkim with India has not been recognized by China as yet. I would like to know whether this statement is correct or not.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: As I said, this was an Expert Group...

MR. SPEAKER: This has not come in the discussion. That is the answer.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: It has no mandate. It has a limited task.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, one of the areas which the representatives from both China and India were discussing, is border trade relations. May I know from the Minister whether the areas have been identified where the trade relationship can be developed?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Sir, we have had discussions with them with regard to opening more areas for border trade. At present trade is going on at Lepichek and now we have also asked for the Shipkai area in Himachal Pradesh to be opened for border trade. This is under consideration.

MR. SPEAKER: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Interview by Indonesian Minister on Farakka Issue

*65. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Bangladesh

newspaper "New Nation" dated November 5, 1993 regarding an interview given by the Health Minister of Indonesia on Farakka issue;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken up this matter with Indonesia;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the newspaper report, the Health Minister of Indonesia stated that India had no right to unilaterally withdraw the waters of the Ganges and that the UN should take care of the Farakka issue immediately.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs conveyed to our Embassy in Jakarta that their Health Minister was misreported by the said newspaper and that the observations attributed to him on the Farakka issue were without any basis.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Doordarshan Programmes

*66. SHRI SOBHANADREES WARARAO VADDE:

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:

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

(a) whether in comparison to Doordarshan programmes, the programmes of foreign T.V. networks have become popular in the country;

(b) if so, whether the quality of Doordarshan programmes has been declining;

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

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to improve the quality of Doordarshan Programmes?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. Such surveys are regularly done by Doordarshan.

(d) The surveys have revealed that the programmes of Doordarshan continue to enjoy high viewership. On its part Doordarshan constantly strives to bring about a qualitative improvement in its programmes in order to sustain the interest of its viewers.

Indo-UAE Joint Commission

*67. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the meeting of Indo-UAE Joint Commission was held recently; and

(b) if so, the subjects that figured in the meeting and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Seventh Session of the Indo-UAE Joint Commission was held in New Delhi from January 4-6, 1994.

(b) The Joint Commission discussed in detail a wide range of issues relating to investment, trade, economic and manpower matters and interaction in the areas of water & telecommunications, banking, education & information and media exchanges.

Agreements on counter trafficking in Narcotic drugs and the Cultural Exchange Programme for 1994-96 were signed by the two sides. The Narcotic Agreement which provides for exchange of information and other cooperation between the designated agencies of the two sides, is the first which India has signed with any Arab country. The Cultural Exchange Programme comprises a specific annual action plan for cooperation in the fields of education, including higher education, art, culture, tourism, information, mass media and sports.

Technical discussions were held and considerable headway was made on a bilateral treaty dealing with extradition. Follow-up action on areas of cooperation agreed to is continuing.

Talks with Pakistan

*68. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Foreign Secretary level

talks were held with Pakistan during January, 1994;

(b) if so, the bilateral issues figured in the talks and the outcome thereof;

(c) the follow-up action taken by the Government on the outcome;

(d) whether any talks are proposed to be held between the two countries in near future; and

(e) if so, the time by which these talks are likely to be held and at what level?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) The Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan met at Islamabad from 1-3 January, 1994. At these talks, the entire range of bilateral issues including differences related to the Jammu and Kashmir issue were discussed.

(c) On 24 January, 1994 Government forwarded to Pakistan six non-papers containing specific and constructive proposals on Siachen, Sir Creek, a draft agreement on maintenance of peace and tranquillity along the Line of Control, additional Confidence Building Measures and India-Pakistan Joint Commission.

(d) and (e) At the Foreign Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan held at Islamabad from 1-3 January, 1994, the two sides reiterated the need to engage in a bilateral dialogue. Government expressed its readiness to draw a schedule for further talks. Pakistan, however, was unwilling to commit itself to any time-frame for further talks and attempted to link the scheduling

of future talks with the ground situation in J&K including the level of security forces deployed against terrorists in J&K and discussion on the modalities of a plebiscite, which Government have consistently regarded as unacceptable.

During the period since the Foreign Secretary level talks concluded, Pakistan has indulged in a highly provocative propaganda campaign against India and has stepped up its efforts to internationalise the J&K issue. This has vitiated the climate of relations and has a negative impact on the bilateral process.

Telephones in Metropolitan Cities

*69. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:
SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAO-SAHEB TOPE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of people in the metropolitan cities are in the waiting list for telephone connections;

(b) if so, the details thereof in regard to every metropolitan city as on December 31, 1993;

(c) the prospects of providing telephone connections to those people; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite the allotment of telephone connections in the metropolitan cities?

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

(b) The details of waiting list as on 31.12.1993 of four metropolitan cities are given below:

1. Calcutta	69,181
2. Madras	1,03,475
3. Delhi	3,43,869
4. Bombay	1,88,121

(c) and (d) As per 8th Plan objective, the waiting period, for telephone connection is to be reduced to less than two years in large telephone system, by the end of 8th plan period (92-97). The expansion of Exchanges in the four Metropolitan cities are being planned accordingly. The target for providing telephone connections during 1993-94 to the four metro cities are given below:

Calcutta	34200
Madras	33200
Delhi	76600
Bombay	42800

Regional Power Grids

*70. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any scheme for interconnecting various regional power grids through high voltage direct current;

(b) if so, the outstanding features thereof and the merits of the scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) In pursuance of the policy of the Government to set up National Powergrid for optimum utilisation of available resources, Northern and Western Region already stand inter-connected through Vindhyachal High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) back-to-back project. Another HVDC back-to-back link at Chandrapur (Maharashtra) connecting Western and Southern Region has been sanctioned by the Government. Other such schemes under consideration of the Government include 1x500 MW Jeypore-Gazuwaka HVDC back-to-back link connecting Eastern and Southern Region and 1x500 MW Mau HVDC back-to-back inter-regional link to connect Eastern and Northern Regions.

(b) The outstanding features of HVDC back-to-back inter-connections are the exchange of power between the regions having different voltage and frequency levels leading to optimum utilisation of available resources and more security/stability of the power systems including assistance during emergency conditions.

(c) The HVDC projects have a gestation period of about 4 years from the date of award of contract for main equipments.

[Translation]

Passport Offices

*71. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey on rationalization of work load and geographical distribution of passport offices;

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

(c) the follow-up steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A *Statement* is attached.

(c) The survey concluded that pending an overall review of the structure of passport issuing system, rationalization could be effected by a more balanced distribution of posts according to the work load, and this has been done. Government have also focussed on increasing output and eliminating delays by strengthening the existing passport offices. This has been done by augmenting staff strength, improving working conditions, supply of adequate passport booklets and modern office equipment, streamlining of procedures and the introduction of a productivity linked incentive scheme.

STATEMENT

In its report the Standing Committee of the Parliament on External Affairs has observed that staff strength and geographical distribution of Passport Offices should be determined so as to Rationalize the workload. With a view to make an assessment for this purpose, a district-wise survey of demand for passports over the country was required to be undertaken. This survey has since been completed in respect of 16 Passport Offices. Such a survey in respect of five of relatively smaller offices and Passport Office, Delhi is not called for.

2. *Annexure-A* gives the following information in respect of 16 Passport Offices for which district-wise survey of demand has been completed:

- (a) Number of applications received for fresh passports during the year 1992;
- (b) Five districts with highest input of applications for fresh passports in 1992 in each of 16 Passport Offices; and
- (c) District-wise figures of input of applications for fresh passports in 1992 and January-April, 1993 in respect of 16 Passport Offices.

3. Presently, there are 22 Passport Offices in India which received 24.72 lakh applications for issue of fresh passports during the year 1992. On the basis of input of applications, Passport Offices could be divided into three categories:

- (a) Heavy Passport Offices with annual input of over 1 lakh applications. The following Passport Offices fall in this category (input of applications in 1992 given against each office)

Bombay	259374
--------	--------

Kozhikode	235223
-----------	--------

Hyderabad	212635
Trichy	181215
Cochin	179871
Tirvandrum	157316

(b) Medium-sized Passport Offices with input of applications numbering around 1 lakh:

1. Delhi	143812
2. Madras	141194
3. Ahmedabad	133283
4. Lucknow	130861
5. Jalandhar	112179
6. Jaipur	109886
7. Bangalore	104871
8. Chandigarh	100565
9. Bareilly	75484
10. Calcutta	60319
11. Patna	51614

(c) Pocket Passport Office with annual input of less than 50,000 applications during 1992:

1. Bhopal	27713
2. Panaji	20137
3. Nagpur	13893
4. Bhubaneswar	12800
5. Gauhati	8176

General: Location of a Passport Office is determined by several factors such as area of the State, distance from a Passport Office, demand for passports, users' convenience and public service etc. While input of applications from an area is one of the important considerations, it cannot be the sole criterion based on which location of a Passport Office is decided. This is illustrated by the location of a Passport Office at Guwahati which received only 8,175 applications for issue of fresh passports in 1992. However, considering that this Passport Office centres to passport applicants from the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh and since this is the only Passport Office in the North-East region, its location is fully justified notwithstanding the small number of passport applicants served by this office. Kerala has the largest number of passport applicants; 5,72,410 applications for issue of fresh passports were received from Kerala during 1992. It has 3 Passport Offices at Kozhikode, Cochin and Trivandrum. The State of Maharashtra has the second largest number of passport applicants there were 2,73,207 applications for fresh passports from the State during the same period.

The Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance after a recent study of some of the Passport Offices has recommended that there should not be a separate Passport Office if annual intake of applications is less than 50,000. Based on this criterion, it has recommended that the existing Passport Offices of Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Nagpur, Guwahati and Punnji should not exist as independent offices and instead a Division Office, similar to the one at Shimla, should be set up at these stations.

Conclusions:

The data indicate that most of the existing Passport Offices are located in cities with the highest input of applications. While an objective levelling of the field based on averages might not serve the public interest entirely as it could result in some States having no offices at all. Hence, instead of re-distribution of offices, what is done is a distribution of personnel according to the workload within the frame work of the State as a unit, for ease of coordination between the Passport Offices and local and State authorities. For example, Passport Office, Nagpur could conceivably start servicing some neighbouring districts in Andhra Pradesh in order to even out Hyderabad's load. Since certain reports are however required from State and local authorities, the offices dealing with a number of agencies in two States could have an effect on efficiency. The regional approach based on workload is therefore adopted where the number of applications is truly low. The entire structure of the system however needs review and this is being done.

The Ministry of External Affairs is presently focussing on eliminating delays by strengthening the existing offices. This is sought to be achieved by augmenting their staff strength, improving the working conditions, supply of adequate passport booklets and modern office equipment, computerisation of Passport Offices and streamlining of procedures. The output of fresh passports showed an increase of 40 per cent in 1992 over the year 1991. Figures for 1993 also indicate a further increase in output. It has been the Ministry's experience that mere opening of new offices does not improve services until the necessary infrastructure and personnel are provided. Bifurcating existing offices in fact centres more problems since the existing offices themselves are not fully equipped to

handle their current demand for services. The effort at present therefore is to ensure that the backlog of pending applications is cleared and delays faced by the public in setting passport services are reduced to the minimum. Staff training, simplification of procedures and development of public awareness are three major areas which will require attention thereafter together with measures to reduce passport fraud.

Annexure-A

Passport Office-Ahmedabad

(A) No. of applications received in 1992 for fresh passports 133293

(B) Five districts with highest input of applications during 1992

Ahmedabad	20502
Surat	15168
Kheda	15070
Valsad	12839
Baroda	11719

(C) District-wise distribution of passport applications received during the year 1992 and January-April 1993.

Name of District	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received from Jan. - April 1993
Rajkot	5707	2366
Baroda	11719	4951
Surat	15168	4749
Ahmedabad	20502	6352
Jamnagar	6476	1886
Junagadh	4453	991
Amreli	1438	204
Porbandar	4176	1146
Bhavnagar	2509	451

Name of District	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received from Jan. - April 1993
Kutch	9197	2503
Sabarkantha	2048	443
Banaskantha	1972	414
Mehsana	5442	1463
Patna	2073	526
Kheda	15070	3149
Gandhinagar	1262	2623
Surendranagar	679	196
Panchmahal	2293	737
Bharuch	7365	2184
Valsad	12839	3960
Dang	142	32
Div	493	144

Passport Office-Bareilly

(A) No. of applications received in 1992 for fresh passports	75484
(B) Five districts with highest input of applications during 1992	
Moradabad	11062
Bijnor	10751
Muzaffarnagar	8054
Meerut	7167
Saharanpur	5679

Remarks: It is significant that applications received for fresh passports from district Bareilly during the year 1992 numbered only 3013.

(C) District-wise distribution of passport applications received during the year 1992 and January-April, 1993.

Name of District	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received during January-April 1993
Almoda	142	39
Agra	2100	756
Aligarh	2593	803
Badaun	852	197
Bijnor	10751	3481
Bareilly	3013	900
Bulandshahr	3921	1374
Chamoli	20	7
Dehradun	1809	507
Etah	622	192
Firozabad	1130	355
Ghaziabad	4135	1297
Haridwar	1065	390
Mainpuri	108	60
Mathyra	1538	551
Muzaffarnagar	8054	2401
Moradabad	11062	3095
Meerut	7167	2401
Nainital	2000	699
Pauri Garhwal	135	40
Pithoragarh	55	13
Pilibhir + Pilbhit	956	267
Shahjahanpur	1078	393
Saharanopur (Saharanpur)	5679	2055
Rampur	5394	1701

Name of District	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received during January-April 1993
Tehri Garhwal	66	19
Uttar Kashi	55	7

Passport Office-Bombay

- (A) No. of applications received in 1992 for fresh passports 259374
- (B) Five districts with highest input of applications during 1992
- | | |
|--------|--------|
| Bombay | 189951 |
| Thane | 32403 |
| Pune | 17250 |
| Nasik | 3681 |
| Raigad | 3651 |
- (C) District-wise distribution of passport applications received during the year 1992 and January-April 1993.

Name of District	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received from January-April 1993
Ahmednagar	1094	284
Aurangabad	1653	258
Beed	416	86
Bombay	189951	—
Dhule	567	124
Jalgaon	694	136
Kolhapur	1176	395
Nashik	3681	697

Name of District	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received from Jan. - April 1993
Pune	17250	4766
Raigad	3651	1117
Ratangiri	3102	1009
Sangli	1047	294
Satara	915	247
Sindhudurg	288	65
Solapur	1486	348
Thane	32403	9318

Passport Office-Bangalore

- (A) No. of applications received in 1992 for fresh passports 104871
- (B) Five districts with highest input of applications during 1992
- | | |
|-----------|-------|
| Bangalore | 42658 |
| Mangalore | 21763 |
| | 3429 |
| Mysore | 3323 |
| Tunkur | 2671 |
- (C) District-wise distribution of passport applications received during the year 1992 and January-April 1993.

Name of District	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received from January-April 1993
Bangalore	42658	
Bidar	1163	
Bellary	1626	

Name of District	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received from January-April 1993
Belgaum	1633	
Bijapur	1368	
Chitradurga	1443	
Chiknagalar	1398	
Dharwad	1832	
Gulgarga	3429	
Hassan	1057	
Karwar	2062	
Kolar	2381	
Mangalore	21763	
Mandya	684	
Mercara	1628	
Mysore	3323	
Raichur	641	
Shimoga	2197	
Tunkur	2671	

Passport Office-Calcutta

(A) No. of applications received in 1992 for fresh passports	60319
(B) Five districts with highest input of applications during 1992	
Calcutta	26200
24 Parganas (North)	12355
24 Parganas (South)	9092
Nadia	3580
Howrah	2892

- (C) District-wise distribution of passport applications received during the year 1992 and January-April 1993

Name of District	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received from January-April 1993.
Calcutta	26200	7022
24 PGS (S)	9092	2558
24 PGS (N)	12335	3459
Howrah	2892	1646
Birbhum	336	110
Nadia	3850	1740
Hooghly	1872	884
Midnapore	1988	455
Murshidabad	2272	557
Purula	35	18
Bankura	54	35
Sikkim	82	32
Jalpaiguri	60	36
Darjeeling	352	197
Malda	90	40
W/Dinajpur	53	35
Burdwan	1052	571
Tripura	72	34
Cooch Bihar	22	27

Passport Office-Cochin

- (A) No. of applications received in 1992 for fresh passports. 179871
- (B) Five districts with highest input of applications during 1992.

Jurisdiction of Passport Office, Cochin extends to six districts in all. For details of input of applications please see under (C) below.

- (C) District-wise distribution of passport applications received during the year 1992 and January-April 1993.

Name of District	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received from January-April 1993
Emakulam	48949	16330
Trichur	60110	16558
Alleppey	38689	11150
Kottayam	24310	6219
Idukki	7673	1945
Lakshadweep	140	28

Passport Office-Hyderabad

		Name of district	No. of Applications
(A)	No. of applications received in 1992 for fresh passports	212635	
		Karimnagar	450
		Medak	55
		Warangal	55
(B)	Five districts with highest input of applications during 1992	Hyderabad	1375
		Nalgonda	85
	Hyderabad	66000	Khammam
		10	Mahaboobnagar
	Cuddappah	25200	100
		10	Kurnool
	Nizamabad	21600	35
		35	Srikakulam
	Karimnagar	21600	05
		05	Vizianagaram
	Chittoor	8880	70
		70	Visakhapatnam
		80	East Godavari
		120	West Godavari
		45	Krishna
		70	Guntur
(C)	Average weekly input of applications for fresh passports:	10	Prakasam
		30	Anantapur
		525	Cuddappah
		150	Nellore
		185	Chittoor
	Name of district	No. of Applications	
	Ranga Reddy	140	
	Adilabad	15	
	Nizammabad	450	

Passport Office-Jalandhar

(A) No. of applications received in 1992 for fresh passports. 112179

(B) Five districts with highest input of applications during 1992.

Jurisdiction extends to 5 districts only. Please see figures below under (C)

(C) District-wise distribution of passport applications received during the year 1992 and January-April 1993.

Name of District	Receipt of applications during 1992	Receipt of applications from January-April 1993
Jalandhar	49544	13711
Kapurthala	15756	3969
Hoshiarpur	16908	4653
Amritsar	13108	4695
Gurdaspur	8593	2148

Passport Office-Kozhikode

(A) No. of applications received in 1992 for fresh passports 235223

(B) Five districts with highest input of applications during 1992

Malappuram	115654
Kozhikode	46543
Kannur	31987
Palakkad	31548
Kasaragod	9609

- (C) District-wise distribution of passport applications received during the year 1992 and January-April 1993.

Name of District	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received from January-April 1993
Malappuram	115654	11105
Kozhikode	46543	6787
Kannur	31987	5470
Palakkad	31548	4710
Kasaragod	9609	1920
Wayanad	4643	860
Mahe	501	80

Passport Office-Lucknow

- (A) No. of applications received in 1992 for fresh passports 130861
- (B) Five districts with highest input of applications during 1992
- | | |
|-----------|-------|
| Azamgarh | 18211 |
| Lucknow | 14300 |
| Gorakhpur | 11235 |
| Deoria | 10550 |
| Allahabad | 8470 |
- (C) District-wise distribution of passport applications received during the year 1992 and January-April 1993.

Name of District	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received from January-April 1993
Allahabad	8470	1780
Azamgarh	18211	3100

Name of District	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received from January-April 1993
Barabanki	4727	2020
Ballia	1510	1700
Basti	2610	1220
Banda	401	90
Bahraich	1873	NIL
Deoria	10550	5020
Etawah	316	180
Faizabad	2705	1700
Fatehpur	2050	990
Farrukhabad	579	160
Gorakhpur	11235	2060
Gonda	3435	2300
Ghazipur	1757	600
Hamirpur	522	170
Hardoi	1017	200
Jaunpur	4880	2400
Jalaun	82	100
Jhansi	370	80
Kanpur	6985	2030
Lucknow	14300	4100
Lalitpur	320	10
Lakhimpur Khiri	719	800
Mau	5300	1250
Mirzapur	779	150
Maharajganj	3863	2060
Pratapgarh	1350	1050
Rai Bareilly	1690	1200

Name of Districts	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received from Jan. - April 93
Sitapur	2130	1130
Sultanpur	2013	1326
Sidharth Nagar	1360	1100
Sonbhadra	332	450
Unnao	2450	2000
Varanasi	4570	850

Passport Office-Madras

- (A) No. of applications received in 1992 for fresh passports 141194
- (B) Five districts with highest input of applications during 1992
- | | |
|-------------|-------|
| Madras | 50793 |
| South Arcot | 26711 |
| Chingleput | 23433 |
| North Arcot | 11048 |
| Coimbatore | 7614 |
- (C) District-wise distribution of passport applications received during the year 1992 and January-April 1993.

Name of District	Applications received during 1992	Applications received from January-April 1993
Madras	50793	20160
North Arcot	11048	2633
Salem	5891	2131
Chingleput	23433	9609
South Arcot	26711	9002

Name of District	Applications received during 1992	Applications received from January-April 1993
Coimbatore	7614	3639
Nilgiris	2698	844
Dharmapuri	1916	799
Periyar	1432	817
Pondicherry	4164	1735
Karaikal	1232	476

Passport Office-Trivandrum

- (A) No. of applications received in 1992 for fresh passports 157316
- (B) Five districts with highest input of applications during 1992
- It has only 3 districts under its jurisdiction. Please see figures under (C)
- (C) District-wise distribution of passport applications received during the year 1992 and January-April 1993.

Name of District	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received from January-April 1993
Trivandrum	76754	21659
Quilon	56390	15912
Pathanamthitta	23496	6631

Passport Office-Trichy

- (A) No. of applications received in 1992 for fresh passports 180690
- (B) Five districts with highest input of applications during 1992
- Tiruchirapalli 34102
- Nagaiquaide Milleth 26546

79	Written Answers	FEBRUARY 28, 1994	Written Answers	80
	Tanjur West		24847	
	Kanyakumari		22325	
	Ramnathapuram		16899	

(C) District-wise distribution of passport applications received during the year 1992 and January-April 1993.

Name of district	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received from January-April 1993
Tanjur West	24847	9139
Nagaiquaide Milleth	26546	8879
Ramanathapuram	16899	5643
Pon Muthuramalingam	12900	5868
Kamarajar	4152	1763
Tiruchirappalli	34102	11161
Madurai (CITY)	5588	2184
Madurai Rural	4139	2088
Anna (Dindigal District)	2837	935
Tirunelveli	10615	3956
V.O. Chithampananar	4510	2266
Pudukottai	11230	5139
Kanniyakumari	22325	7031

Passport Office-Patna

(A) No. of applications received in 1992 for fresh passports 52524

(B) Five districts with highest input of applications during 1992

Gopalgung 11862

Siwan 11704

81	Written Answers	PHALGUNA 9, 1915 (SAKA)	Written Answers	82
	Patna		3097	
	Darbhanga		3088	
	Jamshedpur		2676	

(C) District-wise distribution of passport applications received during the year 1992 and January-March 1993.

	Name of Districts	Applications received during 1992	Applications received from 1-1-93 to 31-3-93
1.	Siwan	11704	3342
2.	Gopalgung	11862	3308
3.	Jamshedpur	2676	106<
4.	Patna	3097	1106
5.	Darbhanga	3088	1042
6.	Ranchi	2578	560
7.	W. Singhbhum	2138	192
8.	Madhubani	2548	204
9.	E. Singhbhum	1605	66
10.	Dhanbad	2018	62
11.	Saran	1157	42
12.	Bhojpur	1068	46
13.	Buxar	178	26
14.	Araria	166	12
15.	Banka	142	9
16.	Deoghar	132	9
17.	Jamui	130	11
18.	Samastipur	102	18
19.	Supoul	45	8
20.	Gumla	63	6
21.	Garhwa	42	7

	Name of Districts	Applications received during 1992	Applications received from 1-1-93 to 31-3-93
22.	Rohtas	68	6
23.	Katihar	166	9
24.	Gonda	48	7
25.	Palamu	106	13
26.	Dumka	62	9
27.	Kishangung	140	27
28.	Purnea	136	17
29.	E. Champaran	542	68
30.	W. Champaran	531	42
31.	Muzaffarpur	548	56
32.	Vaishali	521	48
33.	Sitamabhi	478	38
34.	Nalanda	433	32
35.	Gaya	280	27
36.	Bokaro	288	29
37.	Jehanabad	210	22
38.	Saharsa	188	18
39.	Bhagalpur	244	23
40.	Munger	192	17
41.	Begusarai	142	14
42.	Giridih	142	14
43.	Lohardaga	60	8
44.	Chatra	20	3
45.	Madhepura	20	7
46.	Sahebgung	72	11
47.	Nawada	560	105
48.	Bhabua	78	13
49.	Aurangabad	482	104

Passport Office-Jaipur

(A) No. of applications received in 1992 for fresh passports 109886

(B) Five districts with highest input of applications during 1992

Jaipur	16955
Sikar	16889
Jhunjhunu	12593
Churu	10912
Nagaur	9373

(C) District-wise distribution of passport applications received during the year 1992:

Name of Districts	Applications received during 1992
1. Jaipur	16955
2. Sikar	16889
3. Jhunjhunu	12593
4. Churu	10912
5. Nagaur	9373
6. Ajmer	5780
7. Dungarpur	5538
8. Udaipur	5351
9. Jodhpur	4582
10. Banswara	4037
11. Sri Ganganagar	3450
12. Kota	1956
13. Alwar	1429
14. Tonk	1220
15. Barmer	1209

Name of Districts	Applications received during 1992
16. Swaimadhopur	1165
17. Bikaner	1140
18. Chittorgarh	934
19. Bhilwara	846
20. Pali	703
21. Jhalawar	560
22. Rajsamand	549
23. Bharatpur	538
24. Jaisalmer	505
25. Dausa	462
26. Sirohi	429
27. Bundi	330
28. Dholpur	198
29. Baban	165
30. Jalore	88

Passport Office-Chandigarh

(A) No. of applications for fresh passports received in 1992 101092

(B) Five districts with highest input of applications during 1992

Ludhiana	21904
Faridkot	10057
Chandigarh	8194
Firozpur	7099
Patiala	6124

(C) District-wise distribution of applications received during the year 1992 and January-June, 1993.

Name of District	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received from January-June, 93
PUNJAB		
1. Ludhiana	21904	9356
2. Faridkot	10057	3793
3. Ferozepur	7099	3042
4. Patiala	6124	2865
5. Ropar	5675	2497
6. Sangrur	4511	2140
7. Fatehgarh Sahib	3486	1196
8. Mansa	2717	1183
9. Bhatinda	3004	1392
HARYANA		
1. Faridabad	3667	1640
2. Kurukshetra	2706	1133
3. Gurgaon	2663	1055
4. Ambala	2507	955
5. Yamunanagar	1868	736
6. Sirsa	1551	644
7. Hissar	1389	513
8. Rohtak	1266	475
9. Panipat	1178	466
10. Karnal	1144	454
11. Jind	987	386
12. Kaithal	749	308
13. Sonapat	598	219
14. Bhiwani	467	168
15. Rewari	403	148

	Name of District	No. of applications received during 1992	No. of applications received from January-June, 93
16.	Mohindergarh	412	161
CHANDIGARH			
1.	Chandigarh	8194	3951
HIMACHAL PRADESH			
1.	Una	1639	740
2.	Kangra	1361	609
3.	Mandi	699	312
4.	Solan	336	150
5.	Hamirpur	197	95
6.	Sirmour	109	47
7.	Shimla	221	103
8.	Bilaspur	80	30
9.	Chamba	59	32
10.	Nahan	65	29

[English]

Collaboration of Financial Times with Anand Bazar Group

*72. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Financial Times of London has entered into collaboration with the Anand Bazar Group of Papers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a joint venture company has been incorporated in India by these two newspapers;

(d) if so, whether this company has sought the permission of the Government to start their publications soon; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) A proposal for setting up of a joint venture company 'The Financial Times of India Private Limited' between Anand Bazar Patrika Limited and the Financial Times Limited of U.K. has been

received by the Government for publication of a financial daily. Permission for setting up of such a company has not so far been granted by the Government.

International Film Festival

*73. SHRI ANNA JOSHI:

DR. LAL BHADUR RAWAL:

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

(a) whether the 25th International Film Festival took place in Calcutta recently;

(b) if so, the names of the countries who took part in the festival;

(c) the total expenditure incurred thereon and revenue earned therefrom during the festival;

(d) whether any appraisal has been made of the various pitfalls that took place in the festival;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken to check recurrence of such pitfalls in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir. It was held from January, 10-20, 1994.

(b) The names of the countries who took part in the festival are given in *Statement* attached.

(c) The Government had sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 115 lakhs for the

festival. Till 24.2.1994, bills for a sum of Rs. 76.62 lakhs have been received and settled. The revenue earned by sale of tickets and publications of the festival was Rs. 28,81,003-00.

(d) to (f) After every important organisational event, Government does conduct a review in order to effect improvements. Improvement is a continuous process and on the basis of the experience gained from earlier festivals, appropriate corrective steps are taken in the successive festivals.

STATEMENT

List of Countries which Participated

1. Argentina
2. Armenia
3. Australia
4. Belgium
5. Canada
6. China
7. Denmark
8. Egypt
9. Estonia
10. Finland
11. France
12. Germany
13. Ghana
14. Greece
15. Hong Kong
16. Hungary
17. India
18. Indonesia

19. Iran
20. Israel
21. Italy
22. Japan
23. South Korea
24. Lithuania
25. Mexico
26. Mongolia
27. Netherlands
28. New Zealand
29. Nigeria
30. Norway
31. Philippines
32. Poland
33. Portugal
34. Spain
35. Sri Lanka
36. Sweden
37. Switzerland
38. Thailand
39. U.K.
40. U.S.A.

[Translation]

Package of Proposals to Pakistan

*74. SHRI DATTATRAYA
BANDARU:
PROF. PREM DHUMAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have offered a package of proposals over bilateral issues to Pakistan;

(b) if so, the salient features of each of these proposals and the reaction of Pakistan thereto; and

(c) the stage at which the revival of Indo-Pak Joint Commission and Confidence Building Measures (CBMS) stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (c) On 24th January, 1994, six non-papers relating to Siachen, Sir Creek, Tulbal Navigation Project, maintenance of peace and tranquillity along the LOC, additional Confidence Building Measures and the India-Pakistan Joint Commission were handed over to Pakistan.

Government have made specific and constructive suggestions on these subjects with the aim to resolving differences with Pakistan peacefully and through bilateral negotiations as well as to move forward in the overall process of the normalisation of relations in accordance with the Shimla Agreement.

Pakistan has conveyed on 19 February, 1994 its comments and counter-proposals to the suggestions contained in all the six Indian non-papers, including those on India-Pakistan Joint Commission and additional Confidence Building Measures, which are presently under consideration with the Government.

[English]

Prasar Bharati Act, 1990

*75. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

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

(a) whether the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 has not been made effective so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government are considering amendments to Section 11(1), 11(2), 15(7) and 25 of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 before the Act is brought into force, with a view to obviate operational difficulties when the Act becomes operational. No target date can, however, be specified.

[Translation]

Mini Steel Plants

*76. SHRI GUMAN MAL
LODHA:

SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether several mini steel plants in the country have been declared sick during the years 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of such units; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to revive such steel plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act 1985 (SICA), as amended from time to time, has specified certain financial parameters under which an industrial company is categorised as a "sick industrial company". In terms of these provisions of SICA, the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has, till January 94, declared eight electric arc furnace units sick during the years 1992-93 and 1993-94. Out of these, winding up notice has been issued in one case, while action for the remaining cases is being taken by the BIFR as per the provisions of SICA.

[English]

Pak Propaganda on Kashmir Issue

*77. SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL:

SHRI TARA CHAND
KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan had raised Kashmir issue at the meeting of the UN Commission on Human Rights held recently at Geneva; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Indian delegation thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pakistani delegation at the ongoing session of the UN Commission

on Human Rights has alleged that India is violating human rights of the people of J&K. The Indian delegation has replied that full exercise of human rights is generated by the Indian political and democratic structures, the constitution, free press and independent judiciary, and terrorism sponsored across the border by Pakistan is responsible for violation of human rights of innocent citizens in the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir.

[Translation]

Radio Telephone Stations

*78. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up radio telephone stations for the far flung and hilly areas in the country;

(b) if so, locations thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether all these stations are functioning properly;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has set up radio telephone stations for far flung and hilly areas in the country;

(b) As per the existing policy, Government is providing telephone to every Panchayat village in the country.

This includes far flung and hilly areas. While policy exists for covering hilly areas, there is no special policy or definition regarding far flung areas. State-wise locations for hilly areas are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House;

(c) Some of the stations are not functioning properly;

(d) The reasons are mainly due to failures of earlier versions of some of the equipments & difficult approachability;

(e) The following steps have been taken:—

- (i) Necessary infrastructural facilities e.g. vehicles staff, spares and testing instruments are being provided regularly.
- (ii) Proper control and monitoring of performance of equipments are being done.
- (iii) More reliable media e.g. Radio equipments of latest technology is being inducted in the rural network.

Visit of President of Uzbekistan

*79. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA:

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the President of Uzbekistan visited India during January, 1994;

(b) if so, the bilateral subjects figured in his talks with Indian leaders;

(c) whether any agreements have been signed with that country in various fields such as information and Broadcasting Surface Transport and Communications; and

(d) if so, the salient features of these agreements?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Besides reviewing the regional and international situation with Indian leaders, enhanced cooperation in the fields of Science & Technology Culture and, particularly, economy and commerce were some of the bilateral issues that figured in his talks in New Delhi.

(c) Five Agreements/ MOUs/ Protocol on Cooperation in the field of Posts, Telecommunications, Culture, Science & Technology and Comprehensive Economic Cooperation were signed. The instruments of ratification of the Indo-Uzbek Treaty on Principles of Inter-State Relations and Cooperation were exchanged. No separate agreements in the fields of Information & Broadcasting, and Surface Transport were signed.

(d) The agreement on development of economic links and strengthening of comprehensive cooperation aims at wide ranging economic and commercial cooperation, including joint ventures and investment promotion, training of personnel, exchange of information etc. Agreement on cooperation in the field of posts and allied matters envisages promotions of quick and efficient transmission of mail, exchange of experts, training facilities and technology transfer.

The Protocol on the setting up of an Indo-Uzbek Centre for the promotion of scientific and technological cooperation provides for identifying, arranging exchange of scientists, promotion of training, and exchange of information in scientific fields. Agreement on culture provides for cooperation in fields of education, art, science, sports, youth activities, print and electronic media. MOU on telecommunications envisages promotion of efficient means of telecommunication and of technical and scientific cooperation.

[English]

Private Participation in Satellite Channels

*80. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIS:

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

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

(a) whether under the new Satellite Television Management Scheme, the Government have recently thrown open a segment of the time slot on the satellite channel to private sector;

(b) if so, the details of the new scheme and the reasons for change in the policy;

(c) whether any guidelines have been laid down for the limited private participation in the five satellite channels; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Only ten percent of the time on the satellite channels of Doordarshan has been earmarked for auction of time slots in deference to the observations made in a judgement delivered by the Delhi High Court striking down the scheme for allotment of time slots on these channels on first-come-first-served basis. Actual auctioning would, however, depend upon the outcome of the appeal preferred by the Government in the Supreme Court against the said judgement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Hospital in Maldives Financed by India

635. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have undertaken to finance a multi-crore modern hospital project in Male, capital of Maldives;

(b) if so, the expenditure involved in the project;

(c) the time by which the hospital is likely to be opened;

(d) whether trained and experienced staff would also be provided by the Union Government for the hospital;

(e) whether the Union Government have also undertaken to provide facilities for training of Maldives nationals in

medical and other para-medical fields; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The expenditure involved in this project is Rs. 38.69 crores.

(c) At a ceremony held on February 2, 1994, the Hospital was handed over by Smt. Sheila Kaul, Minister for Urban Development, on behalf of the Government of Maldives. Once the commissioning process is over, the hospital is expected to be made operational in June 1994.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Under the Memoranda of Understanding signed between the two Governments, Government of India would provide 127 medical/para-medical/technical personnel to Male for deployment at the Hospital, and is also committed to provide training to a total of 147 Maldivian nationals in the relevant institutions in India during the period 1991-1997.

[Translation]

Widening of National Highway No. 2

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

(a) the details of the progress made so far regarding conversion of National Highway No. 2 between Mathura and Agra into four lane highway; and

(b) the details of the foreign assistance received in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The project for widening to 4 lines of National Highway No. 2 between Mathura and Agra has been sanctioned recently. Work is yet to be taken up.

(b) Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (Japan) has agreed to provide a loan assistance of 4,855 million Yen for this project.

[English]

Foreign Assistance to Victims of Earthquake

637. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news

item appeared in the Hindustan Times dated October 2, 1993 regarding offer of assistance by Indians in UAE and other Gulf countries for the earthquake victims of Maharashtra;

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

(c) the quantum and kind of assistance received from foreign countries for these victims, country-wise?

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

(b) Indian groups and associations in Gulf States have voluntarily made collections and donated whatever they had collected in kind as well as in cash. Most of these donations have been sent through the good offices of the Indian Missions there.

(c) The information is given in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT*Assistance and Offer of Assistance Received so far (15.2.94)*

Source of Information	Source of Fund	Amount (US\$) (Approx.)	Remarks			
			C	U	K	K
1. DHA	UN Agency	50000	-			
		100000	-			
		110000		-		
		50000	-			
	Sub Total	310000	200000			110000
	Multilateral EEC	564971				
	Sub Total	564971	564971			
	Governments	530302				
		173722	-			
		312500	-			
		1946197				
		25000	-			
		285713				
		1974470	-			
		443020	-			
		425000				
		145000	-			

Pakistan	-	-
U.K.	1041788	-
U.S.A.	3525000	-
Bangladesh	-	-
Singapore	-	-
Australia	333332	-
Denmark	151515	-
Sub Total	11312559	3558559
		7754000

NGOs

CARE	250000	-
International		
CARITAS	82600	-
Austria		
CARITAS	179640	-
Germany		
CRS		
MEIMISA	57000	-
MEDICUS		
Secour	10000	-
Populaire		
Cosi, France	-	-
Pasteur Instt.	-	-
Map Instt.	275085	-
Secour	85470	-
Catholiq		
France	-	-
Secours		

Source of Information	Source of Fund	Amount (US\$) (Approx.)	C	U	K	Remarks
	World Vision International	503975	-	-	-	
	YMCA	20000	-	-	-	
	Church World Service	90908	-	-	-	
	DIAKONISCHES WERK/GERMANY	179640	-	-	-	
	NDM/France					
	Norwegian Church Aid (CASA)	189540	-	-	-	
	Through IFRCs					
	RC/Canada	7575	-	-	-	
	RC/Denmark	30303	-	-	-	
	RC/Finland	34364	-	-	-	
	RC/Iceland	15408	-	-	-	
	RC/Japan	104761	-	-	-	
	RC/Korea	10000	-	-	-	
	RC/New Zealand	82872	-	-	-	
	RC/Sri Lanka	1000	-	-	-	
	RC/Switzerland	49645	-	-	-	
	RC/USA	20000	-	-	-	
Sub Total		2279786	1257348	1022438		

2. Department of Women Child

UNICEF	400000
CARE, Australia	250000
CARE, India	300000

Sub Total

950000	950000
--------	--------

3. MEA/Missions abroad

UNESCO	100000	-
*G/O Kuwait	1000000	-
Germany	6200000	-
Germany (Pvt.)	12804	-
Hong Kong (Govt.)	-	-
Hong Kong (Pvt.)	558924	-
Bangladesh (Pvt.)	5861	-
A.R.E.		
(Port Said) Govt.	4451	-
Mongolia	3125	-
Bhutan	312500	-
Maldives	2500<	-
China	50000	-
Nepal (Govt.)	50000	-
Mauritius (Govt.)	53879	-
Czech	166000	-
Uzbekistan (Pvt.)	222	-
Tashkent		
Philippines (Pvt.)	59978	-
Malaysia (Pvt.) K.L.	37053	-
New Zealand (Pvt.)	25	-
Israel	-	-
Turkey	-	-

Source of Information	Source of Fund	Amount (US\$) (Approx.)	Remarks			
			C	U	K	
Algiers		-		-		
U.A.E.		-		-		
Jordan		-		-		
Italy		15625				
Bangladesh (Govt.)		10000				
Red Crescent						
Americares		-		-		
Diakomia, Sweden		125000				
Indian Women's Association Seoul, Korea		2455				
Indian Merchant Association and Indian Community Seoul, Korea		8120				
Korea (Private)		31239				
Denmark (Private)		109971				
Netherland (Private)		178571				
Reunion Island (Private)		62667				
Romania (Private)		179				
Indonesia (Private)		54099				
Thailand (Private)		191211				
USA Chicago (Govt.)		58000				
USA Chicago (Pvt.)		7745				
Port-of-Spain (Pvt.)		4715				

Libya (Private)	38842	-
Thailand (Govt.)	160000	-
Qatar (Govt.)	1000000	-
Qatar (Private)	54259	-
Oman (Govt.)	3000000	-
Oman (Private)	207516	-
Maxico (Private)	1944	-
Kuwait (Private)	313226	-
UN-Geneva (Private)	1720	-
Thailand (Catholic)	8000	-
Office for Emergency Reliefs for Refugees, Bangkok		
Pakistan (Private)	3158	-
Botswana (Pvt.)	21505	-
Japan (Pvt.)	69140	-
Belgium (Pvt.)	97976	-
Portugal	4966	-
Switzerland (Pvt.)	11062	-
Indian Association, Geneva		
Norway (Pvt.)	17969	-
Zambia (Pvt.)	750	-
UK Private	2213655	-
Indian Red Cross UK	18048	-
Mauritius (Private)	14821	-

Sub Total

1675796 9106876 7651000

Source of Information	Source of Fund	Amount (US\$) (Approx.)	Remarks			
			C	U	K	
	Private	78125	-			
	Mauritius Private	93752	-			
	Oman Private	17270	-			
	Argentina Private	3200	-			
	Dalai Lama	10189	-			
	Sub Total	202536	202536			
4. Missions in India						
	Spain	180000		-		
	France	-		-		
	*Germany	593750		-		
	*U.K.	7500000		-		
	Sub Total	8273750				8273750
5. Directly by NGOs						
	Medicine Dumaode	-		-		
	Handicap International	-		-		
	Oxfam Trust	1250000				
	Sub Total	1250000				1250000
	Grand Total	41901578	14890390			27011188
C-Cash	U-Unquantified					K-Either kind, cash and kind

* Assistance for rehabilitation

Allocation to Maharashtra for National Highways

638. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the upkeep of National Highways is the responsibility of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the amount provided to the State Government of Maharashtra during each of the last three years for original and repair works of National Highways, separately, and the amount demanded by the State Government on this account each year;

(b)

Year	Original Works		Maintenance & Repairs	
	Amount demanded	Amount allotted	Amount demanded	Amount allotted
1990-91	2965.00	2750.00	1747.28	1489.15
1991-92	6618.21	3358.00	2056.67	1620.90
1992-93	7047.80	3280.00	2514.24	1506.67

(c) and (d) Owing to overall constraints of resources, it has not been possible to provide funds to the full extent. Nevertheless, all efforts are made to maintain the National Highway network in traffic worthy condition.

[Translation]

Telephone to Panchayats in Madhya Pradesh

639. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(c) whether the amount given by the Union Government to the State Government of Maharashtra for the purpose was considered adequate to keep the National Highways in traffic worthy condition; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Union Government to make additional funds available to the State for the maintenance of existing National Highways?

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

(a) the number of Gram Panchayats provided telephone facility in Madhya Pradesh so far, district-wise;

(b) the number of Gram Panchayats out of them provided with the said facilities during 1993-94; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 12670 Gram Panchayats in Madhya Pradesh were provided with telephone facility as on 31.01.1994. District-wise details are given in the attached *Statement*.

(b) 710 Gram Panchayats during the year 1993-94.

(c) Total expenditure incurred is Rs. 15,950 Lakhs (Approx.)

STATEMENT

District-wise Details of Panchayat Villages in Madhya Pradesh Provided with Telephone Facility as on 31st January, 1994

Sl. No.	Districts	Panchayat villages provided with telephone facility as on 31.01.1994	Panchayat villages provided with telephone facility during the year 1993-94 (Upto 31.01.1994)
1.	Balaghat	258	15
2.	Baster	580	20
3.	Betul	290	32
4.	Bhind	152	1
5.	Bhopal	111	Nil
6.	Bilaspur	627	9
7.	Chhatarpur	200	7
8.	Chhindwara	386	68
9.	Damoh	184	5
10.	Datia	123	Nil
11.	Dewas	250	30
12.	Dhar	268	22
13.	Durg	266	13
14.	Guna	346	29

Sl. No.	Districts	Panchayat villages provided with telephone facility as on 31.01.1994	Panchayat villages provided with telephone facility during the year 1993-94 (Upto 31.01.1994)
15.	Gwalior	237	Nil
16.	Hoshangabad	381	47
17.	Indore	180	Nil
18.	Jabalpur	464	31
19.	Jhabua	210	Nil
20.	Khandwa	336	17
21.	Khargone	403	12
22.	Mandla	206	8
23.	Mandsour	339	11
24.	Morena	366	29
25.	Narsinghpur	226	9
26.	Panna	71	Nil
27.	Raigarh	414	13
28.	Raipur	743	42
29.	Raison	255	13
30.	Rajgarh	194	10
31.	Rajnandgaon	240	Nil
32.	Ratlam	224	9
33.	Rewa	237	24

Sl. No.	Districts	Panchayat villages provided with telephone facility as on 31.01.1994	Panchayat villages provided with telephone facility during the year 1993-94 (Upto 31.01.1994)
34.	Sagar	402	36
35.	Sarguja	217	12
36.	Satna	219	27
37.	Sehora	252	42
38.	Seoni	219	3
39.	Shahdol	185	11
40.	Shajapur	307	15
41.	Shivpuri	260	1
42.	Sidhi	173	24
43.	Tikamgarh	184	6
44.	Ujjain	291	5
45.	Vidisha	194	2
TOTAL		12670	710

[English]

Performance of Maritime Fleet

640. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the share of Indian shipping in the carriage of general cargo

on India's foreign trade is steadily declining and the country is becoming increasingly dependent on shipping owned and operated by foreign companies;

(b) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to arrest this trend;

(c) whether there is any proposal to

draw up regulations providing cargo support to country's maritime fleet; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir. The percentage share of general cargo carried by Indian ships has declined from about 24% in 1984-85 to about 14.4% in 1992-93.

(b) The following measures have been taken by Government to augment Indian tonnage and secure greater participation by Indian ships in the movement of seaborne cargo:—

1. Automatic approval is now given for:—
 - (i) Acquisition of all categories of ships except crude tankers and OSVs, by Private Shipowning Companies.
 - (ii) Sale of ships for further trading/scraping to a company within India or abroad.
 - (iii) Acquisition of ship from an Indian Shipyard; and
 - (iv) Acquisition for replacement tonnage.
2. Shipping Corporation of India was permitted to acquire three Cellular Container vessels which would enable the Corporation to increase its share in containerised cargo.
3. The requirement of obtaining licence from Director General of Shipping for operating liner routes on which no Indian shipping

company is operating, has been dispensed with.

4. Shipping companies have been allowed to retain sale proceeds of their ships abroad and utilise them for fresh acquisition.
5. Shipping companies are allowed to acquire vessels through bare boat charter-cum-demise method.
6. Certain Sections of Merchant Shipping Act were considered by foreign lenders as impediments to the enforcement of the rights of lenders in case of loan defaults and consequent requirement of foreclosure of the mortgage. These sections have now been amended, to facilitate Indian Shipping Companies to raise external commercial borrowing for foreign ship acquisitions.

(c) and (d) A proposal to implement the cargo sharing provisions of UN Liner Code is under consideration of the Government. This proposal envisages securing 40% of India's sea borne liner cargo to the Indian ships.

[Translation]

Modernisation and Privatisation

641. SHRI SURENDRA PAL
PATHAK:
SHRI HARISH NARAYAN
PRABHU ZANTYE:
SHRI NURUL ISLAM:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of modernisation of projects underway in

various public sector undertakings in the steel sector;

(b) whether the Government propose to involve private companies or multinationals in the modernisation and expansion work; and

(c) the total expenditure to be incurred in modernising all the steel plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The present status of modernisation of SAIL plants is as follows:

- (i) *Durgapur Steel Plant Modernisation*: This project is being implemented through 16 turnkey packages. 6 Nos. of packages are already fully completed and part facilities have been completed in 8 packages. The modernisation work is expected to be completed by June, 1995.
- (ii) *Rourkela Steel Plant Modernisation*: This is being executed in two phases i.e. Phase-I and Phase-II on turnkey basis. Phase-I work is being executed through 9 indigenous packages and Phase-II work is being executed through 20 packages (5 global and 15 indigenous). Both Phases I and II are at various stages of implementation. The Phase-I work is likely to be completed by March, 1994 and Phase-II work is scheduled to be completed by December, 1995.

(iii) *Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) Modernisation*: Bokaro Steel Plant Modernisation (Stage-I) will be executed through four global packages. Letter of Intent (LOI) for one package has been issued on 17.2.1994 by SAIL/BSL and for the remaining three packages the bids received are under techno-commercial evaluation for placement of orders.

(b) For the Durgapur and Rourkela Steel Plant Modernisation projects, both private companies and multi-national companies are engaged either as members of consortium/turnkey contractors or as partners to the principal contractor, apart from a few public sector organisations.

For Bokaro Steel Plant modernisation, private companies and multi-nationals have submitted bids for three global packages which are under finalisation. The LOI in respect of one package has been issued to an Indian Party.

(c) While the anticipated expenditure on the modernisation of DSP is Rs. 3967.29 crores (Foreign Exchange Rs. 989.37 crores), the revised estimates approved by Government in respect of RSP modernisation are Rs. 3954 crores (Foreign Exchange Rs. 714 crores). The Bokaro Steel Plant Modernisation (Stage-I) has been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 1625.79 crores (Foreign Exchange Rs. 283.50 crores).

[English]

F.M. Channels

642. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the F.M. Channels which are proposed to be implemented during 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the states where F.M. Channels have been located?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of F.M. Stations targetted for completion during 1994 have been identified at *Statement-I*.

(c) The places where FM stations/channels are functioning have been indicated at *Statement-II*.

STATEMENT-I

Details of F.M. Radio Stations Targetted for Completion during the year 1994.

S.No.	Place	State	Project
1.	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	1 KW MW with 2x5 KW FM Tr.
2.	Bhadarwah	Jammu & Kashm.	2x3 KW FM Tr.
3.	Calcutta	West Bengal	2x5 KW FM Tr.
4.	Daman	Union Territory	3 KW FM Tr.
5.	Dharamshala	Himachal Pradesh	2x5 KW FM Tr.
6.	Dhule	Maharashtra	2x3 KW FM Tr.
7.	Idukki	Kerala	2x3 KW FM Tr.
8.	Jaisalmer	Rajasthan	2x5 KW FM Tr.
9.	Karaikal	Pondicherry	2x3 KW FM Tr.
10.	Kodaikanal	Tamil Nadu	2x5 KW FM Tr.
11.	Kullu	Himachal Pradesh	2x3 KW FM Tr.
12.	Lungleh	Mizoram	2x3 KW FM Tr.
13.	Mount Abu	Rajasthan	2x3 KW FM Tr.
14.	Mussoorie	Uttar Pradesh	2x5 KW FM Tr.
15.	Nagarcoil	Tamil Nadu	1 KW MW with 2x5 KW FM Tr.
16.	Nasik	Maharashtra	2x3 KW FM Tr.
17.	Nowgong	Assam	2x3 KW FM Tr.

S.No.	Place	State	Project
18.	Osmanabad	Maharashtra	2x3 KW FM Tr.
19.	Poonch	Jammu & Kashmir	2x3 KW FM Tr.
20.	Rourkela	Orissa	2x3 KW FM Tr.

STATEMENT-II

List of Places where F.M. Stations/Channels are Functioning

S.No.	Place	State
1.	Kothagudam	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Warangal	-do-
3.	Nizamabad	-do-
4.	Tirupathi	-do-
5.	Ananthpur	-do-
6.	Kurnool	-do-
7.	Markapuram	-do-
8.	Hyderabad	-do-
9.	Jorhat	Assam
10.	Haflong	-do-
11.	Daltonganj	Bihar
12.	Hazaribagh	-do-
13.	Purnea	-do-
14.	Singhbhum (Chaibasa)	-do-
15.	Sasaram	-do-
16.	Patna	-do-
17.	Panaji	Goa
18.	Surat	Gujarat
19.	Godhra	-do-

S.No.	Place	State
20.	Kurukshetra	Haryana
21.	Kasauli	Himachal Pradesh
22.	Hamirpur	-do-
23.	Jammu	Jammu & kashmir
24.	Kathua	-do-
25.	Hassan	Karnataka
26.	Hospet	-do-
27.	Chitradurg	-do-
28.	Raichur	-do-
29.	Marcara	-do-
30.	Karwar	-do-
31.	Cannanore	Kerala
32.	Cochin	-do-
33.	Khandwa	Madhya Pradesh
34.	Betul	-do-
35.	Bilaspur	-do-
36.	Shivpuri	-do-
37.	Chhindwara	-do-
38.	Shahdol	-do-
39.	Balaghat	-do-
40.	Raigarh	-do-
41.	Guna	-do-
42.	Sagar	-do-
43.	Bhopal	-do-
44.	Indore	-do-
45.	Beed	Maharashtra
46.	Ahmadnagar	-do-
47.	Nanded	-do-

S.No.	Place	State
48.	Akola	-do-
49.	Kolhapur	-do-
50.	Yeotmal	-do-
51.	Satara	-do-
52.	Chandrapur	-do-
53.	Pune	-do-
54.	Nagpur	-do-
55.	Bombay	-do-
56.	Baripada	Orissa
57.	Berhampur	-do-
58.	Bolangir	-do-
59.	Bhatinda	Punjab
60.	Patiala	-do-
61.	Jalandhar	-do-
62.	Alwar	Rajasthan
63.	Nagaur	-do-
64.	Banswara	-do-
65.	Chittorgarh	-do-
66.	Sawai Madhopur	-do-
67.	Churu	-do-
68.	Jhalawar	-do-
69.	Kailashar	Tripura
70.	Belonia	-do-
71.	Madurai	Tamil Nadu
72.	Bareilly	Uttar Pradesh
73.	Faizabad	-do-
74.	Jhansi	-do-
75.	Obra	-do-

S.No.	Place	State
76.	Murshidabad	West Bengal
77.	Calcutta	-do-
78.	Delhi	Delhi

Post Offices in Kerala

643. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAM-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the total number of post offices and branch post offices functioning at present in each of the districts of Kerala.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): The total number of post offices and branch post offices functioning at present in each of the districts of Kerala is given in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Details of the total number of post offices and branch post offices functioning at present in Kerala, district-wise

Sl. No.	Name of District	Total No. of post offices	Extra departmental branch post offices
1.	Alleppey	371	180
2.	Calicut	393	216
3.	Cannanore	300	175
4.	Ernakulam	383	199
5.	Idukki	299	234
6.	Kasargod	240	177
7.	Kottayam	421	233
8.	Malappuram	428	284
9.	Palghat	452	266
10.	Pathanamthitts	281	160
11.	Quilon	374	232
12.	Trichur	491	263
13.	Trivandrum	420	250
14.	Wayanad	161	139
TOTAL		5014	3008

Genocide Convention

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

(a) whether the Government have
signed Genocide Convention, 1948;

(b) whether the Convention
provides for national legislation for its
implementation;

(c) if so, the reason for non-
enactment of national negotiations; and

(d) whether any such proposal is
under active consideration of the
Government?

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

(b) to (d) India became a party to
the Convention on the Prevention and
Punishment of the Crime of Genocide in
1959. Under the Convention, the parties
are to enact, in accordance with their
respective constitutions, necessary
legislation for implementation of the
Convention. The Indian Constitution, the
Indian Penal Code and other Criminal
Laws, Geneva Conventions Act of 1960
and other relevant laws provide
framework to adequately deal with the
offence of genocide.

**Cross-Road Wiring Connections by
MTNL**

645. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR
SHASTRI: Will the Minister of
COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cross road wiring
connections are given to telephone

subscribers by the Mahanagar Telephone
Nigam Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government
propose to take steps to check the same
forthwith and do not allow cross roads
henceforth;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (e) As a matter
of practice, telephone connections on
overhead wires, crossings major roads
are not given. However, sometimes these
may be given as an interim arrangement
till cables are laid across the road.
However, there is no proposal to eliminate
road crossings altogether particularly on
lanes etc. as this is not practicable.

[Translation]

**AIR/Doordarshan Kendras in
Rajasthan**

646. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the places where T.V.
transmitter/A.I.R. stations are functioning
in Rajasthan, their capacity and the area
covered by these centres;

(b) the places identified for
establishing high power T.V. transmitters
in the State and progress made in this
regard so far;

(c) the total amount spent thereon so far; and

(d) the time by which the construction of remaining T.V. transmitters are likely to be completed alongwith the details of places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) As given in the *Statement-I*.

(b) and (c) Two high power T.V. transmitters are being set up in Rajasthan at Barmer and Jaisalmer on which a total of Rs. 1457.95 lakhs has been spent till December, 1993. The project at Jaisalmer and the interim set up (1 KW) at Barmer, are technically ready. Besides these, high power T.V. transmitters are also envisaged to be set up at Bikaner, Anupgarh, Ajmer, Jodhpur and Nathrdwara.

(d) Information is given in the attached *Statement-II*.

STATEMENT-I

List of Doordarshan and All India Radio Stations Functioning in Rajasthan Indicating Transmitter Power and Area Covered

Sl. No.	Place	Power of Transmitter	Area Covered (in Thousand Sq. Kms.)
1	2	3	4

DOORDARSHAN

1.	Jaipur	10 KW	46.10
2.	Bundi	10 KW	41.40
3.	Ajmer	100 W	2.00
4.	Alwar	100 W	2.00
5.	Anupgarh	100 W	0.70
6.	Banswara	100 W	0.70
7.	Barmer	100 W	2.00
8.	Beawar	100 W	2.00
9.	Bhilwara	100 W	2.00
10.	Bikaner	100 W	2.00
11.	Chittaurgarh	100 W	0.70

1	2	3	4
12.	Churu	100 W	0.70
13.	Deeg	100 W	2.00
14.	Dungarpur	100 W	0.70
15.	Ganganagar	100 W	2.00
16.	Hanumangarh	100 W	0.70
17.	Jaisalmer	100 W	2.00
18.	Jalore	100 W	2.00
19.	Jhalawar	100 W	0.70
20.	Jhunjhunun	100 W	0.70
21.	Jodhpur	100 W	2.00
22.	Karanpur	300 W	2.00
23.	Khetri	100 W	2.00
24.	Kotputli	100 W	2.00
25.	Nagaur	100 W	0.70
26.	Nathdwara	100 W	2.00
27.	Pali	100 W	0.70
28.	Pilani	100 W	2.00
29.	Raisinghnagar	100 W	2.00
30.	Salumber	100 W	0.70
31.	Sardarshahr	100 W	0.70
32.	Sawai Madhopur	100 W	0.70
33.	Sikar	100 W	0.70
34.	Sirohi	100 W	0.70
35.	Sujangarh	100 W	2.00
36.	Tonk	100 W	2.00
37.	Udaipur	100 W	2.00
38.	Vallabhnagar	300 W	2.00
39.	Rawatbhata	10 W	0.20

1	2	3	4
ALL INDIA RADIO			
1.	Jaipur	1 KW MW	4.00
		1 KW MW (V.B.)	4.90
2.	Ajmer	2x100 KW MW	162.3
3.	Jodhpur	100 KW MW	122.3
		1 KW MW (V.B.)	4.0
4.	Bikaner	2x100 KW MW	20.8
5.	Udaipur	10 KW MW	9.5
6.	Suratgarh	300 KW MW	57.4
7.	Kota	1 KW MW	3.8
8.	Alwar	2x3 KW FM	11.3
9.	Nagaur	2x3 KW FM	11.3
10.	Banswara	2x3 KW FM	11.3
11.	Chittorgarh	3 KW FM	2.8
12.	Barmer	2x10 KW FM	6.3
13.	Sawai Madhopur	3 KW FM	2.8
14.	Churu	2x3 KW FM	11.3
15.	Jhalawar	2x3 KW FM	11.3
16.	Jaisalmer	2x5 KW FM	14.0

STATEMENT-II

List of Low Power/very low Power T.V. Transmitters under Implementation in Rajasthan

S. No.	Place	Target date of completion
1.	Baran	1994-95
2.	Barisadri	-do-
3.	Bhadra	-do-

S. No.	Place	Target date of completion
4.	Gangapur (Swai Madhopur Distt.)	1994-95
5.	Hindaun	-do-
6.	Ratangarh	-do-
7.	Rawatser	-do-
8.	Sridungargarh	-do-
9.	Sujangarh	-do-
10.	Makrana	-do-
11.	Karauli	-do-
12.	Phalodi	-do-
13.	Rajgarh (Churu Distt.)	-do-
14.	Mount Abu	-do-
15.	Pratapgarh	-do-
16.	Nohar	-do-
17.	Basava	-do-
18.	Nakha	-do-
19.	Shahpura	-do-
20.	Amet	-do-
21.	Chaumehla	-do-
22.	Deogarh	-do-
23.	Fatehpur	-do-
24.	Gangapur (Bhilwara Distt.)	-do-

S. No.	Place	Target date of completion
25.	Kumbelgarh	-do-
26.	Laxmangarh	-do-
27.	Bhim	-do-
28.	Rajgarh (Alwar Distt.)	-do-
29.	Lalsot	-do-
30.	Chirawa	-do-
31.	Nimaj	Scheme to be approved

[English]

**Super Thermal Power Station,
Karnataka**

647. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been large scale exodus of industries from Belgaum in Karnataka to adjoining areas of Maharashtra;

(b) whether this trend has caused industrial power shortage in the State;

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government are considering to set up regional power grids; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The Government is not aware of any large scale exodus of industries from Karnataka to adjoining States.

(b) and (c) During April, '93 January 1994, Karnataka faced a power deficit to the extent of 22.5% and there is no notified energy/demand cut enforced in the State. In order to tide over the power shortage in the State, besides its allocated share from Central Sector Stations in Southern Region, assistance has been provided to the State from 15% unallocated output also. During Eighth Plan, it is envisaged to add 996 MW capacity in the State Sector. Karnataka will also get its share from Central Sector Stations to be commissioned in the Southern Region.

(d) and (e) The country has been divided into five power regions. In each region, Regional Power Grid already

exists. Regional Electricity Board exists in each region for coordinated operation of power system within the respective region. In order to ensure optimum utilisation of available power, the setting up of a National Grid which is in evolutionary process is being vigorously pursued. It envisages strengthening and improvement of Regional Power Grids and their progressive integration through the setting up of inter-state and inter-regional transmission lines which cut across state and regional boundaries.

Programmes from Doordarshan Kendras in A.P.

648. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the programmes telecast by the Doordarshan Kendras in Andhra Pradesh are not upto the mark; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve the quality of programmes?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Talks with European Union

649. SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he held any talks with the European Union recently;

(b) if so, the broad details of the talks held and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the extent of usefulness of the outcome to the country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) The seventh Round of Indo-European Union Troika Talk at Ministerial level were held in Brussels on 8 February 1994.

(b) The main issues addressed in the talks were progress towards European Union, European security issues, the situation in South Asia and relations between India and the European Union. The EU Troika conveyed that the European Union attaches importance to India as a political dialogue partner and underlined the need to extend this dialogue at various levels in keeping with the Indo-European Union Joint Political Statement of 20 December, 1993.

(c) The talks resulted in greater appreciation on the part of the European Union of India's perceptions and concerns, including those related to terrorism and Indo-Pak issues, and are expected to lead to an intensification of Indo-European Union cooperation in political, economic, technological and cultural fields.

[Translation]

Sick Industries in Bihar

650. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the three fruit processing industries at Madhubani,

Darbhanga and Oini in Bihar are on the verge of sickness; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to revive these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Sanction for the establishment of 3 food processing units in co-operative sector in the districts of Madhubani, Darbhanga and Oini was issued by NCDC in the year 1966-67 and the work was completed by the end of 1969. Because of disputes between the contractor and the societies concerned, the units could not take up commercial production. By the time the arbitration for resolving the dispute was completed in 1975, the society lost interest in it and the units lay defunct. Subsequently on the recommendations of the State Government the National Co-operative Development Corpn. sanctioned assistance of Rs. 4.80 lakhs for the Darbhanga unit in 1976, Rs. 4.20 lakhs for the Oini unit and Rs. 4.12 lakhs for the Madhubani unit in 1982. Since further action was not taken by the State Govt. and the Societies, sanctions were cancelled.

[English]

New Telephone Exchanges in Himachal Pradesh

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

(a) the details of the new telephone exchanges opened during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 so far in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) the details of the telephone exchanges alongwith capacity thereof proposed to be opened in near future?

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

[Translation]

S.T.D. in Haryana

652. SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any criteria has been fixed for providing S.T.D. facility in various telephone exchanges of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said facility has been provided in Haryana according to the criteria fixed;

(d) if so, the details of the telephone exchanges with STD facility at present; and

(e) the time by which the remaining exchanges are likely to be provided with the STD facility?

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

(b)

Provide National subscriber dialling facility to all exchanges by 1.4.1997.

— Subdivisional headquarters/tehsil headquarters on equivalent towns, all exchanges of size 500 lines or more to be covered by 1.4.1995.

— All Industrial growth centres, tourist and pilgrimage centres to be provided NSD facility by 1.4.1995.

(c) Yes, Sir. It is being provided progressively.

(d) The telephone exchanges located at the stations indicated in the *Statement* are linked with NSD facility as on 31.01.1994 in Haryana.

(e) As per objectives indicated in (b) above subject to availability of resources.

STATEMENT

List of Stations Linked with NSD Facility as on 31.01.1994 in Haryana

Sl.	Stations
1.	Adampur Mandi
2.	Ambala Cantt
3.	Ambala City
4.	Assandh
5.	Badarpur
6.	Bahadurgarh
7.	Ballabhgarh
8.	Barara
9.	Bawal
10.	Bawani Khera

Sl.	Stations
11.	Bhiwani
12.	Chachrauli
13.	Chautala
14.	Cheeka
15.	Dabwali
16.	Dharuhera
17.	Faridabad
18.	Fatehabad
19.	Ferozpur Jhirka
20.	Ganaur (SPT SDCA)
21.	Gharaunda
22.	Gohana
23.	Gurgaon
24.	Haily Mandi
25.	Hansi
26.	Hatin Via Palwal
27.	Hissar
28.	HMT Pinjore
29.	Hodel
30.	Ismailabad
31.	Jhajjar
32.	Jind
33.	Kaithal
34.	Kalanaur
35.	Kalka
36.	Karnal
37.	Koshi

Sl.	Stations
38.	Kundli
39.	Kurukshehra
40.	Ladwa
41.	Meham
42.	Mohindergarh
43.	Murthal (SPT SDCA)
44.	Mullana
45.	Naraingarh
46.	Namaul
47.	Narnaund (Hansi SDCA)
48.	Nirwana
49.	Nuh
50.	Palwal
51.	Panipat
52.	Pehowa
53.	Radaur
54.	Rania (Elanabad SDCA)
55.	Ratia
56.	Rewari
57.	Rothak
58.	Safidon
59.	Samalkha
60.	Sampla
61.	Shahabad
62.	Sirsa
63.	Siwani

Sl.	Stations
64.	Sohna
65.	Sonepat
66.	Taracki
67.	Tohana
68.	Tosham
69.	Yamuna Nagar

[English]

Mechanism for Placement of Order

653. PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any instructions have been issued to all Port Trusts regarding mechanism for placement of order;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the instruction is not being followed even by the Ministry of Surface Transport uniformly to improve the order book positions of Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., Cochin Shipyard Ltd., Central Inland Water Transport Corporation and Hooghly Dock and Ports Engineers Ltd; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) According to the orders issued by the Government, tender enquiries in respect

of vessels and crafts costing above Rs. 10 crores should be limited to the four central public sector shipyards under the Ministry of Surface Transport and three shipyards under the defence sector. This is a temporary measure till such time the order book position in these shipyards improves and is to be reviewed sometimes in October, 1994.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Surface Transport have been following these instructions uniformly.

Telephone Exchanges in Maharashtra

654. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of telephone exchanges set up so far in Maharashtra:

(b) the places where new telephone exchanges proposed to be set up during 1993-94 and commissioned so far; and

(c) the details of the Gram Panchayats where telephone facility has been provided during 1991-92, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Percentage of telephone exchanges set up upto 30.09.1993 is as under:—

	Maharashtra Telecom Circle (Per centage)	Bombay Telephone District (Per centage)
Electro Mechanical	23.6	30.6
Electronic	76.4	69.4

(b) The details are given in the attached *Statement-I* and *II* for Maharashtra Telecom Circle and *Statement-III* for Bombay Telecom district.

(c) The details are given in *Statement-IV*.

STATEMENT-I

Maharashtra Telecom Circle

Sl. No.	Name of District	Target for 1993-94
1.	Ahmadnagar	20
2.	Akola	4
3.	Amravati	4
4.	Aurangabad	7
5.	Beed	-
6.	Bhandara	3
7.	Buldhana	3
8.	Chandrapur	-
9.	Dhule	5
10.	Gadchiroli	-
11.	Jalgaon	4
12.	Jalna	-
13.	Kolhapur	2
14.	Latur	4

Sl. No.	Name of District	Target for 1993-94
15.	Nagpur	13
16.	Nanded	5
17.	Nasik	6
18.	Osmanabad	2
19.	Parbhani	4
20.	Pune	12
21.	Raigad	4
22.	Ratnagiri	1
23.	Sangli	6
24.	Satara	7
25.	Solapur	7
26.	Sindhudurg	-
27.	Thane	5
28.	Wardha	2
29.	Yeothal	3

STATEMENT-II

*New Exchanges Opened in Maharashtra
Telecom Circle. (During 93-94)*

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
AHMADNAGAR	
1.	Maveshi
2.	Nahdurkhandarmal

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
3.	Kolhar-Budruk
4.	Pagori Pinpalgaon
5.	Deshgaonsiddh
6.	Kedgaon
7.	Wangdari
AKOLA	
8.	Gajgaon (Goregaon)
9.	Dahihanda
10.	Warud Jaulka
11.	Mundgaon
AMRAVATI	
12.	Ajangaon Bori
13.	Nalkhed
14.	Nimbhi
AURANGABAD	
15.	Gevrai
BHANDARA	
16.	Naka-Dongare
17.	Gond-Dumari
BULDHANA	
18.	Kangaon
CHANDRAPUR	
19.	Bhangaram

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
DHULE		PARBHANI	
20.	Arthe	35.	Wadgaon (Rly Stn.)
KOLHAPUR		PUNE	
21.	Amba	36.	Chinchwad-11
22.	Shindhaneri	37.	Shivaji Nagar
23.	Mangaon	38.	City Rlu
24.	Kini	39.	Hadapsar
25.	Vadange	40.	M-Karve-11
LATUR		41.	Mshinde-11
26.	Kuntha (BK)	42.	Bhosari
27.	Janwal	RAIGAD	
NAGPUR		43.	Zirad
28.	Pipla	RATNAGIRI	
29.	Kanwan	44.	Nivali
30.	Tinkhepa	SATARA	
31.	Kamptee Masod	45.	ShIndre
NANDED		46.	Katar-Khatav
32.	Rahati	47.	Girvi
NASIK		SOLAPUR	
33.	Dawach-Wadi	48.	Korphale
OSMANABAD		49.	Kasegaon
34.	Bedga	50.	Ghari

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Capacity
51.	Tadwal	7.	Worli-3	0.3K
THANE		8.	Vileparle-3	7.0K
52.	Bhiwandi	9.	Andheri-1	7.0K
WARDHA		10.	Gokuldharm RLU	1.0K
53.	Mangrui	11.	Marol-4	1.7K
54.	Antora	12.	Goregaon-1	34.0K (Goregaon RLU 17.5 K redeployed)
55.	Salod	13.	Rhayander RLU	0.5K
YEOTMAL		14.	Mirarud RLU	3.0K
56.	Mulaka	15.	Borivali RLU	1.0K

STATEMENT-III*Bombay Telecom District*

*Following Exchanges have been
Commissioned During 1993-94 Upto
18.2.1994*

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Capacity	Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Capacity
1.	Cooperage-5	8.0K (3.4K lines cooperage-I scrapped)	17.	Kandivili-3	1.0K
2.	Fountain-3	5.0K (4K Fountain-I scrapped)	18.	Ghatkopar-2	3.0K
3.	Gamdevi-2	11.0K	19.	Ghatkopar-3	0.5K
4.	Malabar Hill-3	7.3K (4K lines of Malabar Hill-II & 1K lines of city-II decommissioned)	20.	Godrej RLU	1.0K
5.	Wadala-2	4.0K	21.	Powai RLU	1.0K
6.	Shivaji Park RLU	2.0K	22.	Mulund-3	7.0
			23.	Wagle Estate RLU	2.0K
			24.	Mumbra RLU	1.0K
			25.	Thane Cherai RLU	1.0K
			26.	Thane RLU	8.0K

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Capacity	Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	Capacity
27.	Rabala RLU	1.0K	31.	Byculla RLU	8.0K (4K Byculla RLU re-deployed)
28.	Vashi RLU	3.0K	32.	Versova RLU	4.0K
29.	Turbhe-3	3.5K (3K PRX decommissioned)	33.	Mankhurd RLU	5.0K
30.	City-8	3.0K (level '29' city 3K scrapped)	34.	Chembur RLU	2.0K
			35.	Belapur RLU	3.0K
			36.	Nhave CDOT	0.072K

Following exchanges are likely to be commissioned during 18.2.94 to 31.3.94

Sl. No.	Exchange	Gross Capacity to be added	Net Capacity addition after scrapping of old equipment
1.	Wadala-32	1.0K	1.0K
2.	Panvel-1	3.0K	0.0K
3.	T. Cherai	24.0K	13.0K
4.	Mandvi	26.0K	7.0K
5.	Malad	20.0K	3.0K
6.	Kandivili	19.0K	19.0K

STATEMENT-IV

*District-wise List of Telephone Facilities
Provided to Grampanchayat during the
year 1991- 92 in Maharashtra Telecom
Circle*

Sl. No.	Name of District	Telephone facility provided during 1991-92
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1	2	3
1.	Ahmadnagar	187
2.	Akola	41
3.	Amravati	72
4.	Aurangabad	69
5.	Beed	21
6.	Bhandara	93
7.	Buldhana	52
8.	Chandrapur	31
9.	Dhule	103
10.	Gadchiroli	21
11.	Jalgaon	79
12.	Jalna	18
13.	Kolhapur	104
14.	Latur	55
15.	Nagpur	142
16.	Nanded	64
17.	Nasik	182
18.	Osmanabad	12
19.	Parbhani	41
20.	Pune	84
21.	Raigad	103
22.	Ratnagiri	51

1	2	3
23.	Sangli	56
24.	Satara	109
25.	Solapur	122
26.	Sindhudurg	15
27.	Thane	97
28.	Wardha	29
29.	Yeotmal	66
30.	Goa	53

[Translation]

Srinagar Hydel Power Project in U.P.

655. SHRI LAXMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have accorded approval to the Srinagar Hydel Power Project of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the total cost of the project;

(c) the total expenditure incurred by Uttar Pradesh Government on this project so far;

(d) the assistance to be provided by the Union Government and the actual amount provided so far for this project; and

(e) the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The

Srinagar H.E. Project (6x55) 330 MW was sanctioned in January, 1988. The latest estimated cost is 592.45 crores (March, 1992 price level).

(c) to (e) The Project was being executed by Uttar Pradesh Government with World Bank assistance. The World Bank loan for the project was cancelled in August, 1992. The total expenditure incurred on the project upto March, 1993 is Rs. 77 crores (approx.) Funds for the execution of the project have to be provided by Government of Uttar Pradesh, but due to fund constraints, Government of Uttar Pradesh has not been allocating any funds for this project in the last 2 years.

[English]

Acquisition of Tanks by Pakistan

656. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appeared in Hindustan Times dated December 19, 1993 regarding Pakistan acquiring tanks from Britain; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on national security and take necessary measures to safeguard it.

Gold Availability in KGF

657. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a feasible percentage of Gold exist in North of Kolar Gold Field upto Srinivasapura;

(b) if so, the estimated quantity thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to take up extraction of Gold through shallow mining in the area; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No confirmed findings to this effect are available at present.

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

[Translation]

Battery Operated Buses

659. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the States and Union Territories where battery operated pollution free buses are being run;

(b) the names of the States and Union Territories where they have been withdrawn; and

(c) the amount of loss suffered as a

result of withdrawing them, State-wise and Union Territory-wise?

ments/Bodies operating the battery buses is enclosed.

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

(a) A *Statement of Organisations/Depart-*

(b) No State/UT has withdrawn the battery buses.

(c) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

1. Delhi Energy Development Agency
2. J&K State Road Transport Corpn., Srinagar
3. Thermal Power Plant, Bhatinda (Punjab)
4. Ropar Thermal Power Plant (Punjab)
5. Chief Warden Wildlife, Jaipur (for running at Bharatpur National Park)
6. Rajasthan Energy Development Agency
7. Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board, Jabalpur
8. Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation
9. Poona District Leprosy Committee
10. Hindustan Prefab Ltd., Delhi
11. BHEL, Delhi
12. International Airport Authority of India, Delhi
13. Lakshadweep Administration
14. Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation
15. Non-Conventional Energy Dev. Agency, Lucknow
16. BHEL, Jhansi
17. BHEL, Rudrapur
18. Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board

19. Maharashtra Electricity Board
 20. Northern Railway, New Delhi
 21. National Airport Authority, Delhi
 22. West Bengal State Electricity Board
 23. BHEL, Siri Fort, New Delhi
 24. Orissa Renewable Energy Development Agency, Bhubaneswar
 25. Sc. & Tech. & NES Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal
 26. Tamil Nadu Newsprint & Paper Ltd.
 27. Cheeran Transport Corporation.
 28. Pallavan Transport Corpn. Ltd.
 29. ANERT, Kerala
 30. Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad
 31. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
 32. BARC, Department of Atomic Energy
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[English]

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

Visit of President of Guyana

660. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the visit of the President of Guyana recently;

(b) whether any agreement was signed during the visit; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) The visit enabled political leadership of the two countries to have an exchange of views on matters of mutual interest at the highest level. It also enabled both sides to identify areas of cooperation in various fields to strengthen the existing bilateral relations.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Agreements on cooperation in S&T, culture and consular

matters were signed. The agreement on S&T for cooperation between CSIR of India and Institute of Applied Science and Technology of Guyana *inter alia* calls for exchange of scientists, research workers, specialists and scholars, scientific & technical information and conduct of joint research. The understanding on consular matters provides for waiver of visa requirement in respect of diplomatic and official passport holders of the two countries. The Cultural Exchange Programme, similarly, provides for promotion of academic links and exchange of artists, exhibitions, radio and TV programmes, etc.

Investment from Foreign Countries

661. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government through external publicity to attract more investment from foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): The Government has taken a series of steps to propagate recent economic liberalisation among potential investors in foreign countries. These steps include:—

(1) Instructions to our Missions abroad to undertake comprehensive and coordinated efforts to secure widest possible dissemination of information regarding steps taken by the Government to liberalise the economy.

(2) In order to enable Mission do the above effectively a composite media package has been provided to them for dissemination to potential investors. This package includes a variety of brochures,

a floppy diskette on the theme "Doing Business with India" and a video cassette entitled "India: Land of new opportunities" all of which contain extensive information on economic policies, procedures, application forms, etc.

(3) Establishing an interactive process by which Missions are provided up-to-date information about the economic reform programme on a regular basis and the Missions in return provide feedback on investor response as well as the reaction of the international business community to the reforms.

(4) Identification of a set of target countries from the stand point of our investment promotion efforts and organisation of seminars with the participation of representatives from the Govt., apex organisations such as FICCI, CII, etc. and the private industry.

(5) Organisation of special orientation programmes for senior and middle level officials in Missions abroad engaged in economic and commercial work so as to equip them to promote India as an investment destination.

(6) Production of special supplements on India in international magazines.

Setu Samudram Project

662. SHRI R. ANBARASU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the proposal of Setu Samudram Project;

(b) whether it is proposed to link it with rivers in Kerala; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) In view of the constraints on resources, the Setu Samudram Project has not been included in the 8th Five Year Plan of this Ministry.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Vamanapuram Power Project

663. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any allocation had been made for the commencement of the Vamanapuram Power Project in Kerala during 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the funds so allotted have been released for implementation of the project; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (d) The Kerala State Electricity Board have informed that they have submitted a scheme to their State Government for approval for installation of 3.5 MW Lower Meenmutty Small Hydro Electric Scheme in the Vamanapuram basin for execution by it in the State Sector. No fund allocation has been made for the scheme during the year 1993-94.

Hydro-Electric Project

664. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give the Techno-Economic Clearance to the Adirappally Hydro-Electric Project;

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

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) Adirappally Hydroelectric Project (2x80 MW) was found techno-economically in order by Central Electricity Authority in June, 1989.

Compensation Claims of Persons Returned from Gulf

665. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHIE TINDIVANAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the last date for the receipt of compensation claims of property left behind by the Indians evacuated from the Gulf;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether most of these persons are not aware of the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) The competent authority to prescribe and

extend last dates for submission of various types of compensation claims is the Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC).

The last date for national governments to lodge A, B, C & D claims with the UNCC was originally 1.7.93 which was first extended by the UNCC to 1.10.93 and then to 1.1.94. The last date for submission of "E" claims has been extended from 1.1.94 to 1.4.94.

(c) to (e) Wide publicity was given to the compensation scheme of the UNCC. Applications in the forms prescribed by the UNCC were invited from Indian claimants by inserting advertisements in the news media in July, 1992 and due publicity was given to the procedure required to be followed in this regard. The last date for receiving applications in the Special Kuwait Cell from Indian nationals was 1.12.92, but keeping in view the interests of Indian nationals and the extended deadlines prescribed by the UNCC, Special Kuwait Cell continued to accept the claims upto 8.12.93 after which it was logistically not possible to accept the claims, as the final extended deadline was 1.1.94 and a period of at least 3 weeks was necessary to process, forward and lodge the claims with the UNCC in Geneva. In March, 1993, Statewise computer lists of incomplete/defective cases of category "A" which constituted the largest number of claims were prepared and sent to the Chief Secretaries of State/Union Territory Governments advising them to impress on concerned claimants through local media or local officials to quickly return completed forms to us. This was followed up by deputing MEA officers to visit some States where the number of defective "A" claims received exceeded 1000. These

State Governments put in special efforts to inform claimants to submit missing information to the Special Kuwait Cell and, in the process, disseminated information regarding the compensation scheme down to the village level. Subsequently Public Notices were also published by the Ministry of External Affairs advising all defaulters to expedite their claims/replies to the Special Kuwait Cell for onward transmission to United Nations Compensation Commission.

[Translation]

Road Accidents

666. SHRI PANKAJ
CHOWDHARY:
SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:
SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM:
DR. RAMKRISHNA
KUSMARIA:
SHRI RAMESH
CHENNITHALA:
SHRI RAJENDRA
AGNIHOTRI:
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH
SHAKYA:
SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA
MUNDA:
SHRI AST BHUJA
PRASAD SHUKLA:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN
SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI R. MALLU:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether road accidents are increasing continuously in Delhi, other

metropolitan cities and different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, during each of the last three years, year-wise, metropolitan city-wise and State-wise;

(c) the details of the compensation paid to the road victims;

(d) the arrangements made to provide quick medical aid to the victims before they die; and

(e) the steps taken to check road accidents?

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

(b) Year-wise accident details, in metropolitan cities and in the States during the years 1990, 1991 and 1992 are given in the attached *Statement I* and II.

(c) The compensation to the road accident victims is awarded by a large

number of Accident Claims Tribunals set up in the country and the same is either paid by the insurance company in case the vehicle is insured or by the owners where the vehicle is not insured. As such no data is available regarding payment of compensation paid to the road accident victims.

(d) As per the general practice followed by the State Police/Transport Departments ambulances are rushed to the spot of accident to provide quick medical aid to the victims. The victims are thereafter removed to the nearest hospitals. Further, as per section 134 of the Motor Vehicles Act the driver of the vehicle involved in an accident is required to take all reasonable steps to secure medical attention of the injured person and if necessary convey him to the nearest hospital, unless the injured person or his guardian, in case he is a minor desires otherwise.

(e) The steps taken by the Government to check road accidents is given in the attached *Statement-III*.

STATEMENT—I

Accidents in Metropolitan cities during 1990 to 1992

Metropolitan Cities	1990	1991	1992
Delhi	7697	8065	8506
Calcutta	10911	10017	8413
Madras	5877	3782	3787
Bombay	25331	25477	7831*

* Minor and Non-Injury accidents are not included.

STATEMENT—II

Year	1990	1991	1992
States	Accidents	Accidents	Accidents
Andhra Pradesh	16042	17633	16553
Arunachal Pradesh	233	213	169
Assam	1762	1899	2093
Bihar	9357	9776(E)	8018
Goa	2205	2418	1781
Gujarat	25495	27140	26726
Haryana	5096	4862	5196(E)
Himachal Pradesh	1123	1269	1296
Jammu & Kashmir	2326	2451	2645
Karnataka	21992	22707	23390
Kerala	20247	23985	27093
Madhya Pradesh	23492	26406	24774
Maharashtra	56982	58378	38495
Manipur	472	393	341
Meghalaya	540	550	453
Mizoram	80	87	74
Nagaland	237	111	125
Orissa	6069	6177	5820(E)
Punjab	1621	1581	1581(R)
Rajasthan	10456	11046	11809
Sikkim	115	137	150
Tamil Nadu	34634	32522	34247
Tripura	408	371	422
Uttar Pradesh	16318	16864	16480
West Bengal	16375	16136	16136(R)

Year	1990	1991	1992
States	Accidents	Accidents	Accidents
UNION TERRITORIES:			
A & N Islands	144	86	72
Chandigarh	250	277	296
D & N Haveli	79	50	55
Daman & Diu	91	67	73
Delhi	7697	8065	8506
Lakshadweep	2	Nil	1
Pondicherry	662	724	848
TOTAL	282602	294381	275688

E=Estimated, R=Repeated

STATEMENT—III

The steps taken/being taken include

1. The M.V. Act, 1988 and the Rules framed thereunder provide for stricter requirements in respect of issuance of driving licences, and stringent penalties for offences.
2. Formal training in a driving school is made a pre-requisite for issuance of licence to drive transport vehicles.
3. Maximum safe laden weights have been prescribed for trucks including light commercial vehicles.
4. Maximum speed limits have been prescribed for all vehicles except light motor vehicles.
5. Uniform intervals for checking the fitness of vehicles have been prescribed throughout the country.
6. It is prescribed that road safety devices would be fitted in the vehicles viz. direction indicators with blinder system for vehicles, special labels on carriages carrying dangerous or hazardous goods.

7. A national Road Safety Council has been set up for formulation of road safety measures. State Governments were also requested to set up State level road safety councils.
 8. Strict and rigid enforcement of traffic rules and regulations.
 9. Regular special drive against rash and negligent driving, driving without driving licences, drunken driving, defective headlights, over-speeding, over-loading etc.
 10. Regular prosecution of violation through issue of notices.
 11. School children are regularly imparted necessary training/education in the schools about the rules of the roads and related safety aspects by the road safety cell of Delhi Traffic Police.
 12. Introduction of blinkers/signals at accident prone areas.
 13. Prosecution through Radar Guns.
 14. More Police presence in accident prone areas.
 15. Special morning drives and night mobile patrolling.
 16. Use of Doordarshan/AIR/Press for giving wide publicity on road safety.
 17. Painting of bus boxes, yellow boxes.
 18. Special night checking on Highways.
 19. Special drive against buses, HTVs, TSRs, Taxis etc.
 20. Painting competitions and other road safety activities are being organised by Road Safety Cell to inculcate the sense of road safety among various road users and children.
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[English]

SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Agarwal Committee

667. SHRI ANANTRAO
DESHMUKH:
SHRI SARAT
PATTANAYAK:

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

(a) whether the high level
committee headed by Shri U.C. Agarwal to

look into the services and cadres of all the media units and organisations has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the salient features of the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the recommendations made by the Committee relate to services and cadres of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, re-organisation of its Media Units, training of the personnel and delegation of administrative and financial powers.

(c) While some of the recommendations have already been accepted by the Government, others are in the process of being examined.

National Highway No. 31

668. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of construction of road and bridge for new alignment from Falakata and Pundibari on National Highway No. 31 in West Bengal is behind schedule;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total estimated cost of the project and the year-wise funds allocated therefor; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

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

(b) There was some delay in settlement of agencies and actual commencement of work. On account of a dispute with the State PWD, the Contractor has suspended road work from July, 1993.

(c) Rs. 13.72 crores. Expenditure incurred on this project since 1991-92 is as under.

Year	Expenditure incurred
1991-92	Rs. 143.73 lacs
1992-93	Rs. 189.76 lacs
1993-94	Rs. 222.00 lacs (Allocation)

(d) Within two years of the recommencement of road work.

[Translation]

Road Safety Cells

669. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up road safety cells in all the States; and

(b) if so, by when and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) A National Seminar on road safety was organised on 5th January, 1994 in New Delhi, which was attended by large number of delegates. During the celebrations of seminar, one of the suggestions was for setting up of Road Safety Cells both in Traffic and Transport Departments for co-ordinating Road Safety measures at the State level. As the suggestions made in the seminar mainly concern implementation by the State Governments, letters have been sent to them for necessary action.

[English]

Check on Growth of Foreign Channels

670. SHRI SRIBALLAV
PANIGRAHI:
SHRI RAMESHWAR
PATIDAR:

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

(a) whether the programmes based on materialism and sex telecast by foreign TV networks are creating negative impact on Indian civilization and culture;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to ban telecast of such programmes in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Government is aware that the programmes of foreign television channels are considered by many as being alien to Indian culture and life-style.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The contents of the programmes of foreign television channels do not come within the ambit of the regulations of the Government of India.

Money Orders through Satellite Network

671. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:
SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL:
SHRI DHARMANNA
MONCAYYA SADUL:
SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to utilise satellite network for the expeditious transmission of money orders; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department has a proposal to install very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs) along with computer systems for expeditious transmission of money orders by satellite communication.

The list of 75 locations (Phase I) is given in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT*List of Locations for Micro Earth Stations (VSATs)*

Sl. No.	Circle	Location
1.	Assam	1. Guwahati 2. Silchar 3. Tezpur 4. Dibrugarh 5. North Lakhimpur
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Hyderabad 2. Vijayawada 3. Vishakapatnam 4. Tirupati 5. Kurnool
3.	Bihar	1. Patna 2. Ranchi 3. Gaya 4. Purnia 5. Darbhanga 6. Madhepura 7. Muzaffarpur
4.	Delhi	
5.	Gujarat	1. Rajkot 2. Baroda 3. Ahmedabad
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1. Simla 2. Mandi

Sl. No.	Circle	Location
7.	Haryana	1. Ambala 2. Rohtak
8.	J & K	1. Jammu 2. Srinagar
9.	Karnataka	1. Bangalore 2. Mysore 3. Dharwad 4. Mangalore 5. Raichur
10.	Kerala	1. Trivandrum 2. Calicut 3. Cochin
11.	M.P.	1. Raipur 2. Jabalpur 3. Indore 4. Ratlam 5. Bhopal 6. Gwalior
12.	Maharashtra	1. Nagpur 2. Bombay 3. Pune 4. Panaji 5. Aurangabad
13.	North East	1. Shillong 2. Aizwal 3. Agartala 4. Kohima

Sl. No.	Circle	Location
14.	Orissa	1. Bhubneshwar 2. Sambalpur
15.	Punjab	1. Ludhiana 2. Jullandhar
16.	Rajasthan	1. Jaipur 2. Jodhpur 3. Udaipur 4. Ajmer 5. Kota
17.	Tamil Nadu	1. Madras 2. Coimbatore 3. Madurai 4. Tiruchi 5. Thanjavur
18.	U.P.	1. Lucknow 2. Kanpur 3. Varanasi 4. Agra 5. Allahabad 6. Saharanpur 7. Bareilly 8. Rudraprayag
19.	West Bengal	1. Calcutta 2. Siliguri 3. Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Port Blair)

Automatic Telephone Exchanges in Gujarat

672. SHRI RATILAL VARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of automatic telephone exchanges functioning in Gujarat at present, district-wise with locations thereof;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide more such exchanges in the State during Eighth Plan period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, district-wise with target fixed if any for 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The information is given in the attached *Statement*.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) During 1994-95, about forty exchanges are proposed to be opened, mainly in the rural areas of Gujarat. The Places are identified in the month of April/May each year.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
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DISTRICT: AHMEDABAD

- | | |
|----|---------------|
| 1. | '35' Exchange |
| 2. | '39' Exchange |
| 3. | Badrika |
| 4. | Bagodra |

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
5.	Bahial	27.	Hansalpur
6.	Barawala	28.	Isanpur Mota
7.	Bareja	29.	Jholapur
8.	Bavla	30.	Jindva
9.	Bhadra	31.	Kamijala
10.	Bhimbath	32.	Karakthal
11.	Bopal	33.	Katosan Road
12.	Cantonment (I)*	34.	Kauka
13.	Central*	35.	Kelia Vasna
14.	Changodar	36.	Kerala (GIDC)
15.	Dabhoda (AM)	37.	Koth
16.	Dehgam*	38.	Kuha
17.	Detroj	39.	Kujad
18.	Devkaranamuvada	40.	Lohoda
19.	Dhandhuka*	41.	Mandal
20.	Dholera	42.	Manipura
21.	Dholka*	43.	Miroli
22.	Dholka Sat*	44.	Nandej
23.	Ellisbridge*	45.	Naranpura-I*
24.	Fedra	46.	Naranpura-II*
25.	Gundi	47.	Naroda
26.	Halisa	48.	Navaqam

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
49.	Navrangpura-1*	71.	Vatva*
50.	Navrangpura-2*	72.	Vautha
51.	Navrangpura-3*	73.	Vehlal
52.	Navrangpura-4*	74.	Viramgam*
53.	Navrangpura-5*	75.	Viramgam Sat 1*
54.	Odhav	76.	Viramgam Sat 2*
55.	Oganej	77.	Visalpur
56.	Raipurgate*	DISTRICT: AMRELI	
57.	Rakhial	1.	Amreli*
58.	Rampura (AM)	2.	Amreli Sat*
59.	Rampur (AM)	3.	Anida
60.	RLP-I*	4.	Ansodar
61.	RLP-II*	5.	Babapur
62.	RLP-III*	6.	Babra*
63.	RLP-IV*	7.	Bagasra*
64.	Sabarmati*	8.	Chalala
65.	Sanand*	9.	Chalala (Sat)
66.	Vasna*	10.	Chavand
67.	Vasna II*	11.	Chital
68.	Vasna III*	12.	Damnagar
69.	Vastrapur*	13.	Damnagar (Sat)
70.	Vataman	14.	Dedz

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
15.	Dhargani	37.	Lathi*
16.	Dhari*	38.	Liliya Mota*
17.	Dolasa	39.	Mita Ankadia
18.	Dungar	40.	Mota Devala
19.	Eklera	41.	Mota Madavada
20.	Ghantwad	42.	Mota Samdhiyala
21.	Gopalgram	43.	Nana Ankadia
22.	Govindpur	44.	Pipavav
23.	Harmida	45.	Rajula*
24.	Hudli	46.	Rajula (Sat)*
25.	Jafrabad*	47.	Sarambhada
26.	Jafrabad Sat	48.	Tatania
27.	Jalia	49.	Timbi
28.	Jambarwala	50.	Untvad
29.	Juna Vaghadia	51.	Vadia
30.	Keriachad	52.	Velan
31.	Khambha*	53.	Victor
32.	Khambha (Sat)*	DISTRICT: BANASKANTHA	
33.	Kodinar (Sat)*	1.	Ambaji
34.	Kodinar*	2.	Ambaji (Sat)
35.	Kunkavav*	3.	Amirgadh
36.	Kunkavav Sat	4.	Aseda

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
5.	Bapla	27.	Dhima
6.	Bhabhar	28.	Gadh
7.	Bhabhar (Sat)	29.	Ghana
8.	Bhadath	30.	Gola
9.	Bhalasara	31.	Hadad
10.	Bharadava	32.	Iqbalgadh
11.	Bhavisana	33.	Jalotra
12.	Bhemal	34.	Jegol
13.	Bhildi	35.	Jitpur
14.	Bhordu	36.	Juni Sedhani
15.	Bhutedi	37.	Kabirpura
16.	Chadotar	38.	Kanodar
17.	Chandisar	39.	Khimat
18.	Chhapi	40.	Kuwala
19.	Chitrasoi	41.	Lakhani
20.	Danta	42.	Madal
21.	Dantiwada	43.	Madan
22.	Deesa*	44.	Meta
23.	Deodar*	45.	Moriya
24.	Dhandha	46.	Nenava
25.	Dhanera (Sat)*	47.	Palanpur*
26.	Dhanera*	48.	Palanpur (Sat)*

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
49.	Palanpur (Sat 2)*	71.	Vadaval
50.	Paldi	72.	Vadgam*
51.	Panchada	73.	Varahi
52.	Panthwada	74.	Vasada
53.	Pilucha	75.	Vasana
54.	Radhanpur*	76.	Virampur
55.	Rah	77.	Wav
56.	Rampura (PNP)	78.	Zerada
57.	Ramsan	DISTRICT: BHARUCH	
58.	Ranpur (PNP)	1.	Amleshwar
59.	Piluda	2.	Amod*
60.	Rasana	3.	Ankleshwar*
61.	Samaumota	4.	Bhalod*
62.	Santalpur	5.	Dhamadia
63.	Sejalpura	6.	Bharuch*
64.	Sihori	7.	Chanchvel
65.	Suigam	8.	Chandera
66.	Takarwada	9.	Dahej
67.	Thara	10.	Dediapada
68.	Tharad (Sat)*	11.	Derol (BCH)
69.	Tharad*	12.	Devala
70.	Un	13.	Hansot*

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
14.	Hinglot	36.	Rajpardi
15.	Ilav*	37.	Rajpipla
16.	Jambusar*	38.	Sajod
17.	Jantran	39.	Samni
18.	Jhagadia (Sat)*	40.	Sarbhan (BCH)
19.	Jhagadia*	41.	Selamba
20.	Kavi	42.	Shuklatirth
21.	Kevadia Colony	43.	Sisodara
22.	Kharod	44.	Tankaria
23.	Kondh	45.	Umalla
24.	Lachras	46.	Vagra*
25.	Mandva	47.	Valia*
26.	Muller	48.	Zanor
27.	Nabipur	DISTRICT: BHAVNAGAR	
28.	Netrang	1.	Alang
29.	Nikoli	2.	Ambardi
30.	Palej	3.	Badhada
31.	Palej (Sat)	4.	Bhambhan
32.	Panetha	5.	Bhavnagar*
33.	Panoli	6.	Bhavnagar (Sat)*
34.	Panoli Village	7.	Bhimdad
35.	Pratapnagar	8.	Botad*

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
9.	Budhel
10.	Chitra
11.	Datha
12.	Dhasa
13.	Dhola
14.	Dihor
15.	Gadhada*
16.	Gariadhar*
17.	Gheti
18.	Ghodhakada
19.	Ghogha*
20.	Gundama
21.	Jesar
22.	Jira
23.	Junasavar
24.	Khopla
25.	Koliyak
26.	Khumbhan (Mahuva)
27.	Kumbhan (Pal)
28.	Lathidad
29.	Madhoda
30.	Mahuva*

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
31.	Malpara
32.	Mandva
33.	Mandvi (BV)
34.	Mota Khuntawada
35.	Nani Rajasthali
36.	Navagam
37.	Ningala
38.	Noghanvadar
39.	Oliya
40.	Otha
41.	Palitana (Sat)*
42.	Palitana*
43.	Paliyad
44.	Parvadi
45.	Pithalpur
46.	Rangola
47.	Rahishala
48.	Sanosara
49.	Savarkundla
50.	Savarkundla (SA)
51.	Sihor*
52.	Songadh

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
53.	Talaja*	4.	Sadra
54.	Tana	5.	Sheratha
55.	Thalia	6.	Shiholi Moti
56.	Timana	DISTRICT: JAMNAGAR	
57.	Trapaj	1.	Allahabad
58.	Turkha	2.	Amran
59.	Ugamdi	3.	Balachadi
60.	Umrالا*	4.	Balambha
61.	Vallabhipur*	5.	Balva (JMN)
62.	Valukad	6.	Bhadihar
63.	Vanda	7.	Bhangor
64.	Velavadar	8.	Bhanvad*
65.	Vijapadi	9.	Bhatia
66.	Zamrala	10.	Dabasang
DISTRICT: DANG		11.	Dhrafa
1.	Ahwa	12.	Dhrol
2.	Saputara	13.	Dwarka
3.	Waghai	14.	Dwarka (Sat)
DISTRICT: GANDHINAGAR		15.	Falla
1.	Adalaj	16.	Gadhka
2.	Gandhinagar*	17.	Hadiana
3.	Randheja	18.	Hapa

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
19.	Jamdevalia	41.	Mota Panchdevda
20.	Jamjodpur*	42.	Mota Vadala
21.	Jamkalyanpur*	43.	Moti Banugar
22.	Jamkhambhalia [™]	44.	Movan
23.	Jamkhambhalia S*	45.	Navagam (JMN)
24.	Jamnagar*	46.	Nikava
25.	Jamnagar Sat*	47.	Okha*
26.	Jamraval	48.	Okha Sat*
27.	Jamvanthali	49.	Ran
28.	Javapar	50.	Ranpur (JMN)
29.	Jodia*	51.	Sadodar
30.	Kalavad*	52.	Salaya
31.	Kanalus	53.	Salaya (Sat)
32.	Kandhera	54.	Samana
33.	Kharedi	55.	Sapar
34.	Lalpur*	56.	Satapar
35.	Lambabunder	57.	Sethvadala
36.	Latipur	58.	Shiva
37.	Matva	59.	Sidsar
38.	Mithapur	60.	Sikka
39.	Mota Ashota	61.	Sikka Sat
40.	Mota Gunda	62.	Sinwadia

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
63.	Tarsai	18.	Chorvad
64.	Vadinar	19.	Dhandusar
65.	Vadpanchasra	20.	Dhokdwa
66.	Verad	21.	Divarana
DISTRICT: JUNAGADH		22.	Fatana
1.	Adari	23.	Gantia Pranchi
2.	Adiyana	24.	Gir Gadhada
3.	Adwana	25.	Junagadh*
4.	Ajab	26.	Kadachh
5.	Ajotha	27.	Keshod (Sat)*
6.	Akolwadi	28.	Keshod
7.	Amarpurgir	29.	Khageshiri
8.	Araniyala	30.	Khirasara
9.	Dagdu	31.	Kutiyana
10.	Bagvadar	32.	Kutiyana Sat
11.	Balgam	33.	Limbuda
12.	Bamnasha	34.	Lushala
13.	Baniwa	35.	Madhavpur
14.	Bhalgam	36.	Madhavpur (Gir)
15.	Bhesan*	37.	Mahiyari
16.	Bilshwar	38.	Majewadi
17.	Bilkha	39.	Maliq Hatina

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
40.	Manavadar*	62.	Sherbaugh
41.	Maliahatina S*	63.	Shil
42.	Manavadar (Sat)*	64.	Sutrapada
43.	Mangnath Pipal	65.	Talala*
44.	Mangrol*	66.	Tikar
45.	Mendarda*	67.	Tukda Gosa
46.	Mohabatpur	68.	Una*
47.	Morasa	69.	Vadal
48.	Moti Monpari	70.	Vanthli
49.	Navabandar	71.	Veraval*
50.	Porbandar*	72.	Visavada
51.	Porbandar (Sat)*	73.	Visavadar*
52.	Rana Kandorna	74.	Zapodad
53.	Rana Khirasara	DISTRICT: KHEDA	
54.	Ranavadala	1.	Adas
55.	Ranavav*	2.	Ajarpura
56.	Sakheda (JND)	3.	Aklacha
57.	Sardargadh	4.	Alina
58.	Sarsai	5.	Alindra
59.	Sasangir	6.	Ahand
60.	Shahpur	7.	Anara
61.	Sharma	8.	Angadi

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
9.	Anklav	31.	Debharu
10.	Antisar	32.	Dewa
11.	Asamli	33.	Dharmaj
12.	Asodar	34.	Dharmaj (Sat)
13.	Attarsumba (K)	35.	Dhuvaran
14.	Balasinor*	36.	Golana
15.	Balasinor (Sat)*	37.	Gudel
16.	Bamangam	38.	Haldarvas
17.	Bamanva	39.	Janod
18.	Bhadran	40.	Jichka
19.	Bhalada	41.	Kanisha
20.	Bhalej	42.	Kanjari
21.	Bochasan	43.	Kanjari (Sat)
22.	Borsad*	44.	Kapadwanj*
23.	Cambay*	45.	Kapadwanj (Sat)*
24.	Chaklasi	46.	Kathana
25.	Chhipadi	47.	Kathlai
26.	Chitravada	48.	Khandli
27.	Chunel	49.	Kheda
28.	Dabhan	50.	Kheda (Sat)
29.	Dadhou	51.	Kinkhlod
30.	Dakor	52.	Koydam

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
53.	Lasundra	75.	Pandva
54.	Limbasi	76.	Pansora
55.	Magonpur Lat	77.	Petlad*
56.	Mahisa	78.	Petlad (Sat)*
57.	Mahudha	79.	Pij
58.	Matar*	80.	Radhu
59.	Mehlav	81.	Ras
60.	Mehmedabad*	82.	Sandesar
61.	Mithapur (Kheda)	83.	Sandheli
62.	Mohlel	84.	Sarsa
63.	Motijher	85.	Sarsa (Sat)
64.	Nadiad*	86.	Sastapur
65.	Nadiad (Sat)*	87.	Savali (Kheda)
66.	Naika	88.	Sevalia
67.	Napa	89.	Sojitra
68.	Napad	90.	Sojitra (Sat)
69.	Nar	91.	Someshwar Lat
70.	Naranpura Lat	92.	Sunav
71.	Nes	93.	Sundarpura
72.	Nirmali	94.	Tarapur
73.	Ode	95.	Tarapur (Sat)
74.	Pandad	96.	Thasra

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
97.	Torna
98.	Umeta
99.	Umetah
100.	Umreth (Sat)
101.	Undel
102.	Uttarsanda
103.	V.V. Nagar
104.	Vadad
105.	Vadala
106.	Vadod
107.	Vadtal
108.	Vadthal
109.	Vanoda
110.	Vasad
111.	Vasad (Sat)
112.	Vasna Margia
113.	Vaso
114.	Vatadra
115.	Virpur (K)
116.	Vyas Vasna
117.	Wadgam
118.	Wanakbori (K)

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
DISTRICT: KUTCH	
1.	Addsar
2.	Adhoi
3.	Adipur
4.	Anjar*
5.	Balasar
6.	Bhachau
7.	Bharapar
8.	Bharudia
9.	Bhimasar (B)
10.	Bhimasar (C)
11.	Bhuj*
12.	Bhuj Sat*
13.	Bhujpur
14.	Bidada
15.	Bitta
16.	Chandroda
17.	Chirai Moti
18.	Dahisara (Buj)
19.	Darsadi
20.	Dayapar
21.	Deshalpar

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
22.	Dudhai	44.	Kotda (C)
23.	Dumra	45.	Kotda (J)
24.	Fatehgadh	46.	Kotda (R)
25.	Gadhisa	47.	Kothara
26.	Gagodar	48.	Kumka
27.	Gandhidham	49.	Laiza
28.	Gandhidham (Sat)	50.	Lakadia
29.	Gangapar	51.	Lakhaper
30.	Gaduli	52.	Lcdai
31.	Goyla	53.	Luni
32.	Gundala	54.	Manfara
33.	Hajapar	55.	Mankuva
34.	Jakhau	56.	Matamadh
35.	K. Mandvi	57.	Mithi Rohar
36.	Kandagara	58.	Mota Asambia
37.	Kandla	59.	Mothala
38.	Kandla KFTZ	60.	Mundra*
39.	Karagoga	61.	Nakhatrana*
40.	Kera	62.	Naliya
41.	Khambhara	63.	Naliya (Sat)
42.	Khavada	64.	Narayansarowar
43.	Khedoi	65.	Netra

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
66.	Nirona	88.	Tuna
67.	Padampur	89.	Ugedi
68.	Pandhro (SKV)	90.	Vadala
69.	Pandhro (KLTP)	91.	Vandhiya
70.	Patri (K)	92.	Vanki
71.	Rahpar*	93.	Varsamedi
72.	Rahpar (Sat)*	94.	Vayor
73.	Ramania	95.	Vithon
74.	Ratnal	96.	Wada
75.	Rav Moti	DISTRICT: MEHSANA	
76.	Ravapar	1.	Aglod
77.	Sabhrai	2.	Ambaliyasan
78.	Samkhiali	3.	Amrapura
79.	Sanosara (Kutch)	4.	Balisana
80.	Sukhpar (B)	5.	Balisana (Sat)
81.	Sukhper (R)	6.	Balol
82.	Sumrasar	7.	Balwa (Meh)
83.	Suthari	8.	Becharaji
84.	Suvai	9.	Bhadrada
85.	Tappar	10.	Bhandu
86.	Tera	11.	Bhilwan
87.	Trambau	12.	Bilia

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
13.	Chada
14.	Chanasma*
15.	Chanasma (Sat)*
16.	Charada
17.	Chhatral
18.	Chhatral (Sat)
19.	Dabhad
20.	Dahboda (Meh)
21.	Dangarwa
22.	Dasaj
23.	Delmal
24.	Dharampur (Meh)
25.	Dhinoj
26.	Dudhaka
27.	Dudharampura
28.	Gambhu
29.	Geniya Kolavda
30.	Gozaria
31.	Barij*
32.	Harij (Sat)*
33.	Jagudan
34.	Jamla (Meh)

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
35.	Jangral
36.	Jantral
37.	Jaspur
38.	Jhulasan
39.	Jotana
40.	Jotana (Sat)
41.	Kada
42.	Kadi (Sat)*
43.	Kadi*
44.	Kahoda
45.	Kakoshi
46.	Kalol
47.	Kalol (Sat)*
48.	Kalyanpura
49.	Kalyanpura Sat
50.	Kamana
51.	Kamliwala
52.	Kansa
53.	Karbatia
54.	Katra
55.	Khambhel
56.	Kheralu*

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
57.	Kherwa	79.	Panchot
58.	Khimiyana	80.	Patan (Sat)
59.	Kukarwada	81.	Patan*
60.	Kungher	82.	Panasan
61.	Ladol	83.	Ranuj
62.	Langhanaj	84.	Ranuj (Sat)
63.	Langhanaj (Sat)	85.	Sametra
64.	Linch	86.	Sami (Sat)
65.	Lodra	87.	Sami*
66.	Mahudi	88.	Santej
67.	Mansa	89.	Sardarpur
68.	Meda	90.	Sariyad
69.	Meda Adraj	91.	Satlasna
70.	Mehsana (Sat)*	92.	Shankheshwar
71.	Mehsana*	93.	Sipor
72.	Modhera	94.	Sidhipur (Sat)*
73.	Mujpur	95.	Sudasana
74.	Nana	96.	Sundhia
75.	Nandasan	97.	Suraj
76.	Nardipur	98.	Thol
77.	Nardipur (Sat)	99.	Transwad
78.	Pali	100.	Tundav (Meh)

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
101.	Umia	8.	Derol
102.	Unjha	9.	Dhanpur
103.	Unjha (Sat)	10.	Diwada Colony
104.	Upera	11.	Dohad (Sat)*
105.	Vadavali	12.	Dohad*
106.	Vadnagar	13.	Fatepura
107.	Valam	14.	Garbada
108.	Varsila	15.	Ghoghamba
109.	Vasai Dabhla	16.	Godhra (Sat 1)*
110.	Vayad	17.	Godhara (Sat 2)*
111.	Vijapur*	18.	Godhra*
112.	Visnagar (Sat)*	19.	Gothib
113.	Visnagar*	20.	Halol (Sat)*
114.	Vithoda	21.	Halol*
DISTRICT: PANCHMAHAL		22.	Jantral
1.	Adadara	23.	Jeswada
2.	Arad	24.	Jhalod*
3.	Bakor	25.	Kakanpur
4.	Bhorwa	26.	Katwara
5.	Chuthanamuvada	27.	Khakharia
6.	D'Batia (Sat)*	28.	Khanpur
7.	D'baria*	29.	Kothamba

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
30.	Limadia	52.	Sansoli
31.	Limdi	53.	Santrampur
32.	Limkheda*	54.	Santroad
33.	Madhvas	55.	Sevania
34.	Malav	56.	Shehera
35.	Malekpur	57.	Shivrajpur
36.	Malvan	58.	Sukshsar
37.	Mehlol	59.	Timbaroad
38.	Mora	60.	Vardhari
39.	Morwarena	61.	Vejalpur
40.	Muvada (R)	DISTRICT: RAJKOT	
41.	Nimanakhakharia	1.	Aji Rajkot*
42.	Panchmahudi	2.	Aji Rajkot (Sat)
43.	Pavagadh	3.	Andarna
44.	Piplod	4.	Atkot
45.	Rachharada	5.	Dagathala
46.	Rameshra	6.	Bhadla
47.	Rampur	7.	Bhaktinagar (RJ)*
48.	Rinchhwani	8.	Bhayavadar
49.	Randhikpur	9.	Bhunava
50.	Sagiala	10.	Chachapar
51.	Sanjeli	11.	Chitravad

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
12.	Dahisara
13.	Derdi
14.	Devkigalol
15.	Dhank
16.	Dhoraji*
17.	Gomta
18.	Gondal
19.	Jamkandorna*
20.	Jasdan*
21.	JB Rajkot*
22.	Jetalsar
23.	Jetpar (M)
24.	Jetpur (Sat)*
25.	Jetpur*
26.	Kalana
27.	Kamalapur
28.	Kasturbadham
29.	Kerali
30.	Khad Vanthafi
31.	Khajurda
32.	Khakharechi
33.	Khareḍa

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
34.	Khirasara (RJ)
35.	Khirsara
36.	Knorana
37.	Kolithad
38.	Kolki
39.	Kotdasangani*
40.	KR Rajkot*
41.	Kuwadawa
42.	Lajai
43.	Lath
44.	Lilapar
45.	Lodhika*
46.	Lunsar
47.	Mahika
48.	Makansar
49.	Maliya Miyana
50.	Maliyasan
51.	Morvi*
52.	Morvi Sat*
53.	Mota Dadva
54.	Moviya
55.	Nagar Pipalia

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
56.	Naviakhi	78.	Vadadhari
57.	Pddhari	79.	Vadasada
58.	Paneli Moti	80.	Vajadi
59.	Patanvav	81.	Vasavad
60.	Patidad	82.	Vavana
61.	Pipaliraj	83.	Vinchhiya
62.	Rajkot E10B*	84.	Vimagar
63.	Rajkot RLU*	85.	Virpur (RJ)
64.	Ramod	86.	Wankaner (RJ)*
65.	Ratandar	DISTRICT: SABARKANTHA	
66.	Santhali	1.	Agiol
67.	Sardhar	2.	Akruno
68.	Sarpadad	3.	Ambai IA
69.	Satodad	4.	Ambai Iyara
70.	Shapar	5.	Antor
71.	Shivarajgadth	6.	Aiarsumba
72.	Sindhavadar	7.	Badoli
73.	Sultanpur	8.	Bahwa
74.	Supedi	9.	Bayad (Sat)*
75.	Tankara	10.	Bayad*
76.	Tithava	11.	Berana
77.	Upleta	12.	Bhadreshwar

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
13.	Bhiloda	35.	Jadar
14.	Chandarni	36.	Jamla (HMR)
15.	Chithoda	37.	Kadiadara
16.	Chitroda	38.	Kadoli
17.	Dadhaliya	39.	Kasana
18.	Davad	40.	Kawa
19.	Dehgamda	41.	Khed
20.	Demai	42.	Khedbrahma*
21.	Deshottar	43.	Kheradi
22.	Dhansura	44.	Kheroj
23.	Dhansura (Sat)	45.	Kherol
24.	Finchod	46.	Kodiyawada
25.	Fudeda	47.	Lambadia
26.	Gabat	48.	Laxmanpurakampa
27.	Gadhi	49.	Laxmipura
28.	Gadhoda	50.	Limbhoi
29.	Gadkaii	51.	Malpur
30.	Gambhoi	52.	Maioda
31.	Harsol	53.	Medh
32.	Himatnagar*	54.	Meghraj*
33.	Idar*	55.	Modasa (Sat)*
34.	Illol	56.	Modasa*

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
57.	Moti Isrol	79.	Shamlaji
58.	Mudril	80.	Shinol
59.	Munai	81.	Shivrajpurkamp
60.	Nana Delwada	82.	Takatuka
61.	Navanagar	83.	Takhatgadh
62.	Patel Dhundha	84.	Taloo
63.	Poshina	85.	Tarakwada
64.	Prantij*	86.	Tintoi
65.	pratappura	87.	Tintoi Sat
66.	Punsai	88.	Umedgadh
67.	Pural	89.	Unchidhanal
68.	Raigadh	90.	Vadagam
69.	Ramgadhi	91.	Vadali
70.	Rampir Kampa	92.	Vijaynagar
71.	Rampura Kampa	93.	Vishnu-Purakampa
72.	Ranasan	DISTRICT:	
73.	Rupal	1.	Anaval
74.	Sagpur	2.	Anumala
75.	Salal	3.	Areth
76.	Sardoil	4.	Bajjipura
77.	Sathamba	5.	Balkas
78.	Satnagar	6.	Barbodhan

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
7.	Bardoli (Sat)	29.	Madhi
8.	Bhatha	30.	Mahuwa*
9.	Bodhan	31.	Majura (RLU)
10.	Buhari	32.	Mandvi*
11.	Dolara	33.	Nizar
12.	Dolvan	34.	Olpad
13.	Dumas	35.	Palsana*
14.	Fort Songadh*	36.	Pandesara
15.	Gangadhara	37.	Rander (Sat)*
16.	Godawadi	38.	Rander (SR)*
17.	Kadod	39.	Sachin
18.	Kadodara	40.	Sarbhav (SP)
19.	Kamrej*	41.	Sayan
20.	Karchelia	42.	Shampura
21.	Katargam	43.	Shivani
22.	Katargam (Sat)	44.	Surat (Sat)
23.	Kathor	45.	Surat 63 Level
24.	Kawas	46.	Surat Mkte RLU
25.	Kim	47.	Surat NEC
26.	Kosamba	48.	Surat Unit-I
27.	Limbada	49.	Surat Unit-II
28.	M.M. Mangrol*	50.	Surat Unit-III

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
51.	Tadkeshwar
52.	Udhna
53.	Ukai
54.	Umarpada
55.	Valod*
56.	Vankal
57.	Varad
58.	Wankaner (SR)
59.	Zankhvav

DISTRICT: SURENDRANAGAR

1.	Bajana
2.	Bajarangpura
3.	Bamanbore
4.	Bhalgamda
5.	Charadwa
6.	Chokdi
7.	Chotila*
8.	Chuda
9.	Danawada
10.	Dasada*
11.	Dhandhalpur
12.	Dholi

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
13.	Dhrangadhara*
14.	Dhrangadhara S 1*
15.	Dhrangadhara S 2*
16.	Dhrumath
17.	Dudapur
18.	Halvad*
19.	Junadevalia
20.	Kankavati
21.	Kharaghoda
22.	Khodu
23.	Kholadiad
24.	Kondh
25.	Lakhtar*
26.	Limbadi*
27.	Maradianagar
28.	Maihak
29.	Mayurnagar
30.	Mota Ankevalia
31.	Muli*
32.	Nana Ankevadia
33.	Nani Khakhrechi
34.	Nimaknagar

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
35.	Panisana	2.	Daman
36.	Patdi	3.	Daman (Sat)
37.	Porda	4.	Div
38.	Rajsitapur	5.	Khanvel
39.	Ranagadh	6.	Naroli
40.	Sara	7.	Silvasa
41.	Sarla	8.	Silvasa (Sat)
42.	Sayla*	9.	Vanakbara
43.	Sedla	DISTRICT: VADODARA	
44.	Shiyani	1.	Alkapuri*
45.	Soldi	2.	Alkapuri E10B*
46.	Sudamoa	3.	Bhatpur
47.	Sundari	4.	Bodeli
48.	Surendranagar	5.	Chandod
49.	Susvav	6.	Chhatrali
50.	Thangadh	7.	Chhotaudepur*
51.	Thangadh (Sat)	8.	Choranda
52.	Tikar (Ran)	9.	City Exch (BRD)*
53.	Vagadia	10.	City X-(BRD)
54.	Zinzuwada	11.	Dabaka
DISTRICT: UNION TERRITORY		12.	Dabhoi*
1.	Dadra	13.	Desar

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
14.	Dormar	36.	Naswadi
15.	Dungarwat	37.	Padra
16.	Fatehganj (BRD)*	38.	Panyad
17.	Gadhboriad	39.	Pavijetpur
18.	Handod	40.	Por
19.	Jambughoda	41.	Puniad
20.	Jarod	42.	Rangpur
21.	Kadipani	43.	Rania
22.	Kadwal	44.	Rarod
23.	Karkhadi	45.	Sadhali
24.	Karwan	46.	Samlaya
25.	Kelanpur	47.	Sandasal
26.	Kosindra	48.	Sankheda (BRD)*
27.	Kotni*	49.	Savli*
28.	Koyali (BRD)*	50.	Sinor
29.	Koyali (Sat)*	51.	Sokhada
30.	Kwant	52.	Tankhala
31.	Makarpura (BRD)*	53.	Thuwavi
32.	Masar Road	54.	Tilakwada
33.	Miyagam	55.	Tundav
34.	Mobha Road	56.	Vadu
35.	Náindesari	57.	Vejpur

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
58.	Waghodia*
59.	Zoz

DISTRICT: VALSAD

1.	Aat
2.	Abrama
3.	Achhari
4.	Amalsad
5.	Atul
6.	Bansda
7.	Bhatbandar
8.	Bhilad (Sarigam)
9.	Bilimora
10.	Bilimora (Sat)
11.	Chikhili (Sat)*
12.	Chikhli*
13.	Degam
14.	Dharampur (Val)
15.	Dholai
16.	Dungri
17.	Fansa
18.	Gandevi*
19.	Gundlav

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
20.	Gurukulsupa
21.	Khadsupa
22.	Kharel
23.	Khergam
24.	Kilapardi (Sat)*
25.	Killapardi*
26.	Maroli (B)
27.	Maroli (S)
28.	Maiwad
29.	Nargol
30.	Navsari
31.	Navsari (Sat).
32.	Nogama
33.	Onjal
34.	Paria
35.	Rankuva
36.	Ranvel
37.	Rumla
38.	Sanjan
39.	Satem
40.	Tighra
41.	Udvada

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
42.	Ugai
43.	Umbergaon*
44.	Unai
45.	Valsad (Sat I)
46.	Valsad*
47.	Valsad (Sat II)*
48.	Vapi
49.	Vapi (Sat)
50.	Vesma
51.	Waghchipa Mota

Visit of Kuwaiti Team

673. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Kuwaiti Team visited
India recently to discuss the
compensation claims filed by Indians and
Indian Companies hit by the Gulf War,
1991;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the aggregate value of the
claims and the progress made in this
regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) A
delegation from Kuwait visited India from
15th to 17th January, 1994 primarily to
seek our cooperation to obtain just
compensation for victims of the Gulf War.

It was agreed to cooperate with each
other closely.

(c) So far about 1.40 lakh Indian
claims for about \$3.2 billion have been
forwarded to the United Nations
Compensation Commission, Geneva. It is
the exclusive responsibility of the UNCC
to evaluate the claims, evolve the
payment procedure and deliver the
awarded compensation to the eligible
claimants for payment through national
governments. At this stage, it is difficult
to estimate the timing or the value of the
payments which may eventually be made
by the UNCC, especially when it is known
that there are inadequate funds in the
Compensation Fund to meet the claims.

**Agreement with Singapore in Shipping
Sector**

674. SHRI SHANTARAM POT-
DUKHE: Will the Minister of SURFACE
TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Singapore
have signed any agreement recently in
the field of shipping; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) An Agreement of Maritime
Transport between the Government of the
Republic of India and the Government of
Republic of Singapore was signed on
24.01.94 in New Delhi at ministerial-level.
The Agreement with Singapore is more in
the nature of a facilitation document. It
envisages that vessels of both the
Contracting Parties shall have equitable

rights and opportunities to carry cargo. The agreement also provides that shipping related enterprises of either Contracting Party may invest in shipping related services, such as trucking, ship agencies, warehousing, container freight stations, etc., in each other's country, subject to the prevailing laws and regulations of the Contracting Parties.

[*Translation*]

Foreign Investment in Thermal Power Plants

675. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some major overseas power companies have proposed to make heavy investment in setting up coal based thermal power plants in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the

action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the incentives proposed to be provided by the Government to such foreign companies for investment in setting up power plants in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Uttar Pradesh have signed a memorandum of Understanding on 17.11.1993 with M/s Pacific Electric Power Development Corporation, Canada for execution of Jawaharpur (3x250 MW) Thermal Power Plant in the private sector.

(c) The incentives offered under the Scheme to encourage greater private investments in the electricity sector will be extended to the project. The incentives that would be available are in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Incentives/Policy Guidelines to Encourage Greater Private Sector Participation in the Electricity Generations and Distribution.

- Private Sector can set up thermal projects (coal/gas) and hydel projects and wind/solar energy project of any size.
- Electricity Projects where the total outlay does not exceed Rs. 25 crores need not be submitted to the Central Electricity Authority for concurrence.
- Private Sector companies can set up enterprises to operate either as licensees or as generating companies.
- All private companies entering the Electricity Sector hereafter will be allowed a debt-equity ratio upto 4:1.
- Promoter's contribution should be at least 11% of the total outlay.

- To ensure that private entrepreneurs bring in additionality of resources to the sector, not less than 60% of the total outlay for the project must come from sources other than Public Financial Institutions.
- Upto hundred per cent (100%) foreign equity participation can be permitted for projects set up by foreign private investors.
- The condition of dividend balancing by export earnings which is normally being applied to cases of foreign investment upto 51% equity will not be applicable to foreign investments in the power sector.
- The rates for depreciation in respect of assets have been liberalised.
- With the approval of the Government, import of equipment for power projects will also be permitted in cases where foreign supplier(s) or agency(ies) extend concessional credit.
- The customs duty for import of power equipment has been reduced to 20% and this rate has also been extended to machinery required for modernisation and renovation of power plants.
- A five year tax holiday has been allowed in respect of profits and gains of new industrial undertakings set up anywhere in India for either generation or generation and distribution of power. The five year tax holiday will begin from the year of generation of power.
- The excise duty on a large number of capital goods and instruments in the power sector has been reduced to a uniform lower rate of 5%.
- Upto 16% return on the foreign equity included in the tariff can be provided in the respective foreign currency.
- Fixed costs including 16% Return on Equity (ROE) can be recovered at 68.5% PLF. Attractive incentives are prescribed for performance beyond this PLF in the form of additional ROE (upto 0.7%) for each 1% rise in PLF.
- Flexibility has been allowed in including insurance charges in the project cost.
- Government of India may consider extending a counter guarantee for the payment obligations of State Electricity Boards to the private power companies on the specific request of the concerned State Government subject to certain terms and conditions.

The specific incentives for Licensees are:

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

*[English]***Strike by Postal Employees**

676. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:

SHRIMATI BHAVANA

CHIKHLIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the postal employees had taken part in a nation wide strike during the recent past;

(b) if so, the details of their demands; and

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

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

(b) A copy of the Charter of Demands given by the Postal employees Federations/Associations is enclosed in *Statement-I*.

(c) Action taken/being taken by the Government on the Charter of Demands is enclosed in *Statement-II*.

STATEMENT-I*Charter of Demands*

1. Demands of Extra Departmental Employees
 - (i) Introduction of Scales of Pay for all categories of extra departmental employees.
 - (ii) Counting of E.D. service.
 - (iii) Grant of Pension/Statutory Gratuity.
 - (iv) Grant of subsistence Allowance
 - (v) Grant of leave with Pay.
2. Biennial Cadre Review
 - (i) Upgrading of 10% of HSG-II posts to HSG I.
 - (ii) Revision of scale of Pay of Postmen and allied cadres placed in BCR Rs. 1200-1800.
 - (iii) Retention on age of superannuation at 60 for Group 'D' officials placed in BCR scale of Rs. 950-1400.

3. Privatisation, Mechanisation and Computerisation
- (a) Strict adherence to Clause 7(d) of Strike settlement dated 12.7.1987.
- (b) Dropping of all schemes for privatisation of services like:
- (i) Licensing of private agents to perform Postal and RMS work in urban and rural areas.
- (ii) Privatisation of mail conveyance displacing Mail Motor Service.
- (iii) Employing non-postal employees including retired personnel for performing Postal and RMS work.
- (iv) Scrapping the system of presorting by bulk mailers.
- (c) Advance increments and incentives to all the staff connected with mechanised and computerised areas.
- (d) Reduction of working hours for the staff.
4. Dropping of all proposals to tighten the existing norms and restoration of pre-tightened norms wherever the time factor has been reduced.
5. Sanction of justified posts in all cadres and filling up the existing and future vacancies.
6. Coverage of Time-bound Promotion scheme to:
- (i) Circle Office cadres.
- (ii) Mail Motor Service Cadres.
- (iii) Non-test category staff and other excluded cadres.
7. Revision of Bonur Formula:
8. (i) Grant of hourly O.T.A. rates for Postmen. for work done on absentee duty and holiday duties.
- (ii) Removal of ban on O.T. duty in Post Offices.
9. Casual and Part-time employees
- (i) Coverage of orders on Temporary Status to the casual labourers working for less than 8 hours a day.
- (ii) Problems of Part-time employees.
10. (i) Restructuring of Inspectors/Assistant Superintendents Cadres.
- (ii) Restoration of Mail Overseers and Orderlies to IPOs/ASPs.
- (iii) Raising the Scale of Pay of Senior Accountants of the Postal Accounts Offices to Rs. 1640/- to Rs. 2900/-

STATEMENT-II

1. In pursuance of discussions held with the Employees' Federations/Associations, the Government has already issued orders conceding the following demands:-

- (i) Extra departmental Branch Postmasters whose work-load exceeds 90 points have been compensated by a graded scale upto 100 points.
- (ii) Group 'D' officials, on promotion to Biennial cadre Review, have been given the option of selecting the scale of pay of Rs. 950-1400 or Rs. 800-1200. In case they choose the former, they will retire at the age of 58 years; and in case they choose the latter, they will continue to be deemed as Group 'D' and retire at 60 years.
- (iii) Officials who work on multi-purpose counter machines will be given a Machine Allowance of Rs. 100 per month irrespective of their pay scale.
- (iv) Holiday Duty Allowance of postmen has been increased from Rs. 25/- to Rs. 36/-. The allowance for combination of beats, if the beat is entrusted to one postman, has been increased to Rs. 24/-. If the beat is shared by two postmen, each postman will get Rs. 12/-
- (v) Extra departmental agents have been given Interim Relief of Rs. 50/- per month w.e.f. 16.9.93.

(vi) Extra Departmental Agents who were recruited prior to 25.8.1987 have been made eligible to appear in promotion examinations even if they have not acquired the Matriculation qualification.

(vii) The scheme of placing the staff car drivers in three different grades announced by the Department of Personnel and Training has been made applicable to drivers, including drivers in the Mail Motor Service, of the Department of Posts.

(viii) Orders have been issued that no new bulk mail centres would be opened, without consultation with the staff side.

(ix) The scheme of Time Bound One Promotion and Biennial Cadre Review had already been extended to Group 'C' posts in Circle Office cadre.

2. The following demands are under consideration of the Government:

(i) Upgradation of 10% of Higher Selection Grade-II (HSG-II) posts to HSG-I.

(ii) Introduction of a system of Contributory Provident Fund for the Extra Departmental Agents with subscribers contribution and matching contribution by Government.

(iii) Relief to extra departmental officials who are put off duty and who are subsequently reinstated.

(iv) Revision of the Biennial Cadre Review pay scale of the postmen cadre to Rs. 1200-1800.

(v) Sanction of justified posts and filling up of existing and future vacancies.

3. The Government has also agreed to appoint an Extra Departmental Committee after the constitution of the Pay Commission with an outsider as its Chairman to consider all other demands of the Extra Departmental Agents. The term of reference of this Committee will be finalised in consultation with the postal employees Federation. It has also been agreed that the Committee will be asked particularly to examine the demand for grant of pension to extra departmental agents and made recommendations thereon.
4. The Government has also agreed to consider sympathetically, in consultation with the employees' Federations, all other demands relating to the departmental postal employees included in the charter of demands which are not already covered above.

[Translation]

Illegal Mining

677. SHRI LAL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any list of illegal mines under operation in various parts of the country;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to close down the illegal mines in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Central Government does not maintain any such list.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Action is taken as per law on detection of cases of illegal mining.

Telephone Connection in U.P.

678. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL:
DR. RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons on the waiting list for getting telephone connections as on December 31, 1993 in Uttar Pradesh; district-wise;

(b) the years upto which applications for telephone connections have been cleared;

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

(d) whether the Government propose to increase the number of telephone lines and open new telephone exchanges in the State to clear the waiting list; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid not the Table of the House.

Production of Mica

679. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production and export of Mica has registered a decline;

(b) if so, the extent of decline registered during 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93 and the loss in foreign exchange earning as a result thereof;

(c) the main reasons identified for the slump in the Micca industry;

(d) the number of workers rendered unemployed due to the slump; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to revive the Mica industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Comparative production and export of Mica for the last three years is as under:-

	1990-91 (Tonnes)	1991-92 (Tonnes)	1992-93 (Tonnes)
Mica crude	4062	3593	2507
Mica waste and scrap	3366	2364	1490
Export	42591	34879	25160
Value of export (Rs. in Crores)	51.3	55.5	38.8

(c) The main causes identified for slump in the country's Mica industry are: lack of demand in the international market, substitution of Mica and its products, and the deeper mines becoming operationally uneconomical.

(d) During 1990-91 the number of people employed in Mica Mines was 2942. The number of people so employed in 1992-93 was 2213.

(e) Revival of this industry can be through steps like diversification into new products, identification of new applications and markets and technological improvements.

GSI Survey in Madhya Pradesh

681. SHRI : KHELAN RAM JANGDE:

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has conducted any survey in Madhya Pradesh to assess the availability of natural resources in the State;

(b) if so, the details of the areas where this survey has been conducted and the mineral reserves found there; and

(c) steps proposed to be taken to exploit valuable minerals that are abundantly available in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As a result of recent survey and

exploration carried out by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) in Madhya Pradesh, following mineral resources/reserves have been established:-

- (i) 92 million tonnes of low silica dolomite in Lohani area, Chattarpur and Sagar districts.
- (ii) 0.85 million tonnes of zinc ore with 6.48 Zn in Kherli Bazar area, Betul district.
- (iii) 0.45 million tonnes of diamondiferous conglomerate with 27.91 carat/100 t diamond incidence at Itawa and 0.27 million tonnes of diamondiferous conglomerate with 23.08 carat/100 t diamond incidence in Hatupur 'A' Block in Panna Diamond belt.
- (iv) 0.4 million tonnes of gold ore with 1.3 g/t gold in Pandripani area, Raigarh district.
- (v) 1206 million tonnes of glauconite sandstone with 4.90% K₂O in Pindri area, Satna district.

(c) Based on earlier proved economically viable deposits, mining of iron ore in Bailadila and Dalli-Rajhara area, Bastar district; manganese in Ukwa and Tirodi area in Balaghat and Chhindwara districts; copper in Malanjhand area in Balaghat district Coal in Pathakhera & Shahpur in Betul district, Korba in Bilaspur district, Pench-Kanhan valley-Parasia in Chhindwara district, Sohagpur-Umaria in Shahdol district, Singrauli in Sidhi district, Bishrampur-Chirmiri in Sarguja district

and bauxite (ore of aluminium) in Katni, Jabalpur district, Amarkantak in Mandla and Shahdol districts and Korba in Bilaspur district, have been taken up.

Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd. (BALCO) has started development of bauxite mines at Mainpat deposits in Sarguja district. The Company has plans to develop Rajnandgaon bauxite deposits also.

[English]

Financial Crisis at NALCO

682. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Aluminium Company Limited has been facing severe financial crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to rehabilitate NALCO and to improve its performance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

New Gold Deposits in Karnataka

683. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether new deposits of gold have been found at Anjanabhalli in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the estimated reserves of gold deposits;

(c) the names of other places in Karnataka where gold deposits have been found;

(d) whether the extraction of gold has been started at Anjanahalli; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, when will it be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Geological Survey of India (GSI) have conducted exploration in Ajjanahalli and estimated a tentative reserve of 1.7 million tonnes with an average grade of 2.09 g/t gold. In Ajjanahalli west block a mineralised strike length of 650m. With 0.91 to 3.20 g/t gold has been delineated by drilling.

(c) As a result of exploration in recent years, following gold reserves have been established in Karnataka:-

	Area	Reserves in million tonnes	Grade in gms/tonnes
(i)	Chincherji	0.06	5.00
(ii)	Tuppadhur	0.089	3.95
(iii)	Sangli Mines	5.5	3.77
(iv)	Kampinkote	3.5	1.22
(v)	Uti	0.88	4.00
(vi)	Wandalli	0.65	4.00
(vii)	Kadani	0.064	4.00
(viii)	Mysore Mine	0.23	3.00
(ix)	Hosur Champion	1.63	2.60
(x)	Ballera	0.25	4.50

(d) and (e) No. Extraction of gold is dependent on the assessment of

economic viability of the deposit by the investor.

Modernisation of Telephone Exchanges in West Bengal

684. SHRI HARADHAN ROY:
SHRI SATYA GOPAL
MISRA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for expansion and modernisation of telephone exchanges in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of electronic exchanges with STD facility functioning at present in the State, district-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to open new electronic exchanges with STD facility in the State, and

(e) if so, the details thereof, district-wise?

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

(b), (c) and (e) As per the attached *Statement*.

(d) Yes, Sir.

STATEMENT

8th Five Year Plan (1992-97) of the department envisages:-

Expansion of Telephone Exchanges to control the waiting period for Telephone

connections in large telephone systems to maximum two years and provision of telephones practically on demand in rural and tribal areas by the end of the plan period.

— Modernisation of telephone exchanges to:-

(i) Achieve fully automatic network by March, 1994.

(ii) Replace life expired and worn out switches as and when they become life expired.

(iii) Replace all strowger MAX-III exchanges by electronic exchanges.

(iv) Replace all line finder type MAX-II exchanges by electronic exchanges.

(c) The district-wise details is as below:-

Sl. No.	Name of the District	No. of Electronic Exchanges with STD facility functioning as on 31.01.1994
1.	Bankura	14
2.	Birbhum	4
3.	Burdwan	10
4.	Calcutta	15
5.	Darjeeling	3
6.	Howrah	7
7.	Hooghly	4
8.	Jalpaiguri	4

Sl. No.	Name of the District	No. of Electronic Exchanges with STD facility functioning as on 31.01.1994
9.	Malda	3
10.	Midnapur	19
11.	Murshidabad	4
12.	Nadia	8
13.	24-Parganas (North)	11
14.	24-Parganas (South)	18
TOTAL		124

6 more new electronic exchanges with STD facility are likely to be commissioned in the State during 1993-94. The district-wise details are as under:-

Name of District	No. of Exchanges
Birbhum	1
24 Parganas (North)	3
Purulia	1
Bankura	1

Tele Conference at Madras

685. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited had arranged a tele

conference recently at Madras, which was attended by experts in Science and Technology.

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions made in the conference; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. An International Video Conference service was provided from Madras on 20th January, 1994 by VSNL for a period of 40 minutes with London and Washington. The Indian customer for this conference was Central Leather Research Institute, Madras under Ministry of Science and Technology.

(b) and (c) The details of suggestions made relating to the Tele conference facility are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Entry of Foreign Newspapers in India

686. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: PROF. PREM DHUMAL: SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA:

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

(a) whether several foreign newspapers/agencies are trying to enter in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Chairman of the Press Council of India has opposed the entry of foreign media;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(e) whether the entry of foreign media is likely to have adverse impact on Indian newspaper industry; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Some requests from Indian promoters to set up joint ventures with foreign collaborators to bring out newspapers/periodicals from India have been received. Some of the foreign news agencies which are already operating in India through Indian news agencies have also sought Government's permission to have direct access to Indian media.

(c) Newspaper reports to this effect have been seen by the Government.

(d) to (f) The Government has neither changed nor rescinded its policies, restricting entry of foreign media in the country.

[Translation]

Manufacture of Econogreen

687. DR. RAMKRISHNA
KUSMARIA:
SHRI RAJENDRA
AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI RAM SINGH
KASHWAN:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN
SHARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a). whether a new equipment "Econogreen" has been manufactured for

reducing the consumption of fuel and checking pollution in vehicles;

(b) if so, whether this equipment has been manufactured indigenously or any foreign collaboration has been sought in its manufacture;

(c) the percentage of fuel likely to be saved by this equipment;

(d) whether this equipment has been tested; and

(e) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (e) A fuel saving/pollution control device "Econogreen" for automotive application was displayed in the AUTO-EXPO-93 exhibition held recently in New Delhi by M/s. Econo Green Ltd., a small scale unit. Directorate General of Technical Development (DGTD) have intimated that the party made a presentation of this device in a meeting called by them. However, the party could not provide authenticated test reports and documentation in support of the claim. DGTD have advised the Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI) and D.T.C. to evaluate the performance of this device with reference to fuel economy and pollution levels.

Indians in Pakistan Jails

688. SHRI N.K. BALIYAN:
SHRI AST BHUJA
PRASAD SHUKLA:
SHRI BAPU HARI
CHAURE:
SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN
SHARAN SINGH:

SHRI B. DEVARAJAN:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

[English]

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians languishing in the jails of Pakistan;

(b) whether a number of fishermen including children from the State of Gujarat and the Union Territory of Daman and Diu are also languishing in the jails of Pakistan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for their early release?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) According to information available, there are at present 1013 Indian nationals under detention in Pakistani jails.

(b) and (c) 106 Indian fishermen, including a large number from Gujarat and Daman and Diu and some children, are known to have been apprehended by Pakistani authorities in four incidents in 1993. They are presently in Pak custody.

(d) Efforts to secure the release of all Indian prisoners in Pakistani jails continue.

Government have proposed to the Government of Pakistan on 27 January 1994 an exchange of Indian and Pakistani fishermen in each other's custody. The modalities in this regard are being worked out through the diplomatic channels.

Modernisation of Postal Services

689. SHRI K. PRADHANI:
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

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

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds earmarked if any, for the purpose;

(d) whether this will affect the employees and increase unemployment in near future; and

(e) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The trust areas for modernisation of Postal Services are counter computerisation, mail mechanisation and electronic money transfer via satellite communication. During the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97), 5000 computer based counter machines are planned to be installed in various post offices in the country.

The department installed one letter sorting machine in Bombay in April 1993. One more letter sorting machine is proposed to be installed in Madras during 1994-95. The Department has a proposal to install Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs) at 75 locations in the country for

speedy transmission of money orders via satellite.

(c) During the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) an outlay of Rs. 138.30 crores has been provided for mechanisation and modernisation.

(d) No, Sir. The basic purpose of modernisation is to improve customer services.

(e) Does not arise in view of the reply at (d)

Food Processing Industries in North Eastern States

690. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the existing number of food processing industries in Sikkim and other North Eastern States;

(b) the year of establishment of these industries; and

(c) the funds sanctioned by the Union Government for these projects during the years 1991-92; 1992-93 and 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Since Food Processing Industries are both in the organised and unorganised sectors, information in regard to the number of all food processing industries, state-wise set up and the year of establishment of these industries is not maintained centrally. However, information in regard to the number of rice-mills, Roller flour mills and fruits and vegetable processing units registered under Fruit Products Order is given in the enclosed *Statement-I*.

(c) Details of financial assistance extended under the Plan Schemes of the Ministry to these States are given in the enclosed *Statement-II*.

STATEMENT—I

Name of the State	Fruit and vegetable processing	Roller Flour Mills	Rice Mills
Sikkim	2	3	17
Assam	22	40	2,820
Manipur	19	1	169
Meghalaya	7	2	201
Mizoram	2	Not Available	Not Available
Nagaland	4	4	Not Available

Name of the State	Fruit and vegetable processing	Roller Flour Mills	Rice Mills
Tripura	8	2	703
Arunachal Pradesh	8	Not Available	Not Available

STATEMENT-II

Details of Financial Assistance Extended Under the Plan Schemes of this Ministry to Sikkim and other North Eastern States

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sec./ Year	Sikkim	Assam	Manipur	Meghalaya	Mizoram	Nagaland	Tripura	Arunachal Pradesh
Fruit & Vegetable Processing								
1991-92	-	-	-	-	70.00	-	-	-
1992-93	-	-	-	-	59.92	6.00	-	-
1993-94 (till Dec. '93)	-	40.40	-	-	177.82	-	3.00	2.73
Meat & Meat Products								
1991-92	-	285.62	5.18	-	-	-	-	-
1992-93	-	18.25	0.67	-	68.25	30.75	-	-
1993-94 (till Dec. '93)	-	3.16	0.72	-	-	-	-	-

Suggestions from Amnesty International

691. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had received any suggestions from Amnesty International and countries like US in regard to the alleged violation of human rights; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the views expressed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Amnesty International in its report "An Unnatural Fate-Disappearances and Impunity in the Indian States of J&K and Punjab" has alleged that there have been

large number of "Disappearances" in J&K and Punjab. The Government have stated that the Amnesty's report is substantially incorrect. Government in their interaction with the US Government have constantly highlighted the fact that India's commitment to upholding human rights is second to none, that there are Constitutional safeguards available in India for this purpose and have focussed attention on the gross violation of human rights by militants and terrorists, aided and abetted from outside India.

Allocation of Funds to National Highway-8

692. SHRI HARILAL NANJI PATEL:
SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to earmark special funds for the development of Ahmedabad-Bombay section of National Highway-8; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Rush in DTC Buses

693. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the picture published in the Navbharat Times dated January 7, 1994 wherein passengers have been depicted standing on footboard of a bus of Delhi Transport Corporation;

(b) if so, whether there is a limit to the number of standing commuters inside the buses of Delhi Transport Corporation; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check the rush in buses?

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

(a) The picture published in the Navbharat Times dated January 7, 1994 depicts a Private bus under STA operation.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Enforcement Wing of the Transport Department of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi and Delhi Traffic Police are empowered to check excess carriage in the local passengers buses and defaulters are regularly prosecuted as per provisions of the M.V. Act, 1988.

[English]

Radical Changes in Developing Power System

694. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take concrete steps to modernise and expand the power generation system of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the plans finalised/proposed in this regard and the action to be taken thereon during the 8th plan; and

(c) the performance of the power grid corporation of India during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The Renovation & Modernisation (R&M) programme for both Hydro and Thermal Power Stations has been taken up. For Thermal Power Stations R&M programme of 34 Stations covering 164 Thermal units aggregating to a total capacity of 13585 MW was launched in September, 1984. The latest total sanctioned cost is Rs. 1222.88 crores. At present, 87% of activities have been completed and the balance are expected to be completed in the year 1994-95. On completion the benefit of additional generation of the order of 7000 MU is expected. The second phase of the programme covering 46 Thermal Power Stations and 209 units with a total capacity of 20871 MW having total latest sanctioned cost of Rs. 1847.80 crores have been launched during 8th Plan. On completion of this programme an additional generation capacity of the order of 8750 MU is expected.

Programme for R&M and uprating of 55 Hydel schemes aggregating to an installed capacity of 9648 MW has been finalised. Total capacity benefit envisages 2152 MW with annual energy benefit of 6898 Million Units. Expenditure involved is Rs. 131C crores. Out of these 55

schemes, 4 schemes have already been completed and other 24 schemes are programmed for commissioning during 8th Plan period.

(c) Performance of Power Grid Corporation in construction programme has been very good with overall achievement during 1991-92 being 113% in 1992-93 at 100% and in 1993-94 (upto January, 1994) at nearly 100%. On the financial front also POWERGRID has performed very well. It has earned a profit of Rs. 236.61 crores during the year 1992-93.

Revenue Earned by Doordarshan/AIR

695. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE:
DR. K.D. JESWANI:
DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY:

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

(a) the revenue earned by the Doordarshan/AIR during the past three years, year-wise alongwith the projections for the 8th plan period;

(b) whether the Government have recently formulated new advertisement policy for augmenting revenue during the 8th plan period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO):

(a) (Rs. in crores)

	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
AIR	39	53	59
Doordarshan	254	301	360

During the remaining years of the 8th Plan period, the expected revenue generation of All India Radio and Doordarshan would be around Rs. 300 crores and Rs. 1600 crores respectively.

(b) Doordarshan has recently revised its rate card to augment its revenue.

(c) A copy of the revised rates is attached as *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Rate Card for Commercial Advertisement and Sponsorship over Doordarshan

(Effective from 21.3.1994)

1. Annexures I, IIA, IIB and III indicate rates for spot buys and sponsorship.
2. The categorisations are as under:-

(a) *National Network (DD-I)*

- | | | |
|------|-------------------|--|
| I. | Super 'A' Special | (i) Hindi Feature Film (Saturday)
(ii) Chitrahaar (Wednesday)
(iii) Rangoli (Sunday) |
| II. | Super 'A' | (i) 0.00 PM slot on all days (Hindi/English)
(ii) 0.30 PM to 10.00 PM Hindi Serials.
(iii) Live coverage/highlights of spl. international sports (to be intimated in advance)
(iv) Before 'Samachar' at 8.30 PM.
(v) Any other programme intimated in advance. |
| III. | 'A' Special | (i) Various programmes/slots on Sunday morning (9.00 AM to 12.00 Noon)
(ii) 9.30 PM to 10.00 PM (except Hindi serials)
(iii) Live coverage/highlights of international sports events.
(iv) Before 'The News' at 10.00 PM
(v) Any other programme intimated in advance. |
| IV. | 'A' | (i) 10.30 PM slot on all days.
(ii) Late night/Tuesday afternoon films.
(iii) Live coverage of National sports events (on Sundays, Holidays and Finals). |

- (iv) Highlights/recorded international sports events telecast after 10.30 PM
- (v) After 9.00 AM on Saturdays only.
- (vi) Any other programme intimated in advance.

V. 'B'

- (i) Morning and afternoon transmission.
- (ii) From 11.00 PM onwards.
- (iii) Regional feature film on National Network (Sunday).
- (iv) Live national sports events on week days and matches upto semi-final.
- (v) World of Sports/Sponsored sports programmes in the afternoon transmission.
- (vi) Any other programme intimated in advance.

(b) *Regional Channel - I*

I. Super 'A' Special

- (i) Films in state regional languages (except Marathi, Gujarati and Punjabi) and film-based programmes.
- (ii) Programmes/News in-between Regional Feature Films and Chitrahaar on National Network (except Bombay, Ahmedabad and Jalandhar).
- (iii) Programmes/News in-between Hindi Feature Films and Chitrahaar on National Network (Lucknow, Jalandhar, Jaipur and Bhopal).
- (iv) Before Chitrahaar (Ahmedabad).
- (v) Any other programme intimated in advance.

II. Super 'A'

- (i) Serials.
- (ii) Marathi Film (Bombay), Gujarati (Ahmedabad) and Punjabi (Jalandhar).
- (iii) Films in Regional Languages other than that of the State.
- (iv) Play (Madras).
- (v) Chitranjali (Calcutta).
- (vi) Programmes/News in-between Hindi Feature Films and before Chitrahaar (Wednesday) on National Network for Delhi, Ahmedabad, Calcutta & Bombay.
- (vii) Regional News with 10% premium Madras, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Trivandrum and Calcutta.
- (viii) Regional News at other Kendras.
- (ix) Any other programme intimated in advance.

III. 'A'

- (i) Play (except Madras), Saptahiki.
- (ii) 6.30 PM onwards.

- (iii) Morning transmission on Sundays programmes.
 - (iv) Between Hindi Feature Film (Saturday) and before Chitrahaar (Wednesday) on National Network for Madras, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Trivandrum.
 - (v) Any other programme intimated in advance.
- IV. 'B' Before 6.30 PM.
1. Super 'A'
- (i) 8.00 PM to 10.00 PM.
(Film-based programmes & Serials)
 - (ii) Any other programme intimated in advance.
2. 'A' Special
- (i) 8.00 PM to 10.00 PM.
(Talk Shows, Quiz, Games Show, English Serials, other non-film based and non-serial programmes).
 - (ii) 8.00 AM to 12.00 Noon (Sundays only)
(All Programmes regardless of the format and language)
 - (iii) 7.30 PM to 8.00 PM
10.30 PM to 11.00 PM
 - (iv) Any other programme intimated in advance.
3. 'A'
- (i) 7.00 PM to 7.30 PM
 - (ii) Any other programme intimated in advance.,
4. 'B'
- (i) Morning (On All Days)
 - (ii) Afternoon and programmes upto 7.00 PM
 - (iii) After 11.00 PM
 - (iv) Any other programme intimated in advance.

3. Sponsored Programmes

- (a) (i) Booking is acceptable either of a client or of a product. In the case of a product, the Free Commercial Time (FCT) can be utilised for the ads of that product only.
- (ii) The Sponsor(s)/Client(s) is allowed to advertise any number of products in the admissible commercial time.
- (iii) Commercial Break in Serials:

One commercial break in a 30 minutes a slot and two commercial breaks with programme in 45 minutes/60 minutes has been allowed.

In case of outside sponsored programmes, the FCT commercials will be inserted by the Producer.

- (iv) Ads featuring the artists participating a particular serial/programme are also accepted for telecast alongwith the same programme
- (v) Film song programmes on National Network and Kendras are not open for sponsorship

(b) *Credit Lines*

In addition to Free Commercial Time, the sponsor(s) are allowed credit lines for 10 seconds at the beginning and 10 seconds at the end of the programme only in case of programmes on channel-I. In case of Channel-II the credit line is part of the FCT

In case of continuing programmes (e.g. feature film, sports etc.) with different sponsors for each 30 minutes slot, the credit lines for 10 seconds each will be supered over the programme in such a manner that it does not obstruct the viewing of the programme

The telecast of the credit lines is governed by the following —

(i) *Programme sponsored in the name of the client (company)*

The credit line may contain -

- (a) Visual presentation of the name of the company in any lettering style of their choice and/or name in audio (including accompanying music, if desired)
- (b) Visual presentation of the standard logo of the company, if so desired and
- (c) Any colour scheme of the company's choice for the visual presentation, without special effects

(ii) *Programme sponsored in the name of a product*

The credit lines may contain name of the product, spoken or written in any style, with or without accompanying music. There should, however, be no display at all of the product per se or any special effects in the visual part of the credit lines

Note The procedure for the approval of the credit lines is the same as for ads

4. Free Commercial time for Sponsorship of 30 Minutes Programme

- (a) Doordarshan programmes (all time categories/all kendras) 40 seconds

- (b) Doordarshan commissioned/acquired programmes (National network) 'Super A' 'A Special' and 'A' Categories. 40 seconds/
60 seconds

Note: Doordarshan however, reserves the right to increase or decrease the FCT from programme to programme.

- (c) Repeats (Primary/Metro to Primary Channel)

Sponsorship Fee (B Category only)

Rs. 70,000/- with 90 seconds FCT (No change)

From Primary/Metro or Metro to Metro Channel

Spot Buy Rate

'B' Category/ Rs. 10,000

'A' Category Rs. 15,000

Sponsorship Fee

'B' Category Rs. 20,000 with
90 seconds

'A' Category Rs. 35,000 with
70 seconds

- (e) Tele Films/Tele-Plays (Under 'A' Category)

90 Minutes 4 minutes (with 2 minutes banking to be utilised with maximum of four programmes of the same category with a period of one month)

60 Minutes 3 Minutes (with one minute banking to be utilised with maximum of two programmes of the same category within a period of one month).

5. Number of Sponsors Allowed

National Network/Regional Kendras/Metro Entertainment Channel

(a) For a programme with FCT upto 30' One

(b) For a programme with FCT upto 60' Two

- | | |
|--|-------|
| (c) For a programme with FCT upto 90' | Three |
| (d) For a programme with FCT upto 120' | Four |
| (e) For a programme with FCT upto 150' | Five |
| (f) For a programme with FCT upto 180' and above | Six |

(This will apply to Doordarshan Production and outside production alike)

6. Other Rates

Film songs programme on National Network and Kendras are not offered for sponsorship.

It has been decided to introduce special positioning and telecast of ads in-between the programme as per premium rates given below:—

Before the Programme

Positioning in a capsule at premium rate given below:

Last two slots towards the end	10% surcharge premium.
--------------------------------	------------------------

In Between the Programme

- | | |
|---|--|
| (i) Two capsules each of 60 seconds at natural breaks for every 30 minutes slot. | 25% premium |
| (ii) <i>Late Night Films (Outside Producers)</i> | |
| Afternoon Films Spot Buy | Rs. 25,000/- for 10 seconds |
| Sponsorship fee for 30 minutes | Rs. 1,25,000/- with 90 seconds FCT and two credit lines. |
| (iii) <i>Feature film on Sundays (Delhi & LPTs/Lucknow/Jalandhar/Srinagar/Jaipur)</i> | |
| Spot buy | Rs. 60,000/- for 10 seconds |
| Sponsorship fee for 30 minutes | Rs. 2,40,000/- with 40 seconds FCT and two credit lines. |
| (iv) <i>Film (Tuesdays in the afternoon transmission) (Doordarshan)</i> | |
| Spot buy | Rs. 25,000/- for 10 seconds. |

Sponsorship Rs. 1,00,000/- with 40 seconds
FCT and two credit lines.

(v) *Regional Film on Thursdays (2nd & 4th) Delhi & LPTs (Doordarshan)*

Spot buy Rs. 25,000/- for 10 seconds
Sponsorship Fee Rs. 75,000/- with 40 seconds
for 30 minutes FCT and two credit lines.

(vi) *Sponsored Songs*

National Network Rs. 1,00,000/-
Delhi Rs. 50,000/-
Madras & Hyderabad Rs. 20,000/-
Bombay Rs. 10,000/-
Other Kendras Rs. 6,000/-

(vii) *Tie-up spot Advertisements*

These ads will be treated as ordinary advertisements with no surcharge.

(viii) *Corporate Advertisements*

The restriction on minimum duration of such advertisements has been withdrawn.

(ix) *Time Check before News*

Mute ad for 5 to 10 seconds with either the name of the product or the client.
Logo product shot or product advertising is not allowed/acceptable:

- (a) 8.30 PM/10.00 PM (Bulletins) : Rs. 25,000
(b) Morning/Afternoon (Bulletins): Rs. 10,000

7. *Banking*

(a) *National Network*

Banking of FCT is permissible in the Super A and A Special Categories Upto 30 seconds per half an hour for the first 5 episodes. The FCT bank in this manner would, however, have to be utilised fully in the next five episodes.

(b) *Regional Kendras*

Banking of FCT is permissible as follows:—

- (i) 30 seconds, if the duration of FCT is 150/160 seconds.

- (ii) Banking in any case and 60 seconds, if FCT is 180 seconds or more within the duration of the programme.

8. *Discount*

Spot booking in excess of 30 seconds would entitle the advertiser to the following discounts:

- (a) Upto 50 seconds, a discount of 5 seconds.
- (b) For 60 seconds and above a discount of 10 seconds.
9. (a) If at any stage Doordarshan decides to change the category of a running programme irrespective of the telecast time slot or day of telecast, it may do so after giving a notice of 30 days.
- (b) the time category of running serial can be changed, irrespective of time and day of telecast.
- (c) Any programme before its introduction, could be placed in a higher category than the normal time category irrespective of the time and day of telecast.

Annexure-I

Rate Card Spot by National Network

Rate for spot Buy (10 seconds in Rupees)

Kendra	Super A Spl	Super A	A. Spl.	"A"	"B"
National Network	Chitrahaar 1,20,000	60,000	40,000	25,000	15,000
	1,30,000 for last two spots (1,50,000 in-between)				
	Hindi Feature Film 1,00,000				
Before	1. Samachar 70,000		Rangoli Spot Buy 75,000		
	2. The News 40,000		80,000 (last two spots) 1,00,000 (in between)		
In Between	Samachar		80,000		
	The News		60,000		

Rate Card Spot Buy
Regional Kendras
(10 Sec. in Rupees)

Kendra	Super A Spl	Super A	"A"	"B"
Delhi	40,000	25,000	7,000	2,000
Madras	30,000	14,000	4,000	1,500
Bombay	26,000	18,000	5,000	1,500
Hyderabad	18,000	11,000	4,000	1,500
Calcutta	19,000	11,000	4,000	1,500
Bangalore	18,000	11,000	4,000	1,500
Trivandrum	12,000	8,000	3,500	1,000
Ahmedabad	12,000	8,000	2,500	1,000
Lucknow	10,000	6,000	2,500	1,000
Jalandhar	7,000	6,000	3,000	1,000
Bhopal/Jaipur	6,000	4,000	2,000	1,000
Srinagar/ Guwahati		1,500	1,000	500

Regional News

At Madras, Hyderabad, : 10% Premium over Super "A" Category
 Bangalore, Trivandrum, Calcutta

Film Songs Programmes (Regional Kendras)

- (i) Last two spots : 10% Premium
- (ii) In-between : 25% Premium

Note: 15 Secnds "Ad" is accepted on pro-rata basis.

ANNEXURE-II*Rate for Sponsorship of Doordarshan Programmes Produced/Commissioned and Acquired**(in Rupees.....30 mts.)**Time Categories*

Kendra	Super A Spl.	Super A	A Spl.	"A"	"B"
National Network	Hindi Feature Film				
	6,50,000 40 secs.	3,50,000 60 secs.	2,20,000 60 secs.	1,30,000 60 secs.	
	Sponsored Hindi Film	2,40,000 40 secs.	1,60,000 40 secs.	10,000 40 secs.	40,000 40 secs.
	5,00,000 60 secs.				

40 Secs. F:CT is common to all Regional Programmes in all Categories

Kendra	Super A Spl.	Super A	"A"	"B"
Delhi	2,10,000	1,20,000	28,000	8,000
Madras	1,30,000 Tamil Feature Film	50,000	16,000	4,500
Bombay	--	65,000	20,000	6,000
Hyderabad	90,000	40,000	16,000	4,500
Calcutta	90,000	40,000	16,000	4,500
Bangalore	90,000	40,000	16,000	4,500
Trivandrum/ Ahmedabad	50,000	30,000	10,000	4,000

Rate for Sponsorship of Doordarshan Produced/Commissioned and Acquired Programmes

(in Rupees)

Time Categories

Kendra (1)	Super A Spl. (2)	Super A (3)	"A" (4)	"B" (5)
Lucknow	30,000	22,000	10,000	3,000
Jalandhar	27,000	22,000	12,000	3,000
Jaipur/Bhopal	22,000	14,000	7,000	3,000
Srinagar/ Guwahati	6,000	5,000	3,000	1,500

Note: (i) FCT is 40 seconds except Doordarshan Programmes in Super-A, A-Special and A-Categories of National Network.

- (ii) Consequent upon the introduction of capsule in between the film songs programmes (National Network and Kendras), the sponsorship of such programmes discontinued.

ANNEXURE-IIA

Rate for Sponsorship alongwith details of FCT for Programmers Produced by Outside Producers

In Rupees.....30 mts. Programme

Super A	A Spl.	"A"	"B"	Telefilm/Teleplay
<i>National Network</i>				
1,40,000 (90 secs.)	1,00,000 (120 secs.)	50,000 (120 secs.)	New prog 25,000 with (150 secs.)	
Mega Serials 1,80,000 (120 secs.)	Mega Serials 1,00,000 (150 secs.)		(with banking of 30 secs.)	
			Repeat Prog. 70,000 (90 secs.)	50,000 (50 mts.) 35,000 (60 mts.)

Repeat serials from either the same Kendra or a different kendra will be in "Super A" category, as per the rates given below:—

Kendra	Sponsorship Fee	FCT (in seconds)
Delhi	Rs. 50,000	40
Bombay	Rs. 50,000	50
Madras	Rs. 32,000	60
Hyderabad/ Calcutta & Bangalore	Rs. 26,000	60
Trivandrum	Rs. 23,000	70
Ahmedabad	Rs. 24,000	80
Lucknow & Jalandhar	Rs. 20,000	100
Jaipur & Bhopal	Rs. 20,000	120

Note: If the serial is dubbed in any other language, the FCT allowed will be 10 seconds more than indicated above.

ANNEXURE II (B)

*Rate for Sponsorship alongwith details of FCT for Programmes Produced by Outsiders
(For 30-minutes programmes)*

(for Regional Kendras)

Name of Kendra/Network	Super-A	Tele-Film/ Tele-Plays
Delhi	20,000; 90 secs FCT	30,000/90 mints. 20,000/60 mints.
Bombay	16,000: 110 secs FCT	15,000/90 mints. 10,000/60 mints.
Madras	12,000: 120 secs FTC	10,000/90 mints. 7,000/60 mints.

Name of Kendra/Network	Super-A	Tele-Film/ Tele-Plays
Bangalore, Hyderabad and Calcutta	10,000: 120 secs FCT	7,000/90 mints. 5,000/60 mints.
Trivandrum & Ahmedabad	10,000: 160 secs FCT	-do-
Lucknow & Jalandhar	7,000: 180 secs FCT	5,000/90 mints. 3,000/60 mints.
Jaipur & Bhopal	5,000: 210 secs FCT	-do-
Srinagar & Guwahati	5,000: 240 secs FCT	3,000/90 mints. 2,000/60 mints.

Note:

- (1) Programmes produced by outside producers except tele-films/tele-plays will be telecast by the Regional Kendras only in Super-A category.
- (2) FCT entitlement for tele-films/tele-plays:
90 minutes : 4 minutes, including two mints. of banking
60 minutes : 3 minutes, including one minute of banking

ANNEXURE-III

Rate Card Doordarshan-II Metro Channel

	Super A		A Special		A	B
	F	Ss	F	SS C/I/G/Q	Category *	Category *
Spont Buy Rate (10 sec.)	30,000	30,000	22,000	22,000	15,000	10,000
FCl (In sec.)	150	180	150	180	210	210
Sponsorship Fee	2,00,000	1,40,000	1,00,000	50,000(SS) 1,00,000 (C/ I/G/Q)	35,000	20,000

Single Metro

	Super A	A Category	B Category
Spot Buy Rate	8,000	5,800	4,200
FCT (In sec.)	120	150	210
Sponsorship Fee	20,000	10,000	5,000

F: (Film Based)
 SS (Sponsored Serial)
 C (Chat Shows)
 I (Interviews)
 G (Games Shows)
 Q (Quiz)

*In 'A' and 'B' categories there will be uniform rates for F; SS; C/I/G/Q programmes.

1. The Producers will be entitled to book additional FCT (in-between the programmes) as per below mentioned schedule:
 - (i) First 30 seconds - 15% Premium
 - (ii) Next 30 seconds - 20% Premium
 - (iii) Next 30 seconds and above - 25% Premium
2. Doordarshan programmes will not be available for sponsorship on DD-II. Ads will also be telecast in-between the programmes at a premium of 20 per cent over the concerned spot buy rate. Two capsules of 90 seconds each will be telecast in a 30 minutes slot.

[Translation]

**Conversion of Telephone Exchanges
in Gujarat**

696. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of old telephone exchanges in Gujarat converted into electronic exchanges so far, district-wise;

(b) the number of the telephone exchanges proposed to be converted into electronic exchanges during the years 1993-94 and 1994-95; and

(c) the time by which the telephone exchanges at Amreli and Savar Kundla Districts are likely to be converted into electronic exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Details are given in the attached *Statement*.

exchange during 1994-95 subject to the availability of resources.

(b) (i) 181 Nos. during 1993-94 and

(ii) Savarkundla is not a district and presently an electro-mechanical exchange is working. Another additional electronic exchange is planned for installation during 1994-95.

(ii) 155 Nos. during 1994-95.

(c) (i) Telephone exchange at Amreli District is likely to be converted into electronic

STATEMENT

District-wise number of old telephone exchanges in Gujarat converted into electronics so far (upto 15.2.94)

S. No.	Name of District	No. of old exchanges converted so far (upto 15.2.1994)
1.	Ahmedabad	34
2.	Gandhinagar	02
3.	Baroda	39
4.	Rajkot	55
5.	Surat	36
6.	Nadiad (Kheda)	72
7.	Bhavnagar	42
8.	Bhuj	42
9.	Bulsar (Valsad)	28
10.	Dangs	
11.	Jamnagar	33
12.	Junagarh	42
13.	Mehsana	74
14.	Amreli	26
15.	Himat Nagar	64
16.	Palanpur	46
17.	Surendra Nagar	40
18.	Bharuch	30
19.	Godhara	30

*[English]***TV Transmitters in Madhya Pradesh**

697. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Doordarshan transmitters/transponders functioning in Madhya Pradesh at present;

(b) whether the entire population of the State is covered by Doordarshan network; and

(c) if not, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to cover the entire population of the State by Doordarshan Network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) At present 54 TV Transmitters/transposers of varying powers are functioning in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Whereas an estimated 69.3% population of the State is covered at present, 22 more TV Transmitters are under implementation/envisaged to be set up in the State to increase terrestrial coverage to approx. 78.7% population. Further improvement in terrestrial TV coverage would depend on future availability of resources and inter-se-priorities.

*[Translation]***Production, Requirement and Supply of Electricity to States**

698. SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise detail of the gaps between production, requirement and supply of electricity in the country as on January, 1994;

(b) the names of the States where exemption from the payment of electricity dues or subsidy on supply of electricity is provided to the farmers for irrigation and quantum thereof separately in each State as on January 31, 1994; and

(c) the cost of production and average cost of production per unit (K.W.H.) separately of hydro-electricity, thermal power and atomic energy in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) State/Region-wise details of energy requirement, availability and shortfall during April 1993 to January, 1994 are given in the attached *Statement-I*.

(b) The supply of electricity to the agriculture sector involves heavy subsidy, as compared to the average cost of generation and supply. A statement showing the average cost of generation and supply and the average realisation from agricultural sector and the losses to the State Electricity Boards on that account, as on 31.3. 1994, is given in the attached *Statement-II*.

(c) On all India basis, the average cost of generation during 1991-92 for thermal and hydro power was 82.84 paise/kwh and 16.74 paise kwh, respectively. The selling price to the State Electricity Boards from Nuclear Power Stations, subject to fuel and heavy water

adjustments charges, is as under:—

Station	Rate (Ps/Kwh)	Effective Date	Station	Rate (Ps/Kwh)	Effective Date
1. Tarapur Atomic Power Station	57.00	1.12.1992	3. Madras Atomic Power Station	75.04	June, 1992
2. Rajasthan Atomic Power Station	60.80	June, 1992	4. Narora Atomic Power Station	140.96	1.2.1992

STATEMENT—I

Actual Power Supply Position for April 1993—January 1994

(Figures in MU net)

Region/ State/ System	April 1993—January 1994			(%)
	Requi- rement	Availa- bility	Short- age	
NORTHERN REGION				
Chandigarh	577	577	0	0.0
Delhi	9330	9180	150	1.6
Haryana	9900	8905	995	10.1
Himachal Pradesh	1347	1347	0	0.0
Jammu & Kashmir	3020	2450	570	18.9
Punjab	16155	15600	555	3.4
Rajasthan	12995	12265	730	5.6
Uttar Pradesh	27785	25014	2771	10.0
Total (N.R.)	81109	75388	5771	7.1
WESTERN REGION				
Gujarat	24750	23617	1133	4.6

Region/ State/ System	April 1993 — January 1994			(%)
	Requi- rement	Availa- bility	Short- age	
Madhya Pradesh	19430	18474	956	4.9
Maharashtra	36795	35530	1265	3.4
Goa	718	715	3	0.4
Total (W.R.)	81693	78336	3357	4.1

SOUTHERN REGION

Andhra Pradesh	23135	22130	1005	4.3
Karnataka	17930	13892	4038	22.5
Kerala	6610	6467	143	2.2
Tamil Nadu	21745	20966	779	3.6
Total (S.R.)	69420	63455	5965	8.6

EASTERN REGION

Bihar	7165	4732	2433	34.0
D.V.C.	6480	5780	700	10.8
Orissa	7415	6638	777	5.4
West Bengal	10590	10021	569	5.4
Total (E.R.)	31650	27171	4479	14.2

N. EASTERN REGION

A.P.	127.9	85.5	42.4	33.2
Assam	20063	1805.7	200.6	10.0
Manipur	245.6	240.3	5.3	2.2
Meghalaya	247.0	247.0	0.0	0.0
Mizoram	96.4	93.0	3.4	3.5
Nagaland	123.5	119.5	4.0	3.2

Region/ State/ System	April 1993–January 1994			(%)
	Requi- rement	Availa- bility	Short- age	
Tripura	228.3	204.0	24.3	10.6
Total (N.E.R.)	3075.0	2795.0	280.0	9.1
All India	266947	247095	19852.0	7.4

STATEMENT-II

Statement showing the average cost of supply and the average realisation from agricultural sector and the losses to the SEBs of account of supply to the agricultural sector as on 31.3.94

	Sales (Mkwh)	Avg. Realisa- tion from Agrl.	Avg. cost of supply		Gap	Loss (Rs. in Crores)
			Ps/Kwh.			
1. Andhra Pradesh	7894.54	8.10	105.56	97.46	769.38	
2. Bihar	1527.27	10.48	188.04	177.56	271.18	
3. Gujarat	7783.00	11.00	160.36	149.36	1162.49	
4. Haryana	4062.70	21.97	139.62	117.65	477.97	
5. Himachal Pradesh	14.14	33.00	109.99	96.99	1.69	
6. Kamataka*	5340.47	3.82	98.72	94.95	507.07	
7. Kerala	235.00	25.11	83.00	57.89	13.61	
8. Madhya Pradesh*	3618.76	25.32	175.99	132.67	480.11	
9. Mahara- shtra	8330.59	15.21	148.06	132.85	1106.73	

		Sales (Mkwh)	Avg. Realisa- tion from Agrl.	Avg. cost of supply Ps/Kwh.	Gap	Loss (Rs. in Crores)
10.	Orissa	406.00	33.99	104.99	71.00	28.83
11.	Punjab	6179.00	10.81	126.91	116.10	717.39
12.	Rajasthan	3247.00	31.24	141.60	110.36	358.33
13.	Tamil Nadu*	5160.00	0.19	133.27	133.08	686.70
14.	Uttar Pradesh	8498.00	31.58	153.02	121.44	1032.01
15.	West Bengal	740.00	32.55	163.97	131.42	97.25
16.	Assam	22.48	76.07	256.54	180.47	4.06
17.	Meghalaya	1.50	40.00	119.49	79.49	0.12
Total		63060.45	15.51	138.64	123.13	7714.29

* As per available information, no charges are being levied in respect of agricultural pumpsets upto certain specified horsepower in Madhya Pradesh, the revised policy has come into being from 1.2.94.

[English]

Arrear of Telephone Bills

699. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether arrears of telephone bills
have increased during 1992-93;

(b) if so, the amount increased in
comparison to previous three years;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be
taken for realisation of these arrears; and

(d) the number of cases under
litigation till date and the amount involved
therein?

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

(b) The amounts increased in
comparison to previous three years are as
under:-

(Fig. in Crores of Rs.)

Years	3 Months old out- standing as on 30th June of the year	Amount increased in comparison to previous year
	Rs.	Rs.
1989-90	201.67	
1990-91	301.62	99.95
1991-92	440.87	148.25
1992-93	651.36	201.49

(c) The issue of bills and recovery thereof is a continuous process and there are well laid procedures for recovery of outstanding telephone bills. Efforts are being made to settle the billing disputes/court cases quickly. For other cases recovery is being pursued by correspondence/personal visits and legal action.

(d) The information has been called for from the units and the same will be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

TV Transmitter at Vadodara in Gujarat

700. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) when the low power TV transmitter in Chhota Udaipur of Vadodara district of Gujarat was set up;

(b) whether the said TV transmitter is functioning properly;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to convert this TV transmitter into High Power TV transmitter; and

(e) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH
DEO): (a) The Transmitter was set up on
30th October, 1989.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) There is no such proposal under consideration, at present.

[English]

Observation of Strike in Pakistan

701. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRIMATI GEETA
MUKHERJEE:

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
PATEL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the strike observed in Pakistan to protest against alleged action in Kashmir and to express solidarity with the people of Kashmir;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to counter the disinformation campaign of Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A nation-wide strike was observed in Pakistan on 5 February, 1994 to express solidarity with the people of Jammu and Kashmir. This strike was supported by the Government of Pakistan. This is the fifth consecutive year that such a strike has been observed in Pakistan.

It is regrettable that the Government of Pakistan is continuing to associate itself with activities of this kind which only inflame public opinion, incite violence and which do not help, in any way whatsoever, in facilitating a climate of relations in which meaningful discussions are possible to settle differences bilaterally and through peaceful negotiations.

(c) Government have and will continue to take all measures to apprise the international community about the true facts regarding the situation in Jammu &

Kashmir and Pakistan's support to terrorist activities directed against India.

[*Translation*]

Bauxite Mining Leases in Bihar

702. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies to whom the Union Government have given mining leases in Gumla, Lohardaga and Palamau districts of Bihar on the recommendation of the Government of Bihar;

(b) the time when these leases were given and the area and the time limit for which they were given respectively;

(c) the criteria adopted for eligibility for mining leases for Bauxite;

(d) whether all the companies given such leases fulfil the criteria; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) Mining leases are granted by the concerned State Government. However for minerals listed in Schedule 'A' of Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 and Mineral Concession Rules, 1960, State Government have to seek prior approval of Central Government. As per available information during the year 1992, only in one case such approval for mining lease for bauxite in district Gumla for 51.67 acres for a period of 20 years was given.

(c) to (e) Selection for granting mining lease is done by the State Government keeping in view the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 and the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960. Government is not aware of violation of any such provision in the above case.

successful economically and programme-wise;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the role played by the private sector in such Doordarshan programmes?

[English]

Introduction of New Channels by Doordarshan

703. SHRI P.C. THOMAS:
SHRI KRISHAN DUTT
SULTANPURI:

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

(a) whether the Doordarshan has introduced various new channels and new programmes recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the new venture is

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) In so far as channels are concerned, the six channels of Doordarshan have only been restructured from 1st February, 1994. Consequently certain new programmes are also being telecast.

(b) The details are annexed as *Statement*.

(c) and (d) While it is too early to quantify the results, the initial response to the restructured channels has been encouraging.

(e) The role played by the private sector is diverse and includes provision of software, participation in programmes and supply of advertisements.

STATEMENT

Doordarshan Channels

- (i) Doordarshan-I: Full range of programme including news, current affairs, film, sports, education and public service etc., with a target audience of all ages, rural and urban. This continues to be a fully terrestrial channel.
- (ii) Doordarshan-II: The existing metro channels, predominantly entertainment oriented and also incorporating the sports and music programmes. The target audience is mainly the urban population in the younger age groups and economically in the middle class. Limited terrestrial reach in the four metros, Lucknow and Hyderabad.

- (iii) Doordarshan-III: Purely satellite based channel with limited terrestrial distribution in Delhi. the programming profile on this channel is intended to cater to a target audience which is more intellectual, more serious minded. It comprises a wide range of serious entertainment, telefilms, plays, discussions, social issue based programmes and documentaries.
2. In order to cater adequately to the need for regional language programmes the remaining three channels are being exclusively utilised for regional language programmes as follows:
- (i) Doordarshan-IV : Kannada, Malayalam, Tamil and Telugu.
- (ii) Doordarshan-V : Assamese, Bangla and Oriya.
- (iii) Doordarshan-VI : Gujarati, Kashmiri, Marathi and Punjabi.

New Programmes

The selection of serials and other programmes is an ongoing activity of Doordarshan. Some of the new programmes which commenced telecast recently are:—

Serials	:	The Great Maratha, Reporter;
News Magazines	:	Newstrack, Eye-witness;
Music Programmes	:	Hot Spot;

In addition, the format of the national evening news bulletin, has also been revised alongwith an increase in its duration to half an hour.

*[Translation]***Non-Perishable Food from Banana**

704. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
SHRI VILASRAO
NAGNATHRAO
GUNDEWAR:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up any industry or issue

licences to private industries for preparing processed, non-perishable food items from banana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to start any research work in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESS-

ING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not directly set up any industry. No industrial licence is required for undertaking manufacture of processed fruit and vegetable items including items made from banana. No industrial licence has been issued since insurance of new Industrial Policy of 25th July, 1991. However, two units in private sector are already manufacturing banana pulp/puree from banana.

(c) and (d) The Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysore has done some research and development work and has developed fruit bar prepared from pulpy fruits including banana. As per the research and development work done by CFTRI, fruit bars are found to be versatile in their usage pattern and can be marketed easily as one of the confectionery items.

[English]

Hike in DTC Fare

705. SHRIMATI GEETA
MUKHERJEE:

SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR
REDDY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) has proposed a hike in its fare in view of the increase in petrol and diesel prices; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The Government is considering a proposal to revise the fares of DTC. The details of the proposal are yet to be finalised.

Export of Telephone Equipments

706. SHRI C. P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telecommunication equipments are being exported to other countries; and

(b) if so, the details with cost thereof?

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

(b) Telecom equipment such as Telephone Exchanges, Telephone Instruments, Modems, Electronic Private Branch Exchanges as well as Telecom Projects are being exported by various Indian Telecom companies. The cost/value of Telecom exports during the last 3 years is as given below:

Approx. Value of Telecom exports
(including export of Telecom Services/
Projects)

(value in Rs. lakhs)

90-91	91-92	92-93
5841	9111	14717

Second Channel at Ahmedabad in Gujarat

707. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:

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

(a) whether the Government have recently announced to introduce second Metro Channel at Ahmedabad in Gujarat;

(b) if so, by when it is likely to start functioning;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a "Earth Transponder" connected with INSAT for Ahmedabad in Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Arrangements for relay of Metro Channel Service is expected to be set up at Ahmedabad during 1994.

(c) and (d) An earth station has already been set up at Ahmedabad for uplinking of Regional TV programmes produced at DDK, Ahmedabad via INSAT and are relayed by all TV transmitters in the State of Gujarat.

Land Management at Ports

708. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of SURFACE

TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had issued policy guidelines on land management at Ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Paradip Port Authority allegedly allotted prime land to traders without following tender system as per guidelines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against those found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Salient features of the guidelines issued are as follows:

1. Suitable lease formats will be devised by the ports conforming to the guidelines issued by the Ministry from time to time.
2. A perspective plan for land use identifying the immediate short and long term requirements covering a minimum period of 20 years shall be drawn by each port. Vacant land shall be utilised for port related industries or commercially remunerative use in accordance with the land use plan.
3. Allotment of land within 500 mtrs. of water front will be considered only for activities directly related to port operations and in accordance

- with the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests from time to time.
4. Rent schedule shall be prepared based on the market rent and shall bear a close relationship with prevailing market rent of real estate in and around area & will be reviewed after every 5 years based on current market rates.
 5. In the case of allotment/leasing of vacant land/facility for a commercial purpose which has more than one applicant or likely to have more than one applicant, the lease rent should be decided on the basis of competitive tenders. There should be a provision for periodic revision of rates or for annual escalation. In case of allotment of land for non-commercial use such as for Government offices or for Defence purposes etc., the land may be leased on scheduled rent. Where public sector units ask for allotment of land and if in the tenders/quotations called for their rates are lower than the others, they may still be given option to take the land at the highest bid rate if it is legally feasible. However, if it is legally not feasible and yet it is desirable to allot them the land in view of the importance of the project, the land may be offered to them at the scheduled rate, or at the rate in respect of comparable land elsewhere.

6. In respect of lease of port land on long term basis, if it is anticipated that the period of lease, even though initially may be for upto 30 years but is likely to be extended beyond, prior approval of the Central Government in principle should be obtained by all ports for such long term lease of land. Prior approval of Central Government should be obtained at the time of extension of lease beyond the initial 30 years period.
7. Any deviation from the guidelines can be made only with the prior approval of Central Government.

(c) and (d) No land has been allotted by Paradip Port Trust after the guidelines issued by the Ministry were approved by the Board of Trustees for Paradip Port.

Rocket Service for Money Orders

709. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether rocket service is being introduced to avoid delay in payment of money orders;

(b) if so, the details thereof with places identified for the purpose; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred on the said service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) The Department has a proposal to use Indian Communications Satellites for expeditious transmission of money orders. The proposal includes installation of Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs) with necessary computer peripherals. The list of locations (Phase I) is given in the attached *Statement*.

(c) The expenditure on Phase I of the project is estimated at Rs. 12 crores.

STATEMENT

List of Locations for Microearth Station (VSATs)

Sl. No.	Circle	Location
1.	Assam	1. Guwahati. 2. Silchar. 3. Tezpur. 4. Dibrugarh. 5. North Lakhimpur.
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Hyderabad. 2. Vijayawada. 3. Vishakhapatnam. 4. Tirupati. 5. Kurnool.
3.	Bihar	1. Patna. 2. Ranchi. 3. Gaya. 4. Purnia. 5. Darbhanga. 6. Madhepura. 7. Muzaffarpur.
4.	Delhi	

Sl. No.	Circle	Location
5.	Gujarat	1. Rajkot. 2. Baroda. 3. Amhedabad.
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1. Shimla. 2. Mandi.
7.	Haryana	1. Ambala. 2. Rohtak.
8.	J & K	1. Jammu. 2. Srinagar.
9.	Karnataka	1. Bangalore. 2. Mysore. 3. Dharwad. 4. Mangalore. 5. Raichur.
10.	Kerala	1. Trivandrum. 2. Calicut. 3. Cochin.
11.	M.P.	1. Raipur. 2. Jabalpur. 3. Indore. 4. Ratlam. 5. Bhopal. 6. Gwalior.
12.	Maha-rashtra	1. Nagpur. 2. Bombay. 3. Pune. 4. Panaji. 5. Aurangabad.
13.	North East	1. Shillong. 2. Aiswal. 3. Agartala. 4. Kohima.
14.	Orissa	1. Bhubneshwar. 2. Sambalpur

Sl. No.	Circle	Location
15.	Punjab	1. Ludhiana 2. Jullandhar
16.	Rajasthan	1. Jaipur. 2. Jodhpur. 3. Udaipur. 4. Ajmer. 5. Kota.
17.	Tamil Nadu	1. Madras. 2. Coimbatore. 3. Madurai. 4. Tiruchi. 5. Thanjavur.
18.	U.P.	1. Lucknow. 2. Kanpur. 3. Varanasi. 4. Agra. 5. Allahabad. 6. Saharanpur. 7. Bareilly. 8. Rudraprayag.
19.	West Bengal	1. Calcutta. 2. Siliguri. 3. Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Port-Blair)

Counter Guarantee Payment Scheme for Private Investors in Power Sector

710. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI:
SHRI R. SURENDRA REDDY:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA):

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently decided that payment of power dues to private investors will be guaranteed by the Union Government in case the State Electricity Boards or the State Governments default on them;

(b) if so, the full details of the guarantee scheme and the reasons necessitating for taking such a decision;

(c) whether all the projects undertaken by the private investors will be covered by the scheme or will be on the selective basis;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether a similar guarantee scheme or some such mechanism is envisaged for the payments due to NTPC by the State Electricity Boards where the defaults takes place very often and arrears are accumulated year after year and not cleared despite intervention by the Union Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) A decision has been taken to extend Government of India counter guarantee for State Electricity Boards' payment obligations to private generating companies in respect of seven initial projects cleared by Government from the angle of foreign investment, subject to the fulfilment of the conditions laid down in this regard.

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

(c) and (d) At present the decision has been taken only in respect of seven projects.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Proposed terms and conditions for extending GOI counter guarantee for SEB's payment obligations to the private generating companies

ELIGIBILITY:

- (i) The SEB has signed a PPA with the foreign investor;
- (ii) The SEB has agreed to open and maintain an escrow account to which its revenues will be credited equivalent to one month billings of the private power company. The private power company will have the first charge on this account.
- (iii) The SEB has signed and is in the process of successfully implementing the Operational and Financial Action Plan (OFAP); and
- (iv) In terms of adherence to the OFAP, the SEB is able to maintain a rate of return of 3% or more as provided by the Indian Electricity (Supply) Act.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- (i) The State Government has agreed to meet the shortfall, in the payments by SEB to the private power proponent;
- (ii) The management of state finances is prudent in the opinion of the Govt. of India;
- (iii) The State Govt. unconditionally and irrevocable agrees that any amount met on its behalf in terms of counter-guarantee by the GOI shall be debitible without any recourse to its account with the Reserve Bank of India;
- (iv) As an additional precaution, the State Government agrees that any amount required to be paid by the GOI which was not covered by (iii) above, may be adjusted against Central Assistance to the State.

AIR Najibabad

regional languages from All India Radio Station Nizamabad in Uttar Pradesh; and

711. **SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(a) whether the Government propose to broadcast programmes in

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) All India Radio has a

station at Najibabad in Uttar Pradesh. Bulk of the programmes broadcast by it are in Hindi. Additionally programmes in Garhwali and Kumaoni dialects are also broadcast by it.

Foreign Investors in Power Sector

712. SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of funds required to guarantee a 16% rate of return for the foreign investors in the power sector; and

(b) the sources from where such funds are proposed to be made available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) A return on equity computed on the paid up and subscribed capital relating to the generating unit of a generating company at 16% will be one of the elements in the fixed costs of the tariff to be charged by the generating unit. Hence there is no need for separate funds for the purpose of guaranteeing 16% rate of return to the investors in power sector.

Norms for Selection of HPT Sites

713. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for the selection of sites for setting up of High Power T.V. transmitters;

(b) whether establishment of HPT in places situated at greater heights is desirable;

(c) whether HPT sites at Vishalgarh or between Vishalgarh and Amba have been surveyed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The general criteria for selection of sites for High Power TV Transmitters include the following factors:-

- (i) availability of line of sight to target areas;
- (ii) extent of resultant coverage;
- (iii) availability of infrastructural facilities;
- (iv) the site should ideally be located away from Air-Port and such communication establishments which may affect TV transmission; and
- (v) site so selected should not affect the aesthetic value of nearby monuments of national importance, if any.

(b) Yes, Sir. Elevated sites are preferred for locating High Power TV Transmitters subject to the condition that these meet the other requirements as detailed in reply to Part (a) above.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A survey has been carried out in Vishalgarh area including Amba and it has not been found technically feasible to set up a High Power Transmitter there.

New Telecom Policy

714. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the new telecom. policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which it is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c) Government have not yet cleared the draft Telecom Policy. The policy has to take into account various factors relating to the rapid developments in the Telecom field, the need for restructuring, the personnel aspects, etc. It is expected to be finalised shortly.

Raking up of Kashmir issues by Pak Prime Minister at Davos

715. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem appeared in the 'Pioneer' dated January 31, 1994 regarding Pakistan Prime Minister's raking up of Kashmir issue at Davos recently; and

(b) if so, the response of Indian delegation thereto?

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

(b) The use of an economic forum for political statements like the one made by the Pakistan Prime Minister was not well received. The dignified reference of the Prime Minister in his address to the plenary session of the Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum where he stated that "the spectre of low-cost proxy wars, trans-border export of terrorism, clandestine encouragement to religious fundamentalism often through money and arms, disruption of public peace to create panic among the people, internationalisation of local issues, recourse to blackmail of various kinds—all this and much more is already in evidence and indeed on the increase" was on the other hand well appreciated. The Prime Minister also asserted that the task was to "create, strengthen and fulfil the desire for, and the stake in, a better life in societies where religious fanaticism and hatred have completely clouded the judgement of the people and blinded them to their own future".

[Translation]

Telephone Connections in Delhi after Issue of O.B.

716. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in Delhi where telephone connections have been sanctioned and O.B. Numbers issued but not yet installed;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sir. No. of cases where OB has been issued but telephone not yet installed (as on 14.2.94) are 23596.

(b) The reasons for non-installation of telephones are as under:

- (i) Non-feasible due to non-availability of cable pairs-12995.
- (ii) Pending due to subscribers reasons.

(a) Non-submission of proper documents.

(b) Subscribers not locatable-4112.

(iii) Under installation-6489.

(c) Technically feasible cases are likely to be cleared by 31st March, 1994. Most of non-feasible cases shall be cleared in about six months time by making the areas feasible.

[English]

Octroi and Toll Tax

717. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Surface Transport Ministry has consulted Attorney-General regarding levying of Octroi and toll tax; and

(b) if so, the details of advice received from Attorney-General?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE

TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Performance of National Ship Design and Research Centre

718. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the management structure of National Ship Design and Research Centre;

(b) whether any advice tendered by National Ship Design and Research Centre has been found to be practical benefit; and

(c) if so, the details of its performances so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The National Ship Design and Research Centre (NSDR) Visakhapatnam, has been registered as a Society and is managed by a Governing Body. The present Governing Body, as constituted in March, 1992, has 17 Members with Secretary (Surface Transport) as Chairman. The other Members include representatives from Shipyards, Ports, Shipping Companies, Professionals, etc. The day-to-day administration of NSDR is carried out by the Director who is also a Member of the Governing Body.

(b) and (c) NSDR started functioning fully with effect from 1st May, 1993 and has taken up a number of

Projects from Government Departments, Ports, Shipyards, etc. It is too early to assess the performance of NSDRG.

Survey for Telephones

719. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to make it mandatory for Telecom Department to conduct periodic surveys on customers satisfaction from phone users;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, what method will Government adopt to ensure users satisfaction;

(d) whether Andhra Pradesh Telecom. Circles have also conducted any survey on phone users satisfaction in last two years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) DOT has a strong unbuil organisation to monitor all facets of services being rendered to subscribers. DOT is monitoring system at the following levels:

(1) Telecom Commission level.

There is a monitoring organisation which goes throughout the country to

ensure the quality of telephone services and also has a Customer Services Cell to monitor and correct any imbalances.

(2) Telecom Circle level.

(3) District level/Area level.

(4) DOT had engaged Administrative staff College, Hyderabad and subsequently other professional organisation to develop a check module and to assess subscriber satisfaction level in telecom services and they were assigned certain number of periodic surveys in selected cities.

(5) DOT has appointed Social and Audit Panel of eminent persons to visit various Circles and interact with customers. They also give useful suggestions.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Hyderabad Telecom. District of Andhra Pradesh Telecom. Circle conducted a sample survey in Hyderabad city by sending to individual subscribers a set of questions relating to services provided to the customers.

[Translation]

Gold Availability

720. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUHARY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Bihar have submitted initial report to his Ministry regarding the availability of gold in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether certain other States have also submitted reports regarding the availability of gold in those States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. The report on the investigations for gold in Sono Block, Karmatia area, Jamui District, Bihar has been sent by Bihar Government.

(b) The report submitted by Directorate of Geology & Mining (DGM), Bihar has indicated a total resource of 223 million tonnes of gold ore with an average gold assay of 0.17 g/t which is very low. As such, the Karmatia prospect does not appear to be of economic significance.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Rural Telecommunication Services

721. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the

Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made in the rural telecommunication system in the country;

(b) whether the progress made is not up to the target set therefor;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The details of the progress alongwith the targets made towards providing public Telephones in rural areas for the past 3 years is given in enclosed *Statement*.

The corresponding details of telephone exchanges and telegraphic facility provided are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) to (d) Some slippage occurred during the year 1992-93 in achieving the target of providing telephone facility to panchayat villages due to non-availability of reliable radio equipments. Now, with these equipments being indigenously available, the targets are likely to be achieved subject to availability of resources.

STATEMENT

Circle	Total Achievement No. of Villages	Target Achievement 90-91	Target Achievement 91-92	Target Achievement 91-92	Target Achievement for 92-93	Target Achievement during 92-93	Target Achievement for 93-94	Target Achievement upto 31.12.93 during 93-94	No. of Vilg. with telephone facility as on 31.12.1993	% age coverage of Villages
Andhra Pradesh	27221	3474	1400	1903	3050	1961	3600	633	13777	46.76
Assam	22224	74	3000	342	550	555	620	305	1958	6.90
Bihar	67566	88	1000	1005	2000	1265	3020	632	7908	9.19
Gujarat	18518	536	1200	1576	3000	1755	4500	1706	7514	40.00
Haryana	6745	525	1200	1251	1200	981	1250	676	4351	62.80
Himachal Pradesh	16916	384	50	111	200	205	250	119	2134	7.40
Jammu & Kashmir	6503	39	100	125	125	126	80	33	844	9.70
Karnataka	26026	1597	450	1068	1500	1207	1500	702	6350	23.70
Kerala	1530	439	21	21	0000	0000	0000	000	1470	60.70
Madhya Pradesh	71352	324	1800	4005	5000	3668	6000	552	12512	17.50

Mahara- shtra	36187	1256	2000	2172	5000	2881	6000	1543	11155	30.80
North East	15292	01	300	300	417	519	600	217	1414	7.98
Orissa	46992	289	800	1064	1000	1230	800	249	4652	8.53
Punjab	12188	411	1200	901	2000	2126	3000	2414	6470	53.00
Rajas- than	33305	246	1100	1287	1800	1811	1800	608	6346	18.42
Tamil Nadu	15735	3985	1450	1160	2000	2157	3000	423	10423	66.20
Uttar Pradesh	112568	25	5000	2725	6858	7037	1000	1380	16420	13.19
West Bengal	38679	40	600	600	800	579	800	155	2781	5.93
Delhi— M.T.N.L.	243	00	125	136	09	09	-	-	191	78.60
TOTAL	576490	13733	10000	21752	36509	30072	46820	12347	118670	19.18

[Translation]

Canning of Seasonal Fruits and Vegetables

722. SHRI KESHRI LAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to regulate the canning of seasonal fruits and vegetables, so as to ensure adequate availability of fruits in the market at reasonable rates throughout the year; and

(b) the percentage of the seasonal fruits and vegetables canned out of the total productions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) There are no provisions to regulate the quantity of seasonal fruits & vegetables to be used for canning. Some seasonal fruits & vegetables is always available in the market throughout the year. Government is implementing various schemes to increase production of various seasonal fruits & vegetables. The total production of fruits & vegetables is estimated to be 102 million tonnes out of which approximately 1.6 million tonnes are presently being used for manufacture of various fruits & vegetable products by the units licenced under Fruit Products Order, 1955. Presently about 76,000 tonnes of fruits & vegetables are used for producing 38,000 tonnes of canned fruits & vegetables.

[English]

Transmitters in Karnataka

723. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert Lower Power TV transmitter into High Power TV transmitter at Raichur in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A High Power TV Transmitter is envisaged to be set up at Raichur in Karnataka, subject to availability of suitable site and adequate resources for the purpose. The normal lead time for completion of a project of this magnitude is 3-4 years after the scheme is formally approved by the competent authority.

Control of Generation Costs in Private Power Sector

724. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken preventive measures to control power generation costs in private power sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of power generation costs in Government Sector and private sector at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The provisions of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910, Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 and the notifications issued thereunder spell out the framework for the control of price

of power generated by units of licensee and generating companies. Concurrence of the Central Electricity Authority has to be obtained for the projects of both licensee and generating companies, *inter alia*, on the basis of the conformity of the project to technical and economic criteria set by that authority. Both in case of licensee and generating companies, the legislation provides the principles on the basis of which the tariff is to be determined. In the former case, there is a provision in the Electricity (Supply) Act,

1948 itself and in the latter case, it is through a notification which has been issued under that Act which specifies the normative parameters, level of generation, consumption of fuel, oil, O&M expenses etc. and ceiling on incentive rates for extra generation.

(c) Cost of generation of SEBs for the year 1991-92 is enclosed in *Statement-1*. The cost of generation of two utilities in private sector for 1991-92 as follows:—

		Thermal	Hydro	Gas	Pooled (in PS/ Kwh)
1.	The Ahmedabad Electricity Company Ltd.	106.9	-	82.27	103.48
2.	Tata Electricity Companies	97.66	14.30	-	79.39

STATEMENT

Details of cost of Generation of SEBs for the Year 1991-92

Sl. No. SEBs		Thermal PS/kwh	Hydro PS/kwh	Gas. PS/kwh	Pooled PS/kwh
1.	Andhra Pradesh	69.46	10.35	0.00	38.27
2.	Bihar	150.67	32.92	0.00	137.72
3.	Gujarat	89.69	28.20	0.00	86.59
4.	Haryana	116.05	12.43	0.00	58.39
5.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Karnataka	0.00	24.05	0.00	24.05
7.	Kerala	0.00	7.80	0.00	7.80
8.	Madhya Pradesh	67.47	18.68	0.00	61.31

Sl. No. SEBs		Thermal PS/kwh	Hydro PS/kwh	Gas. PS/kwh	Pooled PS/kwh
9.	Maharashtra	69.81	16.04	66.18	61.94
10.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Punjab	82.32	16.37	0.00	45.03
12.	Rajasthan	109.34	0.00	0.00	109.34
13.	Tamil Nadu	91.42	20.51	0.00	67.31
14.	Uttar Pradesh	82.81	31.39	0.00	65.69
15.	West Bengal	81.80	69.23	0.00	81.28
16.	Meghalaya	0.00	24.32	0.00	24.02
17.	Assam	190.08	0.00	98.16	150.84
TOTAL SEBs		39.84	16.74	70.26	61.72

1. Figures for Himachal Pradesh & Orissa are not available.
2. Figures for Hydro in Rajasthan not available.

Swiss Investment

725. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of steel plants are proposed to be installed with Swiss investment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) As per available information as on date, no steel plants are proposed to be set up with Swiss investment.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Ministry's Visit to Zimbabwe

726. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH: SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of State for External Affairs had visited Zimbabwe recently;

(b) if so, the purpose of the visit and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any agreements were signed between the two countries during the visit;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any trade delegation is expected to visit that country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Salman Khurshheed, visited Zimbabwe from January 16-19, 1994 with a view to have a dialogue with the Zimbabwean counterparts on bilateral, regional and international matters. He was accompanied by a small business delegation.

Discussions were held with the Zimbabwean acting President, Foreign Minister, Commerce Minister, and Agriculture Minister, during which avenues were explored for widening and diversifying bilateral cooperation in various fields. Regional and International developments also came up during the discussions.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

Visit of Prime Minister of Malaysia

277. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Malaysia visited India in connection with G-15 Summit;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any agreements reached between the two countries; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As a result of the wide-ranging discussions held by the two Prime Ministers, there is much better understanding of each other's perceptions and concerns on matters of bilateral, regional and international significance.

(c) and (d) No agreements were signed between the two countries as such. However, the two Prime Ministers witnessed signing of six agreements between private sectors of the two countries. These were:—

1. Joint Venture Agreement between Telekom Malaysia and Usha Martin Industries Limited to operate Group Service Mobile (GSM) Digital Cellular Network in Calcutta.
2. Technical Assistance Agreement between Rubfil Sdn. Bhd. Malaysia and Rubfila International Limited, India, to set up a plant for the Manufacture of Heat Resistant Latex Rubber Thread (HKLRT) in Palghat, Kerala.

3. Joint Venture Agreement between Land and General Lumber Bhd. and Indian Railway Construction Co. Ltd. (IRCON) to construct and operate railways and allied services in Malaysia.
4. Memorandum of Understanding between CISCO Group of Companies, Malaysia and Kasturba Medical College, Karnataka to establish a twinning programme for MBBS Degree.
5. MOU between Berjaya Group of Malaysia and Modi Mirrlees Blackstone Ltd., India for manufacturing of airconditioning equipment and development of hotel resorts and golf courses.
6. MOU between Uniphoenix Corporation Berhad and Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC), India, to undertake various joint venture projects in Kerala.

[Translation]

Hydro Electric Project of U.P.

728. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government of Uttar Pradesh has signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the implementation of some hydro-electric projects keeping in view the privatisation policy of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the concerned industrialists have submitted a detailed report of the projects to the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for its necessary approval; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Central Electricity Authority on that till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by Government of Uttar Pradesh with M/s Jai Prakash Industries Ltd. (JIL) on 14.10.1992 for execution of Vishnu Prayag Hydro Electric Project (400 MW) in the private sector.

(c) Yes, Sir. M/s JIL have submitted project report through Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board to Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in June, 1993.

(d) The project report has been examined in CEA/CWC and comments have been forwarded to UPSEB/JIL. The scheme would be processed for techno-economic clearance in CEA after satisfactory compliance of the comments by JIL.

[English]

Foreign Assistance for Food Processing Units in Gujarat

729. SHRI AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested for foreign assistance for setting up food processing units in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Visit of Leaders of Foreign Countries

730. SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE:
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of visits of heads of State and Heads of Governments and other dignitaries from various countries who visited India from December 1993 to February 1994;

(b) the brief details of the subjects discussed by the Government with them, visit-wise;

(c) whether any agreements have been reached during these visits; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, visit-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) The names of Heads of State & Heads of Governments and Foreign Ministers who visited India during the period is as per enclosed *Statement-I*. This list does not include those dignitaries who came for G-15 Meeting.

(b) Apart from reviewing the regional & international political situation, the entire gamut of bilateral relations were discussed during these visits.

(c) and (d) Details of agreement is signed during these visits are as per enclosed *Statement-II*.

STATEMENT—I

Sl. No.	Period	Particulars of visit
1.	Nov., 27th- Dec. 1st 1993	H.E. Mr. Yladislav Jovanovic, Foreign Minister of Yugoslovakia.
2.	Nov., 29- Dec., 4, 1993	H.E. Mr. Liruihuan; Chairman of Chinese CCPCC.
3.	Nov., 29- Dec., 11, 1993	H.E. King Birendra of Nepal (Private)
4.	Dec., 1-4, 1993	H.E. Mr. Saidkassimov, Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan.

Sl. No.	Period	Particulars of visit
5.	Dec., 12-15, 1993	H.E. Dr. Mahatir Mohd., Prime Minister of Malaysia.
6.	Dec., 13-15, 1993	H.E. Mr. Robert G. Mugabe, President of Zimbabwe.
7.	Dec., 15-17, 1993	H.E. Mr. Soeharto, President of Indonesia.
8.	Dec., 24-31, 1993	H.E. Dr. Cheddi Berret Jagan, President of Guyana.
9.	Jan., 2-4, 1994	H.E. Prof. Beniamino Andreata, Foreign Minister of Italy.
10.	Jan., 3-7, 1994	H.E. Mr. Islam Abduganovich Karimov President of Uzbekistan.
11.	Jan., 14-20, 1994	H.E. Queen Sofia of Spain (Private)
12.	Jan., 23-30, 1994	H.E. Mr. Goh Chok Tong, Prime Minister of Singapore.
13.	Jan., 24-31, 1994	H.E. Dr. Paramhansa Nababsingh, Dy, Prime Minister & Foreign Minister of Mauritius.
14.	Feb., 6-11, 1994	H.E. Mr. Vaclav Havel, President of Czech Republic & Mrs. Havlova.
15.	Feb., 21-25, 1994	H.E. Mr. P. Ochirbat, President of Mongolia.

STATEMENT-II

Scientific and Technological Cooperation.

UZBEKISTAN

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|--|
| 1. | Exchange of Instruments of Ratification of Indo-Uzbek Treaty on the Principles of Inter-State Relations and Cooperation. | 4. | Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Posts and Allied Matters. |
| 2. | Agreement on Cultural Cooperation. | 5. | Agreement on Principles of Development of Economic Links and Strengthening of Comprehensive Cooperation. |
| 3. | Protocol on Establishment of Indo-Uzbek Centre for Promotion of | 6. | MOU on Cooperation in the field of Telecommunications. |

MALAYSIA

1. Joint Venture Agreement between Telekom Malaysia and Usha Martin Industries Limited to operate Group Service Mobile (GSM) Digital Cellular Network in Calcutta.
2. Technical Assistance Agreement between Rubfil Sdn. Bhd. Malaysia and Rubfila International Limited, India, to set up a plant for the manufacture of Heat Resistant Latex Rubber Thread (HKLRT) in Palghat, Kerala.
3. Joint Venture Agreement between Land and General Lumbur Bhd. and Indian Railway Construction Co. Ltd. (IRCON) to construct and operate railways and allied services in Malaysia.
4. Memorandum of Understanding between CISCO Group of Companies, Malaysia and Kasturba Medical College, Karnataka to establish a twinning programme for MBBS Degree.
5. MOU between Berjaya Group of Malaysia and Modi Mirlees Blackstone Ltd., India for manufacturing of airconditioning equipment and development of hotel resorts and gold courses.
6. MOU between Uniphoenix Corporation Berhad and Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC) India to undertake various joint venture projects in Kerala.

SINGAPORE

1. Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement.
2. Shipping Agreement.
3. MOU on Tourism Cooperation.
4. Agreement (between private sectors of the two countries) on strategic Framework for Economic Cooperation.

GUYANA

1. Agreements on Cooperation in Science & Technology, Culture and Consular matters.

MONGOLIA

1. Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation.
2. Avoidance of Double Taxation Committee.
3. Agreement Establishing Joint Committee.
4. Work Programme on Cooperation in Health.
5. Cultural Exchange Programme 1994-96.

Rebuilding Harbour in Gujarat

731. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has made any request for

assistance to rebuild different harbours on the coast of Saurashtra and Kutch; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Transmission and Distribution Losses

732. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a US based company, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) has conducted a study on the Transmission and Distribution losses in the country;

(b) whether the study has concluded that 13% of the total power generated in the country is stolen; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No specific study on Transmission & Distribution losses in the country has been made by National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), a US based Company.

(b) In one of the paper presented by NRECA during a Workshop conducted by the Power Finance Corporation on evolving options for metering, billing and collection, in Business Session 9-'Power theft' they have interpolated from combing of 2,046 accounts on a single feeder in

Gujarat, that 13% of India's metered electricity is diverted.

(c) Government of India is siezed of pilferage and theft of electrical power and have, therefore amended Indian Electricity Act, 1910 making theft and pilferage of energy a cognizable offence. All State Electricity Boards have been advised to strengthen their vigilance and take strict administrative and technical measures to check theft/pilferage of energy.

Visit of President of Czech

733. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the President of Czech had visited India recently;

(b) if so, the subjects figured in his talks with Indian leaders and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any agreement was signed during the visit; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir, H.E. Vaclav Havel, President of the Czech Republic paid a State visit to India from 6-11 February, 1994.

(b) President Havel had discussions with President, Vice-President, Prime

Minister, and MOS(EA), Shri R.L. Bhatia. Discussions focussed on bilateral relations as well as regional and international issues of mutual interest. Bilateral relations have been traditionally good and have a sound basis. While acknowledging this, both sides recognised the need for developing new patterns of cooperation taking into account the ongoing changes in both countries. The need and opportunities for further developing economic and trade ties was stressed. The Czech side was invited to invest in the infrastructure sector in India where areas of interest have been identified.

On Kashmir, President Havel reiterated the Czech position that a solution should be arrived at through peaceful negotiations between the two countries and without one side internationalising the issue.

President Havel's visit was the first visit by the President of the Czech Republic to India. It reaffirmed the continuity of bilateral relations and the desire of both sides to improve them further. President Havel invited President and Prime Minister to visit the Czech Republic. On the international side, discussions were held on the role of the UN, the North-South dialogue, and on the emerging security and economic structures in Europe. It was agreed that there was scope for both sides to work together for world peace and a new world order.

(c) and (d) No agreement was signed during the visit.

Release of J.K.L.F. Chief

734. SHRI B.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether JKLF Chief Mr. Amanullah Khan was released by Belgium Authorities; and

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

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

(b) Government made a formal request for the extradition of Amanullah Khan to the Government of Belgium on 29 October, 1993. The Belgian Ministry of Justice intimated their decision not to accede to our request on 29 December 1993. Our regret at this decision was suitably conveyed.

Setting up of Steel Plants in Gujarat with Foreign Collaboration

735. SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new steel plants will be set up in Gujarat State with the collaboration of foreign companies/NRIs; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (d) According to the information given by the Government of Gujarat, no Steel Plant is being set up with the collaboration of foreign companies/NRIs in the State of Gujarat.

[Translation]

Indians Died in Los Angeles Earthquake

736. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
SHRI ASTBHUJA PRASAD SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the property of Indians residing in Los Angeles were damaged heavily due to the recent earthquake;

(b) if so, the estimated loss of the property;

(c) the number of Indians died and injured in the earthquake; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide assistance to them?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian-American community in Los Angeles suffered damage estimated at about US\$ 27.5 million.

(c) There was reportedly no loss of life among members of the Indian-American community. A few of them suffered minor injuries.

(d) Following the earthquake, the Deputy Consul General of India in San Francisco visited Los Angeles and met

with members of Indian-American community. At the suggestion of CGI, San Francisco, the Federation of Indo-American Association (FIA) in Southern California set up a Sub-Committee to provide assistance to victims in filing claims for state and federal assistance, dealing with insurance companies, banks etc. India's Consul General in San Francisco also visited Los Angeles and met leaders of the Indo-American community. CGI, San Francisco continue to maintain regular contact with the Indian Community in Los Angeles and to monitor the situation.

ISD/STD/PCOs

737. SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether STD/ISD booths are allotted to the educated unemployed people;

(b) if so, the details of such booths allotted so far after the changed criteria; State-wise

(c) the number of such applications pending at present, State-wise; and

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

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

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

HPT at Orai in Uttar Pradesh

738. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a high-power TV transmitter at Orai, the headquarters of district Jalaun in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Besides the Low Power TV Transmitter already functioning at Orai, parts of Jalaun distt. also fall in the coverage zone of High Power Transmitters functioning at Kanpur and Gwalior. Further extension of TV service to uncovered parts of the country including those in Jalaun distt. of Uttar Pradesh can be carried out in a phased manner depending upon availability of resources in future Plans of TV expansion.

Post Offices in Madhya Pradesh

739. SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL:
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Madhya Pradesh without post-offices upto the end of 1992-93;

(b) the district-wise number of villages having post offices of different categories in the State;

(c) the district-wise number of villages having no Post office at present; and

(d) the district-wise and category-wise number of post offices proposed to be opened by the Government in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The number of villages without post offices upto the end of 1992-93 was 66,437.

(b) to (d) District-wise information regarding the number of villages with and without post offices is given at Annex. Information, as on 31.1.1994, of post offices to be opened during the current financial year, is also given in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Information regarding number of villages with and without Post Offices and number of post offices proposed to be opened in Madhya Pradesh

S.No.	Name of the District	No. of villages in M.P. having no P.O. upto the end of 1992-93	District-wise No. of villages having P.O. of different categories in M.P.			District-wise No. of villages in M.P. having no P.O. at present.	District-wise/ category-wise No. of post offices proposed to be opened (as on 31.01.94)	
			S.O.	B.O.	Total		S.O.	B.O.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Bhopal	481	3	58	61	481	1	—
2.	Bhind	695	5	229	234	695	—	—
3.	Balaghat	1177	15	193	208	1176	—	—
4.	Bilaspur	3014	24	570	594	3010	1	—
5.	Bastal	3175	30	521	551	3174	—	1
6.	Betul	1186	12	193	205	1185	—	—
7.	Chhatarpur	999	7	195	202	998	—	—
8.	Chhindwara	1742	16	233	249	1741	—	—
9.	Damoh	1239	9	162	171	1230	—	1
10.	Dewas	991	4	149	153	991	—	—
11.	Datia	361	3	89	92	361	—	—
12.	Dhar	1377	15	179	194	1376	1	—
13.	Durg	1597	6	270	276	1596	—	—
14.	Gwalior	648	2	134	136	647	—	—
15.	Guna	2094	8	171	179	2094	—	—
16.	Hoshangabad	1342	9	209	218	1340	—	—
17.	Indore	546	6	101	107	546	1	—
18.	Jabalpur	2136	5	298	303	2136	1	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
19.	Jhabua	1206	5	148	154	1206	—	—
20.	Khandwa	994	15	186	201	993	—	—
21.	Khargone	1835	15	262	277	1833	—	—
22.	Mandsaur	1488	17	267	284	1488	—	—
23.	Morana	1186	6	231	237	1184	—	—
24.	Mandla	1970	6	198	204	1969	1	—
25.	Narsinghpur	912	10	160	170	912	—	—
26.	Panna	949	4	140	144	946	—	—
27.	Raigarh (Bic	1601	6	136	142	1601	—	—
28.	Raisen	1325	8	182	191	1325	—	1
29.	Ratlam	916	8	146	154	916	1	—
30.	Rajnand Gaon	2202	3	195	198	2201	—	—
31.	Raigarh	1038	18	387	405	1838	—	2
32.	Raipur	3459	24	523	547	3459	3	3
33.	Rewa	2436	13	296	309	2436	—	—
34.	Sagar	1900	9	171	180	1900	—	—
35.	Sehore	937	8	138	146	937	—	—
36.	Shivpuri	1244	11	196	207	1243	—	1
37.	Seoni	1480	9	174	103	1480	—	—
38.	Satna	1802	8	257	265	1802	—	—
39.	Sarguna	2176	23	239	262	2176	—	2
40.	(Ambikapur) Shahdol	1855	-	258	258	1851	—	—
41.	Sidhi	1726	1	179	180	1724	—	—
42.	Sajapur	956	7	151	158	956	—	—
43.	Tikamgarh	826	5	162	167	826	—	—
44.	Ujjain	957	11	151	162	956	—	1
45.	Vidisha	1470	8	140	148	1470	—	—
Grand Total		66437				66407	10	12

*[English]**[Translation]*

Postal and Telephone Facilities to the Panchayats

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide postal and telecommunication facilities to all panchayats in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Government's policy is to progressively provide post offices in those panchayats which fulfil the departmental norms in this regard, and telephone facilities in all panchayats by 31.3.95, subject to availability of resources.

(b) During the first year of the Eighth Plan viz. 1992-93, 635 extra department branch post offices have been sanctioned, and under the current plan, 600 extra departmental branch post offices have been sanctioned upto 31.1.94. In the remaining three years of the Eighth Plan, the target is to open 800 extra departmental branch post offices annually.

For extending telecommunication facilities, steps have been taken to provide the necessary infrastructural facilities as well as more reliable media of the latest technology. Steps have also been taken to ensure proper control and monitoring of the performance of equipment.

Pending Power Projects of Bihar and U.P.

741. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposals of hydel power projects of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are lying pending with the Union Government since long;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(c) the time by which these projects are likely to be approved and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) There is no proposal of hydel power project of Bihar which is pending with the Union Government. Three proposals for hydel power projects from Uttar Pradesh, viz., Bowala Nand Prayag (3x44 MW), Tapovan Vishnugarh (3x120 MW) and Vishnu Prayag (4x100 MW) were received in Central Electricity Authority in May/July 1993. Certain clarifications have been sought from the implementing authorities and further action shall be taken after comments of the concerned authorities have been received.

Bilateral Relations with Neighbouring Countries

742. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the initiatives taken by the Government to strengthen the bilateral

relations with neighbouring countries during the last two years;

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

(c) the efforts to be taken by the Government to strengthen relations with neighbouring countries in the near future, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) Country-wise information is as under:

CHINA

- (i) The Government of India have maintained a high-level political dialogue with the Government of the People's Republic of China with the objective of establishing a long term, stable and good neighbourly relations between the two countries. As part of this process of high-level contacts, Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao visited China from 6th to 9th September, 1993. The most significant outcome of the visit was the signing of the Agreement on the Maintenance of Peace and Tranquillity Along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas. Under this agreement, the two sides have agreed to scrupulously observe the line of actual control (LAC), pending an ultimate boundary settlement. This would be done without prejudice to the respective positions of the two countries on the boundary question.

Experts from both sides would jointly check and determine the LAC in those segments where there are differences on its alignment. The two countries have also agreed to put in place several confidence building measures such as re-deployment of military forces, prior intimation of military exercises and prevention of air intrusions.

- (ii) All India-China Expert group was established in December 1993 to assist the Joint Working Group in implementation of the above mentioned Agreement. The Expert Group had its first meeting in New Delhi from 2nd to 4th February, 1994. At this meeting, the Expert Group reached a basic agreement on many issues relating to its mandate, future tasks and methodology.
- (iii) India and China have also persevered in their efforts in the Joint Working Group to seek a fair, reasonable, and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary settlement.
- (iv) As part of the process of generating mutual trust, defence exchanges between India and China have been carried forward. The Chinese naval ship 'Zheng He' came on a goodwill visit to Bombay in November 1993. It was the first visit by a Chinese warship to an Indian port.

- (v) During the last two years, India and China have also resumed high-level contacts between their parliamentary institutions. In January 1993, the Hon'ble Speaker led a Parliamentary delegation to China.
- (vi) During this period, the two countries have also re-established their consulates at Shanghai and Bombay. The Consulate General of India in Shanghai was formally inaugurated in January 1993, while the Chinese Consulate General in Bombay was formally inaugurated in December 1993.
- (vii) India and China resumed border trade in June 1992. During the Prime Minister's visit to China in September 1993, the two countries agreed to extend the border trade to an additional route via the Shipki Pass on HP-Tibet border, in addition to the existing route through the Lipulekh Pass on Uttar Pradesh-Tibet border.
- (viii) During this period, the Government of India have continued to work with the Chinese side to expand functional exchanges between the two countries in a number of areas, including trade, science and technology and culture. The Chinese cultural festival was hosted in India in December 1993 and the festival of India in China is being organised in May-June, 1994.

PAKISTAN

Government are committed to resolve all differences with Pakistan bilaterally and through peaceful negotiations, in accordance with the Simla Agreement. Towards this end, Government have pursued the path of dialogue with Pakistan.

On 19th October, 1993, on the assumption of office by the new Government in Pakistan, our Prime Minister in a letter addressed to Pak PM on 19th October, 1993 proposed a wide-ranging and comprehensive dialogue with the objective to progressively normalise relations between the two countries. Pursuant to these offers, the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan met at Islamabad from 1-3 January, 1994. At these talks, the entire range of bilateral issues, including aspects of the Jammu and Kashmir issue were discussed.

On 24th January, 1994, Government forwarded to Pakistan six non-papers containing specific and constructive proposals on Siachen, Sir Creek, a draft agreement outlining measures to be undertaken to maintain peace and tranquillity along the Line of Control, Tulbal Navigation Project, additional Confidence Building Measures and India-Pakistan Joint Commission. These proposals are aimed at resolving outstanding issues and to normalise relations between the two countries. On 19th February, 1994, Pakistan conveyed its comments and counter proposals to our non-papers. The Pakistani response is under consideration with the Government.

However, during the period since the Foreign Secretary level talks concluded, Pakistan has indulged in

highly provocative propaganda campaign against India and has stopped up its efforts to internationalise the J&K issue. This has vitiated the climate of relations and has a negative impact on the bilateral process.

NEPAL

Bilateral relations with Nepal in the last two years have progressed smoothly with high level visits including Indian Prime Minister's to Nepal in October, 1992 and the State visit of King Birendra to India in May, 1993. Implementation of revised trade regime from April 1, 1993, has increased trade and trade figures have reflected this increase in the first half of the year. Parliamentary Minister of Nepal visited India from December 21-25, 1993 and the Indian Minister for Water Resources visited Nepal from December 26-28, 1993. Liberalisation of trade and transit regime resulted in visit of commercial delegation from Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

BHUTAN

Bilateral relations with Bhutan have progressed smoothly with Prime Minister's visit to Bhutan from August 21-22, 1993. An agreement for another Hydel Project at Kurichu in Bhutan was initialled. Trade figures have shown an increase in the first half of the year.

MALDIVES

A number of steps have been taken to strengthen bilateral relations with Maldives during the last two years. These include exchange of various high level visits including those of our Ministers of State for External Affairs, Railway Minister

and Urban Development Minister to Maldives and Maldivian Foreign Minister's visits to India. The President of Maldives is scheduled to visit India in March '94. Our Prime Minister's visit is scheduled for Maldives in the month of May-June, 1994. A number of Maldivian students are due to come to India for training in various fields. Government of India is setting up a vocational training institute in Maldives and a Tripartite Agreement is likely to be signed in the matter of imparting training to Maldivian nationals.

MYANMAR

India's bilateral relations with Myanmar have significantly improved during the last two years. This period has witnessed the following agreements/MOUs being signed between India and Myanmar:

- (i) Agreement on Prevention of Drug Abuse and Trafficking.
- (ii) Tripartite Maritime Agreement determining T-Point in the Andaman Seas between India, Myanmar and Thailand.
- (iii) Border Trade Agreement.
- (iv) Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between Civilian Border Authorities of the two countries.

Government is committed to maintaining good neighbourly relations with Myanmar and will continue taking requisite measures for this purpose.

SRI LANKA

India's relations with Sri Lanka have been traditionally close and cordial, based

on geographical proximity and cultural affinities. The three visits of late President Premadasa to India between October 1992 to April 1993 contributed in promoting further goodwill between the two countries.

The present Government in Sri Lanka under President D.B. Wijetunga fully shares our commitment to continue strengthening Indo-Sri Lanka relations and expand bilateral cooperation in mutually identified areas. It is heartening that Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe chose India as the first country to visit after assuming office. His visit provided a useful opportunity for interaction with the new Government in Sri Lanka which was formed the tragic assassination of President Premadasa.

Both countries are actively following up a number of proposals for economic, cultural, technological and scientific cooperation under the auspices of the Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Commission at the level of Foreign Ministers. Fruitful discussions were held at the first meeting of the Joint Commission held in Delhi in January 1992 and at the meetings of the three sub-Commissions covering the areas of Trade, Culture and Science and Technology, held in Delhi during the last two years. The next meeting of Joint Commission is due to take place in New Delhi shortly, and would provide an excellent opportunity to review progress of existing proposals and formulate fresh proposals for bilateral cooperation.

BANGLADESH

In May 1992, Prime Minister of Bangladesh paid a State visit to India. In addition to fruitful discussions on several key bilateral issues, three Accords were signed. The Tin Bigha issue was

satisfactorily resolved and the corridor was finally leased to Bangladesh and opened for use by Bangladeshi passengers and vehicular traffic on June 26, 1992. The goodwill thus generated was further enhanced by exchange of several high level visits during 1992-93. Issues such as illegal immigration from Bangladesh, assistance to Indian insurgent groups from Bangladesh, border incidents, smuggling etc. continued to be discussed. The repatriation of the Chakma refugees from Tripura to Bangladesh began on February 15, 1994.

We are committed to maintain and further strengthen friendly and cooperative relations with all our neighbours especially with Bangladesh. We are continuing our efforts to resolve various outstanding problems through bilateral dialogue and through a process of give and take.

Construction of Ring Road, Agra

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a ring road for linking all the three national highways passing through Agra, ten kilometres away from the Taj;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The necessity for the construction of a Ring Road has yet to be established.

assistance to entrepreneurs in this sector; in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

[English]

Food Processing Units in Andhra Pradesh

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

744. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(b) Doesn't arise.

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Union Government to assess the potentials of food processing sector in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) and (d) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formulated several developmental Plan Schemes for the overall development of Food Processing Industries. Financial Assistance as per details given in enclosed *Statement* has been extended to units located in the State of Andhra Pradesh. During the year 1993-94 three proposals in the Fruit and Vegetables Processing Sector have been received. Action has already been initiated in these cases.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide any financial

STATEMENT

Details of financial assistance extended under Plan Schemes

Sector	1991-92	1992-93
Fruits and Vegetables Processing Sector	Rs. 34.297 lakhs	Rs. 146.86 lakhs
Meat, Poultry and Meat Processing Sector	Rs. 118.000 lakhs	Rs. 32.50 lakhs
Fisheries Sector	—	Rs. 39.50 lakhs

[Translation]

Revision of Electricity Rates

745. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has suggested Asian countries including India to increase the rates of electricity being provided at concessional rates to the consumers to generate funds for the implementation of Environment programmes;

(b) whether the Government have studied this suggestion; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Bilateral Relations with Italy

746. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to strengthen further the bilateral relations with Italy during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): Government have taken various steps to expand and diversify relations with Italy over the last three years. There has been a regular exchange of high-level visits which from the Italian side have included those of the Minister for Foreign Trade, Senator Claudio Vitalone (February 1993), Minister for Defence, Mr. Fabio Fabbri (September 1993), Foreign Minister, Mr. Beniamino Andreatta (January 1994) and the President of the Italian Senate, Prof. Gioranni Spadolini (February 1994) and from the Indian side those of the Finance Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh (June 1993) and the Agriculture Minister, Mr. Balram Jakhar (February 1994), Foreign Office level talks have also been held with Italy in September 1992 and in January 1994. An Indo-Italian Industrial Forum has

been set up with the objective of stepping up interaction between business representatives of the two countries and to promote bilateral trade, investment and joint ventures. Its first meeting held in Venice on 8 June 1993 was addressed by our Finance Minister. Meetings of the Indo-Italian Joint Economic Commission at Ministerial level are held regularly. Italy has emerged as India's third largest trading partner in the European Union. A three day multi-disciplinary Seminar "Bologna-India" was held in Bologna in September 1992 within the framework of initiatives aimed at deepening relations in various fields. A new Cultural Exchange Programme for the year 1993-95 was concluded in February, 1993 and is currently under active implementation.

Singoor Project of A.P.

747. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a proposal to the Union Government to set up the Singoor Project with German assistance;

(b) whether the Union Government have accorded permission for such proposal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) Singoor Hydro-electric Scheme (2x7.5 MW) of the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board has been posed for availing German financial assistance.

Transport Policy

748. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 382 on December 6, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the report of the UNDP on transport needs assessment mission has been received;

(b) if so, whether any policy decisions have been taken based on the report; and

(c) the salient features of the report and the decisions taken on the basis of the report?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Mission has identified a number of issues to be addressed in the proposed main study. The issues include:—

- (i) resource mobilisation for transport development and operation;
- (ii) restructuring of public sector transport undertakings in order to enable them to operate on business-led principle;
- (iii) private sector participation in the development and operation of transport facilities;
- (iv) development of an integrated institutional and logistics framework for the growth of

multimodal transport system to promote India's export growth;

- (v) better utilisation of the existing transport assets through incentive structure and management motivation;
- (vi) energy conservation in transport (particularly in view of the fact that India is currently meeting about half its petroleum requirements through imports and the extraction at Bombay High is plateauing); and
- (vii) development of an integrated institutional framework for coordinating transport policies and programmes at the Central level and for reducing the multiplicity of agencies at the State level or local level.

No decisions have yet been taken based on the Report.

Promotion of Rajasthani Language through Electronic Media

749. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote Rajasthani language through electronic media;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction during the last three years; and

(c) the names of Rajasthani films telecast on Doordarshan both in the State as well as on national channels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Programmes in Rajasthani have been a regular feature on the All India Radio stations/Doordarshan Kendra in Rajasthan. The details are shown in the attached *Statement*.

(c) The following Rajasthani films have been telecast by Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi and relayed by Doordarshan Kendra, Jaipur;

Sawan Ree Teej; Karmabai; Bai Ra Bag; Bikao Torda; Raja Harishchandra; Baisa ra Jatan Karo

STATEMENT

ALL INDIA RADIO

Programmes in Rajasthani are being broadcast mostly in the rural and special audience programmes. In addition, a daily regional news bulletin in Rajasthan for a duration of 10 minutes is broadcast by All India Radio, Jaipur and relayed by the radio stations at Ajmer, Bikaner, Jodhpur, Udaipur and Suratgarh.

DOORDARSHAN KENDRA, JAIPUR

Gajaro a monthly programme of 28 minutes duration; Mimjhar a fortnightly programme of 25 minutes duration; Lok rang a weekly programme of 10 minutes duration; Lok Sangeet a fortnightly programme of 20 minutes duration; Relay of Rajasthani films telecast by Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi.

Grants for Supply of Power in Karnataka

750. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to provide funds to Karnataka for purchasing/generating power for operating their irrigation pumps;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have fixed any targets in this regard during the year 1993-94; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

Branch Post Offices in Himachal Pradesh

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

(a) the details of Branch Post Offices opened/upgraded in Himachal Pradesh during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 so far; and

(b) the details of proposed new Branch Post Offices to be opened in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Information regarding the number of Branch Post Offices opened/upgraded during 1991-92,

1992-93 and 1993-94 so far is furnished below:-

Year	Branch Post Offices	
	Upgraded to DSOs	Opened
1991-92	-	31
1992-93	1	24
1993-94 (upto 31.12.93)	-	75

(b) Details of the remaining 15 Branch post offices to be opened by 31.3.94, out of the target of 90 Branch Post offices for the current year are being finalised.

[Translation]

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges in Haryana

752. SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have partly converted telephone exchanges into electronic exchanges at several district headquarters in Haryana State;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which telephone exchanges of all the districts are likely to be converted into electronic exchanges; and

(c) the time by which the present difference in demand and the capacity of telephone exchanges in the State is likely to be overcome?

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

(b) Out of 16 Districts in the State, 7 Districts i.e. Gurgaon, Faridabad, Rewari, Kurukshetra, Sirsa, Kaithal and Bhiwani are already having fully Electronic Telephone Exchanges, whereas, the remaining 9 districts-Ambala, Sonapat, Yamuna Nagar, Panipat, Karnal, Jind, Narnaul, Rohtak and Hisar are having partly electronic and partly non-electronic exchanges. These non-electronic exchanges are of SXS MAX-I, Cross Bar, ICP and MAX-II types for which the equipment installed is not due for scrapping as per existing policy of the Department.

(c) The present difference in demand and the capacity of telephone exchanges in the State is likely to be over come by 1996-97.

[English]

Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited

753. PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the consultant appointed to study the potentiality of the Hooghly Dock and Ports Engineers Limited, W.B. viz. the I.H.I., Japan was of the opinion that the concerned unit has got the highest potentiality amongst the shipyards in India;

(b) if so, whether the I.H.I., Japan has recommended for the investment of 45.91 crores for the modernisation/renovation; and

(c) if so, the amount invested for the purpose so far, year-wise?

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

(a) to (c) The Government considered several projects for execution with loan assistance from Japan during 1989-90. One of the projects related to modernisation of Nezirganj Unit of Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Limited at a cost of around Rs. 59.44 crores. I.H.I, Japan had prepared detailed Project Report for the modernisation of Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Limited. The Project Report gave only alternative recommendations for modernisation of Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Limited and did not mention that it has the highest potentiality amongst the shipyards in India. However, keeping in view the low return, the project was dropped.

ISD/STD/PCOs in Maharashtra

754. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ISD/STD/PCOs allotted in Maharashtra during 1992-93; and

(b) the proposal for 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 1914 ISD/STD/PCOs were allotted in Maharashtra during 1992-93.

(b) 3050 ISD/STD/PCOs are proposed to be provided during 1993-94.

[Translation]

Telephone connections in Bihar

755. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether hundreds of people are unable to get telephone connections in Madhubani and Darbhanga districts of Bihar;

(b) if so, the district-wise details thereof with reasons and the period within which the telephone connection is normally provided;

(c) whether the telephone connections sanctioned out of M.Ps quota are also pending for the years; and

(d) if so, the minimum possible time by which such telephone connections will be provided?

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

(b) 684 applications are pending for Telephone connections in Darbhanga Distt. & 573 applications are pending in Madhubani District.

These applicants are likely to be provided telephone connection by June, 95.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Out of all such cases those who have formally applied for Telephone connection and paid the requisite charges only 3 cases are pending since February, 1994. Telephone connections are likely to be provided in these 3 cases by the end of March, 1994.

[English]

**Land Holding for Investment in
Agriculture**

756. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the industry to hold land beyond ceiling limits for investment in agriculture and allied activities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Theft Cases in B.G.M.

757. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Gold Mines Limited has deployed Central Industrial Security Forces in its Production Centres to check theft; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Suratgarh Thermal Power Project

758. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Suratgarh Thermal Power Project of Rajasthan has been cleared from the environmental angle;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) its capacity in megawatt and the number of the units and the time by which these units are likely to be set up and start power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) The Suratgarh Thermal Power Project Stage-I (2x250 MW) has been cleared from environmental angle by the Ministry of Environment & Forests as well as by the Rajasthan Board for Prevention & Control of Pollution. The Rajasthan State Electricity Board has commenced work on the first unit of 250 MW as well as common facilities for Unit 1 & 2 from its resources. The first unit is expected to be commissioned in June, 1996. Orders for main plant and equipment in respect of Unit 2 have not been placed by the Rajasthan State Electricity Board on account of resource constraints. As such its commissioning schedule cannot be anticipated. This unit has, however, been posed to the Government of Japan for CECF assistance.

[English]

Permission to Coca Cola

759. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have given permission to Coca Cola South Asia, to manufacture and distribute Coca Cola in our country; and

(b) if so, the terms, conditions and other details of the undertaking given by the Coca Cola?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Government has approved the proposal from M/s. Coca Cola South Asia Holdings Inc. USA (since transferred in the name of M/s. Britco Foods Company Pvt. Ltd., Bombay) for the manufacture of beverage bases and essences. The Company will have 100% foreign equity amounting to Rs. 60 crores by itself or through its subsidiaries/associate companies. The Company will maintain an export-import ratio of 3:1. There will be dividend balancing for seven years from the date of commencement of production and this will be over and above the 3:1 export-import ratio separately stipulated. The Company offered to make the following commitments, which have been noted:—

- (i) Company does not envisage any payment of technical licence fees payment for the use of patents royalties, training fees or any other consultancy, lumpsum payment.
- (ii) The projected imports of essential flavouring essences is Rs. 78 crores in the first seven years.
- (iii) The estimated inflow of foreign exchange by exports is Rs. 234 crores over the first seven years.
- (iv) No dividend remittance for the first seven years.

Compensation to Road Victims

760 SHRI RAMESH CHENNI-
THALA: Will the Minister of SURFACE

TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is inordinate delay in the disposal of road accident compensation cases;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to speed-up the disposal of such cases and fix a time limit in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) Instances of this nature have come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) Although Government are proposing to have predetermined formula for payment of compensation based on the age and income of the victims, no time limit can be fixed for settlement of the claims since this involves judicial process and State Governments have constituted the Motor Accident Claim Tribunals.

Central Road Fund

761. SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA:
SHRI LOKANATH
CHOUDHURY:
PROF. SAVITHRI
LAKSHMANAN:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a resolution was passed by both the Houses of Parliament favouring augmentation of the Central Road Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to implement the resolution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In May, 1988 Parliament had adopted a resolution for augmentation of Central Road Fund by enhancing the cess from 3.5 paise per litre of petrol to 5 per cent of the basic price of petrol and diesel. The question of implementation of the resolution has been referred to Group of Ministers.

Tamil Programmes

762. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHEE TINDIVANAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tamil programmes shown on Satellite Link Regional Service (SLRS) are of poor quality; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve their quality?

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

(b) Doordarshan constantly strives to bring about a qualitative improvement in its programmes in order to sustain the interest of the viewers.

G-15 Summit

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

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the G-15 Summit scheduled to be held in Delhi was cancelled;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the expenditure incurred by the Government and various Government agencies for the Summit, item-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Summit was postponed. The postponement was occasioned by the inability of Summit Heads of State/Government, who had earlier confirmed attendance, to leave their countries on the scheduled dates due to urgent and unavoidable preoccupations which resulted in a lack of quorum for the Summit. However, the preparatory pre-Summit meetings of the Personal Representatives of Heads of State/Government and Foreign Ministers were held as scheduled and they agreed to hold the postponed Summit in March/April 1994 in New Delhi and worked out a Draft Joint Communiqué for the consideration of Head of State/Government meeting at the postponed Summit, reviewed and gave direction to the G-15 projects for economic and technological cooperation.

(c) Whilst it is not yet possible to get exact expenditure figures regarding the various arrangements for the G-15 Conference held in December 1993, the preliminary estimates of expenditure on account of hotel and transport charges, secretarial, protocol and media related infrastructure is approximately Rs. 6 crores.

[Translation]

Private Sector in Transportation

764. SHRI CHETAN P.S.
 CHAUHAN:
 SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA
 KAUR (DEEPA):
 SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:
 DR. ASIM BALA:
 SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
 DR. RAMKRISHNA
 KUSMARIA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE
 TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to
 involve private sector in the construction
 and maintenance of national highways
 and the bridges thereon;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some foreign
 companies have made offers in this
 regard; and

(d) if so, the names of such
 companies and the details of the
 agreement signed in this regard?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government
 proposes to involve private sector in
 funding, construction and operation of fee
 based facilities such as bypasses, bridges
 and expressways.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Persons of Indian Origin

765. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:
 Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
 be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have
 conducted/propose to conduct any survey
 on the conditions of persons of Indian
 origin in foreign countries including
 Myanmar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
 MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
 (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government keeps itself
 informed on an on-going basis about the
 welfare of the overseas Indian community
 in foreign countries including Myanmar.
 Persons of Indian origin with foreign
 nationality are however primarily the
 responsibility of the foreign Government
 concerned.

[English]

Calcutta Telephone Directory

766. DR. CHITTA BASU:
 SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
 SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
 SHRI ANIL BASU:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-
 TIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone
 subscribers of Calcutta have not been

provided with the telephone directory since 1990;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken/being taken to issue the directory without further delay;

(c) whether the contractor who was assigned the job of printing Calcutta Telephone Directory failed to bring out the directory after 1989; and

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

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

(b) The contractor who was assigned the job of printing five issues of the directory from 1988 to 92 failed to bring out the directory after 1989. As the two successful bidders selected from a fresh tender floated in 1993 also failed to deposit the security money, calling for a fresh tender is being processed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The security money of the contractor has been forfeited and matter has been referred to an arbitrator as per the terms of the contract.

US-Pak joint Exercise

767. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:

SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY:

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO:

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:

SHRI B. DEVARAJAN:
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent Joint Exercise between US Commandos and Pak Special Services Group in the Mountainous terrain of Cherat region of Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Government are aware that a month long joint training exercise was conducted from 6 January to 10 February, 1994 between the US Army Special Forces and the Pakistan Special Services Group in the Cherat region of the North West Frontier Province of Pakistan. A similar exercise was also conducted in February 1993.

(b) Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on

India's security, including the on-going military cooperation between the US and Pakistan. Government take all necessary measures to safeguard the unity and territorial integrity of the nation.

[Translation]

Bank Drafts

768. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of theft of bank drafts and cheques under posting in Ghaziabad have been reported;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A complaint dated 1.12.1992, about non delivery of a Registered letter No. 4416 dated 28.10.1992 reportedly containing a bank draft for Rs. 26000/-, was received from Shri Dinesh Kumar Sharma of Ghaziabad. Immediate departmental investigations were made which revealed that the said bank draft had been deposited in a fake Post Office Saving Bank Account at Ghaziabad Head Post Office. A F.I.R. was also lodged with the local police by Shri Dinesh Kumar Sharma. Further departmental enquiries revealed that 14 bank drafts and cheques received through Registered post at Ghaziabad Head Post Office for Rs. 1,42,700/- were stolen and deposited in 6 fake Post Office Savings Bank Accounts opened for the purpose. Rs. 18,000/-

were also found withdrawn from such accounts before their further operation was frozen on their detection. One stolen cheque for Rs. 50,000/- deposited in one of the fake accounts was dishonoured.

(c) A. F.I.R. was lodged by the Senior Postmaster, Ghaziabad Head Office on 10.11.1993 with the local police which arrested One Postal Assistant of Ghaziabad Head Post Office on 25.1.1994. He was immediately placed under suspension.

[English]

Conversion of Exchanges in Maharashtra

769. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the national average in replacing mechanical exchanges with electronic ones upto the end of December, 1993;

(b) the average in the State of Maharashtra Telecommunications Circle in this regard during this period; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to convert the existing mechanical exchanges with electronic ones in the country and in Maharashtra Circle during the remaining part of the current year and 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No. of lines of mechanical exchanges replaced by electronic ones upto the end of December, 93 are 1714577. About 37.3% of the equipped capacity is of Electro-mechanical type.

(b) 769,60 lines have been replaced in Maharashtra Telecom. Circle so far. About 43.7% of the equipped capacity is of Electromechanical type in Maharashtra Telecom Circle.

(c) 1,82,000 lines of Mechanical Exchanges are proposed to be replaced in the country by electronic ones during the remaining part of the current year.

3,59,000 lines are proposed to be replaced in the country during 1994-95 subject to timely availability of equipment & funds.

11,768 lines of Mechanical Exchanges are proposed to be replaced in Maharashtra Circle during the remaining part of current year.

35,000 lines of electro mechanical exchanges are proposed to be replaced in Maharashtra Circle during 1994-95 subject to availability of equipment and funds.

[Translation]

Privatisation of International Film Festival

770. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA
CHIKHLIA:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise International Film Festival;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The organisation of International Film Festival of India (IFFI) is a non-commercial promotional activity for the growth and a movement for advancement of good cinema. Though the festival is organised under the auspices of Directorate of Film Festivals (DFF); an attached office of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, people from the Indian film industry, which is in the private sector, are associated with the organisation of the festival as members of the Advisory Committee of the DFF, the organising committee and various sub-committees which are set up for the festival.

[English]

Indo-Japan Agreement

771. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have signed any agreement with Japan to provide assistance to the Power Projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the agreement and financial assistance to be provided by Japan in this regard; and

(c) the names and locations of the power projects to which assistance is to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V.
RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A credit of 68.24 billion

Yen equivalent to about Rs. 1840 crores
has been agreed to in January 1994 for
being provided by OECF of Japan for the
following three power projects:

Name	Implementing Agency	Capacity (MW)	Aid Amount (in Billion Yen)
1. Faridabad Gas Based Thermal Power Plant, Distt. Faridabad, Haryana	National Thermal Power Corporation	400	23.54
2. Bakreshwar Coal based Thermal Power Plant, Distt. Birbhum, West Bengal	West Bengal Power Development Corporation	420	27.07
3. Anpara 'E' Coal Based Power Plant Distt. Sonebhadra Uttar Pradesh (On-going project-Additional tranche of loan)	Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board	1000	17.64

Membership to ASEAN and APEC

772. SHRI SULTAN
SALAHUDDIN OWASI:
SHRI CHANDRA JEET
YADAV:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:

(a) whether the Government contemplates to join the Asia Pacific Economic Corporation (APEC) and Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) as a full-fledged member;

(b) if so, the efforts made and the progress achieved in this regard; and

(c) the advantages to be accrued to the country as a result of membership?

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) As a South-Asian country, India is a member of the regional grouping-South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). With the Association of South East Nations (ASEAN), which is a regional groupings of South-East Asian countries, India is already a sectoral dialogue partner. The partnership envisages mutually beneficial and substantially enhanced cooperation between India and ASEAN countries in Investment, Trade, Tourism and Science & Technology sectors.

The first substantive meeting of ASEAN-India Joint Sectoral Co-operation Committee (AIJSCC) was held at Bali (Indonesia) from 6-8 January, 1994 which provided a new content and direction to Indo-ASEAN Co-operation.

The membership of Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) has so far been restricted to certain littoral states of Pacific Ocean and excluded any non-pacific rim country. At the Third Ministerial Conference in Seoul in 1991, India officially indicated its interest in participating in the activities of the APEC. The APEC Summit at Seattle in November 1993, has decided to freeze the admission of new members until 1997.

However, India expects to be associated with some of the work programmes of APEC.

Prime Minister's visit to Davos

773. SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV:

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI:

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA):

DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI:

SHRI SHIBU SOREN:

SHRI KESHRI LAL:

SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM:

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of the recent visit of the Prime Minister to Davos, Switzerland;

(b) whether the Government have succeeded in achieving these objectives;

(c) if so, the details thereof including estimated quantum of investment likely to be made in India as a result thereof;

(d) whether the Prime Minister also held talks with the leaders of Switzerland; and

(e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L.BHATIA): (a) The objective of Prime Minister's recent visit to Davos was to expose to the Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum which brings together Heads of State & Government, Corporate leaders, Media personalities and academicians the new dynamics of Indian economic policies and the potential for rapid growth that these presented. The Prime Minister briefed those gathered for

the Annual Meeting of the progress of our economic reforms and programmes, India's achievements on the economic front to date and our plans for the future. His presence helped promote India as an attractive destination for investments and trade.

(b) Yes, sir.

(c) The Prime Minister addressed a session on India as well as the plenary session of the Annual Meeting. He met a number of Chief Executive Officers of global firms and a cross section of the international media. The response to his address as well as interactions with CEOs of important companies was extremely positive. India received extensive coverage in the media and many of the corporate leaders the Prime Minister met indicated that they were considering coming to India or expanding their operations here. It is not possible to give details regarding estimated quantum of investment likely to be made in India thereof as these investment decisions take some time to fructify. Moreover, the Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum is not a venue where such details are normally announced by Corporations.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise, Sir.

[*Translation*]

Athreya Committee

774. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the recommendations of the Athreya Committee;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to implement the resort?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The recommendations of the Athreya Committee are still under consideration of the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Plots in Delhi under MTNL

775. SHRI LAL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacant plots in Delhi under Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited with the total area of each plot and the details of the steps taken to use these plots for the purpose for which these were acquired;

(b) whether some plots out of them have been occupied unauthorisedly;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to get them vacated early?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Total number of such plots in Delhi with MTNL is 27. Details of such plots and proposed use of each plot and present status is given in the attached *Statement-1*

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The plots at Minto Road, Lothian Road (Kashmere Gate) and Shakur Basti, detailed at Sl. No. 18, 19 & 20 of *Statement-I* are occupied unauthorisedly. Plots at Minto Road & Lothian Road (Kashmere Gate) were occupied unauthorisedly prior to the taking up of possession by MTNL. Whereas plot at Shakur Basti was occupied partly, unauthorisedly, after taking up possession by MTNL.

(d) The Secretary (PWD) Delhi Admn. is being vigorously pursued for

removal of encroachments on plot at Lothian Road (Sl. No. 19 of the *Statement-I*)

The Secretary Ministry of Urban Development is being pursued for evicting the encroachers on plot at Minto Road (Sl. No. 18 of *Statement-I*).

Efforts are being made to get the encroachments removed on plot at Shakur Basti (Lawrence Road, Sl. No. 20 of the *Statement-I*).

STATEMENT-I

Sl. No.	Location	Area in Sq. m	Purpose	Status of Schedule of Accommodation	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Rohini Sect. VI	12000	Adm. Office	Under issue	—
2.	Vasant Vihar	1800	T. E.	Issued	Action has been initiated to construct the building
3.	Rohini Sect. III Plot No. 4	10000	Staff Qrts.	Issued	do
4.	Rohini Sect. III Plot No. 31	10000	Staff Qrts.	Issued	do
5.	Rohini Sect. V Plot No. 4	10000	Staff Qrts.	Issued	do
6.	Rohini Sect. V Plot No. 10	10000	Staff Qrts.	Issued	do
7.	Narela	8094	T. E.	Issued	do
8.	Sarita Vihar (M. Pocket)	3990	T. E.	Issued	do
9.	Karkarduma	2000	T. E.	Issued	do
10.	Siri-Fort Asian Games Village.	225	RLU	Issued	do

11.	Kondli Gharoli	450	RLU	Issued	do
12.	Rohini Sect. V	999	RLU	Issued	do
13.	Rohini Sector XIV	1000	RLU	Under issue	—
14.	Sarita Vihar (J Pocket)	494	RLU	Issued	Action has been initiated to construct the building
15.	Saraswati Vihar	8948.75	T. E.	Issued	do
16.	Tuglakabad (Indstl. Area)	1394	RLU	Issued	do
17.	Noida (Indstl. Area) Plot No. B-3	80000	Trg. Centre	Issued (by Corp. Office)	do
18.	Minto Road (J. L. N. Marg)	8211	T. E.	Issued	Complete vacant possession has not been given by Ministry of Urban Development.
19.	Lothian Road (Kashmere Gate)	5180	T. E.	Under issue	Complete vacant possession has not been given by Secy. (PWD) Delhi Admn.

Sl. No.	Location	Area in Sq. m	Purpose	Status of Schedule of Accommodation	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Shakur Basti (Lawrence Road)	9011	T. E.	Issued	RLU is already working about 2400 sqm. area is under encroachment Efforts are being made to get the encroachment.
21.	Moti LAL Nehru Marg	6070	T. E.	Not Applicable	Permission for construction of T.E. bldg. has not been given by the Ministry of Urban Development.
22.	Mayur Vihar Phase. II (OCI)	899.63	RLU	Under issue	
23.	Rohini Sect. XI (Extn.)	28600	Staff Qrts.	Issued	Action has been initiated to construct the building.
24.	Pankha Road Plot No. 2	17000	Staff Qrts.	Issued	do
25.	Paschim Vihar G. 17 Area	34400	Staff Qrts	Issued	do

26.	ITO/ITX, Bangla Sahib Marg	4420	T. E.	Issued	do
27.	Rohini Sect. III	10000	T. E.	Issued	RLU is already working. Action has been initiated to construct the regular Telephone Exchange building.

[English]

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

Expansion of Ports

776. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state.

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

(a) whether there is any proposal for the expansion of different ports, during the 8th plan period; and

(b) An outlay of Rs. 2984.00 crores has been provided in 8th plan for development of various major ports in the country. The port-wise breakup of this outlay is given in the attached Statement.

STATEMENT*8th Plan Outlay for major ports**(Rs. in crores)*

S. No.	Name of the Port	Outlay 1992—97
1	(a) Calcutta	155.00
	(b) Haldia	190.00
	(c) R R Schemes	76.00
		421.00
2.	Bombay	413.00
3.	J.N.P.T.	215.00
4.	Madras	570.00
5.	Cochin	117.00
6.	Vizag	250.00
7.	Kandla	226.00
8.	Mormugao	123.00
9.	Paradip	486.00
10.	New Mangalore	98.00
11.	Tuticorin	65.00
Total Major Ports		2984.00

Revenue Earned by Bangalore Doordarshan

'A'

Rs. 4000/-

'B'

Rs. 1500/-

777. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total revenue earned by Bangalore Doordarshan during the Year 1993 from advertisements;

(b) the details of the advertisement tariffs;

(c) whether there is any proposal to reduce the advertisement tariff to attract more advertisers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) The gross revenue earned by Doordarshan Kendra, Bangalore during the year 1993 is Rs. 1417.30 lakhs.

(b) The details of the extant advertisement tariff for Doordarshan Bangalore are annexed as *Statement*.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Extant Advertisement Tariff of Doordarshan, Bangalore

Rate for spot buy (10 seconds)

Super 'A' Special Rs. 12000/-

Super 'A' Rs. 11000/-

Time Check

Rs. 4000/-

Sponsorship of Doordarshan programme

Super A Special

Rs. 50000/-
for 30 minutes

Super A

Rs. 35000/-

A

Rs. 16000/-

B

Rs. 4500/-

Sponsored Programme produced by outsiders

Super A

Rs. 10000/-
per 30 minutes slot
with 120 seconds FCT

Tele Film

Rs. 7000/-
for 90 minutes

Tele Plays

Rs. 5000/-
for 60 minutes**Mushroom Processing and Canning Project**

778. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are participating with direct equity stake in Mushroom processing and canning project to be set up with Dutch technology in Punjab;

(b) if so, the equity stake of the

Union Government and that of Government of Punjab; and

(c) the details of the project and when it is likely to start commercial production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under one of its developmental plan schemes, Ministry of Food Processing Industries has provided an equity assistance of Rs. 150 lakhs through Punjab Agro Industries Corpn. Ltd., Chandigarh for a 100% EOU mushroom manufacturing project coming up in joint sector at Lalru in Distt. Patiala in the State of Punjab. Punjab Agro Industries Corpn. Ltd., Chandigarh are also participating in the project to the extent of Rs. 300 lakhs.

(c) The total cost of the project as appraised by IDBI is Rs. 2350 lakhs and it will have a capacity to produce 2500 tonnes per annum of Canned Button Mushrooms. The project is likely to start commercial production in April, 1994.

Privatisation of Thermal Power Plants

779. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

SHRI SIMOM MARANDI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have a proposal to privatise some Thermal Power Plants in the country;

(b) if so, the names of such power plants, state-wise particularly in Orissa; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) Government of India have formulated a policy to encourage greater private sector participation in electricity generation, supply and distribution. The policy does not preclude the scope of privatisation of existing thermal power stations. So far Government of Orissa have signed a Memorandum of understanding for renovation and modernisation of the existing Talcher Thermal Power Station (460MW) with M/s. Community Energy Alternatives Inc. USA.

Declaration of National Highways

780. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of State roads of different States which have been declared as National Highways, during 7th plan period; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The requisite information is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of Road	State	National Highway/ Expressway
1.	Ahmedabad-Vadodara	Gujarat	N.E.1
2.	Koodanur-Willingdon Island	Kerala	NH 47 A
3.	Theriat-Tuipang Theriat-Lunglai Venus Saddle-Sahia	Mizoram	Extension of NH 54 NH 54 A NH 54 B
4.	Kwarital-Jn with NH. 52 (Tejpur)	Assam	NH 37 A
5.	Dausa-Mandharpur	Rajasthan	NH 11 A
6.	Beawar-Radhapur	Rajasthan Gujarat	NH 14
7.	Nizamabad-Jagdapur	Andhra Pradesh Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh	NH.16
8.	Pathankot-Mandi	Himachal Pradesh and Punjab	NH 20
9.	Cochin-Madurai	Kerala and Tamil Nadu	Extension of NH 49

[*Translation*]

Propaganda by Pakistan

781. SHRI SIMON MARANDI:
SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT:
SHRI SHIBU SOREN:
SHRI BAPU HARI
CHAURE:
SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM
KAMBLE:
DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI
PAWAR:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AF-
FAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Pakistan had declared to launch a vigorous diplomatic campaign to achieve the international support on Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps to counter the propa-
ganda against India being continuously
pursued by Pakistan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the
response of various countries and the in-
ternational organisations including OIC,
US, UK and Iran?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Pakistan leaders including its Prime Minister have consistently maintained that Pakistan would extend moral, political and diplomatic support to the Kashmiris.

Addressing the nation on 24th January, 1994, Prime Minister of Pakistan stated:

Pakistan shall pinpoint the human rights violations in J&K before the UNHRC. "I shall personally plead the case before the UNHRC on 1st February."

Pakistan's PM subsequently referred to the situation in J&K at the UNHRC meet at Geneva.

(c) and (d) Countering motivated anti-India propaganda is an ongoing process. Government successfully continues to rebut false and baseless Pakistan allegations and disinformation in respect of the Kashmir issue. As part of these efforts, frequent and continuing interaction is maintained with other Government to provide correct information on the situation in Kashmir. Publications and audio-visual material have been prepared for distribution through our missions abroad to politicians, officials, press and other opinion makers. Indian and foreign journalists are regularly briefed here as well as in other countries through our Mission. Relevant information is regularly disseminated to the Missions abroad to enable them to take swift and effective corrective action with all relevant target audiences.

As a result of these efforts, various countries and officials of OIC have demonstrated a better understanding of Indian stand on this issue.

Iran has conveyed to us its support for India's integrity and called for a bilateral dialogue between India and Pakistan to address the Kashmir issue. The U.K. and the US Government have taken the position that negotiations between India and Pakistan, as envisaged by the Simla Agreement, provide the best means to settle the Kashmir issue. The US Government believes that any settlement should also take into account the views of the Kashmiri people.

[English]

Power Projects in Private Sector

782. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN
PRABHU ZANTYE:

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN
YADAV:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the power projects cleared so far in private sector with location, estimated cost capacity-time schedule, employment etc, to be taken up for execution during the Eighth Five Year Plan, project-wise;

(b) the details of the power projects in private sector under various stages and for clearance;

(c) the details of estimates of investment and power generation in private and a public sector during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the details of the proposal received for power generation in Goa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V.
RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) *Statement-I*
enclosed.

(b) *Statement-II* enclosed.

(c) As per the Eighth plan document
30,538 MW generating capacity was
envisaged to be added with the following
break up:

	(MW)
Central Sector	— 12858
State Sector	— 17680
Private Sector	— 2810
	<u>33348</u>

The public sector outlay for power
generation is as follows:

States	—	24733
UTs	—	354
Centre	—	24337
		<u>49424</u>

(d) No proposal has been received
in Central Electricity Authority for power
generation project in Goa.

STATEMENT-I

Details of Ongoing Private Power Projects

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ State	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Commissioning Schedule	Name of the Company
1.	Trombay COGT Maharashtra	180.00 (Gas)	212.00	1994-95*	Tata Electric Companies
2.	Bhira PSS Maharashtra	150.00 (Hydel)	85.95	1994-95	Tata Electric Companies
3.	Maniyar HEP Kerala	12.00 (Hydel)	15.00	1993-94	Carborandum Universal Generating Co.
4.	Budge Budge PPS West Bengal	500.00 (Coal)	1638.00	1996-97	Calcutta Electric Companies
5.	Dahanu TPS Maharashtra	500.00 (Coal)	1472.00	1994-95	Bombay Suburban Electric Company Ltd.
	Total	1342.00	3422.95		

*100 MW already commissioned.

Details of Private Power Projects cleared from foreign investment angle

Sl. No.	Name of the project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capa- city (MW)	Prov. Cost. Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Commi- ssioning Schedule	Name of the Company
1.	Jegurupadu GBPP/ (Godavari) Andhra Pradesh	Forgn. (NRI)	235.00 (Gas)	827.00	1995-97	GVK Industries, USA
2.	Kakinada GBPP/ (Godavari) Andhra Pradesh	Forgn. (NBI)	208.00 (Gas)	748.43	1995-97	Spectrum Power Generation Ltd.
3.	Visakhapatnam TPS/ Andhra Pradesh	Forgn.. Indian JV	1000.00 (Coal)	3000.00		Ashok Leyland & National Power (U.K)
4.	Mangalore TPS Karnataka	Forgn.	1000.00 (Coal)	5088.00		Cogentrix Inc. USA
5.	Dabhol CCGT (LNG) Maharashtra	Forgn.	2015.00 (LNG)	9051.27	1996-97	Enron Power Development Corporation & General
6.	Ib Valley TPS Orissa	Forgn.	420.00 (Coal)	2025.60		AES Corporation USA
7.	Cero unit (LNG) Tamil Nadu	Forgn. (NBI)	250.00 (Lig)	1127.00		ST Power Systems Inc. USA
TOTAL			5128.00	21867.30		

STATEMENT-II*Details of Private Power Projects which are under various stages of clearances*

As on 25.02.1994

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ State	Foreign Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
I. NEW POWER PROJECTS.					
1.	Krishnapatnam TPS		1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	3500.00	Under bidding
2.	Ramagundam TPS Andhra Pradesh		500.00 (2x250)	1750.00	Under bidding
	Total Andhra Pradesh		1500.00	5250.00	
3.	Hanarang HEP Arunachal Pradesh	Indian/ Foreign	600.00 (Hydel)	1800.00	InterCorp Industries Ltd., Snowy Mountain Engg. (Australia)
4.	Kharsang GBPP Arunachal Pradesh	Foreign/ Indian JV	48.00 (Gas)	168.00	InterCorp Industries Ltd., Snowy Mountain Engg. (Australia)
	Total Arunachal		648.00	1968.00	
5.	Karbi Longni HEP Lower Borapani Assam	Indian (Hydel)	100.00	300.00	Bharat Hydro Corp. Subhash Projects & Mktg Ltd.,
6.	Amguri GRPP Assam	Forgn.	360.00 (Gas)	1280.00	Northern Engineering Inc., USA/Agra Industries
7.	Adamilla Open Cycle Assam	Indian	15.00 (Gas)	52.50	DLF Power Corp. Ltd.,
8.	Bashkandi Open Cycle Assam	Indian	22.50 (Gas)	78.75	DLF Power Corp. Ltd.,
	Total Assam		497.50	1711.25	

Details of Private Power Projects cleared from foreign investment angle

Sl. No.	Name of the project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capa- city (MW)	Prov. Cost. Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Commi- ssioning Schedule	Name of the Company
9.	Chandil TPS Bihar	Indian	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1637.00		RPG Enterprises
	Total Bihar		500.00	1637.00		
10.	Bawana GBPP Dehli		800.00 (Gas)	2000.00		Bid Under Evaluation.
	Total Delhi		800.00	2000.00		
11.	Pagutium GBPP Gujarat	Forgn. Indian JV	654.70 (Gas)	2178.14		Gujrat Torrent Energy Corpn. Ltd/Siemens Germany
12.	Lignite based TPS/ Gujarat	Forgn.	250.00 (Lignite)	875.00		Eisenberg Group of Co. Isreal
	Total Gujarat		904.70	3053.14		
13.	Hissar TPS Haryana	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1000.00		Cogentrix Inc. USA
14.	Yamunangar TPS Haryana	Forgn.	1000.00 (4x250) (Coal)	3500.00		Eisenberg Group of Cos. Israel
	Total Haryana		1500.00	4500.00		
15.	Ghanvi HEP Himachal Pradesh	Indian	22.50 (Hydel)	40.00		Punjab Power Gene- ration Machines Ltd.
16.	Uhi-III HEP Himachal Pradesh	Indian	70.00 (3x23.4) (Hydel)	176.77		Ballarpur Industries Ltd., Delhi
17.	Baspa HEP Himachal Pradesh	Indian	300.00 (Hydel)	547.00		Jaiprakash Industries Ltd.

Sl. No.	Name of the project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capa- city (MW)	Prov. Cost. Estimate (Rs.Crs.)	Commi- ssioning Schedule	Name of the Company
18.	Hibra HEP Himachal Pradesh	Forgn.	231.00 (Hydel)	708.50		Harza Engineering Co. USA
19.	Dhamwari HEP Himachal Pradesh	Forgn.	70.00 (Hydel)	245.00		Harza Engineering Co. USA.
20.	Karchham-wamgtu Himachal Pradesh	Indian	900.00 (Hydel)	3150.00		Jaiprakash Industries Ltd.
21.	Bengal HEP Himachal Pradesh	Indian	12.00 (Hydel)	42.00		Om Power Corporation, New Delhi
22.	Allain Duhangan HEP Himachal Pradesh	Indian	192.00 (Hydel)	672.00		Rajasthan Spinning & Weaving Mills Ltd.
23.	Malana HEP Himachal Pradesh	Indian	86.00 (Hydel)	301.00		Rajasthan Spinning & Weaving Mills Ltd.
Total Himachal			1883.50	5882.27		
24.	Mangalore TPS Karnataka	Indian Forgn.	300.00 (Coal)	900.00		Jaiprakash Industries Ltd., National power (U.K.)
25.	Almatti Das HEP Karnataka	Forgn. Indian JV	600.00 (Hydel)	1800.00		Asia Power Co. Ltd. (TAPCO) USA Karnataka Power Corporation
26.	Hospet TPS Karnataka	Forgn.	500.00 (1x500) (Coal)	1350.00		Hok Intercontinental Ltd. USA
27.	Raichur St-V TPS Karnataka	Forgn. Indian JV	500.00 (2X250) (Coal)	1000.70		Public Power Int. Inc. (North East Energy) USA, Karnataka Power: Corpn.
Total Karnataka			1900.60	5050.70		

Sl. No.	Name of the project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capa- city (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Commi- ssioning Schedule	Name of the Company
28.	Thrikaripur TPP Kerala	Forgn.	420.00 (2x210) (Coal)	1480.00		M.A.Al-Mazroui Gen. Trading Est.UAF Scepture Power Co., USA
29.	Kuthungal HEP Kerala	Indian	20.00 (Hydel)	35.05		Indsil Electrosmelts Ltd.
30.	Boothathankettu HEP Kerala	Indian	16.00 (Hydel)	25.00		Sical Metalurgic (P) Ltd.
31.	Ullunkal HEP Kerala	India	600 (Hydel)	13.55		Travancore Electro Chemical Industries Ltd.
32.	Karikkayam HEP Kerala	Indian	12.00 Hydel	30.00		Travancore Electro Chemical Industries Ltd.
33.	Barapole HEP Kerala	Indian	9.00 (Hydel)	12.21		Ideal Projects & Services (P) Ltd.
34.	Chathankottunada-II Kerala	Indian	7.00 (Hydel)	4.94		Ideal Projects & Services (P) Ltd.
35.	Anakkayam HEP Kerala	Indian	8.00 (Hydel)	29.10		Ideal Projects & Services (P) Ltd.
36.	Chembukkadavu-II Kerala	Indian	9.00 (Hydel)	12.85		Ideal Projects & Services (P) Ltd.
37.	Palchuram HEP Kerala	Indian	3.50 (Hydel)	4.72		Ideal Project & Services (P) Ltd.
38.	Vilangad HEP Kerala	Indian	7.00 (Hydel)	10.59		Ideal Projects & Services (P) Ltd.

Sl. No.	Name of the project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capa- city (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Commi- ssioning Schedule	Name of the Company
39.	Western Kallar HEP Kerala	Indian	5.00 (Hydel)	6.95		Ideal Projects & Services(P) Ltd.
	Total Kerala		522.50	1664.98		
40.	Fench TPE Aadhra Pardesh	Indian	420.00 (2x210) (Coal)	1272.23		Century Power\$
41.	Maheshwar HEP Madhya Pradesh	Indian	400.00 (10x40) (Hydel)	1073.00		S. Kumar
42.	Rorbo West Extn. HEP & TPS Madhya Pradesh	Indian	420.00 (2x210) (Coal)	977.57		Mukand Ltd.
43.	Bhilai Captive TPS Madhya Pradesh	Indian JV	500.00 (Coal)	1200.00		Steel Authority** of India Ltd.
44.	Towa HEP Madhya Pradesh	Indian	12.00 (Hydel)	20.00		HEG Ltd.
	Total Madhya Pradesh		1752.00	4542.80		
45.	Khaperkheda TPS Units 5&6 Maharashtra	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1632.00		Aranco Line Shipping Co. (Malta/Singapore) B.R.Asscciates
46.	Barge/Ship Mounted Maharashtra	Indian	110.00 (1x110) (LSHS)	395.00		Mega Power Pvt. Ltd., (Confidence shipping Co. Ltd.) Maharashtra.
47.	Bhivpuri PSS / Maharashtra	Indian	90.00 (1x90) (Hydel)	89.87		Tata Eelctric Co.

**NTPC was previously associated.They have now disassociated with the Project.

\$ Century Power has withdrawn from the Project.

Sl. No.	Name of the project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost. Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Commissioning Schedule	Name of the Company
48.	Khaperkheda TPS Units 9 & 4 / Maharashtra		500.00 (2x250) (Coal))	1750.00		Offers under appraisal
49.	Nagathone GBPP/ Maharashtra		410.00 (Gas)	1435.00		Offers under appraisal
50.	Umred TPS Maharashtra	Forgn./ Indian JV	1000.00 (Coal)	3000.00		Ispath Alloys Ltd./ Mitsui (Japan)
	Total Maharashtra		2610.00	8301.87		
51.	Talcher TPS / Orissa	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1500.00		Spectrum Technologies USA
52.	Kamalangar Dhan- Kanal TPS Orissa	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1500.00		International Equity Partners.L. P. USA
53.	Ib Valley TPS Orissa	Forgn.	3000.00 (Coal)	10500.00		Eisenberg Group of Cos. Israel
54.	Duburi TPS Orissa	Forgn. Indian	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1548.00		Kalinga Power Corp. . North East Energy Services Inc. USA / Govt. of Orissa
55.	Dapanga TPS/ Orissa	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1750.00		Pioneer Energy Inc. USA/Duke Engi- neering Services, USA
56.	Naraj TPS Orissa	Indian	1000.00 (4x250) (Coal)	3500.00		Ispat Alloys Ltd. Calcutta
	Total Orissa		6000.00	20298.00		

Sl. No.	Name of the project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capa- city (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Commi- ssioning Schedule	Name of the Company
57.	Bareingser TPS Rajasthan	Forgn.	240.00 (2x130) (Lig)	585.73		Coleman & Associates (Australian Consortium)
58.	Chittorgarh TPS Rajasthan	Indian	500.00 (1x500) (Coal)	1036.20		Century Textiles & Industries Ltd.
	Total Rajasthan		740.00	1621.93		
59.	Guddalore TPS Tamil Nadu	Forgn.	1000.00 (2X500) (Coal)	2000.00		International Contracting & Marketing Corpn. USA
60.	Pillaiperumainallur CCGT Tamil Nadu	Forgn.	300.00 (2x100 +1X100) (Gas)	429.49		P. Vijaykumar Reddy, MAKOWSKI Associates, USA
61.	Srimushnam Lignite TPS Tamil Nadu	Indian	250.00 (1x250) (Lig)	800.00		TICAPCO (GM Swamy Associates)
62.	Jayamkondan Lignite TPS Tamil Nadu	Indian Forgn.	1500.00 (3x500) (Lig)	4500.00		Jayamkondam Lignite Power Corporation Ltd. (TIDCO)/Mchnally Bharat Ltd. & Siemens, Germany
	Total Tamil Nadu		3050.00	7729.49		
63.	Vishnuprayag HEP Uttar Pradesh	Indian	360.00 (3x120) (Hydel)	612.88		Jaiprakash Industries Ltd.
64.	Rosa TPS Uttar Pradesh	Forgn. Indian	750.00 (3x250) (Coal)	2625.00		Indo-Gulf Fertilisers & Chemicals / Power Generation U. K.
	Total Uttar Pradesh		1110.00	3237.88		

Sl. No.	Name of the project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Commissioning Schedule	Name of the Company
65.	Sagunlighi TPS W. Bengal	Forgn. Indian JV	1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	2000.00		Development Consultant Pvt. Ltd., CMS. USA Generation & WESEP
66.	Dankuni GPPP W. Bengal	Forgn. (NRI)	20.00 (Gas)	40.00		Spectrum Technologies USA
67.	Gouripore TPS / W. Bengal	Indian	135.00 (Coal)	500.00		Birla Technical Services
68.	Bollagarh TPS W Bengal	Indian	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1671.48		CESC Ltd. Calcutta.
Total West Bengal			1855.00	4211.48		
Total-Northern Region				6033.50	17242.08	
Total-Western Region				5266.70	15897.81	
Total-Southern Region				6972.50	19695.15	
Total-Eastern Region				8155.00	26146.48	
Total-North-Eastern Region				1145.50	3879.25	
ALL INDIA TOTAL:				27573.20	82660.77	

NOTE: 1. Since the above projects are at various stages of clearances, it is not possible to indicate the commissioning schedule.

2. Since the above projects are in private sector the persons to be employed would be decided by the company themselves.

*[Translation]***Extradition Treaty with Pakistan**

783. SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to sign an extradition treaty with Pakistan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

*[English]***Financial Position of Bihar and Orissa SEBs**

785. SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the state Electricity Boards of Bihar and Orissa have become financially unviable and their Power plants are obsolete; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken to make these Boards financially viable and to modernise their power plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The financial results of Bihar and Orissa State Electricity

Boards during the years 1990-91 and 1991-92 were as under:

(Rs. in crores)

	1990-91	1991-92
BSEB	(-) 178.89	(-) 113.72
OSEB	(+) 24.52	(+) 24.74

The above Electricity Boards have not declared any power plants as obsolete, though a few of their plants have completed the useful technical life, requiring Renovation & Modernisation. These include 3 units of Patratu of BSEB, and 3 units of Talcher and 4 units of Hirakud of OSEB.

(b) In order to improve the performance of the state Electricity Boards, an Action plan was adopted in the power Ministers' Conference held in January 1993 which provides for periodical revision of tariff, gradual reduction of T&D loss, improvement in PLF etc. Bihar and Orissa State Electricity Boards have revised their tariff with effect from 1-7-93 and 7-9-93 respectively. Further, Orissa Govt. has converted a part of its loan to the State Electricity Board into equity while Govt. of Bihar has waived the interest of loans in lieu of repayment of RE subsidy.

Central Government has also approved Renovation & Modernisation schemes in respect of the old generating units in both Electricity Boards which are under implementation.

New Scheme for Road Accident Victims

786. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start any new scheme for paying compensation to road accident victims;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposed scheme provides for payment of compensation to the victims of road accidents involving motor vehicles on a pre-determined formula, based on the age/income of the victims. This requires amendment of the Motor Vehicles Act.

(c) The Bill containing various proposals, including provisions of the new scheme, for amendment of the Motor Vehicles Act is proposed to be introduced in the current Session of the Parliament.

Development of Wayside Amenities

787. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any sites have been identified on National Highways in Gujarat for the establishment of wayside amenities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Two sites have been identified for wayside amenities on National Highways in Gujarat. These are Vapi and Dabhor on NH 8.

Kayamkulam Thermal Power Plant

788. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAM CHANDRAN:

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN:

SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any foreign private firm has proposed to set up Kayamkulam Thermal Power Plant as a joint venture with National Thermal Power Corporation;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have sought finance for this project from the organisation for economic co-operation and funding of Japan or any other foreign financial institution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and efforts being made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) M/s ICMC power Consortium Inc. USA had discussions with the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) regarding implementation of the project at NTPC project site in Kayamkulam, Kerala. The Consortium have confirmed their firm commitment to implement the project at NTPC's project site. It has been agreed to between NTPC and Consortium that NTPC would provide exclusively for implementation of the project by them for a period of one year. During this period, the Consortium have agreed to carry out the specific task as per their discussions with

NTPC. The Government of Kerala has been requested to consider signing of Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) between Kerala State Electricity Board and the promoters of the project.

(c) and (d) The project has been previously posed to the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) for financial assistance. Their acceptance is awaited.

Dereservation of Flour spar/Flurite in Vadodara (Gujarat)

789. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:
SHRI HARIN PATHAK:
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:
SHRI S. N. VEKARIA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal pending with the Government for dereserving the Flour spar/Flurite bearing areas in Vadodara district of Gujarat;

(b) if so, since when this proposal has been pending; and

(c) the reasons for delay and when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Central Government have asked for some clarifications on the proposal from the Government of Gujarat, and this information is awaited.

[*Translation*]

Rice Mills in Uttar Pradesh

790. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:
DR. P. R. GANGWAR:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up rice mills in Uttar Pradesh;

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

(c) the total amount proposed to be spent on these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Construction of Port on Western Coast

791. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is need of an alternative port for Bombay on the Western Coast;

(b) if so, whether any of the existing mini ports are suitable for it; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Music Based Programmes

792. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether plans are afoot to have Indian music-based programmes (MTV) on music television;

(b) if so, the details thereof and to what extent it is going to earn foreign exchange;

(c) whether the Indian music industry is going to have unprecedented global activity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

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

[Translation]

ISD/STD/PCO in Orissa

793. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide ISD/STD/PCOs in Orissa,

particularly in the tribal and rural areas during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) 470 urban STD/PCOs and 130 Rural/Tribal STD/PCOs are proposed to be provided during the current year.

(c) Does not arise in view of above.

[English]

Central Participation in State Road Transport Undertakings

794. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States including Maharashtra have urged the Union Government for one third share participation in the State Road Transport Undertakings; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

Demand of Steel in Gujarat

795. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the demand and consumption position of steel in Gujarat at present; and

(b) the steps taken to bridge the gap between the demand and supply of steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The estimates of demand are made on an all India basis and not for individual States. Similarly data on consumption of steel is maintained on all India basis and not for individual States.

(b) At present there is no shortage of steel in the country except for some flat products in thinner gauges. In order to augment the supply of steel in the country, Government is facilitating the creation of additional capacities in the Private Sector. Modernisation/expansion of public sector steel plants has also been taken up. Import of all items of steel is freely allowed. Import duties on a number of items like Hot Rolled Coils, Cold Rolled Coils, Galvanised Plain/Corrugated Sheets have been reduced, thereby making imports cheaper.

[Translation]

Rural Food Processing Units

796. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any scheme to generate more employment opportunities in food processing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) the State-wise details of the total rural food processing centers in the country;

(d) whether the Government propose to launch any programme for the extension of rural food processing centers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Since liberalisation in August 1991, 2471 Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda (IEMs) envisaging an investment of over Rs. 31,700 crores and an employment of over 4.45 lakh persons have been filed till January, 1994. Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formulated and is operating a number of Plan Schemes for the overall development of the Food Processing Industries which would *inter alia* generate more employment opportunities. Besides, approval has also been given in respect of proposals for setting up 100% Export Oriented Unit, Joint Ventures, Foreign Collaborations etc. in the food processing and Fishery Sector involving an investment of over Rs. 6000 crores.

(c) and (d) One of the Plan schemes being operated by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries relates to setting up of 250 Food Processing and Training Centers in rural areas during 8th Five Year Plan. During 1992-93 assistance has been provided for setting up 38 such centers in the States of Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. During 1993-94, assistance has been provided for setting up of 29 such centers in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunacha

Pradesh, Assam, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Nagaland, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Action on 50 more proposals have been initiated.

[English]

Task Forces

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

- (a) the total number of Task forces set up by his Ministry;
- (b) the details of subjects and duration of the Task forces; and
- (c) whether all relevant Reports have been submitted?

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

(b) To examine the extant forms and procedures as well as rules and laws being used in various units of the Ministry of Food processing Industries and subordinate offices, and to make recommendations, for revising the same.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Proposal to Abolish Censorship of Films

798. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to abolish censorship of films;

(b) if so, whether the adverse impact of such a decision, has been considered;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to strengthen censorship of films by reducing depiction of violence and sex?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) All films intended for public exhibition are required to be examined by the Central Board of Film Certification in the light of the Guidelines issued by Government. According to these Guidelines, while examining films for certification, the Board shall, *inter alia*, ensure that:—

- (i) anti-social activities such as violence are not glorified or justified;
- (ii) pointless or avoidable scenes of violence, cruelty and horror, scenes of violence primarily intended to provide entertainment and such scenes as may have the effect of desensitising or dehumanising people are not shown;
- (iii) human sensibilities are not offended by vulgarity, obscenity or depravity.

Any part of the film which violates any one or more of the Guidelines is deleted before a certificate is granted. Where a film is considered not suitable for

exhibition to non-adults, it is grant 'A' certificate. If the objectionable impact cannot be removed by deletions, the film is refused a certificate.

Telecom Policy

799. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any telecommunication policy, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of principle adopted to ensure the smooth running of the telecommunication system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The national Telecom policy is still under consideration of Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

CEA Clearance to Thermal Power Stations

800. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Electricity Authority has given techno-economic clearance to Mahaday Hydro Electric Project, Raichur Thermal Power Station Unit-5, Mysore Thermal Power Station and Hospet Thermal Power Station;

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for their clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c): Details are given below:-

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Capacity	Status
1	Mahaday Hydro-electric Project	345MW	The project report was returned to the State Govt. for submission after resolving the inter-state aspects.
2.	Raichur unit-5	500 MW	Central Electricity Authority had requested Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) to obtain clearance from Ministry of Environment & Forests and to submit revised cost estimates.

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Capacity	Status
3.	Mysore Thermal Power Station	500 MW	The project report has been returned to KPCL as certain basic inputs clearances for the scheme are to be tied up by Project Authorities.
4.	Hospet Thermal Power Station	500 MW	-do-

[Translation]

given below:-

Satellite Stations in Himachal Pradesh

S. No.	Name of Distt.	Amount in Lakhs.
1.	Simla	1643.66
2.	Chamba	163.64
3.	Mandi	866.71
4.	Lahul & Spiti	163.64
5.	Kinnaur	409.10
6.	Kullu	81.82

801. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of satellite stations proposed to be set up in Himachal Pradesh:

(b) the amount likely to be incurred thereon, districts-wise; and

(c) whether any time bound programme has been formulated for the purpose and the details of the work done during last six months in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The schemes have been sanctioned for providing satellite stations at 19 stations.

(b) The approximate District-wise cost likely to be incurred works out as

(c) Yes, Sir. Satellite earth station has been provided at Jogindernagar on trial basis and most of the equipments in respect of 15 stations have been ordered. Infrastructure has been made available for commissioning at five locations.

Welfare Activities and Profits Earned by SAIL

802. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state that the year-wise details of the amount spent by SAIL on the welfare Activities of its workers in proportion to the

profit earned by it in 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): The year-wise details of

amount spent by Steel Authority of India Limited (excluding Subsidiaries) for providing Social Amenities including welfare facilities to its workers/employees including executives in proportion to its profit for 1991-92, 1992-93, are given below:

(Rs. in Crores)

	1991-92	1992-93
— Expenditure on Social amenities/ Welfare facilities	240	271
— Net pre-tax profit	367	423
— Social amenities expenses as %age of profit.	65	64

The figures for 1993-94 will be available after the close of financial year.

[English]

Reservation of Bauxite Bearing Areas of Kutch District

803. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:
SHRI SHANKERSINH
VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entire Bauxite bearing areas of Kutch District are reserved for the public Sector Undertakings;

(b) whether there is any proposal for dereserving these areas for the development of Bauxite based industries; and

(c) is so the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government of Gujarat has proposed dereservation of entire bauxite areas except the following villages:-

1. Vandh 2. Nana & Motanagarecha
3. Tumadi 4. Nana Asambia 5. Ratdia
6. Mundra 7. Naredi 8. Nadnra 9. Kotada
10. Nanibalachar 11. Khanai 12. Nani & Moti Vanoti 13. Rasalia.

Indian Embassy in Kasul

804. SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Embassy in Kabul was closed down due to disturbances in that country;

(b) whether all the staff members along with their families were evacuated and shifted to India;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any damage occurred to the Indian Embassy premises and to the staff members; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (c) Our Mission in Kabul has been temporarily closed on account of the current fighting and instability in that country. The 13 India-based personnel of the Mission were evacuated from Kabul on January 8.

(d) and (e) Some damage has been caused to the Embassy Residence and the residences of the personnel of the Mission in the current fighting. No member of the Mission suffered any injuries.

[*Translation*]

Telephone Connections in Rajasthan

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

(a) the steps taken by Government to make the communication system efficient in Rajasthan;

(b) the number and the types of telephone exchanges to be set up during the current year and the district-wise number of new telephone connections proposed to be allotted;

(c) the steps taken to streamline the defective telephone system in Ajmer;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up super electronic system in Ajmer; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The Department of Telecommunication has planned opening of new electronic exchanges, provision of STD and group dialling to Tehsil/S.D.H.Q. replacement of old telephone exchanges by new technology exchanges, replacement of old telephone instruments by push button telephones, replacement of fault prone underground cable and overhead lines by underground cable, and opening of computerised FRs and customer service centre, to improve the Communication system in Rajasthan.

(b) As per *Statement-I* attached.

(c) and (d) 1.4K. C-DOT is to be installed at Ajmer in the month of February, 1994 and 1K D-TAX & 4K RLU (E-10B electronic exchange) are planned at Ajmer during 1994-95.

(e) Not applicable in view of (c) and (d) above.

STATEMENT-I

During current year following electronic exchanges are planned to be set up. The break-up is as below:-

Type	No.
New Technology (Siemence) Exchanges	01
E-10B	02
C-DOT MAXI	04

Type	No
C-DOT 1400 I NBM	06
1000L	36
C-DOT 256 P	30
C-DOT 128 P	100
MILT 64	118

Number of new telephone connections districtwise proposed to be allotted during current year are:-

S. no.	Name of Distt.	No. of telephone conns. proposed.
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1	2	3
1.	Ajmer	3000
2.	Alwar	2400
3.	Bharatpur	2300
4.	Baran	500
5.	Bundi	800
6.	Bandar	1300
7.	Bhilwara	1300
8.	Barnet	2300
9.	Bikaner	2500
10.	Churu	1700
11.	Chittorgarh	2000
12.	Dholpur	700
13.	Dause	1500
14.	Dungarpur	600
15.	Jhalawar	700
16.	Jhunjhunwala	3300
17.	Jaipur	10000
18.	Jalore	150
19.	Jaisalmer	300
20.	Jodhpur	1600

1	2	3
21.	Kota	4000
22.	Nagaur	3500
23.	Pali	4000
24.	Rajsamand	1200
25.	Sawaimadhopur	800
26.	Sikar	4900
27.	Sirohi	700
28.	Sriganganagar	6000
29.	Tonk	1300
30.	Udaipur	1100

[English]

Refixation of Land Value-Kerala

807. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation was received by his Ministry for approval of construction of N. H. 17 from km 407/900 to KM 412/245 at Kodungallur was returned to Kerala Government for refixation of land value at Kodungallur Tehsil;

(b) whether Union Government have fixed any price for different pieces of land in different States;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons for returning the above proposal to Kerala Government?

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

(b) Land Acquisition rates are not fixed by the Union Government but by State Revenue Authorities.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Foreign Investment in Food Processing Industries

808. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of investment committed and actually made in food processing and fishery sectors in the Public Sector, Private Sector and by foreign companies during the last three years;

(b) the investment proposed to be made in these sectors during the Eighth Plan, State-wise in general and Maharashtra in particular;

(c) the details of important projects cleared for Maharashtra project-wise details;

(d) the details of investment plans of multinational companies cleared for implementation in Maharashtra; and

(e) the present status of the proposal regarding marine Fisheries Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Since liberalisation in August 1991, till January 1994, 2471 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda have been filed involving investment of Rs. 31700 crores, out of which 140 units have started commercial production involving an investment of over Rs. 3000 crores. Besides Government have approved many proposals/projects in the food processing and deep sea fishing sectors which include proposals for joint ventures, Export Oriented Units, Units with Non-Resident Indians/Overseas Corporate Bodies investments units requiring industrial licence and proposals for which Plan Assistance is sought. The above involves investment of over Rs. 6000 crores and foreign equity investment of over Rs. 2000 crores.

(b) Since the investments are envisaged mainly from private sector, no State-wise projection of proposed investment has been made.

(c) and (d) Details are given in the attached *Statement*.

(e) Action has already been initiated in this regard.

STATEMENT

Details of important projects including multinational Companies cleared for Maharashtra

Name of the Project	Name of the Company	Investment
Manufacture of Beverage Essence and Beverage based.	M/s Coca Cola South Asia Holdings Inc. (Transferred in the name of M/s Britco Foods Company Limited)	Rs. 60 crores.

Name of the Project	Name of the Company	Investment
Manufacture of Mineral Water.	M/s food Concept India Limited.	Rs. 75 lakhs.
Manufacture of Chocolates.	M/s Cadbury India Ltd.	Rs. 94.02 crores
Maha Grapes.	Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board, Pune.	Rs.12 crores.
Broiler Processing plant.	Tactum Sanchi India Ltd.	Rs. 70.30 crores
Manufacture of Cereal based Products.	M/s. Kellogg Indian Ltd.	Rs. 180 crores
Wheat Flour Milling Plant.	M/s. DCW Products , Bombay	Rs. 18.77 crores
Cakes, Cup cakes, Rusks, etc.	M/s Dancake Food Service Pvt. Limited.	Rs. 18.55 crores
Manufacture of Alcoholic Beverages.	U. B. Group and United Distillers of U.K.	Rs. 12 crores
Project in Agriculture.	C.P. Agriculture Group of Thailand.	\$ 24 million.

[*Translation*]

Construction of By passes in U.P.

809. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has submitted proposals to seek financial assistance from the Union Government for the construction of by-passes during 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the union Government are likely to allot funds for

the construction of the said by passes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir. The various proposals submitted by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for financing under the Centrally sponsored scheme of Inter State or Economic Importance in 8th plan do not include the requirements for the construction of bypasses.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Telephone Connections in M.P.

810. SHRI BHEEM SINGH
 PATEL:
 SHRI SATYNARAYAN
 JATIYA:
 SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR
 SINGH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applicants on the waiting list for getting telephone connections in Madhya Pradesh district-wise and category-wise at present;

(b) the number of applicants provided with telephone connections so far, district-wise and category-wise;

(c) the number of applicants likely to be provided with telephone connections by the end of 1993-94; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to provide telephone connections to the remaining applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d) Information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Development of HCL Ltd. in Eastern Region

811. SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some members of parliament have proposed to take steps for the extension and development of Indian Copper Complex, a unit of Hindustan

Copper Limited, situated in Singhbhum district of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government propose to provide financial assistance to entrepreneurs to set up new industries in the most backward and tribal dominated Eastern Regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) Some communications have been received from Hon'ble Members of Parliament expressing their concern about the acute financial crisis being faced by Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL) and *inter-alia* with suggestions for financial support, upward revision of customs duty on copper etc, to improve the viability of the Company.

(c) In terms of the Industrial policy of the Government of India, the entrepreneurs are free to set up any industry in the backward and tribal dominated region including Eastern Regions.

[English]

Export of Films Documentaries and TV Serials

812. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Indian films documentaries and TV serials have been exported during years 1992 and 1993;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to take some measures to ensure increasing demand of the Indian films, documentaries and TV serials during the next coming years, to make handsome earning of foreign exchange;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The available information in this regard is given in the attached *Statement*.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir, The first step taken was the decanalisation of export of feature films in August 1991. The salient features of National Film Development Corporation's further strategy are-

- (1) Increased participation in TV and film markets;
- (2) Participation in more film festivals to promote and sell Indian films;
- (3) Establishment of contact with State agencies for foreign Governments which control import of films;
- (4) Organisation of promotional-cum-commercial film expositions in collaboration with distributors and foreign film festivals.

STATEMENT

1991-92

Countries	Value in Rs.
1. Feature Films	
Ameri Samoa	66400
Australia	2581687

Countries	Value in Rs.
Austria.	4626022
Baharain ls	155743
Belgium	102360
Canada	601994
Chinese Taipei	483712
Colombia	43357
Egypt A RP	952580
France	3021343
German F REP	2381583
Guyana	316971
Hong Kong	5177146
Indonesia	7776636
Iran	1201680
Italy	446596
Ivory Coast	52016
Japan	1036530
Jordan	77500
Kenya	3481577
Korea RP	688528
Lebanon	139000
Malaysia	12819603
Maldives	144387
Mauritious	204442
Mayanmar	330852
Marocco	2694007
Namibia	281920
Netherland	523000
New Zealand	34326
Nigeria	629522
Portugal	266580
Qatar	63250
Romania	130000
Saudi Arab	817506
Singapore	4912212

Countries	Value in Rs.	Countries	Value in Rs.
Spain	114143	Others	
Sri Lanka	7171519	Afghanistan	1293301
Tanzania REP	140751	Australia	116397
Thailand	11387	Canada	47350
Trinidad	106888	Hong Kong	851525
Tunisia	92500	Mauritius	102817
U Arab Emts	48978622	Singapore	23808
UK	18099929	Sri Lanka	92600
USA	8098690	Turkey	120000
USSR	9468843	U Arab Emts	12871
Yemen Republic	411370	UK	3100
2. Others		Source: Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India Annual Number for 1991-92 published by DGCI & S, Calcutta.	
Austria	5061465		
Canada	99366		
Kenya	2000	1992-93	
Korea RP	109493	1. Feature Films	
Malaysia	280542	Albania	112510
Rwanda	34757	Australia	2093570
Saudi Arab	272728	Austria	90640
Singapore	539877	Bangladesh	786986
U Arab Emts	1358003	Canada	5088125
UK	410450	Chile	79808
USA	734074	Chinese Taipei	1566087
USSR	65000	China P RP	625284
Zimbabwe	776868	C.I.S	1469836
3. Other Cinematographic Films		Egypt A RP	3178136
Documentary Films		France	3790287
Czechoslovak	40000	German F REP	2104107
Netherland	40000	Greece	40000
UK	3910348	Guyana	137999
News Reels		Hong Kong	3198762
Hong Kong	6167	Indonesia	10251626
Educational Films		Iran	425806
Malaysia	2698	Italy	4688115

Countries	Value in Rs.	Countries	Value in Rs.
Kenya	974636	Hong Kong	395200
Korea RP	336273	Hungary	40000
Lebanon	227270	Italy	781100
Malaysia	16718158	Malaysia	415970
Maldives	454077	Mauritius	198158
Mauritius	447388	Morocco	1151
Mayanmar	210904	Qatar	59617
Mexico	175515	Saudi Arab	146042
Morocco	2268860	Singapore	56346
Netherland	208355	Sri Lanka	498634
Norway	229051	U Arab Emts	1565400
Pakistan	667778	UK	289007
Peru	76270	USA	4688649
Poland	40000	3. Other Cinematographic Films	
Romania	220602	Documentary Films	
Saudi Arab	565395	Singapore	70000
Singapore	26150225	Sri Lanka	40000
South Africa	72769	ADVERTISMENT FILMS	
Sri Lanka	3404865	Malaysia	11250
Switzerland	467605	Singapore	4039914
Syria	1883957	Sri Lanka	97034
Tanzania REP	166175	U Arab Emts	13575
Thailand	544628	UK	56298
Trinidad	25000	USA	94116
Turkey	56356	Others	
U Arab Emts	47706112	Australia	720927
UK	27018094	Bahrain IS	426506
USA	16183618	Canada	27316
Yemen REP	90619	Chinese Taipei	48789
2. Others		Hong Kong	2828064
Australia	61127	Kenya	28173
Canada	90013	Qatar	157261
France	280000	Singapore	237766
German F REP	744196	Thailand	77419

Countries	Value in Rs.
U Arab Emts	516799
UK	377172
USA	1456223

Source: Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India - Annual Number for 1992-93 Published by DGCI & S, Calcutta.

Visa Curbs on Indian Software Professionals in US

813. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 8125 on May 10, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the National Association of Software and Services companies have approached the Government for assistance;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken up the matter with the US for relaxation of restrictions; and

(c) if so, the results achieved thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Government have conveyed concern to the US Authorities at the proposed restrictions which will affect Indian software professionals.

(c) The matter continues to be under discussion.

[*Translation*]

Khanna Committee's Report

814. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the Khanna Committees report set up to inquire into the matter of telephones went out of order in large scale during the last monsoon in the capital;

(b) if so, the salient features 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) The Committee set up by CMD, MTNL (though not called Khanna Committee) to study causes leading to cable break-down has since submitted its report.

(b) The committee studied in depth the causes leading to cable breakdown and has made suggestions for avoiding large scale breakdown in future. The committee has made several recommendations for improvement in methods, practice and techniques for cable jointing, cable duct construction and cable duct, maintenance.

(c) The recommendations of the committee are being implemented.

[*English*]

Registration of Newspapers

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

(a) the total number of newspaper registered under the Press and Registration of Books Act as on March 31, 1993 with State-wise and language-wise break-up;

(b) the total number of applications for registration pending as on April 1, 1993;

(c) the total number of applications received during the period April-December, 1993;

(d) the total number of applications disposed of during the period;

(e) the total number of applications pending as on 1 January, 1994 with State-wise and language-wise break up; and

(f) the number of applications pending for more than one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Details are given in the *Statement-I* and II.

(b) The number of receipts pending for registration of newspapers as on 1.4.1993 was 245.

(c) 11,002 receipts were received in connection with the registration of newspapers during the period April-December, 93.

(d) 11085 receipts were disposed of during the period.

(e) 162 receipts were pending as on 1st January 1994. State-wise details are given in the *Statement III*. Language-

wise break up of receipts is not maintained.

(f) There is no receipt pending for more than one year.

STATEMENT-I

State/Union Territory	No. of Newspapers
1. Andhra Pradesh	1631
2. Arunachal Pradesh	3
3. Assam	300
4. Bihar	1457
5. Goa	80
6. Gujarat	1026
7. Haryana	766
8. Himachal Pradesh	132
9. J&K	269
10. Karnataka	1646
11. Kerala	1505
12. Madhya Pradesh	2343
13. Maharashtra	4120
14. Manipur	143
15. Meghalaya	65
16. Mizoram	99
17. Nagaland	11
18. Orissa	716
19. Punjab	1113
20. Rajasthan	2397
21. Sikkim	10
22. Tamil Nadu	2116
23. Tripura	93
24. Uttar Pradesh	4974
25. West Bengal	3243
26. Andaman & Nicobar	26

State/Union Territory	No. of Newspapers
27. Chandigarh	283
28. Daman, Dadara & Nagar Haveli	2
29. Delhi	4868
30. Lakshadweep	2
31. Pondicherry	63
Total:	35502

STATEMENT-II

Language	No. of Newspapers
English	6188
Hindi	12267
Assamese	156
Bengali	2085
Gujarati	1049
Kannada	1081
Kashmiri	01
Konkani	04
Malayalam	1140
Manipuri	26
Marathi	1597
Nepali	44
Oriya	509
Punjabi	698
Sanskrit	42
Sindhi	89
Tamil	1483
Telugu	803
Urdu	2193
Bilingual	2620
Multilingual	1110
Others	317
Total	35502

STATEMENT-III

Name of State	Number
Andhra Pradesh	4
Assam	2
Bihar	0
Chandigarh	0
Delhi	12
Goa	2
Gujarat	10
Haryana	0
Himachal Pradesh	0
J & K	0
Karnataka	18
Kerala	10
Madhya Pradesh	36
Maharashtra	10
North East	2
Orissa	0
Punjab	6
Rajasthan	10
Tamil Nadu	0
Uttar Pradesh	30
West Bengal	10
Total	162

Performance of Hindustan Zinc Limited

816. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the production and sale performances of Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) during last three years;

(b) whether the sale performance of HZL is satisfactory;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to increase production and to improve the sale performances during the financial years 1993-94 and 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) The production and sales performance of Hindustan Zinc Limited in respect of its main production viz. Zinc and Lead during the past three years is as under:-

(In tonnes)

Year	Production		Sales	
	Zinc	Lead	Zinc	Lead
1990-91	72,362	24,919	60,667	21,082
1991-92	84,668	30,395	78,778	28,672
1992-93	1,06,564	38,382	91,741	21,194

(b) to (d) Steep fall in prices of Lead and Zinc in the international market, reduction in import duties on these metals and stagnancy in their demand world over together have created very difficult conditions for sale of both these metals. As will be seen from figures given above inspite of such adverse market conditions except in the case of total sales of Lead in 1992-93, the company has been able to increase the volume of its sales every year.

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up power projects in Karnataka during Eighth Five Year Plan;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Setting up of Power Projects in Karnataka

817. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) The following power projects have been planned to yield benefits in Karnataka during the Eighth Five Year Plan:

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Type	Total I.C (MW)	Benefits 92-97 (MW)
1.	Shivpur	(H)	18.0	18.0
2.	Ghatprabha	(H)	32.0	16.0
3.	Raichur TPP Unit-4	(T)	210.0	210.0
4.	Kalinadi-II	(H)	270.0	270.0

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Type	Total I.C (MW)	Benefits 92-97 (MW)
5.	Sharavati T.R.	(H)	240.0	240.0
6.	Mallapur	(H)	9.0	9.0
7.	D.G. Sots	(T)	78.0	78.0
8.	Brindaban	(H)	12.0	12.0
9.	Bhadra REC.	(H)	6.0	6.0
10.	Bangalore D.G.	(T)	128.0	128.0
11.	Varahi-Mani Dam	(H)	9.0	9.0
GRAND TOTAL			1012.0	996.0
Central Sector Projects				
12.	Kaiga	(N)	440.0	440.0

Power Sector in Maharashtra

[Translation]

818. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have enhanced the total outlay for Power Sector in Maharashtra for 1993-94; and

(b) if so, the details of the schemes initiated for improving the power sector in Maharashtra during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The approved plan outlay for 1993-94 for Power Sector in Maharashtra is Rs. 888.11 crores. No proposal for further enhancement of outlay for 1993-94 has been received from Government of Maharashtra.

Extradition Treaty with Germany

819. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI RAM SINGH
KASHWAN:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI RAJENDER AGNIHOTRI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to sign an extradition treaty with Germany; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Official level talks between India and Germany on this subject have been held in Bonn from 21-23 February, 1994 and a draft Extradition Treaty has been finalised. This will now be submitted to the respective Governments for their approval.

[English]

Land Acquired by NTPC

820. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation has acquired land for setting up of a gas-based power station near Kakinada,

(b) If so, the area of agricultural land acquired therefor;

(c) the time by which the construction work will begin;

(d) the outlay for the project sanctioned during 1993-94; and

(e) the reasons for delay in construction work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V.RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of the 654.09 acres of private land acquired, 592.13 acres is agricultural land.

(c) to (e) The implementation of this project by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) was held up due to financial constraints. It has been decided to implement this project in the private sector by a joint venture company with minority equity participation by NTPC and as such no specific outlay has been provided for by NTPC in 1993-94. Construction work on this project can commence after the financial closing of the project, which is in the final stage.

[Translation]

Visit of Myanmar Delegation

821. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation headed by the Deputy Foreign Minister of Myanmar visited India during January, 1994;

(b) if so, the bilateral issues discussed between the two countries during the visit;

(c) whether any agreements have been signed with the Government of Myanmar;

(d) if so, the salient features of each of these agreements: and

(e) the follow up Action taken by the Government for their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. A seven-member Myanmar delegation headed by the Deputy Foreign Minister of Union of Myanmar visited India from 19-24 January, 1994.

(b) The entire gamut of bilateral relations was discussed during the visit.

(c) and (d) During the visit two agreements were signed namely the Border Trade Agreement to augment and regulate the bilateral trade through the land route across the border and a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between Civilian Border Authorities aimed at curbing trans-border movement of insurgents as well as narco-traffickers.

(e) Follow-up action on some of the above issues was discussed during Home Secretary's visit to Myanmar from February 2-4, 1994, and on other issues will be considered during the forthcoming interaction between the two Governments.

Visit of Prime Minister of Singapore

822. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
SHRI C. P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:
SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Singapore visited India recently;

(b) if so, the issues taken up during his talks with Indian leaders and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any agreements have been signed during the visit;

(d) if so, the salient features of each of the agreement;

(e) the extent to which Singapore has agreed to invest in India, project-wise; and

(f) the efforts being made to attract more investment from that country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir, Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong of Singapore visited India from 23-30 January, 1994.

(b) The Singapore Prime Minister and Indian leaders held wide-ranging discussions on matters of bilateral, regional and international significance. Consequently, relations between the two countries have been further consolidated.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Agreements for Avoidance of Double Taxation; Shipping; and a memorandum of understanding on Tourism Cooperation were signed between the two countries. An agreement on Strategic Framework for Economic Cooperation was also signed between private sectors of the two countries.

(e) The business delegation accompanying the Singapore Prime Minister expressed interest in investing in sectors such as financial services, real estate, tourism, civil aviation, telecommunications, parts and shipping, warehousing etc.

(f) Information on investment opportunities and the ongoing economic liberalisation process in India is disseminated regularly through diverse channels among business circles, media and government organisations.

[English]

Modernisation of IISCO

823. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to undertake modernisation of the Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited (IISCO);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the name of the agencies entrusted with this plan; and

(c) the terms and conditions of the agreement signed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Government have decided to allow private sector participation in the equity and management of IISCO for the purpose of ensuring expeditious modernisation of its Bumpur Steelworks. Government proposed to introduce a Bill for empowering Government to allow Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) to transfer its shareholdings in IISCO to private persons for this purpose. The Bill is currently under consideration of the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry.

(b) and (c) No agreement has been signed in this regard by Government. After the proposed Bill is enacted and other procedural requirements met, SAIL and the identified private sector participant, may enter into a Memorandum of Understanding/Agreement containing all the terms and conditions of the transfer of shares and the various obligations of the two parties. The major terms and conditions are envisaged to be related to (i) the time frame for modernising and enhancing the production of Bumpur Steelwork's to 1.5 mtpa of crude steel/year, (ii) schedule of investments to be made for this purpose, (iii) non-disposal of IISCO's assets, (iv) protection of employees interests, etc.

[Translation]

Rates of Telephone Charges

824. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA
CHIKHLIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the rates of telephone charges in near future; and

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

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

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

Censor Board Clearance to Films

825. SHRI DHARMANNA
 MONDAYYA SADUL:
 SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:
 SHRI ASTBHUJA
 PRASAD SHUKLA:
 SHRI GOVINDRAO
 NIKAM:

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

- (a) the criteria adopted to grant permission to films having vulgar scenes;
- (b) whether the Central Board of Film Certification has been granting permission to the films having vulgar scenes of violence and sex;
- (c) if so, whether the Central Board of Film Certification have formulated any new guidelines for the exhibition of such films;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether such vulgar scenes in films are affecting adversely on youths; and
- (f) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to check violence and sex in films?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (d) All films intended for public exhibition are required to be certified by the Central Board of Film Certification in the light of the Guidelines issued by the Government. A *Statement of the revised Guidelines* issued on 6.12.91 is annexed.

Guidelines 2(i), 2(iv) and 2(vii) specifically relate to curbing of sex and violence in films.

(e) No specific study regarding effect of vulgar scenes in films on youth has been made in the recent past.

(f) Guidelines already exist to curb excessive scenes of sex and violence in films.

STATEMENT

TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE EXTRA-ORDINARY GAZETTE OF INDIA PART II SECTION 3 SUB-SECTION (ii)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

New Delhi, the 6th December, 1991

Notification

S.O. 836 (E) In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 5B of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 (37 of 1952) (37 of 1952) and in supersession of the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting No. S.O.9 (E) dated the 7th January, 1978, except as respect to things done or omitted to be done before such supersession, the Central Government hereby directs that in sanctioning films for public exhibition, the Board of Film Certification shall be guided by the following principles:

1. The objectives of film certification will be to ensure that:
 - (a) the medium of film remains responsible and sensitive to the values and standards of society;

- (b) artistic expression and creative freedom are not unduly curbed;
- (c) certification is responsive to social change;
- (d) the medium of film provides clean and healthy entertainment; and
- (e) as far as possible, the film is of aesthetic value and cinematically of a good standard.
2. In pursuance of the above objectives, the Board of Film Certification shall ensure that—
- (i) anti-social activities such as violence are not glorified or justified;
- (ii) the modus operandi of criminals, other visuals or words likely to incite the commission of any offence are not depicted;
- (iii) scenes—
- (a) showing involvement of children in violence as victims or as perpetrators or as forced witnesses to violence, or showing children as being subjected to any form of child abuse;
- (b) showing abuse or ridicule of physically and mentally handicapped persons; and
- (c) showing cruelty to or abuse of, animals are not presented needlessly;
- (iv) pointless or avoidable scenes of violence, cruelty and horror, scenes of violence primarily intended to provide entertainment and such scenes as may have the effect of desensitising of dehumanising people are not shown;
- (v) scenes which have the effect of justifying or glorifying drinking are not shown;
- (vi) scenes tending to encourage, justify or glamorise drug addiction are not shown;
- (vii) human sensibilities are not offended by vulgarity, obscenity or depravity;
- (viii) such dual meaning words as obviously cater to baser instincts are not allowed;
- (ix) scenes degrading or denigrating women in any manner are not presented;
- (x) scenes involving sexual violence against women like attempt to rape, rape or any form of molestation, or scenes of a similar nature are avoided, and if any such incident is germane to the theme, they shall be reduced to the minimum and no details are shown;
- (xi) scenes showing sexual perversions shall be avoided and, if such matters are germane to the theme, they shall be reduced to the minimum and no details are shown;

- (xii) visuals or words contemptuous of racial, religious or other groups are not presented;
- (xiii) visuals or words which promote communal, obscurantist, anti-scientific and anti-national attitudes are not presented;
- (xiv) the sovereignty and integrity of India is not called in question.
- (xv) the security of the State is not jeopardised or endangered;
- (xvi) friendly relations with foreign States are not strained;
- (xvii) public order is not endangered;
- (xviii) visuals or words involving defamation of an individual or a body of individuals, or contempt of court are not presented.

EXPLANATION: Scenes that tend to create scorn, disgrace or disregard of rules or undermine the dignity of court will come under the term "contempt of court" and

- (xix) National symbols and emblems are not shown except in accordance with the provisions of the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950 (12 of 1950).

- 3. The Board of Film Certification shall also ensure that the film
 - (i) is judged in its entirety from the point of view of its overall impact; and
 - (ii) is examined in the light of the period depicted in the film and the contemporary standards of the country and the people to which the film relates, provided that the film does not deprave the morality of the audience.
- 4. Films that meet the above-mentioned criteria but are considered unsuitable for exhibition to non-adults shall be certified for exhibition to adult audiences only.
- 5. (1) While certifying films for unrestricted public exhibition, the Board shall ensure that the film is suitable for family viewing, that is to say, the film should be such that all the members of the family including children can view it together.
 - (2) If the Board, having regard to the nature, content and theme of the film, is of the opinion that it is necessary to caution the parent/guardian to consider as to whether any child below the age of twelve year may be allowed to see such a film, the film shall be certified for unrestricted public exhibition with an endorsement to that effect.
 - (3) If the Board, having regard to the nature, content and theme

of the film, is of the opinion that the exhibition of film should be restricted to members of any profession or any class of persons, the film shall be certified for public exhibition restricted to the specialised audiences to be specified by the Board in this behalf.

6. The board shall scrutinise the titles of the films carefully and ensure that they are not provocative, vulgar, offensive or violative of any of the above-mentioned guidelines.

Foot Note: Notification No.5/5/77-F (C) dated 7.1.78 published in the Extraordinary Gazette of India Part II Section 3 Sub-section (ii) dated 7.1.78 as S.O.9 (E).

Amended by :

- (i) Notification No. 5/5/77-F(C) dated 27.1.79 published as S.O.618 in the Gazette of India part II Section 3 Subsection (ii) dated 17.2.79.
- (ii) Notification No. 805/2/82 - F(C) dated 7.5.83 published as S.O. 356(E) in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II Section 3 Sub-section (ii) dated 7.5.83.
- (iii) Notification No. 803/4/89-F(C) dated 11.8.89 published as S.O. 2179 in the gazette of India part II Section 3 Sub-Section (ii) dated 9.9.89.

(File No. 805/1/90-F(C))
(S. LAKSHMI NARAYANAN)

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[English]

Competitive Telecom Policy

826. SHRI SULTAN
SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an international expert on telecom has favoured adoption of competitive oriented telecom policy by all countries to provide improved services to the subscriber and to participate in globalisation of telecom services;

(b) whether any details have been worked out in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which competitive telecom policy is likely to be introduced?

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Pak Foreign Minister's Statement

827. SHRI CHANDRA JEET
YADAV:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH
(DEORIA):
SHRI RAM VILAS
PASWAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the reported utterances of the Foreign Minister of Pakistan during his recent visit of Uzbekistan in regard to the danger of nuclear war in South Asia due to Kashmir issue; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Government have come across media reports of a statement attributed to the Foreign Minister of Pakistan at Tashkent on January 8, 1994 to the effect that unless Kashmir issue is resolved under the UN resolution, there is a danger of a nuclear war.

(b) The Pakistan Foreign Office Spokesman subsequently clarified that the Foreign Minister of Pakistan only referred to the danger of another war between India and Pakistan over Kashmir issue. Government regard such posturing and rhetoric adopted by Pakistan as a manifestation of Pakistan's negative approach. Government are aware of Pakistan's clandestine and weapons-oriented nuclear programme and constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on India's security.

Star T. V. to Telecast Budget Presentation

828. PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY: Will be Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have permitted Star TV to telecast the Budget speech; and

(b) if so, the conditions for such telecast?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) This Ministry is not aware of such a decision.

(b) Does not arise.

Investment in Power Projects

829. SHRI RAM KAPSE:
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have evolved a new policy on foreign investment in the power projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the leading economists and power engineers including Members of Parliament have questioned the economic rationale of the projects approved and the policy itself; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The policy to attract greater private investment, including foreign investment was formulated sometime back and has been amended recently. The main elements of policy are contained in the attached *Statement*.

(c) and (d) The response to the rationale of the private sector policy is gen-

erally positive. Clarifications have been provided from time to time regarding some doubts about the projects already approved.

STATEMENT

Private Sector Development

Government have been taking a number of measures with a view to promoting additional investment in the power Sector from the private sector. An Investment Promotion Cell in the Ministry of power facilitates private sector investment and the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 has been amended to provide for participation of the private sector generation companies in generation and distribution. A Tariff Notification was issued in March 92 providing for the basic determinants for negotiation of Power Purchase Agreements between the independent power projects and the State Electricity Boards. The rates of depreciation provided for various facilities under the Electricity (Supply) Act were also reviewed and were marginally modified in January 1992.

In the light of experience gained over the last two years, the position has been further reviewed. Recognising the need for change in keeping with ongoing negotiations between the State Electricity Boards and the proponents of the power projects, it has been decided to effect certain modifications in the tariff formula and the rates of depreciation. The main changes are the following:-

(1) The weighted average rate of depreciation for coal based thermal power projects at 5.02% is inadequate for debt redemption. It has been decided to provide an average rate of 7.5% as the rate of depreciation applicable for all thermal projects.

(2) A number of investors have been requesting that the component of return on equity included in the tariff should be provided for in foreign exchange to cover investment brought in foreign currency. It has been decided to permit the return on this part of the equity in foreign exchange, but restricted to 16% of the foreign equity.

(3) In order to take into account larger insurance costs it has been decided that the Operation and Maintenance expenditure shall be computed at either 2.5% of the completed project cost or 2% of the completed/contracted cost plus actual insurance charges. Subject to an overall ceiling of 3% of the completed/contracted cost.

(4) The current tariff formula does not provide for any ceiling on the additional incentive rate payable for generation above the normative PLF level 68.5%. It has been decided that the additional incentive payable shall not exceed a rate of 0.7% of the return on equity for each percentage increase of PLF. The Notification provides a ceiling, leaving room for negotiations between the State Electricity Boards and promoters in each case. The above incentive payments for additional generation will be without any fixed cost element; and as a result, the cost of electricity of such power shall be substantially lower than the per unit cost of electricity at normative PLF (base cost)

Electronic Mail Services

830. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed some private sector companies to operate Electronic mail Services in the country;

(b) if so, whether licences have been granted to some companies in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the schemes drawn up and target fixed for operating the said service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to throw open, on franchise basis, Electronic Mail Services in the country to the registered Indian companies, both in public and private sector.

(b) One Company, viz. M/s ICNET of Madras has been granted licence to provide Electronic Mail Services in the country so far. Besides, letters of intent have also been issued to 11 companies.

(c) Essential details of the schemes are:—

- The licence has been provisionally granted for a period of five years on a non exclusive basis
- An annual licence fee will be paid by the licensee to the Deptt. of Telecommunications.
- Licence can provide the service anywhere in the country.
- Licensee will provide the service within the calling tariff provided by the Deptt. of Telecom.
- Licensee will comply with the terms and conditions laid down by the Deptt. of Telecom.

(d) Licensee will provide the service at least in five cities within one year from the date of signing the licence agreement.

Joint Ventures by Developed Countries

831. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN
PRABHU ZANTYE:
SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received proposals from developed countries for joint ventures for manufacture of telephone equipments;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the decision taken thereon ;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up environment friendly projects in Goa;

(d) if so, the details thereof with other important projects proposed to be executed during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(e) whether any regional training institute is being set up in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Under the New Industrial Policy announced in July, 91 proposals for foreign collaboration/Joint ventures with foreign equity upto 51% are cleared under the automatic approval procedure by the RBI. Joint venture proposals with foreign equity more than 51% are considered on case to case basis by the foreign Investment Promotion Board. Major Projects already approved under these procedures are indicated in the attached *Statement*.

(c) and (d) Under the new Industrial Policy manufacture of telecom equipment has been permitted in the private sector. In view of this Govt. of India has no proposal to set up any telecom equipment

manufacturing project in the State sector in Goa.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. There is no proposal to set up any Regional Training Institute in Goa.

STATEMENT

Major Proposed Foreign Investment Projects (Telecom Equipment Manufacturing)

S. No.	Foreign Company	Proposed Location of Project	Proposed Foreign Equity%	Proposed Items of Manufacture
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ericsson Sweden	Jaipur Rajasthan	51	Switching Equipment
2.	Fujitsu Japan	Sas Nagar (Punjab)	71	-do-
3.	Siemens Germany	Calcutta (W.B)	51	-do-
4.	Alcatel France	Gurgaon Haryana	51	-do-
5.	GPT U.K.	Gurgaon Haryana	51	-do-
6.	AT & T USA	Bangalore Karnataka	51	-do-
7.	AT & T USA	Gandhinagar Gujarat	51	Transmission Equipment
8.	Nokia Finland	Bangalore Karnataka	51	-do-
9.	Hughes USA	Faridabad Haryana	51	-do-
10.	Motorola USA.	Bangalore (Karnataka)	100	Modems

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Ericsson Cables Sweden	Rewa (M.P.)	30	Cables
12.	Fujitsu	Bhopal M.P.	61	Transmission Equipment

[*Translation*]

**Automatic Telephone Exchanges in
M.P.**

832. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR
SINGH THAKUR:
SHRI BHEEM SINGH
PATEL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-
TIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of automatic tele-
phone exchanges functioning in Madhya
Pradesh at present, district-wise;

(b) the capacity of these telephone
exchanges, district-wise;

(c) whether the Government have
set-up more telephone exchanges in
1993-94; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, district-
wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The number of
automatic telephone exchanges function-
ing in Madhya Pradesh at present, Dis-
trict-wise, is given in the attached *State-
ment-I* (columns 1 to 3)

(b) The capacity of the exchanges
District-wise is given in the attached
Statement-I (column 4)

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The District-wise details of the
telephone exchanges already set up dur-
ing 1993-94 is given in attached *State-
ment-II*.

STATEMENT-I

*District-wise number of Automatic Telephone Exchanges along with Equipped Capacity in
Madhya Pradesh*

S. No.	District	No. of exchanges	Equipped Capacity
1.	Balaghat	34	5428
2.	Bastar	49	6612

S. No.	District	No. of exchanges	Equipped Capacity
3.	Betul	34	5230
4.	Bhind	41	5302
5.	Bhopal	22	41260
6.	Bilaspur	92	18686
7.	Chhatarpur	26	4717
8.	Chindwara	55	9668
9.	Damoh	20	2952
10.	Datia	15	2112
11.	Dewas	58	8592
12.	Dhar	88	13050
13.	Durg	27	10240
14.	Guna	51	7724
15.	Gwalior	38	25884
16.	Hoshangabad	68	11938
17.	Indore	53	60580
18.	Jabalpur	59	29716
19.	Jhabua	31	5176
20.	Khandwa	64	12410
21.	Khargone	87	13517
22.	Mandla	23	3288

S. No.	District	No. of exchanges	Equipped Capacity
23.	Mandsaur	101	20316
24.	Morena	46	8304
25.	Narsinghpur	39	6292
26.	Panna	12	1832
27.	Raigarh	48	7260
28.	Raipur	74	28996
29.	Raison	37	5801
30.	Rajgarh	32	5192
31.	Rajanandgaon	26	4479
32.	Ratlam	53	13432
33.	Rewa	27	5244
34.	Sagar	51	9360
35.	Sarguja	25	4140
36.	Satna	27	6032
37.	Sehore	37	5896
38.	Seoni	32	4168
39.	Shahdol	29	5878
40.	Shajapur	62	8714
41.	Shivpuri	40	5454
42.	Sidhi	18	2736

S. No.	District	No. of exchanges	Equipped Capacity
43.	Tikamgarh	15	1825
44.	Vijain	70	19161
45.	Vidisha	29	5936

STATEMENT-II

District-wise details of Telephone Exchanges already commissioned during 1993-94 in Madhya Pradesh

Sl.No.	District
1. BASTAR	1. Kukhar 2. Nagarmar
2. BETUL	1. Bakoda 2. Bhimpur
3. BHIND	1. Dehagaon 2. Panjabipura
4. BHOPAL	1. Thana 2. Polasganj
5. CHHATARPUR	1. Matgawan
6. DEWAS	1. Gyatrinagar 2. Dorda 3. Nagukhedi 4. Garhkejuria 5. Khol 6. Tigariakoda
7. DHAR	1. Ahamad 2. Gopawa 3. Nagoda 4. Dattigaon

Sl.No.	District
	5. Nawas 6. Bandeti 7. Raipakheda 8. Ambada
8. GUNA	1. Kamkheda 2. Bhamniaur 3. Mayapur 4. Penchi 5. Daurana 6. Bamari
9. GWALIOR	1. Berui
10. HOSHANGABAD	1. Achalkheda 2. Gohed 3. Kamtada 4. Rolgaon 5. Koyagaon 6. Razgaon 7. Gadaria 8. Samyasa 9. Kheda 10. Julwaniya 11. Taronda 12. Bhatti 13. Rajpur 14. Bhillai-diakela 15. Naktara
11. KHANDWA	1. Dewal 2. Behghwanpura 3. Mohad

Sl.No.	District
	4. Bamboda
	5. Goul
	6. Patagay
	7. Sheikhpura
	8. Bhourasa
12. KHARGONE	1. Bamandi 2. Chataki 3. Bokratha 4. Piproda 5. Jatawe
13. MANDSAUR	1. Baria Amra 2. Pawti 3. Zarda 4. Malaheda 5. Jamnia Rao 6. Barkheda Ganhora 7. Nimbroda 8. Marjeeria 9. Tallu 10. Navpuria 11. Managarh
14. MORENA	1. Pandurna
15. NARSING-HPUR	1. Barheta
16. RAIPUR	1. Sambalpur 2. Raun 3. Patewa 4. Sinhora 5. Khukrel 6. Datranga
17. RAISEN	1. Kurwai 2. Manpur 3. Jangadi 4. Somapur
18. RAJGARH	1. Asreta
19. RAJNAND-GAON	1. Mudia 2. Genda-tola

Sl.No.	District
20. RATLAM	1. Sejawta 2. Panthpiplōa
21. REWA	1. Raghurajganj 2. Mukundpur
22. SAGAR	1. Anantpura 2. Barja
23. SEHORE	1. Ghurada Burma
24. SHAJAPUR	1. Modi 2. Sajjod 3. Raipurpiplod 4. Tanayl
25. SHIVPURI	1. Sajai 2. Jhiri
26. UJJAIN	1. Beldawan 2. Nimboda 3. Kadodia

[English]

**Prime Minister's talks with World
Leader's at Davos**

833. SHRI RAMESH CHEN-NITHALA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister held any talks with the heads of foreign Governments on Pakistan's abetment to terrorism in Kashmir during the recent visit to Davos;

(b) if so, whether there is any change in the perceptions of those countries in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Power Generation and Distribution

834. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any expert committee has been set up to examine the electricity distribution system in the eastern region of the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) No Expert Committee has been set up to examine the electricity distribution system in the Eastern Region of the country.

Post and Telegraph Offices in Gujarat

835. SHRI N. J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Gujarat which fulfil the prescribed norms required for opening of new post and telegraph offices;

(b) the number of villages specially in Chhota Udaipur tribal area where the above facility has not been provided; and

(c) the number of the post offices/sub-post offices and telegraph offices opened in the above area during 1991-92 and 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 155 villages in Gujarat fulfil the prescribed norms for opening post offices. However, no village in the State fulfils the norms for opening new telegraph offices.

(b) Out of 276 villages in Chhota Udaipur Taluka, 220 villages have not been provided with post offices. Telegraph facilities are available only at the following places, as no other village in this Taluka presently justifies the opening of new telegraph offices:-

Town	Village in Chhota Udaipur	
Chhota Udaipur		Kadipani
Chhota Udaipur	(i)	Kawant
RS	(ii)	Panvad
	(iii)	Parveda
	(iv)	Saidivasan
	(v)	Ranper
	(vi)	Zer

(c) The details of number of post offices/sub-post offices and telegraph offices opened in the above area are given as under:-

Year	Extra departmental branch Post Offices	Sub Post Offices	Telegraph Offices
1991-92	1	-	-
1992-93	4	-	-

T.V. Transmitter at Cannanore, Kerala

836. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAM-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the site has been located/acquired for the setting up the High Power T. V. Transmitter at Cannanore Kerala;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed location;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay;

(d) the time, by which it is likely to be set up and commissioned; and

(e) the total allocation made for this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) A site measuring approximately 3.5 acres situated under RS No. 1 of Andoor Desam in Teliparamba Taluk has been finalised for the proposed High Power TV Transmitter at Cannanore. The site is yet to be handed over to Door-darshan by the Government of Kerala.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The normal lead time for completion of a project of this nature is about 3-4 years after the scheme is formally approved by the Government.

Expansion of NALCO

837. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the original cost of the expansion plan of National Aluminium Company (NALCO);

(b) the revised cost of the expansion plan of NALCO;

(c) whether the revised cost has been approved by the Public Investment Board;

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for expeditious implementation of the plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BAL-RAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (e) Public Investment Board (PIB) recommended the expansion plan of National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) based on May, 1992 prices at an estimated cost of Rs. 969.95 crores subject to obtaining environmental clearance for the mining component of the project. Pending receipt of the environmental clearance and as advised by the Ministry of Finance the approval of Planning Commission has been obtained for the revised cost of the project at Rs. 1056.95 crores at May, 1993 prices. Action has been taken to expedite the environmental clearance and the Committee constituted by the Ministry of Environment & Forests has visited the site in January, 1994.

Expansion of Telephone Exchanges in Bombay

838. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Bombay where Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited have proposed to commission new telephone exchange or expand the existing ones; and

(b) the details of expansion programme chalked out, if any, for the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The places in Bombay where MTNL proposes to commission new telephone exchanges or expand the existing ones during the period upto 31.3.1994 are as under:

Wadala-2, Panvel-1, Thana Cherai, Mandvi, Malad and Kandivli-4.

(b) Net capacity addition planned for next three years is as under:-

Year	Capacity	Remarks
1994-95	237.64 K	Details of the expansion programme for 1994-95, 1995,96 and 1996-97 are enclosed in the attached <i>Statement</i>
1995-96	94.00 K	
1996-97	98.00 K	

STATEMENT

Details of Expansion Programme for 1991-95, 95-96 & 96-97

Sl. No.	Name	Net CA. Planned to be Added		
		(94-95)	(95-96)	(96-97)

FOR MTNL BOMBAY

1.	Cuffe Parade	1K	2K	1K
2.	Cooperage	10.2K	4K	3K
3.	Fountain	11.2K	3K	3K
4.	City	10K	2K	2K
5.	Mandvi	3K	1K	1K
6.	Gardevi	4K	2K	2K
7.	M. Hill	3K	2K	2K
8.	Mazgaon	6K	2K	2K
9.	Wadala	5K	3K	2K

Sl. No.	Name	Net CA. Planned to be Added		
		(94-95)	(95-96)	(96-97)
10.	Byculla	1K	2K	2K
11.	Worli	4K	2K	2K
12.	Shivaji Park	2K	2K	1K
13.	Prabhadevi	4K	2K	2K
14.	Sion	10K	1K	1K
15.	Bandra	4K	1K	2K
16.	Khar	1K	2K	2K
17.	Vileparle	6K	3K	3K
18.	Andheri	6K	Nil	3K
19.	Versove	8K	6K	3K
20.	Marol	21K	1K	3K
21.	Goregaon	3K	2K	3K
22.	Gokuldham	6K	2K	2K
23.	Orkay	15K	2K	3K
24.	Malad	2K	2K	2K
25.	Kandivli	8K	3K	3K
26.	Samatanagar	3K	1K	2K
27.	Mira Road	3K	2K	2K
28.	Borivli	9K	2K	3K
29.	Bhayander	5K	4K	4K

Sl. No.	Name	Net CA. Planned to be Added		
		(94-95)	(95-96)	(96-97)
30.	Godrej	1K	1K	1K
31.	Chembur	4K	2K	2K
32.	Powai	9K	1K	2K
33.	Mankhurd	3K	2K	3K
34.	Ghatkopar	2K	2K	2K
35.	Mulund	5K	3K	3K
36.	Thane	3.4K	2K	2K
37.	Thane Charai	15K	3K	3K
38.	Wagle Estate	2K	1K	1K
39.	Mumbra	2K	1K	1K
40.	Vashi	5K	2K	3K
41.	Turhhe	3K	2K	2.5K
42.	Rabale	1K	1K	1K
43.	Belapur	3K	2K	2K
44.	Panvel	3K	2K	2K
45.	Uran	1K	1K	1K
46.	Sheva	nil	1K	nil
47.	Taloja	nil	1K	nil
48.	Nhava	0.34K	0.5K	nil
49.	Dronagiri	0.5K	0.5K	0.5K
TOTAL		237.64K	94.0K	98.0K

Legend:- K = Stand for 1000 lines.

[*Translation*]

**Sanction of Funds for National
Highways Orissa**

839. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount sanctioned for the National Highway No. 6 in Keonjhar district of Orissa;

(b) the total amount spent thereon so far;

(c) whether funds have been allegedly misappropriated;

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal to conduct an inquiry into it; and

(e) if so, by what time and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (e) The information is being collected from State Government of Orissa.

[*English*]

Steel Production

840. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:
SHRI S. B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita steel consumption in India as compared to other developing countries;

(b) whether steel production during the first eight months of the current financial year i. e. April to November 1993 was less than the steel production during the corresponding period of the preceding year;

(c) if so, the fall in total output and reasons therefor;

(d) the steps being taken to improve steel production in the coming financial year;

(e) the production of sponge iron during the last three years; and

(f) the details of production, consumption and export of pig iron during/last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Per capita apparent consumption of crude steel in India and in some developing countries of the World in 1992 was as under:-

Country	Per Capita Consumption (in Kg.)
Argentina	77.9
Brazil	65.5
China	71.3
Egypt	90.9
Indonesia	22.8
India	21.7
Korea (rok)	532.3
Pakistan	14.5

*SOURCE: Statistical year Book, 1993, IISI, Brussels.

(b) and (c) The production of finished steel during April-November, 1993 was 9.74 million tonnes as compared to 9.86 million tonnes during the corresponding period of last year i. e. April-November, 1992 representing a decline of 1.2 %. While the production of main producers had increased, the production of Secondary Producers had declined mainly due to demand recession, higher international prices of scrap, increase in input costs like power, etc.

(d) To increase domestic production of steel, Government is facilitating the creation of new capacities in the Private Sector. Public Sector steel plants have also taken up modernisation / expansion programmes.

(e) The production of Sponge Iron during the last 3 years was as follows:-

1990-91	0.86 million tonnes
1991-92	1.31 million tonnes
1992-93	1.44 million tonnes

(f) The production, consumption and export of Pig Iron during the last 3 years was as under:—

(In million tonnes)

Year	Production	Apparent consumption	Export
1990-91	1.49	1.64	-
1991-92	1.59	1.70	-
1992-93	1.84	1.73	0.016

[*Translation*]

New Channels of AIR

841. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start new channels on radio shortly;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of channels likely to be kept reserved for programmes in regional languages alongwith details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. AIR plan to introduce 20 radio channels using five transponders on INSAT-2B.

(c) Twelve channels would be earmarked for the following regional languages:—

Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Himachali, Kannada, Kashmiri, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya, Punjabi, Tamil and Telugu.

[*English*]

Foreign Collaborations in Deep-Sea Fishing

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

(a) the total value of collaborations cleared for deep-sea fishing during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken to assist smaller entrepreneurs to obtain clearances for foreign collaborations and joint ventures in deep-sea fishing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) During the last three years, 32 deep-sea fishing projects involving foreign equity participation have been cleared under the schemes relating to Joint Ventures, Leasing and Test Fishing. The total value of foreign equity in these projects is Rs. 32.98 crores.

(b) Entrepreneurs submit project proposals for foreign collaboration in accordance with the guidelines laid down for this purpose. Such proposals are examined on merit and a decision is communicated at the earliest.

Murari Committee

843. SHRI S. M. LALJAN
BASHA:
PROF. UMMAREDDY
VENKATESWARLU:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Murari Committee constituted by the Government to look into causes of sickness of the deep-sea fishing industry has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the recommendations made therein and the action being taken thereon;

(c) if not, the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report; and

(d) the other steps proposed to be taken to revive the sick deep-sea fishing sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Committee is likely to submit its report soon.

(d) The following steps have been taken to assist the deep-sea fishing sector:—

1. Provision of 33 % subsidy on the cost of indigenously constructed deep-sea fishing vessels.
2. Provision of loan facility on soft terms by SCICI Ltd.
3. Assistance for construction of fishing harbours at major and minor ports.
4. Training of deep-sea fishing operatives for manning the fishing vessels.
5. Assistance for diversified fishing.
6. Price reimbursement on HSD consumed by Export Oriented Deep Sea Fishing Vessels.
7. Equity participation by Marine Products Export Development Authority in deep-sea fishing projects.

8. Rehabilitation assistance* to sick deep sea fishing units.

Post and Telegraph offices in Karnataka

Policy of MTNL

844. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited has decided to revise its policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have accepted the recommendations of the Athreya Committee report in this regard; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The recommendations of the Athreya Committee are being processed.

845. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices, category-wise and telegraph offices functioning at present in Karnataka, district-wise; and

(b) the proposal for opening new post offices, category-wise in near future in the State, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) District-wise information regarding the number of post offices, category-wise, and the telegraph offices functioning at present in Karnataka is given in the attached *Statements I & II* respectively.

(b) 7 more departmental sub post offices are proposed to be opened by 31.3.94 district-wise details of which are given in the attached *Statement-III*

STATEMENT-I

Details of the number of post offices, category-wise functioning at present in Karnataka, district-wise

Sl. No.	Name of district	Head post offices	Departmental sub post offices	Extra departmental sub post offices	Extra departmental branch post offices	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Bangalore (Rural)	1	39	1	318	359
2.	Bangalore (Urban)	7	244	4	68	323

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Belgaum	9	136	66	500	711
4.	Bellary	3	77	—	375	455
5.	Bidar	1	32	—	273	306
6.	Bijapur	5	96	8	641	750
7.	Chikmagalur	2	84	1	228	475
8.	Chitradurga	2	84	1	388	475
9.	Dakshina Kannada	8	176	117	490	791
10.	Dharwad	6	119	42	476	643
11.	Gulbarga	4	69	6	540	619
12.	Hassan	2	58	2	353	415
13.	Kodagu	1	25	3	188	217
14.	Kolar	2	58	2	349	411
15.	Mandya	2	54	1	307	364
16.	Mysore	4	104	8	488	604
17.	Raichur	2	67	1	435	505
18.	Shimoga	3	84	1	378	466
19.	Tumkur	2	77	5	483	567
20.	Uttara Kannada	3	89	18	384	494
Total		69	1745	301	7662	9777

STATEMENT II

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Number of offices providing Telegraph facility	Sl. No.	Name of the District	Number of offices providing Telegraph facility
1.	Dharwad	389	6.	Madikeri	84
2.	Bellary	132	7.	Shimoga	182
3.	Dakshina Kannada	505	8.	Uttara Kannada	237
4.	Chikmagalur	116	9.	Belgaum	394
5.	Hassan	99	10.	Bijapur	325
			11.	Gulbarga	221

[Translation]

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Number of offices providing Telegraph facility
12.	Raichur	163
13.	Bidar	106
14.	Bangalore Urban	105
15.	Bangalore (Rural)	92
16.	Kolar	174
17.	Mysore	397
18.	Mandya	121
19.	Tumkur	178
20.	Chitradurga	214

STATEMENT-III

Details of the number of post offices yet to be opened during the Current Financial Year, 1993-94 in Karnataka, District-wise

Sl. No.	Name of District	Departmental sub post offices
1.	Bangalore (Rural)	1
2.	Bangalore (Urban)	1
3.	Bellary	1
4.	Bijapur	1
5.	Chikmagalur	1
6.	Dharwad	1
7.	Uttara Kannada	1
Total		7

Expansion of Doordarshan in Himachal Pradesh

846. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for the expansion of Doordarshan in Himachal Pradesh during the last one year;

(b) whether the Government propose to cover the entire State by Doordarshan network; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Whereas a High Power TV Transmitter has been made ready for commissioning at Shimla, two Low Power TV Transmitters one each at Sundernagar and Sujanpur, three very Low Power TV Transmitters at Ahjufort, Palampur and Dalash, and a studio set up at Shimla are at various stages of implementation in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

(b) and (c) With a view to strengthen TV service in the State 17 more TV transmitters of varying power are envisaged to be set up for improvement of terrestrial transmission. However, the entire State can receive TV service via IN-SAT using suitable dish antennae.

Automatic Exchanges in Rural Areas

847. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of automatic telephone exchanges installed in rural areas during the last two years;

(b) whether any target has been fixed for the year 1994-95 in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Information is being collected from field units and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) Statewise target for 1994-95 is not finalised. As per policy of the Department a new telephone exchange is setup when registered paid demand reaches to 10 or more at a place.

Telecom Services in U. P.

848. SHRI BHAGWAN
SHANKAR RAWAT:
SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR
SHARMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telecommunication services are below the national average in some States, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there is any scheme under the consideration of the Government to bring the telecommunication services in those States at par with national average;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh have sent a representation to the Union Government regarding the telecommunication problems and requirements of industrial sector in the State; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Govt. thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The telephone density in the States of A. P. Assam, Bihar, J&K, M. P., U. P., Orissa, Rajasthan and West Bengal is below the national average of 8 telephones per 1000 people.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Under the 8th Five Year Plan telecommunication services are being expanded so as to provide telephones practically on demand in rural / tribal areas and waiting period not to exceed 2 years in large telephone systems throughout the country.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) A memorandum was received from UP Govt. in which expansion and development of telecom facilities in industrial areas of UP was mentioned. Under the 8th plan, telecom facilities are being provided on priority basis in industrial growth centers. The requirement of industrial areas are being taken into consideration in the expansion plans of Uttar Pradesh.

Repair of National Highways

849. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Highways damaged due to rain and flood during each of the last two years and the estimated length thereof, State-wise; and

(b) the amount spent on repairing the same?

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

Flood damages on National Highways which generally take place during monsoons every year are far too widespread to be listed individually. These are taken care of as early as possible by the State PWD concerned from allocations made for this purpose.

(b) Funds released for Flood damage repairs during last two years are shown in the *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	State / U.T	Amounts spent for repair of damaged NHs during	
		1991-92	1992-93
1.	Andhra Pradesh	269.85	100.95
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	74.86	25.41
3.	Assam	283.13	150.00
4.	Bihar	100.00	102.00
5.	Chandigarh	4.50	1.48
6.	Delhi	25.00	4.50
7.	Goa	31.57	21.00
8.	Gujarat	184.11	110.00
9.	Haryana	73.62	
10.	Himachal Pradesh	211.18	155.00
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	3.00	10689
12.	Karnataka	159.40	78.03
13.	Kerala	171.95	105.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	157.13	39.64
15.	Maharashtra	287.62	80.137
16.	Manipur	21.67	3.13
17.	Meghalaya	67.53	13.06
18.	Orissa	166.38	34.28
19.	Pondicherry	1.00	1.76
20.	Punjab	152.87	192.69
21.	Rajasthan	121.05	97.16
22.	Tamil Nadu	144.56	180.00
23.	Uttar Pradesh	246.00	115.00
24.	West Bengal	496.80	127.16

[English]

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Postal and Telephone Advisory
Committees**

850. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telephone and Postal Advisory Committees in various States have become due for reconstitution;

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

(c) the action taken/proposed for timely reconstitutions of these committees;

(d) whether the Government propose to change the composition and powers of these committees for effective operation of the Department; and

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

(b) The details are given in the attached *Statement*.

(c) The constitution / reconstitution of Telephone Advisory Committees (TACs) is a continuing process and as and when TACs are due for reconstitution, expeditious action is taken to reconstitute the same.

Appropriate action is being taken for expediting the reconstitution of Postal Advisory Committees.

(d) and (e) No, Sir, there is no change as far as composition is concerned. But TACs are being made more effective so that local problems are thrashed out at the TAC level.

STATEMENT

The names of Telephone Advisory Committees (TACs) and Postal Advisory Committees (PACs) of the States / Union Territories / Secondary Switching Area which are due for reconstitution, are as under:-

TACs	PACs
1. Goa & Panjim	1. Assam
2. Manipur	2. Andhra Pradesh
3. Meghalaya	3. Bihar
4. Nagaland	4. Goa
5. Madhya Pradesh	5. Gujarat
6. Tripura	6. Haryana
7. Uttar Pradesh	7. Jammu & Kashmir
8. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	8. Karnataka
9. Port Blair	9. Kerala

TACs		PACs	
10.	Allahabad (U. P)	10.	Maharashtra
11.	Meerut (U. P.)	11.	Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura
12.	Jaigaon (Maharashtra)	12.	Meghalaya
13.	Cuttack (Orissa)	13.	Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh
14.	Asansol (West Bengal)	14.	Orissa
		15.	Sikkim
		16.	Tamil Nadu
		17.	West Bengal
		18.	Madhya Pradesh
		19.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
		20.	Delhi.

[Translation]

(b) if so, the results thereof; and

Granite Deposits

(c) the State-wise details thereof?

851. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:
Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c) Central Government have not so far carried out a Systematic Survey for estimation of Granite reserves in the country. However, estimates of the reserves of granite, which is a minor mineral, have been made by some of the State Governments which are as follows:-

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to find out granite deposits in the country;

State	Estimated Reserves (Figures in million cubic mts.)	Remarks
1. Andhra Pradesh	3.0	This represents estimation of reserves in only a few areas. Comprehensive assessment of reserves is in progress.

State	Estimated Reserves (Figures in million cubic mts.)	Remarks
2. Assam	43.5	
3. Bihar	19.5	
4. Karnataka	55.7	
5. Rajasthan	0.08	
6. Tamil Nadu	15.0	This represents estimation of reserves of black granite. There is no estimation of reserves of coloured granite yet.
7. West Bengal	7.0	
8. Orissa	—	Estimation of reserves not yet taken up.

[English]

(b) the details are as follows:

Maritime Boundaries

852. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether demarcation of maritime boundaries has since been made with neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof separately for Arabian sea and the bay of Bengal; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and steps to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Maritime boundaries have been demarcated with Sri Lanka, Maldives and Myanmar under mutual maritime boundary agreements.

(i) India-Sri Lanka Maritime Boundary Agreement was signed on 23.3.1976 determining the boundaries in the Gulf of Mannar and the Bay of Bengal.

(ii) India-Maldives Maritime Boundary Agreement was signed in 1976 determining the boundaries in the Arabian Sea.

(iii) India-Burma Maritime-Boundary Agreement was signed on 28.12.1986 determining boundaries in the Bay of Bengal. India also signed the Tripartite Maritime Boundary Agreement determining T-junction in the Andaman Seas with Myanmar and Thailand on September 26, 1993. The maritime boundaries between India and Pakistan and India and Bangladesh are yet to be determined.

(c) We have not been able to determine the Maritime boundary with Bangladesh in the Bay of Bengal because of differences on substantive issues. Government of India are committed to resolve this issue through dialogue with the Government of Bangladesh. With Pakistan there are differences in the interpretation of the boundary in the Sir Creek area. Pakistan had consistently taken the stand that unless these differences are resolved, discussions to demarcate the India-Pakistan maritime boundary were not possible. On 24 January, 1994, Government forwarded to Pakistan constructive and specific suggestions for the resolution of outstanding bilateral issues including on Sir Creek and delineation of the India-Pakistan maritime boundary. On 19th February, 1994, Pakistan conveyed its response to our proposals, which is under consideration with the Government.

Losses in Bharat Refractories Limited

853. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Refractories Limited is suffering losses year after year;

(b) if so, the details of the losses suffered by the undertaking during the last three years;

(c) the main reasons for the losses;

(d) whether the case of the undertaking has been referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction in May, 1992;

(e) if so, the findings of BIFR; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to wipe out the losses and to make the undertaking viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) Bharat Refractories Limited (BRL) has incurred losses in the last 3 years as indicated below:

Year	Rs. in crores
1990-91	9.66
1991-92	8.94
1992-93	2.99

(c) The main reasons for the losses of BRL are as follows:

- (i) Under utilisation of capacity due to excess capacity in Refractory industry as a whole;
- (ii) Obsolescence of machinery;
- (iii) Change in the demand pattern of refractories due to technological changes in steel making technology;
- (iv) Layout / capacity deficiency in its new unit i.e. Bhilai Refractories Plant.

(d) Yes Sir, the case of BRL was referred to Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in August, 1992.

(e) The case of BRL has been considered by BIFR. After considering present financial position and future prospects of BRL, BIFR has appointed Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) as an operating agency. After considering revival plan submitted by the Company, BIFR has directed IDBI to rework the revival plan and submit the same to BIFR for consideration in its next hearing.

(f) the Company has been making efforts to contain its losses by reducing its over-head cost, reduction in establishment cost, improvement in efficiency of man power, diversification of product mix and intensifying its marketing activities.

Telephone to Panchayats in Bihar

854. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of panchayats in the country as a whole and in the State of

Bihar which have been provided the telephone facilities as on December 31, 1993;

(b) the number of such panchayats which have not been provided with telephone facility; and

(c) the corresponding figure of panchayats provided and not provided with telephone facilities, district-wise, in Bihar as on December 31, 1993?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 1,10,591 in the country and 6,210 in Bihar as on 31.12.93.

(b) 1,22,469 in the country and 5,552 in Bihar as on 31.12.93.

(c) 6210 and 5552 respectively.

District-wise details of Panchayat villages in Bihar provided and not provided with telephone facility as on 31.12.93 are given in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of District	No. of total Panchayat villages	No of Panchayat villages provided with Tel. facility as on 31.12.1993.	No. of Panchayat villages without Tel. facility on 31.12.93
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Patna	365	114	191
2.	Nalanda	214	184	30
3.	Gaya	365	140	225
4.	Jehanabad	148	92	56

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Aurangabad	236	89	147
6.	Nawadah	174	57	117
7.	Daltenganj	202	90	112
8.	Garwna	177	53	124
9.	Bhojpur	248	143	105
10.	Rohtas	278	130	148
11.	Bhabhua	159	23	66
12.	Buxer	152	155	37
13.	Hazaribagh	298	158	140
14.	Giridih	324	98	226
15.	Chatra	96	91	05
16.	Dhanbad	174	130	44
17.	Bokaro	53	59	03
18.	Singhbhum East	200	160	40
19.	Singhbhum West	273	155	118
20.	Ranchi	364	129	235
21.	Gumla	310	55	255
22.	Lohardagga	67	224	035
23.	Chapra	328	224	104
24.	Siwan	306	135	171
25.	Gopalganj	241	98	143
26.	Motihari	397	175	222
27.	Batiah	345	210	135
28.	Muzaffarpur	321	227	94
29.	Sitamarhi	299	186	113
30.	Vaishali	258	129	129
31.	Bhagalpur	291	121	170
32.	Dumka	283	55	228
33.	Munger	272	100	152
34.	Jamui	153	76	77
35.	Deoghar	140	55	85
36.	Godda	147	63	84
37.	Sahebganj	230	48	182
38.	Banka	146	107	39

1	2	3	4	5
39.	Darbhanga	377	342	35
40.	Madhubani	327	281	46
41.	Samastipur	337	226	111
42.	Begusarai	251	120	131
43.	Khagaria	150	121	29
44.	Katihar	220	158	62
45.	Kishanganj	118	50	68
46.	Saharsa	181	54	127
47.	Purnea	234	62	172
48.	Araria	193	158	35
49.	Madhopura	189	106	83
50.	Supaul	155	88	67
Total		11,762	6,210	5,562

Ramgarh Power Project in Rajasthan

855. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ramgarh gas based power project in Rajasthan has already been executed;

(b) if so, the time by which that power project is expected to generate Power; and

(c) the status of the project at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) The construction work in respect of Ramgarh Gas Turbine Power Project of 3 MW is in full swing. The unit is expected to be commissioned in the first quarter of 1994-95.

Orders for main plant and equipment have been placed on B.H.E.L. in respect of Phase-I of the Ramgarh Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Station (35.5 MW). Civil works have also been taken up. This unit is expected to be commissioned by the last quarter of 1994-95.

Bilateral Relations with Nepal

856. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEER-APPA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen further the bilateral relations with Nepal; and

(b) the salient features of the projects launched in both the countries as a part of Indo-Nepal joint collaboration?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a)

Government of India has taken several steps in the recent past to improve bilateral relations with Nepal. These included the exchange of high level visits and contacts. The King of Nepal was in India on a private visit from November 30, 1993 to December 11, 1993. A Nepalese Parliamentary delegation led by the Nepalese Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Maheshwar Prasad Singh visited India from 21st December, 1993 to 25th December, 1993. The Minister for Water Resources, Shri V. C. Shukla visited Nepal from December 26th-28th, 1993.

Discussions covered a wide range of activities such as cooperation in utilisation of water resources and a revised time-frame for cooperation in this sector was agreed.

In addition, several steps have also been taken to strengthen the close cultural ties between India and Nepal. The third meeting of the Board of Directors of the B. P. Koirala India-Nepal foundation was held in Anand (Gujarat) recently to approve various proposals to strengthen cultural and scholarly ties between India and Nepal.

Steps have also been taken in liberalisation of the trade and transit regime between the two countries. As a result a delegation from Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce and Industry visited India in December, 1993 to discuss with ASSOCHAM and PHDCCI.

(b) India is presently undertaking projects in Nepal in diverse sectors such as health, telecommunication, industry, roads, transport etc. During the last six months, the Rangeli telephone exchange has been successfully commissioned and the Rajbiraj Industrial Estate has also been completed.

Bridges Over National Highways in Maharashtra

857. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of national highways passing through Pune district of Maharashtra which either do not have any bridges over them or are in bad shape;

(b) if so, whether any funds have been sanctioned to construct / reconstruct those bridges;

(c) if so, the funds sanctioned for the purpose; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Presumably the Hon'ble Member wants to know the number of missing bridges or bridges in bad shape on National Highways in Pune district. There are no such bridges on any of the three National Highways passing through Pune district and all bridges are being maintained in traffic worthy conditions.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Telephone Connections

858. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the initial amount to be deposited by the telephone subscribers for the telephone connection;

(b) whether less amount is deposited by the telephone subscribers in the country as compared to those in other developing countries; and

(c) the total average expenditure to be incurred on a telephone connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The amount of initial Registration fee/deposit for new telephone connection is as follows:—

(i) *OYT Applications*

10000 lines & above	1000 lines & above but below 10000 Lines.	Below 1000 Lines
Rs. 15,000/-	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 8000/-

(ii) *General & Special Category Applications.*

Metered Exchanges

10000 Lines & above	Below 10,000
Rs. 3,000/-	Rs. 2,000/-

Flat Rate Exchanges

Over 100 Lines.	100 Lines & below
Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 100/-

(iii) *Tatkal Scheme*

Alongwith Application	Rs. 1000/-
After getting feasibility report for provision of telephone	Rs. 29000/-

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

[English]

Telephone Connections

859. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:
SHRI KESHRI LAL:
SHRI RAM VILAS
PASWAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages provided with telephone connections during 1990-91, 1992-93 and 1993-94 together with the target fixed, State-wise;

(b) the percentage of telephones installed, state-wise;

(c) the average cost of installation and maintenance of a rural telephone; and

(d) whether the Government have evolved any suitable methodology to make them financially viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 13733, 21752 and 12347 (up to 31-12-1993) respectively. Statewise details of number of villages provided with telephone connections during 90-91, 91-92, 92-93 and 93-94 together with the target are given in the attached *Statement*.

(b) State-wise percentage of telephones installed are shown in the at-

tached *Statement* mentioned in Part (a) above.

(c) and (d) (i) The average cost of installation of a rural telephone ranges upto Rs. 1.25 lakhs (approx.)

(ii) The average cost of maintenance of a rural telephone will depend upon terrain and its location may

range from Rs. 5000/- to Rs. 20,000/- per annum.

(iii) The public telephones in Panchayat villages are being provided with STD facility progressively wherever feasible. Such telephones are likely to become financially viable with increased usage by the villages by the end of 8th Plan period.

STATEMENT

Circle	Total No. of villages	Achieve- ment 90-91	Target 91-92	Achieve- ment 91-92	Target for 92-93	Achieve- ment during 1992-93	Target for 93-94	Achieve- ment upto 31.12.93 during 93-94	No. of villages with telephone facility as on 31.12.1993	%age coverage of villages
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andhra Pradesh	27221	3474	1400	1903	3050	1961	3600	633	13777	46.76
Assam	22224	74	300	342	550	555	620	305	1958	6.90
Bihar	67566	68	1000	1005	2000	1265	3020	632	7908	9.19
Gujarat	18518	536	1200	1576	3000	1755	4500	1706	7514	40.00
Haryana	6745	525	1200	1251	1200	981	1250	676	4351	62.80
Himachal Pradesh	16916	384	50	11	200	205	250	119	2134	7.40
Jammu & Kashmir	6503	39	100	125	125	126	80	33	844	9.70
Karnataka	26826	1597	450	1068	1500	1207	1500	702	6350	23.70

Kerala	1530	439	21	21	0000	0000	000	1470	60.70
Madhya Pradesh	71352	324	1800	4005	5000	3668	552	12512	17.50
Maharashtra	36167	1256	2000	2172	5000	2681	1543	11155	20.80
North East	15192	01	300	300	417	519	217	1414	7.98
Orissa	46992	289	800	1064	1000	1230	249	4652	8.53
Punjab	12188	411	1200	901	2000	2126	2414	6470	53.00
Rajasthan	33305	246	1100	1287	1800	1811	608	6346	18.48
Tamil Nadu	15735	3985	1450	1160	2000	2157	423	10423	66.20
Uttar Pradesh	112568	25	5000	2725	6858	7037	1380	16420	13.19
West Bengal	38679	40	600	600	800	579	155	2781	5.93
Delhi - M. T. N. L.	243	00	125	136	09	09		191	78.60
Total:	576490	13733	10000	21752	36509	30072	12347	118670	19.18

* The policy for providing Telephone facility to Panchayat villages was adopted in Jan 1991. Therefore, no targets were assigned during the year 1990-91.

Indian Offer on Peace in Afghanistan

860. SHRI SANT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has renewed its offer to contribute to any international or regional initiative to undertake a search for peace in Afghanistan;

(b) whether India has also backed UN efforts to arrange a ceasefire between the warring factions and a negotiated settlement to Afghanistan problem; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (c) India has consistently stood for a political settlement in Afghanistan based on the aspirations of the Afghan people and arrived at by the Afghans themselves. Accordingly India has called upon the international community especially the countries of the region to urgently address the political and security situation in Afghanistan and to undertake a renewed search for peace and stability in that country. We have expressed our willingness to contribute to any such initiative.

According to reports, no peace initiative has made progress in the direction of an enduring settlement. Fighting among the various groups which erupted on January, 1994 is continuing.

Farakka Thermal Power Unit-IV

861. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN:
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

SHRI TARIT BARAN
TOPDAR:
SHRI ANIL BASU:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Electro-Static precipitator of Farakka Thermal Power Unit IV which recently broke down had been purchased from a foreign company;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for importing the defective equipment;

(c) whether this foreign company has been given any more such order for supply of equipments for Unit V of the National Thermal Power Corporation thermal power project at Farakka;

(d) whether the Union Government have any proposal to cancel the orders and these orders are likely to be given to Bharat Heavy Electrical Limited; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Order for the design, supply, erection, testing and commissioning of Electrostatic Precipitators (ESPs) for Units IV and V of Farakka Super Thermal Power Project was placed on M/s Ansaldo, Italy.

(d) and (e) As both the ESPs had been supplied, installed and commissioned, the question of cancellation of the order and placement of orders with Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. does not arise. The causes of the breakdown of one pass of

the ESP of Unit IV are being investigated and the supplier shall have to fulfil his contractual obligations.

Visa Restrictions by European Union

862. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any visa restrictions are proposed on Asians, Africans and Caribbeans by the members States of the European Union; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) The European Commission has published a proposal under which 129 countries including India have been listed as those whose nationals shall be required to be in possession of a visa when crossing the external frontiers of the Member-States. The proposal is to be discussed by the Council of Foreign Ministers and adopted unanimously before it becomes effective. The question of issue of visas to Indian nationals was raised at the Indo-EU Troika meeting in Brussels on 8th February, 1994, when Government conveyed their view that new visa regulations being contemplated by the European Union should not be applied in a manner that inconvenienced bonafide visitors from India.

Consular Offices in Bangalore

863. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government has requested the Union Government for setting up consular offices of some of the developed countries in Bangalore;

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

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

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

(b) and (c) In accordance with the provisions of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, 1963, establishment of Consular Relations between two states take place by mutual consent. It is for the foreign Governments desirous of opening Consular Offices Posts, to convey their intentions to the receiving state through diplomatic channels. While examining such proposals / requests, inter alia, the principle of reciprocity is normally observed.

Mines and Minerals Act, 1957

864. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to bring amendments in the Mines and Minerals Regulation and Development Act 1957 to the effect that minerals important from Defence angle vest with Union Government and the rest with the State Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Union Government propose to take suitable steps for deve-

lopment of mines and minerals in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The announcement of National Mineral Policy, 1993 and the amendments given effect through the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Amendment Ordinance, 1994 will enable the Government of Rajasthan to take necessary steps for development of mines and minerals in the State of Rajasthan.

Radio Activity at G. S. I., Calcutta

865. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scientists and their assistants working at the Central Geophysical Division of Geological Survey of India at Calcutta have got exposed to radio activity recently from some instruments which they handle regularly;

(b) whether the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre has carried out tests on these instruments;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) the reasons as to why radiation had been going on unnoticed for such a long time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES: (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c) Low level radiation was found in some gravimeters at Central Geophysics Division of Geo-

logical Survey of India (GSI) at Calcutta. The Chairman, Atomic Energy Regulatory Board in a press release dated 6.11.1993 has stated that the level of radiation measured in the Gravimeters is extremely low and that there is no cause for alarm or any danger from the existing level of radiation. The Health Physics Unit, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Calcutta have carried out tests on all the instruments (gravimeters) available at Central Geophysics Division, Calcutta. Their findings are awaited.

(d) As the presence of radio-active material inside the Gravimeter was not indicated by the manufacturers in their Instrument Manuals, the low level of radiation had not been noticed.

Exploitation of E.E.Z.

866. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to draw a long term plan to exploit the Exclusive Economic Zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments (Coastal States) are giving financial aid for exploiting the Economic Zone coming exclusively under their States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) During the Eighth Five Year Plan period (1992-97), schemes on assistance for participation in deep sea fishing and processing, grant-in-aid for

providing interest subsidy on loans for acquisition of deep sea fishing vessels and assistance for diversified fishing, are being implemented. Moreover, under new deep sea fishing policy announced in March, 1991, Indian entrepreneurs are permitted to introduce deep sea fishing vessels for exploitation of resources under the schemes on joint ventures, Leasing and Test fishing.

(c) and (d) Financial assistance for exploitation of fishery resources from the coastal areas are given under the schemes on motorisation of traditional crafts. Introduction of plywood craft and introduction of intermediate type of craft for off-shore pelagic fishing and for setting up of artificial reefs and sea farming projects etc. as Central/Centrally sponsored schemes. The State Governments have their own plan schemes, such as Assistance to fishermen for procurement of craft and gear, Assistance to fishermen for mechanisation, Development of infrastructural facilities for fish processing, marketing and distribution etc.

12.00 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER

Presentation of the General Budget

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to inform the House that the House would adjourn at 4 p.m. today to reassemble at 5 p.m. for the presentation of the General Budget.

12.01 hrs.

**RE: DEMAND OF NEW WAGE
BOARD FOR THE JOURNALISTS**

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr Speaker, Sir, both the Parliament and the Press are complementary to each other. In the absence of the Press, the Parliament won't be able to function effectively and in the absence of the latter the former will also not be able to fully discharge its responsibilities. It will experience difficulties. Budget is about to be presented in the House. Press employees are on a one day token strike demanding constitution of a new Wage Board. The Bachawat Wage Board was constituted in 1982 which made its recommendations on the basis of prevailing prices. However, now the conditions have altogether changed. Proposal to constitute a Wage Board is pending before the Cabinet. I feel that such matters should be decided without delay. Setting up of a new Wage Board is a just and reasonable demand. The Government should accept it without delay. It is not good that both the Press and the Government should lock horns. Especially, for the Parliament, this state of affairs is deplorable.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the issue raised by Shri Vajpayee, I would like to submit that journalists and press employees staged a demonstration on the 26th instant. The hon. Prime Minister had given an assurance to constitute a new Wage Board. Only three days ago they again came out on the roads. The Government promised that the Prime Minister is about to give his approval for

[Shri Sharad Yadav]

the constitution of a new Wage Board. Sir, today is the day for the presentation of the Budget. On this day a section which makes the House full and lively is absent. This is the first occasion that the Press is boycotting the presentation of the Budget. Sir, through you, I would like to submit that demand for the new Wage Board does not pertain to journalists alone but also to the press employees. It is being postponed time and again after the constitution of the Bachawat Commission.

Shri Vajpayee rightly said that the situation has totally changed beyond comprehension. Sir, this is a serious issue. Therefore, the presentation of Budget be deferred till a decision is taken on the strike, otherwise the presentation of Budget will not be so interesting. With great hesitation, we want to raise the issue as to the direction to which the country is proceeding now. When a section which provides information about the happenings in the Parliament remains absent, we lose our total strength.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to submit that the Government should give an immediate reply in this regard, because the whole of the journalist fraternity feels that there is nobody to raise their issue. Their case is being deferred continuously. Even when they come out on the roads, nobody raises their issue. Therefore, through you, I would like to submit that the Government should give a reply in this regard or otherwise it will be better if today the presentation of Budget is deferred.

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA
(Bankura): Sir, for the first time, the entire

press of our country will remain absent when the Budget is presented in the Lok Sabha today. We have been raising the problems of the newspaper workers, correspondents and reporters and demanding that a new Wage Board be constituted for them because the Bachawat Award, which was given in the year 1988, was given on the basis of the prices prevalent in 1982. There have been many changes. The demand for a new Wage Board is a justified demand. I think this demand is the demand of the entire House.

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting is here. I would request that immediately he should come forward with a Statement, before the presentation of the Budget, that the Government will constitute a Wage Board so that they would also decide on their course of action. So, I would request the Government... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: One request is enough please.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, I would request that the Minister should immediately come forward with an announcement because this is the demand of the entire House.

[*Translation*]

SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH (Mainpuri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the entire opposition is united on this issue, but we do not know what stand the ruling party does take. The press is considered the fourth pillar or the Fourth Estate of a democracy everywhere. This is what Dr. Lohia also said. Shri Vajpayee said that

the matter is pending with the Cabinet. However, in English the word cabinet has two meanings. Therefore, the hon. Minister should clarify about the cabinet with which it is pending.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Sir, this matter has been under the consideration of the Government for some time. Actually the Labour Minister has given an assurance to the journalists' representatives, who met him in this regard. I can assure the House and the journalist friends that within thirty days this matter will be considered by the Cabinet and a decision will be taken in this matter. We know the difficulties that are being faced by the working journalists and journalist friends and also other related difficulties. Therefore, wide-ranging talks have taken place. I would like to assure the House and our journalist friends that within thirty days, that is within the month of March, we shall take a decision in the matter and I hope it will be satisfactory to everybody in the House.

12.08 hrs.

RE: ISSUING OF PHOTO IDENTITY CARDS TO VOTERS FOR ELECTORAL PURPOSES

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roser): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a very serious matter for which I have been giving notices for the past 4-5 days. The Election Commission has decided that elections would not be conducted in the

States where photo identity cards are not issued by the 30th November. In this regard I would like to make a few submissions.

Firstly, I would like to make a submission about the expenditure. The Election Commission has estimated that Rs. 1100 crore would be needed for the same. As per the formula worked out by the Commission, required funds could be mobilised if the members of Parliament decide not to draw their salaries for a year. They are asking for donations. I fail to understand the logic as to how can the identity cards check booth capturing. I fear, it will go up on the contrary. Village head men will collect the identity cards of all and stamp the ballot papers in the morning. This issue has two ramifications. One is of money and the other is political. Elections in Bihar and Orissa are slated for March and it will be difficult to issue identity cards by 30th of November. It means that elections will not be held in Bihar and Orissa, and President's Rule will be imposed there, which means Shri Shuklaji will rule these states. The poor in the country do not have shelter even. Banjaras keep on moving from one place to another. Where will they keep the identity cards in safe custody? Will the Central Government or the Election Commission provide them steel boxes with double lock? (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Everybody is aware of the problems you are talking of. Please suggest some solutions to them.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I would request the Government to call a meeting of all political parties; rather they have already done so. First of all, the

[Shri Ram Vilas Paswan]

proposal for issuing identity cards should be postponed. Whenever the Government proposes to implement the scheme, either the Government or the Election Commission should bear the expenses. The burden in this regard should not be shifted to the State Governments because the State Governments are not in a position to bear the expenditure on this item.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I fully support what Mr. Ram Vilas Paswan has said. A very unseemly controversy has taken place and different wings of our democracy are at loggerheads. It is very unfortunate that the Election Commission, with seemingly good intentions, is making comments and giving orders which are, really, creating a lot of confusion in the society. Now, the question is, therefore, even for Identity Cards, I want to know why there cannot be a dialogue between the Election Commission, political parties and the Government and a way could be found out. What is the hurry? Why should there be hammering on the whole system and creation of so much damage to the democratic institutions? (*Interruptions*) I am not against Identity Cards, but the question is that it has to be sorted out. One institution is not supreme and it does not have the supreme intelligence. It cannot demolish all the other institutions. I am very sorry for the way in which the whole question of comprehensive electoral reform has come to the core. Everything has to be done through legislation in this House, not by the order of any official sitting somewhere else. So, we must take up the issue of comprehensive electoral reforms and no

election must be postponed or cancelled in name that the Identity Cards are not being issued. Why had the election been postponed in West Bengal? Then, the whole democracy is under jeopardy that very important question. Therefore, I would request the Government to take up this matter very seriously, call everybody concerned and bring forward bills in this House so that it can be done in a unanimous manner.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, our party has always been emphasising that Identity Cards are very essential for electoral reforms. We are of the opinion that instead of making it a disputable matter, the Identity Cards should be made as multi-purpose cards. We were, and still are of the same opinion. Some practical problems have been highlighted by the Government and others. Our opinion is that it does not look good that disputes on this issue may become a subject matter of news in the newspapers every day. Our complaint is that if the Election Commissioner has been asking for it for a long time, why has the Government not taken any initiative to hold negotiations with it so far? It is very necessary to take the initiative in this regard. The Government should take the initiative, understand the problems of the other side and also highlight their own problems and thus find out a solution to the problems.

Secondly, I would like to submit that a committee regarding electoral reforms had been constituted under the Chairmanship of late Shri Dinesh Goswami in the previous Lok Sabha. That committee had submitted its unanimous report which is lying with the Government. The Chief Election Commissioner has

also presented a document containing 24 or 34 points regarding election reforms. Why does the Government not take initiative in this regard? If it takes initiative, the matter regarding multi purpose Identity Cards can also be discussed with the Commission.

Then comes the question of finance. I feel that the total expenditure to be incurred on it and the source through which it would be provided are matters of consequential nature. The Government has just to announce that an expenditure of Rs. 3000 crore would be incurred, then it will not be of much consequential if somebody else says that not more than Rs. 600 crore will be required in this regard. This matter should be solved through negotiations. I do not find it wise that differences regarding the extent of amount to be spent on this matter may lead to a constitutional impasse in the country.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of our Telugu Desam Party, we would like to express our views.

We are in favour of photo Identity Cards for electoral purposes. In fact, our Telugu Desam Government when it was there for seven years, in Andhra Pradesh headed by Shri N. T. Ramarao, we have given photo identity cards for cooperative as well as municipal corporation elections also. It is not a big task. The financial burden will not be so much. When we have already done it, if the Government is really serious that electoral reforms should be implemented and free and fair opportunity should be given, then it should be done. Through the electoral

process, the Government should come forward and both the Central Government and the State Government can share the responsibility of the burden.

We demand that the Government should come forward with comprehensive electoral reforms as recommended by late Shri Dinesh Goswami. We are in favour of issue of identity cards as part of electoral process and it should be multi-purpose one.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SAGAR (Barabanki): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Chief Election Commissioner has suggested to issue identity cards to the voters and the Government is expressing its inability to do so. I would suggest only one thing in this regard. I am sorry that this matter is getting complicated. The Government has not convened a meeting of all political parties so far. Through you, I would request the Government to convene such a meeting and take an appropriate decision in this regard.

[English]

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore): We are very much in favour of implementing all the recommendations from all sides to bring about Constitutional reforms in the electoral process. Our Government is very much in favour of them. But here, sometimes there are resource constraints. That is why, there is a talk between the Election Commission and the Government, whether the money could be provided by the Central Government or by the State Government. The entire House is aware of the fact that money cannot be provided suddenly. That is why, everybody should come up with very good suggestions.

[Translation]

[Translation]

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this dispute is being put up before the nation as if all the political parties are against the democracy and only one officer is in favour of the democracy. I feel that the political image that is being created in this manner will have adverse effects. The sooner the matter is resolved, the better it would be. So far as issuing of identity cards is concerned, no one is against it. But the question is how to do it and how to manage the funds? Whether in the election process.....

MR. SPEAKER: Now, what will the Government do, if people are prevented from casting their votes even after they are issued identity cards?

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: That is what I am submitting that it is not only a matter of issuing identity cards or generation of funds, it is a question of electoral reforms in totality. For this, the Government should take an initiative and the Election Commission should sort out the problem by discussing the same with all political parties.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAÏEE (Lucknow): I would like to give reply to question you have asked.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, please.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAÏEE: Identity cards is not a solution for those who do not allow people to cast their votes. But Identity Cards will help in identifying genuineness of those who reach the polling booths to cast their votes.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I agree with you.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepure): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my only submission is that the issue of identity cards relates to elections and as Shri Jaswant Singh has observed...

MR. SPEAKER: If you have given some suggestion, we will discuss it together.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: My submission is that the other political parties in the country are not taking any interest in the campaign being continuously launched by the Election Commission with regard to the electoral reforms. Shri Shukla had called a meeting in which it was decided to convene another meeting to discuss comprehensive electoral reforms. It should be ascertained that the use of identity-cards for the purpose of elections does not lead to wastage of money and a constitutional crisis is not created thereby. I would like to make a submission to the Government, through you, to convene an all-party meeting on the basis of the recommendations of Goswami committee and seriously consider the comprehensive changes that can be brought about as electoral reforms and put down its views in clear terms.

[English]

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also share the concern of the Members on the issue of identity cards. This is a very serious issue in view of the deadline fixed by the Chief Election Commissioner. So, this is not a matter which can be treated lightly. Issuing identity cards to the

electorates is a welcome factor. At the same time, imposing great burden on the States is not a welcome thing. The Government must come out with concrete steps to sort out this problem. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): There is no objection to the issuing of identity cards. But my view is, issuance of the identity card should be taken as an integral part of the total comprehensive electoral reforms. If there is no comprehensive electoral reforms, merely by issuing identity cards, I think, the problem raised by many Members, will not be solved.

Together with this identity card issue, there are other problems also. I think, the House knows that the Election Commission, recently, had issued an order by which the Election Commission had taken over the power to deregister, to delicense certain recognized parties at the national and State level, provided, they do not implement the model code of conduct. All the political parties were opposed to this idea of giving this power to the Election Commission itself. The Government also wanted to bring about certain measures.

I, therefore, want that along with this, the Government should convene a meeting of all the parties including the Election Commission to sort out all these problems and to take appropriate steps, as early as possible, for bringing about measures aimed at a total and comprehensive electoral reforms.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS (Jajpur): I have a small suggestion to

make. In my opinion, there will be no need of identity cards. If the polling officer issues a certificate stating that, that particular person has used his franchise, the problem will be solved. A person who does not cast his vote, should not be issued a ration card and the names of his children should not be included in it and they should not be provided all facilities. If there is a problem in issuing such certificates then a legislation can be enacted and, if the need be, the Constitution can be amended that there is no need of identity cards, a certificate will do.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): I would like to support the issue of identity cards. If we want to save democracy, we greatly need identity cards.

[*English*]

Sir, I found that the same names are enlisted in the voters list both in India as well as in Bangladesh. I have visited recently the Tapán Assembly Constituency in South Dinajpur district. The name of a person which was enlisted in the voters list there, was also found in the voters list of Rajsahi district in Bangladesh. I have the voters list with me.

So, my request to the Government is that it should call the NDC meeting exclusively to discuss this matter in a comprehensive manner so as to issue the identity cards in the next elections and to protect the democratic rights of the people.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad): Sir, from where have they got the voters list of Bangladesh?

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: If you want, I can lay the voters list on the Table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Voters list is a public document.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): I do not think there is any doubt about this part of the statement that a multi-purpose identity card is useful in many ways. Even in terms of electoral abuses, it has a certain function. Let there be no doubt about that. The point that is additionally emphasised here is that it is not the only answer to the problem. That is the first point.

The second point is that it is not a total answer to the problem either. There are to be other answers for them. And for these other answers, there is a desire and this demand, perhaps, from the opposition side that whatever has been agreed to in the past, in terms of late Dinesh Goswami Committee's recommendations, should be implemented, should be gone into and a quick answer to this question should be given to the House.

The third point about which we want to express our concern is that, as has been indicated already, a confrontationist situation is development between statutory authorities. This is highly dangerous for democratic functioning of the polity. And it is that part also that has to be looked into very urgently. As has already been pointed out, three by-elections in West Bengal could not be undertaken; a Minister had to resign because no by-election could be held.

Sir, a question has been asked from that side as to why we are objecting to it. I

do not want to answer it in that fashion. We are not objecting to it.

Secondly, somebody asked a question as to why there is rigging. To that the answer is that wherever the Congress is defeated, rigging is most. That we know. Therefore what we desire is that the Treasury Benches and the Government should come out with a meeting of all political parties and try to find out the phasing of the identity card as well as the electoral reforms and try to contact the Election Commissioner.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, I would like to view the question of identity cards within the perspective of electoral reforms. The objective behind the question of identity cards is to ensure that every voter could be able to cast his vote and it is also equally important to note that the poor people who do not have a place to live in; do not have a roof over their heads, have no way to ensure the safety of their goods. In case they are issued identity cards, there is every chance of these cards getting lost or destroyed. How will such a person be able to cast his vote in such a situation because the purpose behind issuance of identity cards is to ensure that only the genuine voter should have a right to cast his vote. But in the event of his identity card getting lost, how will he be able to cast his vote. I would like to see it from both these angles.

I would like to bring it to your notice because it is being projected throughout the country that people who support electoral reforms, support the concept of identity cards and those who do not support electoral reforms are opposed to issuance of identity cards also. I would

like to say that we are not against issuance of identity cards but this problem should be dealt with in view of the practical problems involved in it.

The Central Government is yet to give its opinion on this question. I feel that the Central Government is taking it very lightly and wishes to stage a proxy-war against the Election Commission. It knows that others would raise this question and create an atmosphere conducive enough for the Government to wage its proxy-war. The Government does not want to solve the problem.

Lastly, I would like to say that I was forced to say it because the present Election Commissioner had put several proposals before the hon'ble Prime Minister regarding electoral reforms and he had sent copies of those proposals to each Member of Parliament. It has been submitted as a suggestion alongwith a letter of Deputy Election Commissioner. All the parties were agreed on the comprehensive suggestions made by Dinesh Goswami Committee regarding electoral reforms.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have said that thing. You need not repeat that point. You should take your seat now.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: A Bill has also been introduced in Rajya Sabha on that basis but the Government has neither formed any opinion nor made any decision. As a result thereof the case is still awaiting a decision. The case has been blown out of proportions in such a way as if someone talks about electoral reforms, it is taken as if he is against the

idea of issuing identity cards. Such type of situation is being created by middle class. It is apparent from daily newspapers.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You made the point and now you are just repeating them. You do not have confidence in your words.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: One person is delivering speech everywhere. It seems that political parties are not honest regarding electoral reforms. I seek your permission to express my views.

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down. Let others be allowed to speak.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I wish to express my agony before you. Why all politicians are being defamed. Every one in politics is being defamed. A way out must be searched for that. Sir, you should direct the Government to express its opinion in this regard at an earliest and after consulting all the politicians we should be informed about the reaction on the letter of Election Commissioner which was addressed to all M. Ps.

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY (Alipurduars): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that if it is not possible to issue identity cards to all, at least these must be issued to the permanent residents of Border areas. The main reason behind it is that a sizeable number of infiltrators from Pakistan and Bangladesh have come to India and many of them have even reached upto Delhi. Owing to the non availability of identity cards with the people of border areas, we can not check

[Shri Pius Tirkey]

the inflow of these infiltrators coming to India. Therefore, the Government should take a decision in this regard immediately and should implement it.

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL (Amravati): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my opinion is that it should be discussed once for all whether identity cards should be issued or not as per democratic norms. It should be discussed with the Chief Ministers of different States and leaders of different political parties. It should be decided what are the advantages and disadvantages of this scheme. What is the policy of democracy? What is practicable and what is impracticable? There should be a full discussion on it and then it should be decided whether identity cards should be issued or not. Otherwise it will become a political issue. It would be good if we may take any decision after discussing this matter.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Is the Government interested in responding in any manner to this?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Sir, the Government has taken the initiative. A meeting of the Chief Minister was specially convened to discuss this matter. Various points of view were presented in that meeting. A due notice has been taken of the viewpoints expressed by the Chief Ministers. This matter has also been informally discussed between the Government and the leaders of the opposition.

We will certainly attach great importance to this matter so that it can be sorted out in a proper and amicable manner.

Really, the entire question revolves around the availability of resources to do it within a timeframe that has been set up. Otherwise, on the question of having identity cards, I do not think, there should be any difference of opinion amongst the political parties and people who are taking part in the election matter. There are only two matters:

- (a) whether it could be done within the timeframe that has been suggested; and
- (b) whether the resources can be mobilised within that time-limit.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: It should also be added as to how this card should be maintained and if any voter loses his identity card, will he have the right to exercise his franchise? All these points should also be decided.

[English]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: There are many other related points, as Shri Paswan has suggested. (Interruptions) We are seized of the matter. We shall do whatever we can.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of identity cards is the main issue of the discussion held just now. It was the opinion of almost every member that a unanimous decision should be taken by the Government. After all in respect of electoral reforms, the Dinesh Goswamy Committee was set up in 1990. Hon.

members from all parties including Shri Shakdhar, the former Chief Election Commissioner were the members of that Committee. A bill was introduced in the House after reaching a concensus. But there is no progress in this regard. Thereafter the Election Commissioner had himself put up several suggestions. The Government should make up its mind on the basis of those two documents. My humble submission is that the Government should do whatsoever it likes in respect of Electoral reforms during the current Budget session.

[English]

SHRI UMRAO SINGH (Jalandhar): I would like to raise the issue of non-resident Indians. As we have discussed in the question hour, there are lot of grievances. We have lakhs of Indians in foreign countries. In the case of identity cards, there will be a very big difficulty in the case of Indians who are abroad. They are earning foreign exchange worth crores of rupees and remitting it to India. So, their interests should also be taken into account while deciding this factor.

MR. SPEAKER: I think, the House has expressed its views very clearly. There is a demand from all sides that the electoral reforms should be considered and what should be done, should be decided.

The proposal of identity cards appears to be good. But there are certain real practical difficulties. How we overcome those real practical difficulties has to be decided by all concerned. It appears that the Members have desired that all concerned should put their heads together and consider this proposal and

take an appropriate decision in the matter. I think this is quite legitimate.

12.40 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

**Memorandum of understanding
between the National Hydroelectric
Power Corporation Ltd. and
Department of Power for 1993-94 etc.**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P.SALVE): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited and the Department of Power for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5387/94]

**Review on the working of and Annual
Report of the Central Inland Water
Transport Corporation Ltd. Calcutta for
the year 1992-93 and a Statement
showing reasons for delay in laying
these papers etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English version) under sub-section (1)

of section 619A of the Companies Act. 1956:—

- (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1992-93.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5388/94]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Delhi Transport Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, under sub-section (3) of section 35 of the Road Transport Corporations Act. 1950.
 - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Delhi Transport Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for

delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5389/94]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Delhi Transport Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, together with Audit Report thereon under sub-section (4) of section 33 of the Road Transport Corporations Act. 1950.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Delhi Transport Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5390/94]

- (7) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 103 of the Major Port Trust Act. 1963:—
- (a) (i) Annual Accounts of the Paradip Port Trust for the year 1992-93, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Paradip Port Trust for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5391/94]

- (b) (i) Annual Accounts of the Cochin Port Trust for the year 1992-93, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Cochin Port Trust for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5392/94]

- (8) Two Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

Review on the working of and Annual Report of National Film Development Corporation Ltd. Bombay for 1992-93 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—
- (i) Review by the Government on the working of

the National Film Development Corporation Limited, Bombay, for the year 1992-93.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Film Development Corporation Limited, Bombay, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5393/94]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5394/94]

Notifications under Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and Review on the working of and Annual Report of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. New Delhi for 1992-93 etc.

New Delhi, for the year 1992-93.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885:—

(i) The Indian Telegraph (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1993 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 679(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st November, 1993.

(ii) The Indian Telegraph (First Amendment) Rules, 1994 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 24(E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th January 1994.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5395/94]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam, Limited,

(ii) Annual Report of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5396/94]

Review on the working of and Annual Report of North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Ltd. Shillong for 1992-93.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): I beg to lay on the Table—A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

- (1) Review by the Government on the working of the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited, Shillong, for the year 1992-93.

(2) Annual Report of the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited, Shillong,

for the year 1992-93,
alongwith Audited Accounts
and comments of the
Comptroller and Auditor
General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5397/94]

12.40 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Railways (Amendment) Bill, 1994, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 23rd February, 1994."

12.41 hrs.

RAILWAYS (AMENDMENT) BILL

As passed by Rajya Sabha

[English]

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the Railways (Amendment) Bill, 1994, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 23rd February, 1994.

12.41 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

SPECIAL COURT (TRIAL OF OFFENCES RELATING TO TRANSACTIONS IN SECURITIES) AMENDMENT BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) Act, 1992.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) Act, 1992."

The motion was adopted.

DR. ABRAR AHMED: I introduce the Bill.

12.42 hrs.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT GIVING REASONS FOR IMMEDIATE LEGISLATION BY THE SPECIAL COURT (TRIAL OF OFFENCES RELATING TO TRANS- ACTIONS IN SECURITIES) AMEND- MENT ORDINANCE

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

643 Explanatory Statement
giving reasons for the

FEBRUARY 28, 1994

immediate legislation by 644
the various ordinances

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory Statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) Amendment Ordinance, 1994.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5398/94]

12.42 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

COFFEE (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Coffee Act, 1942.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Coffee Act, 1942."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I introduce the Bill.**

12.43 hrs.

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT
GIVING REASONS FOR
IMMEDIATE LEGISLATION BY THE
COFFEE (AMENDMENT)
ORDINANCE**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): I beg to

lay on the Table an explanatory Statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Coffee (Amendment) Ordinance, 1994.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5399/94]

12.43 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

**MINES AND MINERALS
(REGULATION AND
DEVELOPMENT) AMENDMENT
BILL***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV: I introduce the Bill.

12.44 hrs.

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT
GIVING REASONS FOR
IMMEDIATE LEGISLATION BY THE
MINES AND MINERALS
(REGULATION AND
DEVELOPMENT) AMENDMENT
ORDINANCE**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): I beg to lay on

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, section 2 dated 28.2.1994.

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

the Table an explanatory Statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Amendment Ordinance, 1994.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5400/94]

12.45 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) **Need to ban Lottery Business in the Country**

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE (Chandrapur): The lotteries business had been started and run by almost all the State Government and private agencies with the good intention of augmenting the developmental projects in the country but this has turned out to be a big racket fleecing the poorest of the poor who have become victims to it. Purchasing of the lottery tickets has been a common phenomenon among the poor wage earners spending most of their earnings and thus depriving their families of the daily needs of life and the children the right to education and better living. Poverty instead of being eradicated is being encouraged.

I urge upon the Government to put a stop to this menace and ban this lottery entirely and thus save the poor people from becoming victims to starvation and hardships.

(ii) **Need to include Patan and Shirala Blocks in Maharashtra in the Revamped Public Distribution System.**

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad): The two blocks of Western

Maharashtra namely Patan and Shirala in my constituency have been experiencing repeated earthquakes. The epicenters are in Koyna Dam and Warna Dam respectively. The recent earthquakes have caused great damage to the property. In Satara district alone, over 8,000 Houses have been damaged. People are sleeping outside. No industrial development will happen as people are afraid to invest there. This is a hilly area which is sustained by People working as Mathadi Kamgars in Bombay. Therefore, with a view to alleviate the hardship of the people, I request the Central Government to include these two blocks in the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) blocks.

(iii) **Need to enhance allocation of natural gas to Gujarat**

[Translation]

SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT (Mandvi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, at present the Gujarat State is marching ahead in the field of industrial and energy production. The daily consumption of domestic and industrial energy is increasing. The allocation of natural gas from oil wells in Gujarat has reached to an optimum stage. Now the production of natural gas from oil wells in Gujarat is declining. To meet the requirement of natural gas of Gujarat State, there is no other alternative left except allocating natural gas to Gujarat from Bombay High and other marine natural gas reserves. The State Government has already submitted its request seeking supply to gas for its different thermal power projects, i.e. Itraj Allocation 135 Megawat, Kaivzak Bori 600 Megawat, p. Wavanv-2, 615 Megawat, Gandhi Nagar 200 Megawat and Sinaur 1230 Megawat etc. apart from allocation of Tapti gas. But no concrete steps have

[Shri Chhitubhai Gamit]

been taken up by the Central Government in this regard.

Keeping in view the day-to-day increasing demand of energy for Gujarat, I humbly request the Central Government to take an appropriate action in this matter at the earliest.

(iv) Need for Conversion of Balasore Kharagpur Grand Trunk Road in Orissa to National Highway

[English]

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore): Balasore-Kharagpur grand trunk road is the shortest road from Bhubaneswar to Calcutta. All the heavy vehicles pass through this causing a serious damage to this road. State Government is not in a position to bear the expenditure for the construction and repair of this road. Though this road is not fit for plying vehicles yet the vehicles pass through this road and consequently face frequent accidents.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to take steps for conversion of Balasore-Kharagpur grand trunk road to National Highway and sanction adequate funds for this purpose.

(v) Need for early completion of Narmada Project with a view to Mitigate acute drinking water problem in Gujarat.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL VARMA (Dhanduka): Mr. Speaker, Sir, an acute

shortage of potable water has been envisaged for ensuing days due to the less rainfall in various parts of the country. There is crisis of potable water in many districts of Gujarat. In various tehsils of Ahmedabad and Bhavnagar district water is made available by tanks even today. This problem will take a serious turn in summer. People have to fetch water from long distances. Nothing has been done to solve the problem of potable water. The whole of Gujarat is looking towards the Narmada project but some or the other problem comes in the way of its completion. So, my submission to the Central Government is that the necessary steps should be taken to complete this project at the earliest so that the problem of drinking water can be solved.

(vi) Need to Upgrade Gopalpur Port in Orissa to All Weather Direct Berthing Port

[English]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Government of Orissa have developed one Fair-Weather Lighterage Port at Gopalpur with limited Port facilities which has started handling of cargo since 1990-91. This is located at 260 Km North of Visakhapatnam and 160 Km South of Paradeep, well connected to NH5 by all weather road for only a distance of 5 Km and also to Chhatrapur Railway Station on Howrah-Madras Trunkline by broad gauge rail track for a distance of only 6 Km. In spite of limitation of anchorage port operation, the port is able to handle cargo very efficiently. In the absence of Direct Berthing facilities, Thermal Coal from Talcher Coal Mines is being handled with idle traffic distance of 300 Km and loaded at Visakhapatnam Port. Hence Direct Berthing facilities is required to be provided at Gopalpur Port which will

ensure speedy movement of coal for Southern Thermal Power stations and will also eliminate the national loss on account of idle transportation.

In view of the bright potential of the port and assured Cargo it is required to be upgraded to All-Weather Direct Berthing Port. I, therefore, request the Central Government to take all necessary steps immediately for taking over the Port and allocate required funds for the purpose.

- (vii) **Need to allocate funds for construction of an overbridge at Railway gate crossing No. 1 in Urai of Jalaun district of Uttar Pradesh.**

[Translation]

SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI (Jalaun): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Jalaun district in Uttar Pradesh has been declared as a backward and under developed district. Small scale industries are being set up on a large scale in the district headquarters, Urai. There are two railway crossing gates on the railway line, which passes through this area. At the time of passing of train through railway crossing gate No. 1, traffic is withheld for 40-45 minutes on the both sides of it. The wholesale foodgrain market of the headquarters Urai in Jalaun district is situated on other side of the railway crossing gate No-1 due to which the farmers, businessmen and the people have to waste a lot of time. The farmers, businessmen and the local people have been demanding for the construction of overbridge on it.

Therefore, my submission to the Central Government is that the approval and grant should be given for the

construction of the overbridge on gate No.1 in Urai.

- (viii) **Need to Start Work on Eklakhi Baraunghat Railway Project in West Bengal**

[English]

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri): I draw the attention of the Government to the fact that a delegation of five members of the Parliament met the Hon. Minister of Railways on 16.12.1994 in connection with diversion of fund scheduled for Eklakhi-Baraunghat Railway project and winding up of its project office at Maldeh. We were categorically assured that there will be no diversion of fund and there is no question of winding up of its office. It has been a long standing demand of the people of North Bengal. People are very much agitated over this issue there.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to take immediate step to start work on the Eklakhi-Baraunghat project without any further delay.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned for Lunch till 13.50 hours.

12.52 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fifty Minutes past Thirteen of the clock.

13.57 hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fifty Seven Minutes past Thirteen of the Clock.

[Mr. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE
PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

[*English*]

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR
(Bhilwara): I beg to move:

"That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:—

"That the Member of Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 21st February, 1994."

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I feel proud of for this chance given to me to present the Motion of Thanks on the Address delivered by the hon. President before both the Houses on 21st February. It is an important occasion in Parliamentary Democracy and its importance should be taken in that spirit only. I would like to repeat the points mentioned by the hon. President in his Address. Expressing his concern on the issue of Kashmir, he has stated that we are very much worried about the incidents at our borders these days and the way Pakistan has been raising this issue. The hon. President has expressed his strong will on this issue and has asserted that Kashmir is an integral part of India and it would continue to be so. I feel, it is of great importance, when the supreme personality of our country expresses such a strong will. All of us would like to extend our thanks to him for such a declaration made by him.

This is also a historic moment that on the 22nd of February, the very next day of the Address delivered by the President both the Houses of the Parliament which is a Supreme body of the country, introduced and unanimously passed the said resolution without any discussion. There have been a very few occasions in the Parliamentary history of India when, in the event of a national crisis, the members of both the Houses have exhibited unity. This is a very significant event in itself. In my views, this act shows the unity of our country. Hon. Members of different political parties represent their parties in the Parliament and they also have political differences on several issues and sometimes such differences reach at a soaring point. But this is a matter of happiness as to when the country was facing a crisis.

14.00 hrs.

The Parliament of the country has passed the resolution unanimously and has thereby reaffirmed this determination that Kashmir is and will remain an integral part of India.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when India got freedom it was divided into two parts—Hindustan and Pakistan. At that time as per rules of the Government of India Act 1935 and India Independence Act 1947 the erstwhile British Government had given a right to all the then Provincial Government and Princely States falling under India and Pakistan that they can merge themselves with any union at their own discretion, and this merger was unconditional. I think that more than 600 princely States were willing to merge with Indian union unconditionally. The then king of Jammu and Kashmir declared that Kashmir would remain a part of India and Mr. Speaker, Sir, at that time the National

Conference which was the largest political party of Jammu and Kashmir, welcomed and ratified that declaration. I believe that this was accepted by the whole of the world. There was no problem at all when Princely States merged with the Indian Union. There would have been no problem even in the merger of Jammu and Kashmir I think, if Pakistan would have not created troubles by sending tribal invaders into our territory in October 1947 or had it not launched an armed attack in May 1948, the issue of partition between the two countries could have been surely settled easily. But since then the intention of Pakistan have been very clear to us. I think that India had also very categorically and seriously made it clear at various international fora that Kashmir issue must not be internationalised.

There was a war in 1965, our brave soldiers faced the situation and proved that our country is capable of facing any crisis. There was a war for Bangladesh in 1971. We are also aware of the bravery shown by Indian Army at that time. We agree that in 1971, Bangladesh was a part of Pakistan, although it was a part of an Islamic State, yet it wanted to secede and India supported Bangladesh. After winning the battle, our country gave the charge of the Government to the leaders of Bangladesh. The dispute, however, continued. In July, 1972 the Shimla Agreement was reached between the then Prime Minister of Pakistan, Late Julfikar Ali Bhutto and the then Indian Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi wherein it was decided that any dispute in that regards would be resolved through bilateral dialogues and that none of the issues in that regard would be raised on any international fora. Now the same situation has emerged. Our country is willing to have cordial relations with Pakistan and there is no conflict between

the people of the two countries because the people of both the countries want to fight against poverty, illiteracy and unemployment. Since independence, we have been pursuing this policy, but whenever there is any political crisis in Pakistan, the rulers of that country raise voice against India. At present, Pakistan is doing the same thing.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Prime Minister to the fact that yesterday, while talking to press, the hon. Prime Minister of Pakistan Shrimati Benazir Bhutto said that there was violation of human rights in Punjab and specially in Jammu and Kashmir and that she would raise that issue on every level whether any other country of the world lends its support or not. I would also like to draw your attention to another serious thing said by her. She said that their support to Kashmir was based on the Islamic Principles. I think that such a Statement is unprecedented, Pakistan has made such a statement for the first time. Our country, however, never acknowledged religion to be the main factor behind partition of the two countries. If the partition would have taken place on religious ground, then why Bangladesh was created. Although it was a part of an Islamic State these serious issues need to be considered seriously. We should make a future strategy in this regard. I believe that our army and people of our country are unanimous in this regard and that is why we show unity in the event of any crisis.

I remember that in 1965 when I used to sit in this House as a Member of Parliament, at that time when there was a war between Pakistan and India, the then Prime Minister late Shastri Ji used to take the House in confidence daily at 4 p.m. At that time leaders of all the political parties

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told him that the whole country was with him. Now, I think that the same situation has developed once again. I understand that the people of the country would reaffirm that resolution that the unity, integrity and sovereignty of the country can not be allowed to be mortgaged under the pressure of even the mightiest country of the world. The people have to be ready for any sacrifice and to face any amount of troubles. It is a matter of regret that despite our efforts when extreme bloodshed and terrorism was prevalent in Punjab, our Government initiated democratic process there and subsequently elections for State Assembly, Lok Sabha and for municipality were held.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am happy to say that the people of Punjab thought that the principles of democracy can alone ensure development and peace if follow them sincerely. Perfect peace is prevailing there after the election. Even our opponents accept this fact that there is a great change in Punjab. Farmers of the State are growing more foodgrains and are providing their best contribution to the prosperity of the country. When perfect peace prevails in Punjab, some American leaders are talking of the violation of human rights in the State. We should strongly oppose to this and should raise our point through all international levels that India not only believes in human rights, but we have also set up a Human Rights Commission. The Chairman of this Commission is a retired Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and judges of the Supreme Court are members of that Commission. Now nobody will believe, if it is alleged that there is violation of human rights in the country like India. Such an allegation was levelled by some Americans and also by the American

President. Our Ambassador in America has, however, denied it. When a question in this regard was raised today in the morning, the hon. Minister of External Affairs gave a reply to which I agree to some extent. He said that people of the country are unanimous on the issue of the sovereignty of the country. We are resolute and we have also made our views clear whenever that issue is raised on any international platform. So there is no violation of human rights in any part of the country, rather is a provision of judicial process to be initiated in the event of violation of human rights. There is a procedure to conduct an impartial enquiry. I would, therefore, like to submit before the hon. Members of the House that the situation that prevailed in 1965 or after that is emerging again. They are now required to take firm stand. I do not know whether it is relevant at the moment or not, but I would like to submit to our colleagues of the B.J.P. that they should bring a change in their stand at the present moment of crisis. In the arena of politics, their strategy can be understood that they won a considerable number of seats by making a base in public. This can not be denied. But mixing religion into politics and creating a rift among the people of two communities by impressing upon the people of a particular community that they are being made victims of appeasement policy is not fair. They should consider it seriously. I do not know whether I should raise or not this matter at this moment, but by observing the present situation of crisis I think that the problem still persists. Can we say that 13 crore people of a particular minority class who are living in India are second class citizens? They also enjoy equal rights. They have also made sacrifices for the country. They have also laid down their lives as and when war on borders took place. We should give them the same

respect and an atmosphere should be created in which Hindus, Sikhs, Muslims, Jains and Christians would feel that they are all brothers and they all have equal rights to progress. This is my sincere appeal, especially to the friends sitting there, to seriously think over this. I would like to tell Shri Vajpayeeji that his party should try to review their objects and approach keeping in view the present calamity conditions prevailing in the country.

After remaining in politics, for 52 years, today, I feel that our democracy is getting matured but when we do not seriously consider minor issues that means that we are not bothering for the consequences. At the same time, sometimes we neglect major issues also. Now, I conclude my views on this topic. Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his Address, the President has referred to the unprecedented damage caused by severe earthquake in Maharashtra, in which it has been said that, it is the most noble way that the people of India, the Central Government and the Maharashtra Government have come forward to help the calamity stricken people. In the morning today, during question hour, Mr. Chauhan said tremors were also felt in his constituency. I would like to ask the Government to take steps to have scientific survey of earthquake prone areas and the areas where there is possibility of earthquake, prepare schemes, and provide forewarning-system to the people so that people do not suffer sudden loss of life and property. In this way they can be saved from severe calamities. I am happy that the Maharashtra Chief Minister and the Prime Minister toured the affected areas and consoled the disaster-hit people, and did, whatever was possible. In any case, for a permanent solution of the problem,

scientific instruments should be installed to inform the people in time .

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his Address, the President discussed economic reforms. In this connection, I would like to mention the 1991 situation when the Congress Government took over the reins of the country.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): That is an old issue now. Please say something new.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If Nitishji continues to give a running commentary, then he will not have an opportunity to speak on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR: Please listen. It is not an old issue. The situation in June 1991 which was inherited by the Government, is known to all of us. At that time, foreign exchange reserves had depleted to Rs. 1000 crores. Inflation rate was 16 per cent and we did not have the money for importing oil and other essential goods. There was no money to pay interest of loans which was due as per international commitments. In such a situation our minority Government and the Prime Minister, after holding discussions with all political parties, and on the basis of consensus created a harmonious atmosphere.....

SHRI BASUDEB. ACHARIA (Bankura): There was no consensus.

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR: An attempt was made to change that situation and I know that one thing became clear by December, 1992 in the minds of the people, that the way the minority Government had tried to solve the country's problems that was in itself unprecedented and for this, the Government and the Prime Minister deserve congratulations.

But, I want to specially tell the Prime Minister that it is true and can not be denied that we did bring economic reforms, we adopted liberal policy and ended licence raj. But if, we look at its implementation, it would be seen that the psyche of the people at lower level has not changed. Many a time, the Prime Minister has said that unless change in the psyche of the people at the lower level is not evident, the people will not get the expected benefits of the decisions taken at the higher level. Today, more abolition of licence system is not going to solve the problems. It is all right that a person need not to go for licence to Udyog Bhawan and anyone wanting to set up a factory can do so by having a survey on his own, but this is not the end. He needs, land, electricity and arrangement for water will have to be made. Arrangements will have to be made for marketing his products also. For this, there is a need for coordination at different levels and the situation is that this co-ordination has so far not been established. For that reason no matter, how many agreements we might have reached, a situation has not come yet when the people at the lower level may start getting the benefits.

On this occasion, I would like to tell especially all the hon. Ministers that after preparing a scheme, they should seriously monitor its implementation. I doubt that it would be implemented at the

lower level, unless they look at the minute details. I myself have been a Chief Minister and know that some decisions taken at the cabinet level, are drastically altered on reaching the lower level, through various levels. I believe that decisions taken at the political level, on various issues, should be implemented properly. I am of the view that unless our Ministers do not find out whether the work at the lower level would be done or not in accordance with the spirit of the decision, there will be some amount of difficulty in their implementation. Rather difficulty is already being experienced because I am in touch at the field level. You may not have to take licence for setting up an industry, but we would not be able to make progress in real terms unless there is a change in the attitude of the officers at the lower level. There is a need to inculcate a sympathetic attitude among people the lower level. And we will have to keep this in mind in the coming days, because the matter can not wait any more. In some days or months, we will have to determine that whatever decision we take at the top, it should be implemented correctly so that the benefit of our policy could reach the people at the lowest level. This is what I have to say on this occasion.

Now, I want to quote a portion of the Prime Minister's speech, which he delivered on the 28th September, 1993, in New Delhi, while discussing the economic reforms, on the occasion of the 66th Annual Meeting of the Board of Indian Commerce and Trade.

Rural Development Programme has been expanded manifold, as a result of which there is a lot of scope for providing benefit to the people at the lowest level. This is being done entirely with the Government money. No one else is going

to take the responsibility of running our primary schools. Similarly, no one would come from outside to run our Primary Health Centres. No one is going to run social welfare programmes. We ourselves will have to make arrangements for this. The responsibility would have to be taken by the people and the Government of this country. Yes, it is possible that people from outside can set up industry here, and for this we are making efforts also.

In this way, there are two separate sectors. One, in which every thing has to be done by the people and the Government themselves, whereas in the second sector, capital investment and participation by people from outside is possible. Therefore, we should clearly understand where we will have to bear responsibility ourselves and where we can share our responsibility with others.

He further said that reform programmes should be such that they can be run with our own resources. Therefore, in every field of economy, speed of reforms should be determined on the basis of achievements. There is a need for untiring efforts for reforms in the factors responsible for the achievements, unless we resolve this firmly, the people will not get its benefits, no matter how good the reform programmes may be. This is the deficiency which I feel exists at present and about which I want to tell the House.

I do not oppose for bringing foreign capital in India. But I want to submit that if one goes on depending upon foreign capital for all programmes, it would not be proper for our country in the coming days. There is no objection in seeking help for an industry which we cannot set up here on our own for borrowing a technique which we do not have. I think all the good

socialist and communist nations have done this. I have firm faith in my nation's strength and dignity. I am of the view that today if Indian scientists can make discoveries in other countries, given a chance in India, they can likewise perform similar wonders here also. We should have faith in their ability and capability and this assurance we have to give them.

Several people met me and told me that they had gone to America. Even there, they met several Indian scientists. They said that if a congenial atmosphere is available in the country where they can carry out their research work then they would be able to do a lot for the country. We will have to build up this sort of confidence among them then certainly we will be able to use the talent available in the country.

14.28 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

On this occasion I would like to have a word of praise for the Public Sector Undertakings. There was a time when Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, in order to improve the economy of the country, decided to set up Heavy industries in the Public Sector. At present, we have invested an amount of Rs. 1 lakh crore in these industries. We can never forget the help given by our friendly country Russia for setting up the Bhilai Steel Plant, Forge Foundry Factory at Ranchi and Agriculture Farm and basic infrastructure at Suratgarh in Rajasthan. I very much remember the occasion when Khrushchev and Bulganin visited India. They said that we were close to their borders and in the hour of need we could rely upon them. I can say that our PSUs had attained a commanding heights. This is true that

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presently they are incurring losses. So we cannot provide them funds from our public funds. But there are some industries which are running in profit and I feel that we must remove the difficulties being experienced by them. At this juncture, I want to say that we should earn more money. Everybody wants it. Money is the base of every system, be it socialism or capitalism. Nobody is against this phenomenon but there are differences of opinion for distributing it. I conclude my speech in respect of public sector with this point that we must provide them all possible help and those who play an important role in this process must be promoted further.

The industries heading towards privatisation, are welcome. Nobody can oppose the idea of making all sort of experiments for the development of the nation. I feel that new reforms have given a confidence to countrymen. Above all, the political stability in the country has created good impression on other nations. The foreigners wish to come to India as they find political stability here as well as the tendency to keep promises. There are no two opinions, that foreign capital investment in India which is going on smoothly at present, can become a good source for our development.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, agriculture development is being discussed in the country. The farmers are the back bones of the country. Prosperity of the farmers amounts to the development of the nation. More agricultural produce means more progress for the country. At the time of independence, 5 crore tonnes of foodgrains were produced in the country. Today with the help of our scientists, the farmers are able to produce foodgrains to the tune of 18 crore tonnes. Earlier, we

used to import foodgrains under P. L. 480. At present, we need not import foodgrains as we are self sufficient in this field. On the basis of... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): But three million tonnes of foodgrains are being imported... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR: This is not a good tradition. 12 hours period had been fixed for the President's address. Every party will get time in that proportion. Please speak on your turn only.

Our farmers and scientists increased foodgrains production from 5 crore tonnes to 18 crore tonnes. It had good results. The country inculcated a feeling of self-sufficiency but at the same time I want to express my concern over the ever increasing population of the country. If we are not able to maintain the increase of 3 per cent in agriculture production then in near future we may find it necessary to export foodgrains. Therefore, our aim should be to increase agriculture production at least by three percent every year and this we can do by extensive farming, improving irrigational facilities and adopting latest techniques.

So far as the question of paying remunerative prices to the farmers is concerned, I would like to say that the farmers in our country do not get remunerative prices for their produce which they ought to get as per the international market. We will have to coordinate it. If we make one time increase in prices it may affect the

consumers. Therefore, we will have to go for the middle path. You might have seen that whenever the Government fixed the support price, it always took into account the cost of production borne by the farmers. To my mind, this years support prices are very reasonable. The price of common paddy which was Rs. 278 per quintal in 1992-93, has been raised to Rs. 310 per quintal i.e. 14.8 per cent increase. The price of fine paddy has been raised from Rs. 280 per quintal to Rs. 330 per quintal i.e. an increase of 17.9 per cent. The fair average qualities of millets has been raised from Rs. 240 to Rs. 260 i.e. an increase of 8.3 per cent. The price of fair average quality variety of wheat has been raised from Rs. 330 to Rs. 350 i.e. an increase of 6.1 per cent. Even then I feel that the farmers are not getting their due share. The price of wheat in the International market is 160 dollar per tonne which means Rs. 5000/- per tonne whereas at present we are paying a support price of Rs. 3500 per tonne. We are paying a support price in order to stabilise the market and see that price does not fall more than that is fixed. To my mind the Government has done a good job and there can be no two opinions in this regard that from time to time these prices are revised by the Government.

Generally, it is being said that the export of agricultural produce will improve the status of the farmers. I do accept it in principal and there are no two opinions about it. It is known to everybody the way a particular community takes benefit of the produce of the farmers. This is an established fact that when the farmers bring their produce in the market, the price is the lowest in the year at that time. But the farmers which constitute 76 per cent of the population are compelled to sell off their produce at down the earth

prices for meeting their daily requirements. The businessmen purchase it at cheaper rates and later export it or sell it off at higher rates. Thus the benefit is not passed on to the farmers.

The Government will have to find some sort of mechanism so as to ensure that the farmers do not resort to distress sale and are in a position to get remunerative prices. Keeping this very fact in mind the Warehousing Corporation was set up for this very purpose, so that the farmers could store their produce in the godowns there and get 75 per cent cost and the Warehousing Corporation sells it off whenever it gets remunerative price in the market. But I feel that even Warehousing Corporation is not providing any relief to the farmers in this regard. At present the Warehousing Corporation purchases farmer's produce on the lines of FCI and thus the aim behind establishing Warehousing Corporation is no more achieved and the farmers are compelled to sell their produce at cheaper rates. We may think in the direction of strengthening such organisations. We should collect their produce and pay them according to their requirements. In this way, we can provide an opportunity to the farmers to sell their produce when they get remunerative prices. Thus we may pass on the benefit to the farmers. This is a very important aspect. unless and until we go for it, we will not be in a position to provide relief to the farmers. The argument advanced by the farmers is very much appropriate that an industrialist who manufactures goods in his factory, arbitrarily fixes its selling price and whenever he wishes, he increases, the prices of his product and there is no such restriction on him, The consumers are bound to purchase them on the rates fixed by the industrialist. So we will have to create such a situation for the farmers

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also in the near future so that they may get remunerative price for their produce otherwise production will suffer and our country is bound to face a serious crisis. It is a matter of grave concern that we are still unable to provide remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce. The Government has to give a thought to it. We will have to set up a mechanism as to how we can export our agricultural produce and earn more profit out of it. It is a matter of great happiness that this export process may be beneficial to the country but we have to act in this regard. In this way we may be able to satisfy the farmers. The profit should virtually go to the farmers. The Agriculture Minister should find a way out to this. He is a farmer himself and is aware of the difficulties faced by the farmers. So he must pay attention to providing these funds direct to farmers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has been mentioned in the Address of hon. President as to how the production can be increased in dry land farming areas. The point of formation of several watershed areas in the entire country is also mentioned. I feel, this is a very important scheme, because irrigational facility has been made available only to 25 per cent land in the country and 75 per cent of land is still dry. We have to carry on dry land farming on this land. If we cannot increase the per unit production capacity of that land, we will not be able to increase the total production of the country. So, we should pay more attention to dry land farming and should find out ways to increase production. It should be a matter of concern as to how can the farmers increase the per unit production. A part of Rajasthan, which was once a barren land, is now producing 30 to 35

lakh tonnes of foodgrains every year. This became possible with the water of Indira Gandhi canal which is flowing through that area. I know that a lot of water is wasted through flow irrigation. Large tracts of land have become barren. If we utilise that water properly by lifting the water to upper areas for irrigating the fields there, I think, the farmers will properly utilise every drop of water.

Sir, I would like to mention some points about my district. We implemented the lift irrigation scheme in our district. We did not do it through the Government, but constituted Kisan Samitis and asked them to utilise this water and gave the entire responsibility of the scheme to them. Some facilities like electricity etc. were provided to them. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you will be happy to know that near about 45 schemes are under implementation in my district. At present 325 schemes are under implementation in Rajasthan, which provide water to the farmers for irrigation. Every drop of that water is being utilised. I would like to suggest that the canal system should be taken from the hands of Government machinery and handed over to the farmers societies. A lot is being said about privatization today. The matter of privatisation of big industries is going on. The entire arrangement of water should be handed over to farmers. All of us are aware how the engineers work nowadays. If the farmers takes over the responsibility, they will utilise every drop of water. On the basis of my knowledge I can say if the water of the canals under flow irrigation scheme is properly utilised, 25 per cent of water can be saved and provided for irrigation of 25 per cent more land. This will also increase production. But, however, this can only happen if this work is handed over to the societies of farmers. For experiment, a system should

be handed over to them and the results can be seen. I think it will show unique results. Water will be saved as well as more land will be irrigated. The farmers will be benefited and encouraged as they will reap the benefits and will manage the system with utmost care. So, I would like to suggest that farmers' societies should be given the responsibility of distribution of water of big dams.

The Address of the President also mentions about providing employment to urban educated unemployed youth. This is a very good scheme. When the youth of this country come out of universities, after completion of their education, they only think about Government jobs, but these jobs are limited and cannot be increased. The need of the hour today is to provide employment to urban educated unemployed under self-employment scheme and this scheme will serve this purpose. The scheme should be extended further, so that, more youth can be benefited from it. A little attention is necessary in this regard, because, funds are earmarked and approved under these schemes, but several complications arise at the district level and the youth have to face a lot of difficulties due to these. Thus, they do not get the benefit of the scheme. It compels them to think that it would have been better if they had worked as labourers. It is necessary to streamline and simplify the rules so that the urban educated youth can get the benefit and the feeling of disappointment among them can be removed. The educated youth are the most disappointed lot today. At the same time, it is necessary to create this feeling among youth that the loans they are getting from banks or other organisations are to be repaid, otherwise the banks will become insolvent. The people who do not get success in their work, they should find out the reasons for

failure and those factors should be removed. A monitoring cell has also been set up in the Prime Minister's office in this regard. I would suggest that this cell should not remain as an official cell, but should work as a clearing cell to solve all the problems related to this scheme. This cell should be made effective and should be given powers. It should collect and analyse the data and anticipated problems should be solved through this cell.

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North):
Are you suggesting an amendment to the President's speech?

[Translation]

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR: I am expressing my views. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Address also mentioned about the non-conventional energy sources. This is a very important project in itself. There is no limit to the development of non conventional sources of energy. Sky is the limit for this. I have been closely associated with it and the Prime Minister has also shown much interest in this matter. Recently, during my visit to Tamilnadu I saw that wind mills are generating 100 megawatts of electricity and a large number of people are benefited through it. No foreign investment is needed for it. The industrialists of Tamilnadu are financing these projects, because, they are getting direct supply of this electricity and there is a scheme to generate 300 to 600 megawatts of electricity by this way in future. In the desert of Rajasthan, there are gaps in Aravali ranges, where winds blow with high velocity. Our scientists have identified 12 such gaps, where the

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velocity of wind is 18 kilometres per hour. Lot of electricity can be generated through a wind speed of 45 to 46 kilometres per hour. These sources, which are renewable, should be tapped. Shri Salve is also concerned about it. We should generate electricity through non-conventional sources. The cost of electricity is increasing continuously and we have no funds. Sometimes we ask help from Japan or some other country. These non-conventional renewable sources are available in our country. In Rajasthan, the sun shines for 345 days in a year and rains come there only for 20 days. There are several desert areas where even a seven-year old child does not know what is rain, but a lot of energy in the form of sun is available there. There should be large-scale tapping of this source. Time bound programmes should be made for solar energy, wind energy and the energy from the tides of the sea. I, therefore, would like to suggest that the Ministry held by Shri Salve and the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources should coordinate with each other. Both the Ministries should supplement funds of each other. In this way, there will be maximum tapping of sources and more benefit will be achieved.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wholeheartedly support the national education policy mentioned in the President's Address. It is my opinion that expenditure on education is the expenditure made for human development. The European countries had achieved hundred per cent literacy nearabout 150 years ago, but our country has achieved only 38 per cent literacy till now. So, we still have to go a long way. In December last a summit of 9 countries was held in Delhi. These are the

most populous countries in the world, having population almost half of the total population of the world. The heads of the Government of those countries had come to Delhi and our Prime Minister chaired the Delhi Declaration made on the 16th of December. It was stated in that Declaration that all efforts would be made to achieve full literacy in all these 9 countries by the year 2000. This is a national resolution. So I would like to submit that to implement this resolution, a scheme should be prepared in the country. Estimates have also to be made about the number of schools, teachers and the non-formal means to be adopted for spreading education in the country. It has been mentioned in the President's Address that provision in this regard will be made during the 9th plan. This is disappointing. On the one hand, it is proposed to achieve education for all by the year 2000, but on the other hand, work on it is going to be started in the 9th Plan. It is very paradoxical. Budget is going to be presented at 5 p.m. today and the Delhi Declaration should have a direct effect on it. I hope that the hon. Minister of Finance would extend the provisions for the fulfilment of national resolution in the field of education. I am sure that he will extend them to some extent and also expedite the work to achieve the target. This is my submission with regard to education. Education is a concrete foundation, the more the people of the country are educated, the more problems will be solved. At present there is hundred per cent literacy in Kerala and Pondicherry and it has affected family planning programme. That is why if every parson in the country is educated; the more favourable will be the effect on the programme; and we will be able to solve the problems. Therefore, my submission is that the more we spend on education, the more the country will develop.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak about the Panchayati Raj in the country. Shri Rajiv Gandhi, during his tenure, had spent one year to discuss the matter personally with the Sarpanches, Pradhans, District Collectors, Ministers and Chief Ministers. He discussed the matter with the officials in different regional offices. After one year he thought of making some amendment in the Constitution but unfortunately his aspirations could not be fulfilled. We are grateful to the late Prime Minister that he moved a motion for 73rd and 74th amendments, with courage and these amendments were passed unanimously. It was decided that all the State Governments can make changes in the law in accordance with the Articles of the Constitution. It included five things in particular. As there is a procedure that elections for Lok Sabha and State Assemblies are held after every five years, similarly Panchayat elections would also be held at the same intervals. A commission will be formed and given the charge to hold elections. At present finance commission allocates funds at the national level and State level. A similar commission will be formed at State level in which women will be given adequate representation. All these points have been mentioned in it. The State Government can not go beyond this. However, a number of things have been left on the State Governments. They have been making changes in their own interests. They have been taking the benefits of the loose ends left by the Central Government Today is the last day of February. They have to make amendments in their law within the month of March and April. I feel that some of the State Governments have already taken initiatives in this regard. However a number of them have still not done so. The Central Government should look into this also because if the system of

Panchayati Raj is confined to villages only and even there it does not function properly then the framework at upper level will also become meaningless. Whatever schemes we formulate are implemented at Panchayat level and political will is required more in this regard rather than public will. However, this scheme has also met the same fate as the other schemes. Implementation of which is the responsibility of the bureaucracy. With regard to Jawahar Rozgar Yojna, Shri Rajiv Gandhi had proposed to provide funds direct at Panchayat level; so that the regional bodies can utilize these funds as per their requirements. But what is happening today? Although adequate funds are being provided for the purpose, but Panchayat cannot utilize these funds according to their requirements. The collector is the head of the DRDA, District Development Authority, who diverts the funds from one Panchayat to another. Therefore, the spirit with which this programme was introduced is being nullified. The speed with which Jawahar Rozgar Yojna should be implemented in rural areas is not being maintained. The Central Government has allocated about Rs 30,000 crore for rural development. I think that such a huge amount was never allocated for the purpose ever before. But neither those funds are being utilized nor its benefits reach the grass root level for whom this scheme was introduced.

15.00 hrs.

Therefore, for the sake of these schemes also, Panchayati Raj should be strengthened. My opinion is that the Government should hold elections of Panchayat, Panchayat Samities and Zila Parishads together at the national level within a stipulated period. There should be a provision that Panchayat elections all

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over the country are held within a gap of 5-6 months maximum. Only then the people living in rural areas would get the benefits of the schemes implemented at upper level, otherwise our schemes would remain confined only to rural areas. Therefore, in order to strengthen the system it is very essential that Panchayat elections are held within a stipulated period, and no State Government should be allowed to make any variation in the basic concept of Panchayati Raj. It is very essential that this matter should be considered seriously.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to talk about the rural infrastructure. There is no doubt that roads have been constructed, communication system has been improved, school buildings have been built, Panchayat offices and Primary Health Centres buildings have also been built. But still there is a need to improve the condition of villages. We have to expedite the development work on a war footing and for this purpose unless sufficient funds are allocated in the total outlay of our schemes, we will be facing difficulties in developing the infrastructure at the grass root level. Even for this, there should be a direct provision in the national schemes to serve as a link or a mechanism. Even today my constituency or other villages having a total population of 1500 have not yet been linked with roads. This is not good on our part that the rural areas have not been provided road facilities even after 45 years of independence. Though planning is said to have been done at lower level yet it is not being implemented properly. We should personally look in to the matter and the Prime Minister's office should monitor the work at lower level and see as to the

extent to which the rural people are getting the benefit of these schemes. Then only we may consider it a greater achievement, and would be proud to say that India is a rural country and we formulate schemes primarily for rural areas. We are determined to develop those areas and we do fulfil that resolve.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to talk about the weaker sections of people. We will have to consider the problems of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, minorities and people of backward classes seriously. We have formulated a number of schemes for them, but it is also true that even today those people are still being deprived of social justice. I know what is happening in the villages. The dead bodies of Harijans are not allowed to pass through a holy place of upper caste people even today. Jaswant Singhji, this situation prevails there even today.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla):
You had been the Chief Minister of the State for so many years. Why did not you stop it?

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR: It is my personal experience and I claim that we tried to meet the situation with the help of police, but it is not proper. We should develop a psyche and awareness among the upper classes for the upliftment of backward classes rather than doing so through judiciary. I feel that if the intellectual people take initiative for the upliftment of this section this work can be done very soon. Whenever projects are undertaken by the Government or our society takes any initiative in this regard they are accomplished very soon. That is why my submission is that we cannot deny the sincerity and factual position

about social justice which is being talked about everywhere these days. The need of the hour is to accept the concept of social justice and remove the shortcomings. If measures are not taken in time it will become very difficult to control the caste conflicts in the country. Therefore, I would like to submit seriously on this occasion that not only the Government but every section of the society should work for the promotion of social justice and create an atmosphere where the difference of upper caste and lower caste is removed, untouchability is eradicated and the backward and the suppressed classes get the opportunity to rise so that the minorities may also feel that they are the citizens of this country having equal rights. If corrective measures are not taken in this regard, we cannot control the distortions of the society and the country. There would be unrest and social imbalance in the country which would certainly prove disastrous. The economy, business and industry, everything depends on the prevailing peaceful atmosphere in the country. If there is no peace in a country business cannot flourish there, nor the country can develop. This is my serious submission. And to achieve this objective we should change the mode of thinking and for this all the political parties should try to create a favourable situation and develop an atmosphere in which people are determined to work for the upliftment of poor, suppressed and exploited. Only then the country could go ahead.

With these words I extend my thanks to the hon. President for coming here to Address the hon. Members of both the Houses. I hope that the hon. Members would express their views on it but a new convention should be set up to pass the President's Address with one

voice. This is my humble submission to all of you.

[English]

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address moved by a very senior Member of this House. Shri Shiv Charan Mathur.

At the outset, I wish to bring to the attention of the House the dignity of the two institutions, viz. the institution of Rashtrapati and the institution of Governors in the States. Rashtrapati's Address is an address on the policy to be followed by the Government and also the achievements of the Government. Similar is the case with the Governor's Address. But unfortunately, we have seen that the Rashtrapati's Address is either boycotted or abstained by certain sections of the House. Still worse is the situation in the State Assemblies. In the States, Addresses by Governors are pooh-poohed and nobody can hear what the Governors say. So, my request to this august House is that all the political parties have to sit together and take a decision either to have the Rashtrapati's Address or not. If we decide to have it, then give all the respect that it deserves.

Sir, political and economic stability are the two sides of the same coin. We cannot have one without the other. Two-and-a-half years back, when this Government came to power, this government was facing a political turmoil in the country. Even though this Government was a single party with the largest Members in the House, it was a minority Government. We know the difficulty of running a minority government which has to take a number of bold

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economic decisions. But, within two-and-a-half years we have proved that this Government by taking bold political and economic decisions could attain majority. This majority is still being maintained by it.

In these two-and-a-half years, a political polarization has taken place in this country. There were elections to five States and one Union Territory viz. Delhi. Before election, many of the political pandits thought that the BJP will come back to power in all these States and that there will be mid-term elections to the Lok Sabha and the saffron flag will be at the Red Fort. But, all these predictions are proved wrong and Congress came to power with a thumping majority in all the BJP ruled States. It is this political polarization where anti-communal forces and democratic forces have come together under the leadership of the Congress Party and that has given a new political stability to the nation.

I request the Left Parties to forget their old slogans because anti-Congress slogans are not going to save them. They cannot be anti-BJP and also anti-Congress at one time because they do not have that much strength. If you look at the voting percentage that they had in the Lok Sabha from 1952 onwards, it was 3.3 per cent in 1952. If combined together with CPI and CP(M), it is 11 per cent in 1991 our BJP friends, who started with a very low percentage, are coming up. But, the question is whether our left friends are going to support us or not. If they oppose us, they are indirectly supporting the BJP.

This Government believes in taking decision on the basis of consensus, irrespective of the fact whether it is in

majority or minority. In 1991, when this Government came to power, there were two major issues. One was the Mandal Commission and the other Masjid issue. With regard to the Mandal issue, we could find a democratic solution and all the backward communities are now happy because they have got their due share in the governmental machinery.

As far as the Masjid issue is concerned, right from Pandit Nehru's time, the Congress Party has taken a stand that either this issue has to be settled amicably by discussion between both the parties or the court of law has to give its verdict and that verdict has to be implemented.

This stand of the Congress Party which was taken in 50s had been proved correct because, Sir, in 1991 elections, the target against the Congress was Mandal and Masjid. We have suffered. And in 1989, the target against the Congress was the Bofors. You how many days and months in 1986-87, 1988 and 1989 we had discussed Bofors. So, these targets are changing because these targets cannot be permanently used against the Congress Party. What is their target now? Their target now is on the economic front.

Coming to the economic front, I would say that we have taken very bold decisions. When we came to power two-and-a-half years back, what was the economic situation? The inflation was at its highest viz. about 17 per cent, our foreign exchange reserve was at its lowest viz. about Rs. 4,000 crore. We did not have money even to import our essential commodities for fifteen days. That was the situation two-and-a-half years back.

When the new Budget is going to be presented just about two hours from now, we find that the entire economic scenario has changed. The inflation has come down to a minimum of 5.5 percent. Now, it has slightly risen to 8 per cent but we find that the inflation is under control.

The foreign exchange reserve was just Rs. 4,000 crore, two-and-a-half years back has now gone up by eight times. It is around Rs. 32,000 crore. So, the overall situation is very comfortable. This comfortable situation could be achieved because of the drastic measures the Congress had taken. When the Congress takes these drastic measures, there are attacks against the policies of the Congress. One attack is that the Congress is moving away from the policies of Panditji. Here, I wish to refer to what Panditji thought on our public sector and by and large about our economic structure. I am quoting a few lines.

SHRI RAM NAIK: In which year?

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: I do not know exactly the year.

"Everything that leads to fuller production and fuller employment is to be encouraged, provided it does not take us away from the ultimate objective of a socialist pattern of society. If we cannot have fuller production and fuller employment, then there will be neither welfare nor socialism, even though, we might nationalise some industries or pass brave laws and decrees. If we aim at mass production, this is only possible, if this production is for the masses and the masses have the purchasing power to consume it. We have introduced a certain

dynamism in every sector of our economic and national life in order to achieve this goal. The test must always be the results to be achieved and not some theoretical formula."

The main purpose of a socialistic pattern of society is to remove the fetters to production and distribution. If, however, we adopt a policy in the name of socialism which actually means some fetters are encouraged, then we are moving away from our objective and preventing the growth of full dynamism. It becomes necessary, therefore, to have a private sector also and to give it a full play even in its own field providing always that it is coordinated with our plan approach. So, in the case of Congress Party, we have always thought what should be the economic policy of our nation even before Independence. Even after Independence, we had an in-depth discussion into the economic policy that we should follow; and it is on the same lines that Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao is following our economic policy. In the 79th Plenary Session of the Indian National Congress at Tirupati, Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao had explained in detail about the development schemes. I will quote from his speech on page 7. It reads as follows:

" since the beginning of the era of planned development, the Indian National Congress has been inspired and guided by the vision of Jawaharlal Nehru. His strong sense of history and deep understanding of the distinctiveness of the Indian ethos, led him to reject borrowed doctrinaire approaches and to evolve India's own synthesis from diverse influences, which was inherently just, humane, pragmatic and

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uniquely Indian. The use of development planning was an instrument to achieve these ends and to ensure the material well-being of the masses and the dignity of the individual. These became elements of his socialistic pattern. As we look to the future, the fundamentals of Nehru's vision remain entirely relevant from every standpoint."

We have never deviated from Panditji's path, but unfortunately, our left friends, who are always clamouring that we have left the path of Nehruji, should remember the days when Panditji introduced the First Five Year Plan. It was our Communist friends who attacked the First Five Year Plan of Panditji. I still remember, in my younger days, in Kerala, we called it *Pancha Varsha Padhuthi*, the communists called it *Panja Varsha Patri*, the programme for starvation. This is what they called; but after a period of 30 to 40 years, now, the wisdom has come to the mind of our Communist and Socialist friends; and they say that Nehruji was adopting a correct policy. The problem with our Communist and Socialist friends is that wisdom has come to them very late. (*Interruptions*) So, we have a constant policy on this; we have been following a constant policy on this. The only problem is that you change from one time to another and you have to get a policy from some one else; the mind is not yours; the brain is not yours; the mind is somebody else's. This is your problem.

15.25 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MR. SPEAKER: You kindly resume your seat for two minutes. I have to make an announcement.

15.25 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

WELCOME TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the hon. Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming Dr. Egon A. Klepsch, President of the European Parliament and Mrs. Anita Klepsch who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

They arrived Delhi today morning. They are now seated in the special box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country.

15.26 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE
PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—*Contd.*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Thomas you may please continue.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): This year we are enjoying the fruits of the reformed and liberal policies which we have started at the time of Panditji, which have been followed by Indiraji, which have been taken up by Rajivji and

which are now pursued by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): How can you say that you are pursuing that?

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: We are pursuing the same, we have not moved away from that path. Look at the results. In the agricultural front, in 1993-94 we had 181 million tonnes of foodgrains which is about 11 million tonnes more than 1992-93. We could start exporting the agricultural product. In 1992-93 we have exported agricultural products worth of Rs. 3 million and during the period April-September 1993 alone it is to the tune of Rs. 11.37 million. How has this change taken place? This change has taken place because of the basis on which our agricultural policy has come.

Panditji started with the construction of big dams. He started with irrigation projects and new fertilizer industries. All the major fertilizer industries were started at the time of Panditji. At the same time, we started the Research and Development wing in our agricultural universities, in our laboratories and the results from those agricultural universities and laboratories in our universities could be transferred to the land, to the soil and our farmers could make use of them.

Sir, when our farmers are taking up this challenge we have to help them. In this House, all the political parties have been demanding that the farmers should be given remunerative price. There is no party which has not demanded that and when we give remunerative price, naturally this burden has to be passed down to the consumers. This year the Government, enhancing the remunerative

price, passed on a slight percentage of that to the consumers. So the ration prices of the rice, wheat and all those things were raised. Look at the prices of these commodities in the open market.

I come from Cochin where the price of rice last year was to the tune of Rs. 6 to Rs. 7 per kilogram. This year after enhancing the ration price of rice, the price of rice in the open market remains the same.

Three years back, I remember, in this House we had a discussion on price rise of essential commodities. What were the questions before us at that time? One was the price escalation or higher setting of prices of the essential commodities; and second was non availability of essential commodities.

Today, is any Member making an issue of non availability of any essential commodity? All the items are available in the market. Prices of some items like potato, onion, etc. might have slightly gone up. They are also coming down. But it is a fact that the essential commodities are available in the market. They are available to the consumers. Many of the essential commodities are available at reasonable prices.

So we cannot, at the same, ask that farmers should be given higher prices and consumers should be distributed all these items at low price. It is practically impossible. So the Government has taken a correct decision in enhancing the remunerative price to the farmers.

We from Kerala have been requesting Dr. Balram Jakhar to decide the floor price of copra. We have been asking him to do it. On the one side when we demand that the remunerative price of

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copra has to be fixed, at the same time we cannot say that we should get edible oil at a lower price. It is not possible. If the price of coconut oil goes up because of our request, naturally the price of coconut oil in the market also will go up. It is a consequence of that. So, because of the progressive change taking place in the agricultural field we find that the farmers are getting a much better price. They are going to the fields and they are getting good returns.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: What about the prices of potato and potato chips?

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Potato chips are taken in the bars. The common man only wants potatoes. (*Interruptions*)

Looking at the money supply, in 1992-93 there was a growth to 11.5 per cent in the money supply; in 1993-94 it has gone up to 12.6 per cent. Similarly, the inflow of the non-resident deposits is 657 million dollars this year.

I remember that when Dr. Manmohan Singh announced the partial convertibility of the rupee and the dollar being one hundred per cent convertible in the trade, everybody was apprehensive. They said that the rupee has to be devalued. But we find that the Indian rupee could stand ahead with the Dollar and Japanese Yen. Because of the bold decision we had taken, everybody was apprehensive at that time whether this convertibility could be agreed. Now we say that one hundred per cent convertibility will also be all right. We have come to that situation. This is because of the decision we have taken in the economic front.

Coming to the direct foreign investment from August 1991 to December 1993 an amount of Rs. 131.90 billion was invested. Private capital flow to India in 1994 was two billion dollars. Similarly if we look at the external debt and the debt services the receipts in 1992-93 were to the tune of Rs. 5,887 crore; in 1993 the figure was Rs. 5,248 crore and in 1992 repayment was Rs. 3,664 crore. In 1993 it was Rs. 3,762 crore.

In the sphere of foreign aid exports, from April 1992 to March 1993 the growth was 3.6 percent. From April to December 1992 it was only 3.4 per cent. From April to December 1993 it has gone to 19.9 per cent.

I am not reading all this data. What are the signals we get? The signals are, that our economic front has been stabilised.

Similarly in foreign trade we have got a very good trade balance. In 1991-92 it was minus 3,969 crore; in 1993-94 it is only minus 2,295 crore. So, we can be proud of the liberalisation policies which this Government has taken up during the last two and a half years.

Coming to employment, we have taken a number of steps during the last two and a half years. The Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, the Nehru Rozgar Yojana and other employment oriented programmes have reduced the unemployment in the country.

Sir, in November 1992, the number of applicants in the Employment Exchanges in the country was 36.77 million while in November 1993, it was only 36.25 million; there was a reduction

by 1.42 per cent. Similarly, in November 1992, the number of registrants in the Employment Exchanges was 32.98 million while in November 1993 it was only 34.05 million. In November 1992, the number of vacancies filled was 30.9 million and in November 1993, it was 32 million. So, in the employment front, we had given a new thrust so that the youngsters of our rural areas could find employment in their own places.

Coming to the petroleum products, recently the administrative price of petroleum products except kerosene has been increased. What is the reason? When one LPG gas cylinder is being sold in the market, the Government is giving a subsidy of Rs. 75. And when we enhanced it by Rs. 10, again the Government is giving a subsidy of Rs. 65. So, the Government is giving the LPG gas at a subsidy. Our internal production in regard to petroleum products has come down. So, we have to import. Naturally, we have to find out a way as to how to meet out this situation. So, the Government has increased the price. It is not that happily the Government has increased the price but reluctantly, it has increased the price. And we have no other way except to increase the price of diesel and petrol...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): I am not interrupting you. But I would like to know one thing. The oil producing countries are selling the petroleum products at lower rates while we are increasing the price of them. What is the reason? (*Interruptions*)

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: The reason is that we are importing them. We are losing precious foreign exchange. And we do not have any other way out. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI E. AHAMED: Does it mean that we are not importing them now? (*Interruptions*)

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Yes, we are importing them now because there is no other way out... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): The international prices of the petroleum products have been reduced. Then, why do you increase the price?...(*Interruptions*)

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Sir, coming to the labour front, if you look at the man-days lost in various States..

MR. SPEAKER: You have taken about 30 minutes. Kindly conclude now.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Coming to the labour front, if you look at the man-days lost for the last five years, you will notice that the number of man-days lost is coming down both in West Bengal and in Kerala. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): To whose credit should that go?

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: The credit goes to the Government because of stabilization in the economy and stabilization in the industrial front. Okay, for West Bengal you can take credit and for Kerala, we will take the credit.

So, in the labour front, the number of man-days lost is coming down because the labour understand their duty and at this juncture, they cannot go for strikes and the managements also cannot go for lock-outs. We have got a very peaceful labour front in our country.

[Prof. K.V. Thomas]

Sir, coming to the achievements of our scientists in our research field, the launching of Agni is something about which the entire nation is very proud. It is an achievement to a community of scientists, who have been denied a number of modern facilities and modern technologies. But within themselves, they could find out the ways and means and the solutions in order to launch Agni.

As Agni has been launched in the space, I am sure, Sir, this Government will be able to give a new thrust to our political front, to our economic front and to our industrial front so that there will be economic prosperity in the country and there will be a peaceful political situation in the country. My only request is that all democratic forces should help us and support us.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion Moved.

"That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:—

"That the Members of Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 21st February, 1994."

Hon. Members present in the House, whose amendments to the Motion of Thanks have been circulated, may, if they desire to move their amendments,

send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the amendments they would like to move. Those amendments only will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of amendments moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly thereafter. In case any Member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the office at the Table without delay.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make a request to you. This process is still continuing. For another, my intervention in this Debate on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address, will inevitably get fractured because the House will rise at 4 O'clock to adjourn in preparation to the presentation of the Union Budget. Now, Sir, if you, from the Chair, would be so considerate that instead of giving us one hour's recess, you may give us a recess of an hour and a quarter.

MR. SPEAKER: That should not be done. You can make one or two points now and you can make the remaining points on the next day.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, I will do exactly as you say.

I listened with care to the speech of my hon. friend, Shri Shiv Charan Mathur as also the seconder, Professor, K.V.Thomas. While they moved the Resolution thanking the President for his Address and also seconded it. I also read with great care the text of the speech which is really not so much a speech of the Head of the Republic, as it is an articulation of the Government's viewpoint

both of what they have done in the year that has gone by and what they intend doing in the year that is facing us now. I heard that speech then. When I read it subsequently, preparatory to saying what I have to say now, and when I heard both the mover of the Motion of Thanks and the seconder, I could not help but carrying an impression that it is a tired and dispirited Motion; a tired and dispirited Address. Of course, it was uninspiring in content. I was struck by the fact of the recourse that the Government has had to take of loading the speech with a great deal of empty statistical assertions. I found the Address somewhat self-satisfied and smug. A great deficiency that I find is the disharmony between the assertions of the Government and what I observe as a crippling cynicism that currently affects many parts of our national endeavour and national life.

There is an impression that is being attempted to be created in the speech itself—that in some fashion the ruling party, the Government, is equating the party with the Government and the Government with the nation — as if some kind of an imaginary hump has been crossed. Let me put it to the Treasury Benches that the arithmetics of Parliament have not stood in the way of the ruling party taking decisions. The arithmetic of the House has been fractured from the very constitution of this Lok Sabha, but that arithmetic has been manipulated. Now if you find that after the break up of the Telugu Desam Party or a break up of my colleagues in the Janata Dal— how many break ups have taken place, I do not know now the ruling party has arranged the arithmetic of the House in such a fashion that they have the numbers necessary to cross the half-way mark, let it be said, firstly, that in any case never stood in their way when it came to

decision making. One party or another of the House always enabled the Government to take necessary decisions. There were occasions when my friends from the left sustained this Government there have been occasions when my friends from the Janata Dal have sustained this Government and there have been occasions when we have sustained this Government. Therefore that alibi of not having the arithmetic of numbers to take decisions has never been there. Now if through an immorality, through a perversion of the participatory system of governance, through arranging of defections, through creating splits within one party after another, you have rearranged the arithmetic, let an illusion not invade your thoughts that you have crossed some kind of an imaginary hump and now rosy pastures or only green pastures lie ahead of you. A more difficult time, in fact, lies ahead of you....(Interruptions). If you have not followed the thrust of what I am saying, it will take me too long to explain that. It is not a matter of my satisfaction or someone else's dissatisfaction, it is a matter, I think, of great deal of reflection that the Treasury Benches ought to engage in that if you have rearranged the arithmetic of the House through defections then ought it to be a matter of smug, self-satisfaction or ought it to be a matter of great deal of self-reflection? I leave that there.

[English]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the setting

[Shri Harin Pathak]

up of new gas based power station in Gujarat." (1)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the diversion of gas which was earlier earmarked for Gujarat." (2)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about increasing the power generation capacity in Gujarat." (3)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the clearance of Pipavav Gas based power Project." (4)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the revision of rate of royalty of crude oil." (5)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the quantity of coal supplied to Gujarat Power Station." (6)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the poor

quality of steam coal supplied from collieries." (7)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the cash and carry scheme for coal." (8)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about allocation of funds for exploration of Tapti Gas Fields." (9)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about clearance of Gandhar Gas Power Project." (10)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the approval for the issue of NRI Bonds for raising funds for the Sardar Sarover Project." (11)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the allocation of foodgrains (wheat and rice) to Gujarat." (12)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the

sufficient allocation of quota of edible oil to Gujarat." (13)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the sufficient allocation of imported palm oil to Gujarat." (14)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about increasing the quota of levy sugar to Gujarat." (15)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about early accordance of Indian Citizenship to the minority Hindu migrants of Pakistan." (16)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the recent hike in the prices of essential commodities." (17)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the allocation of natural gas to the major towns especially in Nadiad Anand, Ahmedabad for domestic and industrial purpose." (18)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the allocation of natural gas to Gujarat for Pipav project." (19)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the malpractices in the public distribution system and the steps to be taken in this regard." (20)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the disproportionate rise in the consumer price index and the wholesale price index of the essential commodities." (21)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the fact that in most of the States the implementation of land reforms measures including land ceiling and distribution of surplus land to the tiller has come to halt." (22)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps taken to provide compulsory education to the children in the age groups of 6 to 14 years as enshrined in the Constitution." (23)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the importance of public sector in the economy and also fails to spell out the measures proposed to be taken to strengthen and make viable the public sector units."
(24)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures to be taken to ameliorate the condition of slum dwellers in all the big cities of the country." (25)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about declaration of Narmada Project as a National project." (365)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the construction of Ram Temple at Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh." (366)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the rehabilitation of workers of closed textile mills in Gujarat and payment of their dues." (367)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps taken to provide employment to the unemployed youth registered with the Employment Exchanges." (368)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about eradication of child labour in the country." (369)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the plans to uplift the tribals within a fixed time limit." (370)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps taken by the Government to bring down galloping inflation." (371)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the plan for repayment of foreign debts." (372)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the adverse

consequences of the devaluation of rupee." (373)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the conditionalities attached to IMF loans to India." (374)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Government efforts to solve the Kashmir problem." (375)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the confiscation of smuggled lethal weapons in the country particularly in the State of Gujarat during the last two years." (376)

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY

(Krishnagar): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to build up political battle against the communal forces of the country." (40)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the

Government's promise to rebuild the demolished Babri Masjid at Ayodhya." (41)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the compromising attitude of the Government in regard to the religious fundamentalists of the country." (42)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to protect the secular fabric of the Nation." (43)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to launch political process for isolating and combatting the secessionist forces in J&K." (44)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the ugly role being played by the U.S imperialist to encourage terrorism in J&K and Punjab for destabilising India." (45)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the

[Shri Ajoy Mukhopadhyay]

negative approach of the Government in solving the genuine problems of the people of J&K and Punjab including implementation of Rajiv-Longowal Accord." (46)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the burden of more than six thousand crores of rupees through steep hike in prices of essential commodities including petrol and diesel just on the eve of the Budget Session." (47)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the total failure of the Government in checking the rise in prices of essential commodities." (48)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the fact that Government has surrendered the sovereignty of the country by signing the GATT Agreement." (49)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the action to be taken against the persons

indicated by the J.P.C. in connection with the scandal in securities transactions of the Banks and Financial Institutions." (115)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to consult the States before signing the GATT Agreement." (116)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the failure in tackling the galloping unemployment." (194)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address that the Government has led the country into debt-trap." (195)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address that the self-reliance of the country is being destroyed by the Government at the dictates of the IMF. World Bank and GATT." (196)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the need to check

"the ever increasing sickness of industries." (197)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address that the Government has totally ignored the imperative need of radical land reforms." (198)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the inability of the Government to take steps for safeguarding the indigenous industries particularly the Small Scale Industries." (199)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention that the Government is destroying the Public Distribution System." (200)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention that eastern India is being totally neglected in so far as railway facilities are concerned." (201)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the urgent need to unearth black money and to check its generation." (202)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the large scale deletion of names from voters list in Assam particularly of those belonging to minority communities." (569)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the large scale deletion of names from the voters list in Delhi." (570)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about large scale pending projects in West Bengal and steps to be taken by allotting more funds to complete those projects, particularly Railway Projects." (571)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the need for holding tripartite meeting in each sick public sector unit of the country." (572)

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the impropriety of

[Shri Sudhir Giri]

hiking prices of essential commodities by the Government on the eve of the Budget Session of Parliament." (50)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the hardship being faced by the poor especially those below the poverty line due to hike in prices of the essential commodities supplied through the Public Distribution System." (51)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the harmful fall-out of the acceptance of the Dunkel proposals." (52)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the disinvestment of key industrial units of Public Undertaking which is likely to prejudicially affect the national interest." (53)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the increasing unemployment in the country." (54)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention the recent sad

colliery disaster in Ranigunj, West Bengal." (55)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the lack of safety measures required to be provided to the colliery labourers." (56)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the flagrant interference in the internal affairs of our country by the U.S. in so far as Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab are concerned." (57)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the indescribable sufferings and concerns caused to the work force in the various industrial units due to the liberalisation policy pursued by the Government." (58)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the adverse consequences of opening up the infrastructural sector of our economy to the multinational corporation for investment at their terms and conditions." (59)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the failure in starting political negotiations with the people of Jammu and Kashmir." (60)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the failure of the Government to condemn US policy towards Jammu and Kashmir." (61)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the serious sufferings of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy victims and the lapses on the parts of the Government to provide promised help to them." (62)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to indicate the measures required to be taken against the persons involved directly and indirectly in the securities scam." (63)

[*Translation*]

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to

take up seriously the statements of the U.S. President regarding Kashmir." (64)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the concern of the Government to check increasing incidents of atrocities on Harijans and women in the country." (65)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about failure to check increasing prices of essential commodities." (66)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the stand of the Government to take into confidence all the political parties regarding the policy to be formulated on Kashmir." (67)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about abrogation of article 370 of the constitution relating to J&K." (68)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time-

[Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar]

bound scheme to-remove
unemployment." (69)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention
in the Address about the steps
taken for payment of
unemployment allowance." (70)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention
in the Address about taking
action against persons involved
in securities scam." (71)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention
in the Address about initiating
election reforms." (72)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention
in the Address about any
concrete plan to deal with the
terrorists of Kashmir." (73)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention
in the Address about the
Government's policy and to take
necessary steps about the
statements made by America on
Kashmir." (74)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention
in the Address about formulating
of new drug policy and the failure
of Government to check the failure
of prices of life saving drugs." (75)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention
in the Address about the failure
of Government to provide House
to the poor class on easy terms."
(76)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention
in the Address about the failure
of Government to check the
rising prices of consumer
products like rice, sugar, wheat,
petrol and diesel." (77)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention
in the Address about an effective
plan for improving the continu-
ously deteriorating situation in
Kashmir." (78)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention
in the Address about providing
financial assistance to revive the
sick textile mills particularly in
Madhya Pradesh." (79)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Government's policy for creating Uttaranchal in Uttar Pradesh and Vananchal in Bihar." (80)

[English]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the implementation of the recommendation made by the Sarkaria Commission for giving more autonomy to the States." (460)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking back possession of the Indian territory occupied by China, as per resolution passed by our Parliament." (461)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for construction of the temple of Lord Ram at Ayodhya." (462)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that no mention has been made in the Address about

any time-bound programme of land reforms to mitigate the problems of the landless and other poor peasants." (463)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address of any time bound programme for meeting the acute shortage of electricity supply in the country." (464)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of Government to provide free and compulsory education for all children upto the age of 14 years within a period of 10 years from the commencement of the Constitution as provided for the Directive Principles." (465)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the time schedule of a relief scheme for labourers in the unorganised sector." (466)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the adverse affects of globalisation on the economy of the country, especially in the consumer sector." (467)

[Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the huge cost escalation of the public sector development projects for not completing them on schedule and the concrete measures taken in this matter." (468)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address of any time bound programme for supply of drinking water in large parts of the country." (469)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking concrete steps to check unprecedented rise in the prices of essential commodities." (470)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the rising graph of unemployment and concrete steps being taken by Government in this matter." (471)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the

formation of two new states of 'Vananchal' in Bihar and 'Utranchal' in Uttar Pradesh for which there is a great agitation by the people of these areas." (472)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time-bound programme for implementation of Directive Principle providing for workers participation in the management of industries." (473)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address for providing a uniform Civil Code throughout the country as enjoined in the Directive Principles." (474)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the functioning of the University Grants Commission in maintaining the standards of higher education and research and funding of the various universities/ institution in accordance with well established norms instead of the present system of adhoc funding." (475)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps taken

to reclaim the 'Pakistan Occupied' area of Jammu and Kashmir State." (476)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps taken to rehabilitate lakhs of migrants from the Kashmir Valley." (477)

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the unprecedented burden of foreign debt incurred by the country." (81)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures to be taken to check unemployment." (82)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure to derive any advantage for the nation at GATT talks." (83)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the pre-

budgetary hike in prices of essential commodities through administrative order." (84)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to be taken to defuse the situation in Jammu & Kashmir." (85)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for adequate investment in public sector units." (86)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to be taken to achieve self-sufficiency in fertiliser production." (87)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure to check unscientific coal mining and the need to provide adequate safety to miners." (88)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure to expand the public distribution system to cover needy and backward areas." (89)

[Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure to take adequate measures for the eradication of child labour." (90)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure to provide full compensation to Bhopal gas victims." (91)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to provide adequate funds for modernisation of IISCO by SAIL." (92)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the action to be taken against the persons indicted in the Bank Scam." (108)

SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansol):

I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention anything regarding

implementation of land reforms programme." (93)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the necessity of preventing increasing incident of dowry deaths." (94)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention anything regarding modernisation programme of Indian Iron & Steel Company, West Bengal." (95)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention increasing atrocities on Dalits, Harijans and Girijans." (96)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the need for implementation of Rajiv-Longowal Accord." (97)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the need for worker's participation in Management." (98)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the need for speedy implementation of the Sarkaria Commission's recommendations on Centre-State Relations." (99)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the danger of capitation fee charged in colleges." (100)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the mounting unemployment problem in the country." (101)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the problem of child labour in the country." (102)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the urgent need of proper repair and maintenance of National Highways." (103)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the need of a National Drug Policy." (104)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the danger of Dunkel Draft." (105)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the danger of rapid disintegration of the Public Distribution System." (106)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the sale of Public sector units at throw away prices." (107)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the action to be taken against the persons involved in the Bank Scam." (384)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA
(Bankura): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Agreement with BATT reached last December on terms that are humiliating to the country and contains assurance that the agreement would be submitted

[Shri Basudeb Acharia]

to Parliament for approval and ratification." (110)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the industrial stagnation in the country because of the policies pursued by the Government since July, 1991." (111)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Government's onslaught on the people by arbitrary increase in the prices of essential commodities without the Parliament's approval." (112)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address for providing adequate funds for modernisation of IISCO by Steel Authority of India." (113)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the action taken against those foreign Banks who were involved in the Securities Scam." (114)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the hike in administered prices of rice, wheat, sugar, petrol, diesel, LPG, on the eve of the Budget session." (802)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about large scale land subsidence and fire which are taking place in Raniganj-Asansol area in West Bengal due to unscientific coal mining and there is urgent need to save the life and property of the people of that area and adopt scientific method for mining." (803)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the urgent need to protect Public Sector Undertakings." (804)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention that there is urgent need for modernisation of IISCO, West Bengal only by the Steel Authority of India." (805)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the action

to be taken against the persons indicted by the JPC in connection with the scandal in securities transactions of the Banks and Financial Institution." (806)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about unsatisfactory telephone services in the country, particularly of West Bengal and N.E. State." (807)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the promise of 10 million jobs every year." (808)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about United States of America's interference in our domestic policies." (809)

PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY
(Howrah): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to curb the prices of essential commodities." (128)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the loss

incurred by the Government owing to disinvestment of public sector." (129)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the sinister move towards privatisation of the Public Sector Banks in the guise of selling the shares of these Banks of the public." (130)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the failure of the Government to supply 14 essential commodities to the people at a subsidised price." (131)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the surrender of our economic sovereignty at the dictates of the G 7 Countries headed by the USA as reflected in the latest GATT agreement." (132)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to create job opportunities for the unemployed as proposed and promised." (133)

[Prof. Susanta Chakraborty]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the alarming rise in Foreign Debt and the Debt-trap created thereby." (134)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the acute unemployment problem being faced by people in the country." (135)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the Government's succumbing to the pressures of the U.S. and the Western lobby at the Uruguay Round of the GATT negotiations." (136)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the time bound programme for implementation of the Sarkaria Commission recommendations on the Centre-State relations." (137)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about non-

implementation of Government's assurance about reinstatement of retrenched railwaymen." (138)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about guarantee of minimum wages to agricultural labourers." (139)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing substantial relief to poor and marginal farmers." (140)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the urgency of bringing about radical land reforms and ending feudal, semi-feudal and capitalist strongholds on land." (141)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address regarding the need to provide to the poor small and marginal farmers adequate credit and irrigation facilities together with timely supply of seeds, fertilizers and other inputs and to ensure remunerative prices for agricultural produce." (142)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about Government's failure to end corruption in public life." (500)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the Government's failure to take action against those involved in the Security Scam and public sector share disinvestment scandal." (501)

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:

I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address to provide special assistance for the development of desert regions of Rajasthan where 71 districts come under desert." (143)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the early approval of projects relating to electricity, irrigations and drinking water of Rajasthan which are pending with the Central Government for the last so many years." (144)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about lifting of ban from the mineral industries of Rajasthan which were closed in the name of environment and has resulted in the unemployment of thousands of workers, staff and truck owners." (145)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address to provide more funds to Rajasthan by the Centre to build more 'mid way motels' in order to provide facilities to the tourists visiting Rajasthan." (146)

[*English*]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about removing unemployment." (872)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about rehabilitating Kashmir migrants especially Hindus." (873)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps taken to check rising prices." (874)

[Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking India out of foreign debt trap." (875)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps proposed to be taken for electoral reforms." (876)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing alternative employment to the workers rendered unemployment due to closure of loss-making industries." (877)

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS
(Jalpaiguri): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the complete failure of the Government to bring down the prices of essential commodities to 1990 level not only within 100 days but even after two and half years." (147)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the price

hike of some essential commodities on the eve of the Budget Session." (148)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the unemployment problem prevailing throughout the country." (149)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about land reform policy" (150)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address completely fails to mention that "Right to Work" and "Right to Employment" shall be included as fundamental rights under the Constitution of India." (151)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention any device to unearth the black-money in the country." (152)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention any device to check terrorism prevailing in different parts of the country." (153)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

complete the unfinished projects in West Bengal." (159)

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about any effective solution of the Kashmir problem." (154)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to be taken to meet the American threat on Kashmir issue." (160)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the revival of the closed mills." (155)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about any efforts to revive the sick industrial units in the country." (161)

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing uniforms and free education to all children." (156)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address to protect the people from the attack of the natural calamities." (428)

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any efforts to provide free modern medical treatment to all." (157)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about supplying of 14 essential commodities at low prices through public distribution system." (429)

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about re-orientation of the Central-State share over total economy of the country." (158)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about improvement of Railway communications in North Eastern Region." (430)

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about any guideline to

[Shri Jitendra Nath Das]

steps to make Delhi-Bagdogra flight daily." (436)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the need to supply drinking water in every village." (431)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about extending of electronic telephone facilities to different places in West Bengal." (432)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about adopting effective measures to curb malpractices in Railways." (433)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about allotment of funds in the flood devastated district Jalpaiguri West Bengal." (434)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention to allot funds for Teesta Irrigation project in North Bengal." (435)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about taking effective steps to save the country from of the foreign debt." (437)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to supply electricity to every village." (438)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address is completely silent about allocation of more funds and more power to States." (439)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about taking effective steps to curb abnormal price hike of essential commodities." (440)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing more facilities to farmers of the country." (441)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the need to allot more funds in the field of education." (442)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the large-scale deletion of names from voters' list in Assam." (443)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE

(Lucknow): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the clear policy to contain militancy in Jammu and Kashmir." (162)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the inadequacy of the measures taken by the Government for providing relief to lakhs of migrants, mostly, Hindus, who were displaced from the Kashmir Valley and are living in Jammu region and other parts of the country in miserable conditions." (163)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address neither mention about the mounting

foreign debt of the country nor about the steps taken to reduce such debt." (164)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the circumstances necessitating steep increase in the administered / controlled prices of L.P.G., sugar, rice, wheat, petrol and diesel." (165)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps taken to control insurgency and secessionist activities in the North-Eastern States, particularly in Assam, Nagaland, Manipur and Tripura." (166)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps proposed to be taken to reform the electoral system in the country in the light of the experience gained in the past." (167)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps proposed to be taken to provide employment to the people who will become surplus consequent

[Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee]

upon the Government's policy to close sick and unviable industries." (168)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not raise expectation of implementation of the major recommendations made in the report of the Sarkaria Commission." (169)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the action taken to implement the major recommendations made in the report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on irregularities in Securities and Banking Transactions." (170)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the likely adverse effects of the entry of foreign companies in the insurance and banking business." (171)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the destabilising effect of excessive dependence on foreign capital and technology." (172)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time-bound programme to provide free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of fourteen years, as envisaged in the Directive Principle of State Policy of the Constitution." (173)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete plan of action to control the annual rate of growth of population in the country." (174)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not indicate any clear stand of the Government on the question of signing of Non-Proliferation Treaty." (175)

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA
(Mandsaur): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the implementation of the recommendation made by the Sarkaria Commission for giving more autonomy to the State." (176)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking back possession of the Indian territory by China." (177)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for construction of the temple of Lord Ram at Ayodhya." (178)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of Government to provide free and compulsory education for all children upto the age of 14 years within the period of 10 years from the commencement of the Constitution as provided in the Directive Principles." (179)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the time schedule of a relief scheme for labourers in unorganised sector." (180)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the adverse affects of globalisation

on the economy of the country especially in the consumer sector." (181)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the huge cost escalation of the Public Sector Development Projects for not completing them within schedule time, and the concrete measures taken in this matter." (182)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address of any time-bound programme for supply of drinking water in large parts of the rural areas of the country." (183)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address of any time-bound programme for meeting the acute shortage of electricity supply in the country." (184)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time-bound programme of land reforms to mitigate the problem of the landless and other poor peasants." (185)

[Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking concrete steps to check unprecedented rise in the prices of essential commodities." (186)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the rising graph of unemployment and concrete steps being taken by Government in this matter." (187)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the formation of two new States of 'Vananchal in Bihar' and 'Uttanchal in Uttar Pradesh for which there is a great agitation by the people of areas." (188)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time-bound programme regarding implementation of Directive Principles of the Constitution for workers participation in the Management of Industries." (189)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address for providing a uniform Civil Code throughout the country as enjoined in the Directive Principles of the Constitution." (190)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the functioning of the University Grants Commission in maintaining the standards of higher education and research and funding of the various universities/institutions in accordance with well established norms instead of the present system of adhoc funding." (191)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps taken to reclaim the 'Pakistan Occupied' portion of Jammu and Kashmir State." (192)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about measures taken to rehabilitate lakhs of migrants from Kashmir valley." (193)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing

protection and priority to indigenous consumer industry in view of un-restricted entry of multinational companies in these areas." (674)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about adopting a clear national health policy so that health care facilities could reach the masses suffering from diseases like Leprosy, Cancer, T.B. and Blindness." (675)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking effective steps to deal with Bangladesh infiltrators." (676)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking effective steps to deal with the danger arising out of environment and water pollution so that chemical industries violating the laws in this connection could be hauled-up." (677)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about an integrated agricultural policy so that the interests of the farmers could be safeguarded and

provided remunerative prices for sugarcane, cotton, rice, opium, ground nut and soyabean crops." (678)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about formulating a national transport policy and working for the expansion of road like Delhi - Bombay via Chittor - Neemuch - Mandsaur - Ratlam." (679)

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking back of Indian territory occupied by China." (203)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the construction of Lord Ram's Temple at Ayodhya." (204)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about including Gaddis and Gujjars of the merged areas of Himachal Pradesh in the list of Scheduled Tribes." (205)

[Prof. Prem Dhupal]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address of getting back Pak-occupied areas of Kashmir." (206)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about manufacturing of Atom Bomb to meet the challenge nuclear Bomb of Pakistan." (207)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any specific programme regarding electoral reforms." (248)

[*Translation*]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any clear cut policy on issuing of Identity Cards to the voters." (249)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to check rising prices." (250)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the increasing problem of unemployment in the country." (251)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to be taken to bring the situation of Jammu and Kashmir under control." (252)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the assurance regarding giving royalty to Himachal Pradesh on Hydro Power Projects." (253)

[*English*]

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI (Serampore): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take effective steps and socio-economic measures for the upliftment of the people belonging to SC/ST and other backward classes." (227)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about effective measures to check atrocities on women." (228)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about recognising "Right to Work" as a fundamental right." (229)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address the people's right to information should be recognised through suitable constitutional provision and consequently transparency should be introduced in Government functioning and provisions like secrecy clause in Banking Industry and withholding of publication of details regarding payment of Income-tax and Wealth-tax etc. should be done away with." (230)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about setting of a time-frame for providing safe drinking water in all villages." (231)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about concrete

steps for solving the Housing problem of the country." (232)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the pressure on the Government from the IMF and World Bank resulting in sacrifices of our economic and political interests." (233)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to initiate concrete steps and time bound programme for introduction of compulsory Universal Primary Education for all children upto the age of 14." (234)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to initiate effectively time-bound programme for eradication of illiteracy from our country." (235)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to grant autonomy to the electronic media with a view to imparting neutrality." (236)

[Shri Sudarsan Raychaudhuri]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure to step-up exploration of oil in vast areas in and around West Bengal and other places with potential for large deposit of oil and also failure of the Government to use properly the huge amount of natural gas which has to be burnt at Bombay High and other places." (237)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the urgent need for extending modern telephone facilities to the people of Dhaniakhali, Polba, Mahanand, Haripal and Singur areas of Hooghly district of West Bengal." (238)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the serious consequences for the Indian people of the series of economic measures adopted at part of conditionalities attached to IMF Loan." (239)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to be taken to enhance revenue from direct taxes." (240)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address that concrete steps to be taken to supply all essential commodities at fixed price through public distribution system." (241)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any assurance of worker's participation in management." (242)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to drop the Exit Policy." (243)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to be taken to curb the alarming rise in prices." (244)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the early implementing the major recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission for restructuring of Centre-State relations." (245)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address that wrong economic policy decisions such as increase of administered prices of rice, wheat, sugar, petrol, diesel, petroleum products, domestic LPG etc. have shot up-prices of all other essential commodities." (246)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address that the threat of closure and retrenchment of employees were steps in the wrong direction which would cause immense damage to our economy." (247)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about strong sentiments expressed by the Muslim Community in the country against one point reference of Ayodhya matter to the Supreme Court under Article 143 of the Constitution instead of reference under Article 138 of the Constitution." (254)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address as to the

measures Government proposes to take to ensure adequate representation of the minority community particularly Muslims in the Central Government Services, Public Undertaking Units and other defence services." (255)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Government's efforts to improve educational facilities of the minorities under 15-POINT PROGRAMME." (256)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Government's failure to check the hike in the prices of essential commodities." (257)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the growing apprehension in the minds of people especially members of minority communities in several States as a result of indiscriminate use of TADA." (258)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about fulfilling the assurances of the Government

[Shri E. Ahamed]

on the reconstruction of Babri Masjid at the original site." (777)

SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE
(Raiganj): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the unemployment problem among the youth specially educated unemployed youth." (295)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the attitude of the Government in putting up effective political resistance against communal forces." (296)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to start effective political process to combat terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir." (297)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about implementation of Rajiv-Longowal Accord." (298)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any effective scheme to be formulated by Government to provide remunerative price to the farmers for their produce and reducing the prices of inputs like fertilizers, pesticides, electricity and irrigation for the benefit of farmers of the country." (299)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time-bound programme to improve the condition of the people below the poverty line, specially, the SCs/STs." (300)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about formulating an effective scheme for ameliorating the condition of landless agricultural labourers living below the poverty line." (301)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing guidelines for improving the lot of weavers engaged in handloom and cottage industries and solve their problem of livelihood." (302)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to provide inexpensive and expeditious justice to the masses." (303)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about removing malpractices rampant in administration and Government Departments." (304)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the failure of the Government to check rise in prices of essential commodities." (305)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the inability of the Government to implement radical land reforms." (306)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the failure of the Government to take positive step to stop industrial sickness." (307)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the failure of the

Government in regard to procurement of foodgrains." (308)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the failure of Government to strengthen the public distribution system." (309)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the inability of the Government to protect the economic sovereignty of the country." (310)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the need to curb the tendency of taking foreign debt." (311)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the hike in administered prices of rice, wheat, sugar, petrol, diesel, LPG on the eve of the Budget Session." (312)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the failure of the Government to provide

[Shri Subrata Mukherjee]

adequate budgetary support to the public sector undertakings ." (313)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the urgent need of modernisation of IISCO, West Bengal by the SAIL only." (314)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the failure of the Government to extinguish fire in the collieries of Jharia and Raniganj and thus salvaging millions of coal valuing crores of rupees." (315)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the safety measures to be strengthened in the coal mines to save the lives of miners after the recent accident in New Kenda mine of ECL." (316)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the completion of different pending projects in West Bengal." (317)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the diversion of money from the allotted projects of West Bengal to other parts of the country." (318)

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about unjustified hike in administered prices of sugar before Budget which will cause unprecedented increase in the market prices." (319)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to condemn the increase in prices of essential commodities like wheat, rice, LPG, diesel and petrol." (320)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about finding appropriate solution of Ayodhya dispute." (321)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the poor show country is putting up at all

international forum due to weak and ineffective policy regarding Kashmir and the need to give a befitting reply to the world powers for interfering in internal affairs of India." (322)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about foreign intelligence agencies operating in North-Eastern region of India." (323)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about danger to sovereignty of India under pressure from IMF and World Bank and thereby adversely affecting the Indian industry." (324)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the alarming rise in unemployment and poverty due to direct foreign capital investment in the country which will lead India in the debt trap." (325)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about closure of fertilizer units manufacturing urea located at Gorakhpur, Barauni, Ramgundam and

Haldia etc., thereby adversely affecting agriculture in India." (326)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention that 2 crore weavers in the country are on the brink of starvation due to closure of powerloom and handloom industrial units." (327)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about bad financial position of major educational institutions and absence of academic environment to regulate academic sessions." (328)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about failure of the Government to retrieve land in possession of China since 1962." (329)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about failure of the Government to make clear its stand regarding freedom of Tibet, violation of human rights and stockpiling of atomic weapons in Tibet by China." (330)

[Shri Mohan Singh (Deoria)]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about failure of the Government to tackle serious growing unemployment problem among the youths." (331)

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM
(Inner Manipur): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about establishing a Central University in the State of Manipur." (377)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about establishing an Engineering College in the State of Manipur." (378)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking over the Regional Medical College at Imphal by the Centre." (379)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the clearance of the LOKTAK DOWN STREAM HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT, by the Central Government." (380)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the establishment of a Paper Mill with Central assistance Manipur." (381)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about specific measures to be taken up by the Centre to bring total peace in the State of Manipur, even by offering general amnesty to the insurgent activists and organisations." (382)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to provide more facilities to the Tribal people of the Hill Areas of Manipur State." (383)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about forming a separate State consisting of Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh." (417)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about tapping of water resources of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh to solve irrigation and drinking water problems of Bundelkhand region." (418)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme to develop historical places of Bundelkhand region like Jhansi, Orcha, Talbhet, Kalijar, Devgarh into tourist spots." (419)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme for industrialisation of Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh to solve increasing unemployment." (420)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time bound programme to abolish sales tax." (421)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking

increasing incidents of atrocities on women in the country." (422)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about failure of the Government to fulfil the promise to make available S.T.D. facilities in Jhansi, Vada, Jalaun, Hamirpur and Lalitpur tehsils and municipal area and towns of Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh." (423)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about reasons for drastic increase in administered prices of consumer goods." (424)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about improving the situation in sick and loss making industries and to provide alternative employment to workers affected by closure of industries." (425)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any clear cut policy to check terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir." (426)

[Shri Rajendra Agnihotri]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any programme to provide free and compulsory education to all the children upto the age of 14 years." (427)

[English]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN
(Rosera): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the imbalances in the development of various States and Government's strategy for the economic development of the backward States of the country." (444)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the continuous incidents of atrocities on women and the strategy to end this anti-social menace." (445)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address makes no mention of any time schedule for solving the growing unemployment problem in the country." (446)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the efforts to be made for speeding up of the land reforms in the country." (447)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about bringing electoral reforms in the country." (448)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the inclusion of "Right to Work" in the Constitution as a Fundamental Right." (449)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address makes no mention about failure of the Government to fill up the backlog of reserved vacancies in Government services." (450)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address makes no mention about the growing problem of child labour in the country and the need to formulate a time-bound programme to eradicate it." (451)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address makes no mention about the implication of GATT on the economic sovereignty of the country." (452)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address makes no mention about the follow up action on JPC report on Securities Scam." (453)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the tragic mishaps in the coal mines and lack of adequate safety measures to prevent such disasters." (454)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address makes no mention of the growing industrial sickness in the country." (455)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the continued dependency on imports in respect of petroleum products and failure of the Government to exploit the oil resources available in the country." (456)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the failure of the Government to set up a Bonded Labour Commission for abolition of Bonded Labour System." (457)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address makes no mention about Government's failure to contain the continuous rise in the prices of essential commodities and the inflationary trend." (458)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not give any categorical assurance for simultaneous rise in the prices of agricultural produce in consonance with the rise in the cost of inputs." (459)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA
RAO VADDE (Vijaywada): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the concrete measures that are proposed to be taken to clear the pending irrigation project proposals in general and for Andhra Pradesh in particular." (514)

{Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde}

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention the date from which the revised crop insurance scheme will be implemented and the Districts of various States in which this scheme will be implemented." (515)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that while the Address has mentioned that Government attaches highest priority to development of agriculture, in practice it is being given low priority." (516)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address has failed to mention the plight of cotton growers in the country who are getting lesser price due to the Government's imposition of ban on export of cotton and import of 5 lakhs bales of cotton without import duty." (517)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address has failed to mention the disagreement between the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh and the Central Government on the issue of removing all Intra and Inter-State restrictions on the movement of foodgrains." (518)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the likely danger to the national interest leading to debt trap due to the policy of the Government in agreeing for post tax 16 percent return on the foreign capital invested in Power Sector." (519)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the gross impropriety of Central Government in increasing the issue price of rice, wheat and sugar etc; and prices of L.P.G., diesel and petrol before the commencement of Budget session of Parliament." (520)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the plight of the poor people and middle classes due to the steep increase in the prices of essential commodities recently." (521)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the concrete steps taken by the Government to resolve the Ram-Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid issue amicably by referring the issue to the Supreme Court under article 136 (2)." (522)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the steep increase in the number of un-employed in the country and larger number of people who are being denied opportunities due to closure of several companies particularly small industries— due to the new economic policies of the Union Government."
(523)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention that several State Governments have not yet initiated any measure to de-regulate and de-bureaucratise the economy at the State level."
(524)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the failure to fulfil the promise of 10 million jobs every year." (552)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the share market boom because of free flow of foreign capital in stock markets."
(553)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the steps to be taken to implement the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report on Share Markets." (554)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the prevailing recession in manufacturing industries." (555)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the ill-effects of unrestricted imports of machinery in the country." (556)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the dangerous consequences in the financial sector because of default of large borrowers in the financial sector." (557)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to recognise the trend towards a double digit inflation in the current financial year." (558)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to note inflow of the foreign capital without any improved technology." (559)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to note the increasing foreign indebtedness of the economy and the growing burden of repayment consequent thereon." (560)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to note the precarious tendency of shortfall in collection of duties." (561)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention US interference in our domestic policies." (562)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to criticise US official's utterances on Jammu and Kashmir." (563)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the urgent need for

electoral reforms including a properly constituted multi-member Election Commission." (564)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention the neglect of Railway Projects in West Bengal and Kerala and North Eastern States." (565)

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH
(Balrampur): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the apprehension of the take-over of Indian Companies by Trans-National Corporations (TNCS)." (566)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the proposed entry of foreign print media in the country." (567)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government against the socio-cultural subversion of the country through foreign electronic and print media." (568)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the vicious activities of Pakistan Intelligence Agency (ISI) in our country particularly in Kanpur and Aligarh towns of Uttar Pradesh." (657)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the construction of Lord Shri Ram Temple in Ayodhya." (658)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme for the welfare of Tharu Scheduled Tribes in Uttar Pradesh." (659)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for checking the misuse of muscle power and money power in elections and implementation of electoral reforms." (660)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking the gigantic problem of price rise." (661)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about recommissioning the Gorakhpur Fertilizer Plant." (662)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Bangladeshis West Bengal, Bihar Uttar Pradesh and Delhi and the need to deport them." (663)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for an effective plan to send back the Kashmiri Hindus to the Kashmir Valley." (664)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for effectively dealing with Pakistan which is aiding and abetting terrorists activities in the country." (665)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for an effective plan to merge part of Kashmir which is under illegal occupation of Pakistan with India." (666)

[Shri Satya Deo Singh]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about constituting Utranchal Pradesh in Uttar Pradesh and Vananchal Pradesh in Bihar." (667)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to condemn America for its policy of encouraging and openly supporting Pakistan for aiding terrorism in India." (668)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE
(Panspura): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the pre-budgetary huge hike in prices of many essential commodities through administrative order." (575)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for adequate investment in Public Sector." (576)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about big rise in

the number of unemployed people and the Government's failure to increase employment opportunities." (577)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the closure of a number of industries and workers and employees loosing their jobs." (578)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the surrender of India's economic sovereignty at the dictates the G-7 countries led by USA as reflected in the latest GATT agreement." (579)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the tremendous increase in India's foreign debt and the apprehension that we may be falling in debt trap." (580)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the growing atrocities on women." (581)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the growing

atrocities on people belonging to the SC and ST." (582)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to be taken to defuse the situation in Jammu and Kashmir." (583)

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address reference has not been made to creation of a new State "Uttanchal", out of the eight hill districts of U.P." (596)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no reference has been made to industrialisation of the "Zero Industry" districts of Uttranchal." (597)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no reference has been made to massive unemployment in the country." (598)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no reference has been made to

solving the acute drinking water problems particularly in Garhwal Mandal." (599)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no reference has been made to extend Railway facility in the hill districts of Urranchal." (600)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no reference has been made to gross inadequacy of communication system and road communication in Uttaranchal." (601)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no reference has been made to the large number of developmental projects held up for want of clearance under "Van Adhiniyam 1980." (602)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no reference has been made to the problems created by displacement of people due to Tehri Dam." (603)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no mention has been made to

[Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra
Khanduri]
grossly inadequate banking
facilities in Garhwal." (604)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no
mention has been made about a
clear-cut policy to make
Pakistan refrain from interfering
in internal affairs of India." (605)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no
mention has been made about
the interference by Organisation
for Islamic Countries (OIC) in
Kashmir affairs." (606)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no
mention has been made about
the large-scale infiltration of
Bangladeshis into India." (607)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no
mention has been made about
the welfare of lakhs of migrants
displaced by terrorists from
Kashmir Valley." (608)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no
mention has been made about

the attitude of USA with regard
to Kashmir problem." (609)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no
mention has been made about
the growing Indo-Israeli
cooperation and its benefits to
India." (610)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no
mention has been made about
the vocal and anti-India
propaganda on Farrakka
Barrage Issue." (611)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no
mention has been made about
the increasing prices of essential
goods on the eve of Budget
Session." (612)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no
mention has been made about
large-scale, mounting internal
and external debts." (613)

That at the end of the motion, the
following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no
mention has been made about
large-scale black money in the
country." (614)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no mention has been made about the need for taking urgent measures to implement electoral reforms." (615)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no mention has been made about introducing "Uniform Civil Code" as envisaged in the Constitution." (616)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no mention has been made about specific and time-bound programme for reducing birth-rate and population." (617)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no mention has been made about India going nuclear." (618)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no mention has been made about the inability of Government to properly utilise large number of armed forces personnel retiring at a very young age every year." (619)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no mention has been made about Compulsory Military Service for a fixed period by all Government servants." (620)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no mention has been made about the total inefficiency of P & T Department and Telecommunication Department in Garhwal Mandal." (621)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no mention has been made about the need for adequate supply of LPG in Garhwal Mandal." (622)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no mention has been made about extending LPG supply upto the block level in Garhwal Mandal in order to protect forests and environment." (623)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no mention has been made about funding and completion of Vishnu Prayag and Srīnagar (Garhwal) Hydro-Electric Projects." (624)

[Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra
Khanduri]

SHRI MANJAY LAL (Samastipur) : I
beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no mention has been made about improving the quality of foodgrains supplied through PDS in the country." (625)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no mention has been made about the finding a solution to the problem of "one-rank-one-pension" for ex-servicemen." (626)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no mention has been made about a number of categories, e.g., widows of ex-servicemen, who have now been left out of the "One-time Increase"." (627)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address no mention has been made about the unfair treatment meted out to servicemen by Railways with regard to giving passes to Gallantry Award winners (e.g. Param Vir Chakra, Ashok Chakra, etc.) as compared to the "Freedom Fighters"." (628)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme for providing basic amenities like housing, food, medical and pension to the weaker sections of society, and to the extremely poor, orphans, handicapped and widows." (680)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any comprehensive national scheme for elimination of corruption in public life." (681)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete scheme to check day by day deteriorating law and order situation in the country, especially incidents of looting, killing and terrorism in Kashmir." (682)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any national programme to tackle widespread unemployment in the country." (683)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme to ensure timely and cheap justice to the lakhs of poor citizens refacing undue delays in the judicial process." (684)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete scheme to tackle disruptive activities of Pakistan in various parts of India, especially Kashmir, through ISI and terrorists." (685)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme to take back lakhs of acres of land of India in possession of China." (686)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any programme to improve ties with neighbouring countries and to increase cooperation with Japan, which is India's major friendly nation." (687)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about rejection by

the Government of Dunkel proposals which are detrimental to the interests of the poor and weak agriculturists." (688)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about saving the culture of India from the onslaught of foreign media." (689)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about paying royalty on coal to the States on the basis of value instead of on weight." (690)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any provision to prevent takeover of Indian companies by foreign companies." (691)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about removal of regional and administrative disparities in the States on economic basis." (692)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about making any

[Shri Manjay Lal]

provision regarding making right to work as a Fundamental right by amending the Constitution." (693)

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR

RAWAT (Agra): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to be taken to check black-money in the country." (701)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about failure of Government to solve the problem of unemployment." (702)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for rejecting Dunkel proposals." (703)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the concrete steps to be taken to check communal riots in different parts of the country." (704)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to reconstitute judiciary with a view to deliver justice to every section of the society ." (705)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the intention of the Government to rehabilitate slum dwellers living in metropolitan cities." (706)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about formulation of special programme for under-developed areas in the country." (707)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for reducing prices of essential commodities within a specific time." (708)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about approving and implementing the pending scheme of U.P. Government for providing natural gas as an alternative source of energy

instead of coal to industries in Shikohabad, Agra and Firozabad areas through HBJ pipeline and thereby saving Tajmahal from environmental pollution." (923)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing LPG connection on priority basis to over one lac registered consumers who are on waiting list since 1984 in several districts of U.P. including Agra and the Taj protected zone." (924)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about developing Agra as an International Tourist city." (925)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about connecting three national highways through a bypass ten kilometres away from Tajmahal saving it from vehicular pollution." (926)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about setting up of an International Airport in Agra." (927)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about encouraging tourism industry in Agra, U.P." (928)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about curbing increasing number of criminal incidents and atrocities on Harijans, backward castes and women." (929)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a resolve to effectively check the caste and communal riots in Uttar Pradesh which is being abetted by foreign powers including the ISI of Pakistan." (930)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about integrated development of backward districts and welfare of workers under the Jawahar Rojgar Yojna." (931)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about cutting the fund allocation for the development of Agra district

[Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat]

under the Jawahar Rojgar Yojna in the current financial year and providing employment to the agricultural labourers." (932)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the promotion of carpet, handicrafts and shoe industry of Agra which are major foreign exchange earners." (933)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a comprehensive scheme for the promotion of industrial development and power production in Uttar Pradesh." (934)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about falling per capita income in UP in comparison to the average national per capita income and to bring it at par with the national per capita income." (935)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about constructing a barrage over river Yamuna in Agra." (936)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking the number of educated unemployed people in the country by providing them employment and paying unemployment allowance to them." (937)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing continuous and sufficient electricity supply to Taj Protected Area including Agra as per the recommendations of Vardarajan Committee." (938)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any definite plan to increase agricultural production." (939)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any definite plan to provide agriculture equipments to farmers and to get them remunerative prices of their produce." (940)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any

scheme of checking the activities of militants in J&K and to rehabilitate the displaced persons of Kashmir in Kashmir itself." (941)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about making arrangements for providing education to the dependents of the migrants of Kashmir." (942)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the resolution and efforts to free the economy of the country from the clutches of multi-nationals IMF and World Bank." (943)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about resolve to get the consumer overcome from price rise which has taken place due to steep increase in the prices of LPG, petrol, diesel, foodgrains supplied under Public Distribution System." (944)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about opening of TajMahal for tourists in the night and illuminating it with flood lights of various colours." (945)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about setting up of a television studio in Agra." (946)

SHRI LALIT ORAON (Lohardaga): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the creation of a separate State of Vananchal by joining Chotanagpur—Santhal Pargana of Bihar." (755)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the upliftment of SCs/STs and necessary steps to be taken for effective protection of their interest and to protect their social, educational and political rights." (756)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the deleting of the names of those scheduled tribes people from the lists of Scheduled Tribes who embrace others religion and culture after relinquishing their own religion and culture." (757)

[Shri Lalit Oraon]

tele films based on their life sketch." (761)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the return of the lands under time bound programme to those members of the Scheduled Tribes whose lands have been acquired by non-tribal people through unconstitutional means." (758)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time bound programme to pay compensation of total lands and to provide employment to the dependents of displaced persons whose lands have been acquired for irrigation and other projects in Vananchal areas of Bihar." (759)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete steps to solve the problem of housing in the country especially for SCs/STs." (760)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about inclusion of life sketches of tribal freedom fighters in the text books and release of postal stamps and

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time bound scheme for installing automatic Telephone Exchanges in each block of Vananchal areas of Bihar." (782)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any effective steps for redressal of problems arising out of displacement of residents, environmental pollution, degradation of forest and resultant tension due to acquiring of 242 villages by the Defence Ministry for its firing range in Gumla, Lohardagga and Palamu districts of Bihar State." (763)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time bound programme for employment and promotion on vacant posts for officers staffs of SCs/STs working in various Ministries and Departments." (764)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about improving the law and order situation in the country." (765)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about return of Hindus with all their belongings who have been forced to leave Kashmir." (766)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any policy and work plan to include those lands in Indian union acquired by China and areas occupied by the Pak occupied Kashmir." (767)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about opening the approved retail diesel petrol outlets in the tribal dominated Vananchal areas of Bihar." (768)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about improving the standard of education in Navodaya and Kendriya Vidyalayas and providing hostel facilities in Kendriya Vidyalayas." (769)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the

implementing of the policy of 'one management one union'." (770)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about commissioning the television relay center in Lohardagga district headquarters of Bihar in 1993-94 and construction of television centre in Gumla Bihar." (771)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any definite action plan for improving the financial position of H.E.C. located in Ranchi, Bihar." (772)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any policy decision to make use of forest lands for developmental works." (773)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing sports facilities in Vananchal areas of Bihar for the Adivasees keeping in view their sports talent." (774)

[Shri Lalit Oraon]

insurance and Banking sector in the country." (798)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about improving the deteriorating CGHS in Patna, Bihar." (775)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about an effective plan to provide housing to the Central Government employees in Patna and Ranchi in Bihar." (776)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any clear cut policy to check ever increasing terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir." (796)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme to send back Kashmiri migrants to Kashmir Valley." (797)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures to counter adverse effects caused by the entry of multi-national companies in

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the situation arising out of the increasing dependency on foreign capital and foreign technology." (799)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about abrogation of article 370 of Constitution relating to Jammu and Kashmir." (800)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the deteriorating moral values in public life." (801)

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address regarding increase of purchasing capacity of rural people engaged as agricultural labourers." (814)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about protection

measures against atrocities on SC/ST women." (815)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about revamping of sick industry in the country." (816)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about upliftment of socio-economic situation prevailing in the country." (817)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the illeffect of IMF & World Bank loan." (818)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about Health for All." (819)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the agricultural policy in the interest of small and marginal farmers." (820)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about land reforms in the country." (821)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need of more exploration for underground oil in the Bengal Basin." (822)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure to gear up the unemployment problems and its solution." (823)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention about Ganga Kembarkment erosion from Nabadwip to Tribeni in West Bengal." (824)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT
(Ajmer): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any necessary steps to be taken by the Government to check the sky rocketing prices." (842)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures to be taken by the Government to check the conspiracy mooted by the ISI,

[Prof. Raza Singh Rawat]

the secret agency of Pakistan in activity encouraging terrorists, involved in bomb blasts and creating communal tension in the entire India including Kashmir and Punjab." (843)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about firmly elimination of terrorists, resettlement of Kashmir migrants in the valley." (844)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any befitting reply to counter the Pakistan's anti-India propoganda in the entire world on Kashmir and Human Rights issues." (845)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete steps to be taken by the Government in order to check the money and muscle power during elections." (846)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about abolishing the feeling of majority/minorities by way of creating national unity,

integrity, communal harmony and emotional brotherhood among all." (847)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking any concrete steps to root out corruption in public life, bribery." (848)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about rapid decline of forest property in the country and to adopt measures in order to check the deteriorating environmental balance." (849)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to be taken by the Government to take stern action against the persons involved in the security scam." (850)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to revamp the public distribution system and to check the non-availability of foodgrains, sugar, kerosene oil, cloths etc. at ration shops." (851)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any clear-cut policy on Kashmir and the steps to be taken to check interference in our internal matters." (852)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the implementation of prohibition, uniform civil code as enshrined in the directive principles of State Policy in our Constitution." (853)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures to check growing naxalism in some parts of the country." (854)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures for compulsory singing the 'Vande Matram' and 'Jana Gana Mana' and safeguard the honour of national flag, official language and dignity of the country in all schools of the country." (855)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the

measures to be taken to introduce the use of national language Hindi in all the posts to provide justice to the people." (856)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to be taken to eradicate social evils such as child marriage, untouchability, dowry, from the society." (857)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about measures to implement the recommendation of the Sarkaria Commission." (858)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the concrete steps to be taken to check anti-national activities, terrorist and separatist activities and insurgency in States like Nagaland, Manipur, Assam and Tripura." (859)

[Translation]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to tackle severe drought problem in Rajasthan." (1112)

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address regarding solving severe drinking water problem in drought prone areas of Rajasthan." (1113)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing special central assistance to the border State of Rajasthan keeping in view the educational, economic and industrial backwardness of the State." (1114)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address to check moral denigration and cultural pollution due to programmes telecasted by foreign electronic media and Metro Channel of Doordarshan." (1115)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to ensure jobs to all irrigation to fields and reasonable wages to labourers." (1116)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about inculcating

the cultural values, nationalism, moral values, self-reliance and duty consciousness in new generation." (1117)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about repealing article 370 to make Kashmir an integral part of India and to spread the feeling of 'one nation one symbol', 'one nation one head', 'one nation one Constitution' in the country." (1118)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to check growing population and shrinking agricultural base." (1119)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the necessary steps to make India self-reliant and to protect its sovereignty and to reject GATT and Dunkel proposals which are detrimental to our national interest." (1120)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures necessary to prevent entry of multinational companies

eager to invest in India, eager to set up industries and eager to market their products in the name of liberalisation." (1121)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps necessary to build a strong India by encouraging self-reliance, develop small and handicraft industries, check wasteful expenditure and avoid foreign debt." (1122)

[English]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN
(Indore): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the scheme regarding industries to be closed down especially textile mills." (878)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about providing transport and rail facilities for the development of Vananchal region." (879)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about any scheme to

check crimes against women, dowry deaths and rape." (880)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about women education and withdrawal of girls from schools." (881)

SHRI M. RAMMANNA RAI
(Kasaragod): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the recent hike in the administered prices of sugar, rice, wheat petroleum and LPG." (882)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address of any steps the Government is initiating to take regarding reforms in electoral system." (883)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the destabilising effect of excessive dependency on foreign capital and technology." (884)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the

[Shri M. Rammanna Rai]

increasing unemployment in the country." (885)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the harmful fall-out of the acceptance of the Dunkel proposals." (886)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the disinvestment of key industrial units of public sector undertakings which are likely to affect the national interest adversely." (887)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the failure of the Government to condemn U.S policy towards Jammu & Kashmir." (888)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to indicate the action required to be taken against the persons involved in the Security Scam." (889)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the

measures to completely eradicate the commercial menace once for all from the country." (890)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA
(Midnapore): I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about any action against the foreign banks which organised the notorious security scam." (947)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of adverse effects on Indian economy in all sectors like industry, agriculture, trade and service due to acceptance of Dunkel proposal." (948)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of highly deteriorating financial position of poor states like Bihar, Orissa etc. who are unable even to pay the salaries of their employees and total development work is stopped." (949)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of Hunger deaths taking place in some parts of the country." (950)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of any time-bound programme for the revival of sick and closed industrial units." (951)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of remission of debts of people below poverty line." (952)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of how the industrialists and traders refused to transfer the tax relief given in last budget to the consumers." (953)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of covering rural areas for Sulabh Sauchalayas for women." (954)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of any domestic fuel policy for the rural areas specially the rural poor." (955)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of dangerously

increasing use of military for internal law and order problems." (956)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of rapidly falling standard of education at all level and English replacing Hindi or local languages by large scale private schools." (957)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of the all pervading corruption at all levels which is eating the vitals of national life." (958)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of growing anti-India attitude of USA and its direct intervention in the internal affairs of India." (959)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of India losing fact the leadership of third world and honourable place in international arena." (960)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of electoral reforms

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

so badly needed for the existence of our democratic system." (961)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of Panchayat level quarantees against atrocities on Dalits, Adivasis and women." (962)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the need for confiscation of all black money holdings and use of the funds for economic development." (963)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the need to implement the Sarkaria Commission's recommendations regarding funds to states." (964)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the need to formulate and implement a package of revival of the public sector." (965)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the need to correct the distortions in the

health budget and population policy of the country which are loaded against the women and the poor." (966)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the need to ensure full equality to women in all spheres of economic life." (967)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the fact that India has become the highest debtor country amongst the developing countries and no time bound programme to repay it." (968)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not take note of the fact that the foreign capital instead of coming for industrial projects are coming in speculation." (969)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of any time-bound programme to use the already committed foreign loans as a result of which heavy commitment charge is being paid." (970)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of introduction of any National Scheme for pension of old and handicapped persons." (971)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of any National Scheme for full coverage of children for compulsory education." (972)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of introduction of nation-wide 100 days employment in the Blocks." (973)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of extension of revamped public distribution system in all the Blocks for people below poverty line." (974)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of political solution of Kashmir and North-East insurgency in time-bound way." (975)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the need to provide adequate funds for modernisation of HFC & FCI Units." (976)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the failure of the Government to provide adequate budgetary support to the public sector undertakings." (977)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about US interference in the Kashmir issue." (978)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the financial difficulties that the States are facing due to economic reforms." (979)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the caste-conflict that has engulfed the country." (980)

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the inadequate allocation of funds for the 15-points programme for the minorities." (981)

"but regret that the Address does not take note of the fact that the dramatic improvement in trade balance is the impact of a contraction in imports." (985)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

That at the end of the motion. the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the fact that the sale proceeds of more public sector shares are utilised not for productive investments but for bridging the fiscal gap to meet the IMF/World Bank demand." (982)

"but regret that the Address does not take note of the fact that the euphoria over the increase in foreign exchange reserves is hollow because much of this consists of loans and market purchases by the Reserve Bank of India and the upsurge in foreign institutional investment." (986)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

That at the end of the motion. the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the fact that the Industrial growth continued to be sluggish and the recession continues." (983)

"but regret that the Address does not mention that the repayment and interest on foreign loans are going to be a major burden on the economy in 1994-95." (987)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

That at the end of the motion. the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not take note of the lopsided character of the development of the industrial sector evidently from the fact that while capital goods production is declining. the consumer durables sector are increasing." (984)

"but regret that the Address does not take note of the fact that the decision of the RBI to close nearly 9000 bank branches of the public sector on the ground of unviability will only deny credit access to large rural population and will hit the productive activity of farmers and other sections of the people." (988)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not assure that the Union Government will not take any hasty action to reduce the fertiliser subsidy which will adversely affect the agricultural production." (989)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not take note of the fact that the Government is going full stream ahead dismantling the public sector, opening the doors wide open for the multinationals to penetrate in several sectors of our economy, thereby seriously undermining the base of an independent national economy which was sought to build up in the post-independence period." (990)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not take note of the fact that the Government have signed on the dotted line in Geneva on Dunkel and GATT which will only harm our independent economy, including our agriculture." (991)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not express serious concern over the fact that by increasing the issue prices of sugar, wheat

and rice, the path is being cleared for dismantling the public distribution system ultimately." (992)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not express concern over the fact that no action has been taken so far against the persons indicted in the JPC report on Securities Scam." (993)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the fact that US Administration has become extra-active in whipping up tension in our sub-continent, aggravating the situation in Kashmir and encouraging the Khalistanis in Punjab to create further trouble." (994)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not take note of the role of black money in the economy which has grown to the extent of over 50 percent of the GDP." (995)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the rise in the rate of inflation to double digit levels." (996)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the rise in the fiscal revenue and the budget deficits." (997)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the inability to proceed with the implementation of an exit policy and changes in labour legislation." (998)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the decline in overall agricultural production." (999)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not take note of the failure to attract adequate private investment in infrastructure industries and the worsening of bottlenecks in this sector by the end of the Eighth Plan." (1000)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not take serious note of the ever increasing rate of unemployment in the country." (1001)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the fact that the Foreign capital inflow have risen sharply not in the area of industry but only in the area of financial investments." (1002)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not take note of the fact that the overall rate of growth of the economy have declined in 1993-94." (1003)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the need to move away from the present structure of a high share of indirect taxes in tax revenue to a high share of direct taxes." (1004)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the need to reduce the dependency on borrowings for raising resources." (1005)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the need to cut fiscal deficit not by cutting

down on the Plan investments and expenditures on the social sectors but by raising resources." (1006)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the need to seriously implement all land ceiling laws." (1007)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the need for reintroduction of concessional loans to small scale industries and weaker sections." (1008)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention of serious bad effects of NEP like (a) public sector so ardously built is as the main sector of India is losing fast its place. (b) Heavy price rise. (c) Heavy unemployment which is causing serious law and order problem in the country. (d) Industrial growth rate heavily reduced to less than 2%. (e) creation of annual assured irrigational growth reduced to less than half." (1009)

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA

Ujjain): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to be

taken to achieve the objectives of self-reliance." (1010)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Government's view for not cooperating in any such kind of work which is harmful for the unity and integrity of the Indian society." (1011)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about protecting the integrity of the Nation." (1012)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the word 'Panth-nirpeksh'." (1013)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the rehabilitation of Kashmir migrants." (1014)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking foreign interference and infiltration in North-Eastern States and the need for deporting them to their country." (1015)

[Shri Satynarayan Jatiya]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about setting up of instruments in earthquake prone areas to forecast the possibility of this natural calamity." (1016)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the intention of the Government that it will not accept any kind of economic slavery by inviting the foreign investment and that it will not clear any proposal which will adversely effect the interest of our industries and workers." (1017)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about keeping agriculture sector free from any foreign restriction." (1018)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about diversification in agriculture sector." (1019)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about making

possible efforts to store rain water for irrigation purposes." (1020)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps for promoting production of Nitrogen fertilisers so that the fertility of soil increases." (1021)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing remunerative prices to farmers for agricultural produce." (1022)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about making Public Distribution System wide-based so that the masses living below poverty line could benefit." (1023)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about special programme to be formulated for the welfare of SCs/STs." (1024)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about launching special employment guarantee scheme for SCs/STs." (1025)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

merging of banks, LIC and GIC for the improvement of financial sector." (1030)

"but regret that there is no mention about providing adequate assistance to the women for self-employment from National Women Fund." (1026)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about maintaining proper balance between labour and capital for economic development." (1031)

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the involvement of voluntary organisations and educated employed persons to make the employment scheme more effective." (1027)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about banning the entry of multi-national companies." (1032)

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the active involvement of MPs, MLAs and elected representatives of local bodies in the implementation of programmes for the welfare of weaker sections of the society." (1028)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the balance to be maintained between export and import." (1033)

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about making communication facilities free from fault and more effective." (1029)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need of increasing allocation of funds for agriculture." (1034)

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about not

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the extension of special component plan to the assembly reserved

[Shri Satynarayan Jatiya]

for Scheduled Castes in the States." (1035)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about formulation of any programme for rehabilitation of Safai Karamchari." (1036)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about time bound disposal of cases relating to the atrocities committed against the Scheduled Caste." (1037)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about extension of the tribal female literacy scheme to the entire tribal families." (1038)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about constituting the financial corporation under the auspices of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation at State level." (1039)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about formulation

of action plan for effective implementation of the reservation policy." (1040)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about setting up a system to manage the property attached to the religious places." (1041)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures to be taken to make the literacy campaign an integral part of the social life." (1042)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about ensuring the participation of every educated person in making country-wide campaign of Education for all programmes successful." (1043)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing health care nutrition to the masses." (1044)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about active

participation of district collectors for the conservation of environment." (1045)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about protecting Indian culture in Doordarshan Programme." (1046)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about making special efforts in the field of generating Oceanic Thermal Power under non-conventional sources of energy." (1047)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about indigenous development of arms and ammunition so that Indian Army becomes self-sufficient." (1048)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing financial assistance and employment to a member of the family of the personnel of armed forces who are killed while discharging civil duties." (1049)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about expressing

of solidarity on the issues of common interest with a view to make SAARC more effective." (1050)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about making efforts to develop friendly relations with USA." (1051)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about maintaining our traditional relations with Russian Federation." (1052)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about exploring new avenues of development between SAARC and East Asian countries." (1053)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about making the efforts of mutual understanding and cooperation with the Gulf countries in national interest." (1054)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about expanding

[Shri Satynarayan Jatiya]

cooperation between India and European Economic community." (1055)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about our plan for cooperation in the developmental activities with sub-Saharan countries and South Africa." (1056)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a resolve to encourage Swadeshi to pave the path of progress for the country." (1057)

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA
(Tamluk): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the large scale retrenchment of workers in different Public and Private Sector Industries due to the new economic policy of the Government." (1058)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to provide jobs to the unemployed youths

of the country which was promised by the ruling party in the election manifesto." (1059)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the serious problems which the cultivators are facing due to withdrawal of subsidies on certain fertilizers." (1060)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the problem faced by the weavers of our country due to the rise in prices of hank year." (1061)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to preserve communal harmony in the country." (1062)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to check the terrorist activities in the country." (1063)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to provide drinking water to all in the country." (1064)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to provide shelter to all in the country." (1065)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to provide education to all in the country." (1066)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the serious problems of the industrial sickness in the country." (1067)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the recent hike in administered prices of rice, sugar, wheat, LPG, petrol and diesel on the eve of the Budget Session causing tremendous hardship to the common people." (1068)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the massive privatisation of the public sector units which is a

clear departure from our declared policy." (1069)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to protect the economic sovereignty of the country by accepting the Dunkel proposals." (1070)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to have the honest will for bringing radical land reforms." (1071)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to continue our commitment on self-reliance." (1072)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY
(Puri): I beg to move:—

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the failure of the Government to check the increasing rural poverty and resultant worsening of quality of life in rural areas and the need to take measures to reverse the trend at National level." (1073)

[Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the resolve for providing water to every field, employment to every man, education to every child and medicine to every patient." (1074)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the inclusion of "Right to Work" in the Fundamental Rights." (1075)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take effective economic measures for the upliftment of the people belonging to SCs/STs and other backward classes." (1076)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take note of the fact that the so called increased in foreign exchange reserve is only due to external borrowings." (1077)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to

take note of the huge, national and international debt with its baneful effects." (1078)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not express concern over the continued rise in prices of essential commodities and does not mention about any effective measures to check the same." (1079)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the fact that wrong economic policy decisions, such as increase of administered prices of rice, wheat, sugar, petrol diesel, petroleum products, domestic LPG, etc. have shot up prices of all other essential commodities." (1080)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the surrender of the Government to the IMF and World Bank through the new Industrial, Fiscal and Trade Policies." (1081)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the adverse impact of the Dunkel proposals on the national economy." (1082)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address to show concern over growing unemployment problem." (1083)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about effective measures to check atrocities on women, persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and minority community." (1084)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about non-implementation of land reforms and Land Ceiling Act in many States in the country." (1085)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the action to be taken to implement the major recommendations made in the report of JPC on irregularities in Securities and Banking Transactions." (1086)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any correct plan of action to control the annual rate of growth of population in the country." (1087)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address of any time-bound programme for supply of drinking water in large parts of the rural areas and for meeting the acute shortage of electricity supply in the country." (1088)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a time-bound programme for enacting a legislation for comprehensive and systematic electoral reforms." (1089)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the collapse of Public Distribution System throughout the country." (1090)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about comprehensive legislation providing for payment of minimum wages to landless labourers." (1091)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address fails to mention about the need to give

[Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy]

more powers to the States."
(1092)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the growing regional and economic disparities among the States in the country and Government's strategy to solve the problem."
(1093)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures to control the natural calamities in the country particularly in Orissa."
(1094)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any assurance to provide special assistance to Orissa to overcome backwardness."
(1095)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the revision of royalty on loan, payable to States of Orissa, Bihar, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh in order to achieve sustained economic growth in these States."
(1096)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: The very first assertion that is made by the Head of the Republic and by the Government is about the North-East. Very briefly I need to remind the House what the Head of the Republic has been made to say by this Government. In respect of the North-East, the very first sentence says: "The situation in regard to insurgency in the North-East has shown improvement." I find it necessary to briefly quote this because of what I am going to quote subsequently.

In para 7 of the same Address the Government informs us that:

"In the North-East the setting up of the interim Bodoland Autonomous Council in pursuance of the Bodo Accord marks a positive step forward towards meeting the aspirations..."

Thereafter there is a reference advising us that in Manipur the Government has taken action and then having taken action the Government describes its own action as demonstrating the Government's will to curb disruptive elements effectively. I have found it necessary to quote this because what I am going to quote now and what I am quoting from, Sir, are not any newspaper accounts. These are reports, written documents of agencies of the Government itself.

In respect of the North East, particularly in the context of Manipur, this is what the present Governor of Manipur has had to say. I will not reiterate the entire Manipur debate because that has already taken place. But it is necessary for me to quote what the Governor of Manipur has said so as to enquire about what we are to believe in. Are we to

believe what the Governor says? Are we to believe in what the Government makes the President say in his Address to the Joint Session of the Houses? And there are only selected portions of the Governor's report that I shall repeat here.

The Governor of Manipur has said, firstly of Manipur as follows:

"Shri Rishang Keishing to carry out his evil designs of aiding and abetting the NSCN(1) and subvert the Government machinery and police. Shri Rishang Keishing has also precipitated the Naga-Kuki conflict and has given it the colour of an ethnic conflict."

MR. SPEAKER: Which is the document you are quoting from?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: This is the Governor's report dated 5th October, 1993. This has been laid on the Table of the House. It is the Governor's report which has been submitted to the President.

I will make the point that I have to make in a little while and I have to relate what the Governor has said to what the President has been made to say and I have one more document to quote from.

This is what Governor of Manipur is saying in writing to the President of the Republic:

"The Chief Minister himself is suspected.."

MR. SPEAKER: Are you referring to the letter written by the Governor to the President?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Yes Sir. It has been laid on the Table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Which House?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: This House. This letter has been referred to and has been circulated by the Government to all of us.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Sir, on the basis of these letters, the Assembly has been suspended and President's rule has been imposed.

MR. SPEAKER: But there is some sanctity attached to the letters written at this level. If they are laid on the Table of the House, you have the authority to quote them.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, I am very mindful of the caution that you give. I have found it necessary because it is there.

MR. SPEAKER: You can go ahead quoting it.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Thank you, Sir.

The Governor goes along and says:

"The Chief Minister himself is suspected of aiding a faction of the Meitei extremists.

Shri Jaichandra Singh has also come out openly against the Congress Legislature Party and party leadership for their failure to take action against Ministers and

[Shri Jaswant Singh]

legislators for their alleged links with the underground elements..."

Thereafter he says:

"NSCN(1) have further strengthened their links with the Meitei extremists, ULFA, HPC, the Myanmar insurgents and are actively supported by the DG Field Intelligence of Bangladesh and ISI of Pakistan."

I continue to quote from that report.

It says:

"Overall implications of the current situation in Manipur and Nagaland in the short term are, that areas of violent conflict and unrest have widened to the entire hill areas of Manipur, with fall out in Imphal Valley and in Nagaland to Central, Southern Nagaland and Western Nagaland bordering Manipur in the South. In the long term, it will escalate Naga-Kuki conflict and has possibility of Meite-Tribal conflict in Manipur and inter-tribal conflicts in Nagaland.

The above state of intense insurgency and internal disorder is due to lack of political stability and will, lack of an overall perception and monitoring of the worsening situation by the State Government and Security Forces over a prolonged period....."

I cannot find personally, Sir, a more damning indictment of the manner in which the entire North East has been treated over a prolonged period. This is the Governor's report. Certainly, it lies in

the mouth of the Ruling Party and the Government sitting there to say: "We reject the Governor's report." The Governor submitted his report after he was appointed; if I recollect right, in the month of August, 1993 he came here and reported. He submitted his report in the beginning of October, 1993; on 5th October, 1993 he submitted his report. Till the beginning of December, that is, until the election in the six States of the Union were not over, President's rule was not imposed there. And, Sir, we are made to believe from what has been put here through the mouth of the President that the situation in the North East is improving.

Sir, let me quote very briefly a Press Release by the Press Information Bureau of the Army. This is what the Army has to say about the situation in the State of Assam and this is the Press Release of the month of February, 1994, this very month just when the President's Address has been given to us. It says:

"One more year of turmoil anxiety, suspense and tyranny has gone without any tangible results in sight. The internecine war between various factions still continues. The ULFA's fratricidal battle within itself and the Bodo Security Force's indifference towards moderate Bodos and minorities is on the rise. This is a clear commentary on the law and order situation in Assam and the State Government's failure. Any amount of overtures made by the Central and State Governments to settle the Bodo accord ambiguities has not made much headway. The Bodo Security Force continues to maintain its belligerent stance on the issue and off and on strike against the non-Bodos with a

view to evict minorities from the proposed Bodoland autonomous area."

16.00 hrs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Where are you quoting from?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I am quoting from the Press Release of the Army.

MR. SPEAKER: We cannot go by what appears in the newspapers.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: It is a public document. It is not in the newspaper alone. This has been issued by the P.I.B.

MR. SPEAKER: There is a gap between the report which is given to the P.I.B. and the original report. We do not know what is the report, what is published, what is not published and all those things. You can refer to it, but you cannot quote it. That is the only thing, because when you quote, every comma, every full stop and every word has a meaning. You can refer to it, if you like. There is a lot of difference in quoting and referring.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, had I referred to that without quoting, then you could have objected that I was referring to a thing without quoting and without providing the context and now when I am quoting. You say that this is not required and that simply a discussion thereon would be enough.

MR. SPEAKER: When you quote, you are saying, this is said by him. There the exact words, meaning, full stop, comma, sentence, structure, everything counts there. When you refer, you are owning some part of the responsibility. When you are quoting, you are not owning.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I will abide by what you say. I will do exactly as you say. But in whatever I have attempted, I do not say every time I succeed but I have attempted, that whenever I say, for what I say in Parliament, I am responsible. I have never said anything in the House to which I have not taken the responsibility.

Of course, I am mindful of the caution you have given to me. I should refer to what the Army has said about the situation in the State of Assam. What the Army has said about the State of Assam, I am very much concerned because summing up the insurgency situation in Assam in 1993-94, the Army has stated that the spread of Muslim fundamentalism among the immigrants is a matter of concern. The ULFA has started recruiting Muslim obviously in a gesture to please their mentors-Bangladesh based agents and Pakistan's Inter-Service Intelligence (ISI). As a sequel to acceptance of the Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council and Bodo Autonomous Council, other ethnic tribes and minorities in the State including the Mishings, Lalungs, Rabhas and Tai Ahom etc are raising voices for similar autonomy which is contrary to the overall democratic fibre of the State and will lead to disintegration of Assam.

MR. SPEAKER: I think, you can [English]
continue the speech next time.

16.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Seventeen of the clock.*

17.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at
Seventeen of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

GENERAL BUDGET, 1994-95

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now the Finance
Minister.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr.
Speaker, Sir, it is with a sense of great
privilege and also deep humility that I rise
to present the Budget for 1994-95.

Sir, there are some critical moments
in the life of a nation which call for bold
and decisive leadership. History is full of
instances when nations failing to grapple
effectively with a crisis have paid dearly
for those lapses for decades to come. As
a poet has said:—

[Translation]

Kuchh Aise Bhee Manjar Hain Tarikh Ki
Najron Mein

Lamhon Ne Khata Ki Thi Sadiyon Ne Saja
Pai

India faced one such grave crisis in
June, 1991 when the country was on the
verge of bankruptcy. Fortunately, our
leadership our Party and our Government,
under the inspiring leadership of Prime
Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, met
this challenge head on. The Prime
Minister had pledged that we would give
top priority to grappling with the grave
economic crisis and putting the economy
back on a path of sustainable growth.

He called upon our Government
and our people to convert this crisis into
an opportunity for national renewal.

[Translation]

Uth Ke In tarikion Mein Surkhian Paida
Karen

Is Zamin Ki Pastiyon Se Asman Paida
Karen

[English]

In pursuit of this mandate, we
embarked on a far-reaching programme
of economic restructuring and reform.
When the Prime Minister launched his
programme, there were many people in
this House and outside as well who
doubted the wisdom of embarking on
such an uncharted course. But with the
passage of time, these doubts have
increasingly melted into thin air. One
consequence is that though we started as
a minority Government, we are no longer
in that arena.

(Interruptions)

Sir, the Prime Minister could truly
claim

[*Translation*]

Main Akela Hi Chala Tha, Janib-e-Manzil
Magar

Log Sath Aate Gaye Aur Karwan Banta
Gaya. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

He has, in the process, shown what
the leadership is about.

[*Translation*]

Insan Woh Nahi Hai Jo Hawa Ke Sath
Badle

Insan To Wahi Hai Jo Hawa Ka Rukh
Badal De. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

Three years ago, India was
everywhere being described as a basket
case'. Today our economic policies attract
world-wide attention and interest. This
shows, among other things, the inherent
vitality of our democratic polity. It was in
appreciation of this very inherent strength
of this ancient civilisation of India that the
great poet Iqbal wrote those famous-lines:

[*Translation*]

Unan, Mishr, Roman Mit Gaye Jahan Se,

Ab Tak Magar Hai Baki Namonishan
Hamara.

Kuchh Bat Hai Ki Hasti Mitati Nahi Hamari

Sadion Raha Hai Dushman, Daurai Jama
Hamara.

(*Interruptions*)

Three years are not enough to
complete economic restructuring in a
country as complex as India, but it is time
enough to take stock. I am sure all
Honourable Members will agree that the
economic situation has shown substantial
improvement. Progress on the external
front has been dramatic.

- Our foreign currency reserves,
which were a little over \$1
Billion in June, 1991 are now
close to \$13 Billion. Our gold,
which to our great sorrow
earlier had been pledged
abroad, is back in our
possession.
- Exporters are responding very
well to our sweeping reforms of
exchange rate and trade
policies. Our exports have
increased by a remarkable 21
percent in dollar terms in the
first 10 months of 1993-94.
This compares, for the
corresponding period, with a
decline of 3 per cent in 1991-92
and a rise of 2 per cent in
1992-93.
- Despite all the fears that
liberalisation would lead to a
flood of imports the dollar value
of our imports during April-
January 1993-94 was less than
one per cent higher than
imports during the
corresponding period of 1992-
93. For the fiscal year 1993-94,
as a whole imports are likely to
be lower than even 1990-91
- The current account deficit in
our balance of payments during
1993-94 will be less than half a
per cent of GDP compared to

[Shri Manmohan Singh]

over 3 per cent in 1990-91 and 2 per cent in 1992-93

- Contrary to what many feared, the exchange rate for the rupee has remained remarkably steady despite unification and lifting of trade controls. Foreign exchange is flowing through legal channels in ample quantities instead of through hawala transactions as earlier.
- International confidence in India has been restored. Foreign direct and portfolio investment, which was hardly \$150 million in 1991-92, is likely to be around \$3 Billion in 1993-94.

The news on the domestic economy is also encouraging. Inflation has been reduced from the peak of 17 per cent in August 1991 to about half that level at present. Agricultural performance has been strong. Food stocks in the public system stood at over 23 million tonnes on 1st January, 1994. This is the highest level in seven years and provides invaluable insurance against any possible crop failure. Industrial growth is also recovering, though more slowly than we had hoped. Overall economic growth is estimated at about 4 per cent for the second year in a row. Fears that the reform programme might lead to a large scale increase in unemployment have turned out to be unfounded. The latest available data of persons registered with employment exchanges and seeking jobs show a fall of 1.4 per cent in November 1993 as compared to November 1992.

The slow growth of industry in 1993-94 is a matter undoubtedly of concern and is largely due to the

sluggishness of the capital goods sector. If capital goods are excluded the rest of the manufacturing sector shows 6 per cent growth in the second quarter and is expected to improve in the rest of the year. The recession in the capital goods industries is primarily because investment activity slowed down temporarily as firms adjusted their investment plans to the new situation. There are signs that this restructuring process is well advanced and many companies are now launching major programmes to enhance their international competitiveness. The turnaround in investment is, therefore, beginning.

Of course in real life the picture is never entirely rosy and there are some warning signals which we must heed. It has not been possible to contain the fiscal deficit in the current year to the level we had originally targeted. The slower pace of industrial recovery in 1993-94 led to a shortfall in revenues and various expenditures have also exceeded Budget estimates. The slippage in the fiscal deficit in 1993-94 has been less damaging than might have been the case ordinarily, mainly because of the existence of sizeable idle industrial capacity and low investment levels. But as investment begins to revive, we cannot afford continuing weakness on the fiscal front. Unless the deterioration witnessed in the current year is speedily reversed, there is a serious danger that we may slip back into a position where large Government deficits fuel inflation, widen the current account imbalance and push up interest rates, making it impossible to bring about the rapid economic growth we need to raise living standards of our people and create productive jobs in adequate numbers.

In formulating this Budget, I have sought to address six major tasks:

- First, we must accelerate the reform and modernisation of our tax system we began two years ago.
- Second, we must correct the slippage in the fiscal deficit that has occurred in the current year.
- Third, we must build on the demonstrable success already achieved in the external sector where our strong performance has vindicated our strategy of phased integration with the world economy.
- Forth, the Budget must provide a major stimulus for a strong industrial recovery, especially for investment and capital goods production.
- Fifth, and most importantly, we must reorient and revamp our development policies and programmes to address more effectively the problems of poverty, unemployment and social deprivation which affect a large mass of our people, particularly in rural areas.
- Sixth, we have to consolidate and deepen the progress we have made in restoring the health of our banking system.

Last year we moved to a unified, market-determined exchange rate system. The system has worked extremely well. The time has therefore

come to take the next step and move towards convertibility on the current account. Current account convertibility will substantially liberalise the access to foreign exchange for all current business transactions and also liberalise foreign exchange access for travel, education and medical expenses, etc. This will virtually eliminate reliance upon illegal channels for such transactions. The details of these liberalisations are being separately announced by the Reserve Bank. Consistent with the progressive liberalisation of our external payments regime, we shall review the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973, and undertake necessary changes, including, if necessary, its replacement by new legislation.

Our policies towards foreign direct and portfolio investment have yielded good results and have helped us reduce our reliance on foreign borrowing. Much of the direct investment approved has been for critical infrastructure sectors. As envisaged in my Budget speech last year, Government is currently negotiating bilateral investment treaties with several major investor countries.

Our external debt, which is a cause of concern, and rightly so is growing more slowly now. It grew by about \$6 billion per year on an average in the latter half of the 1980s. In 1990-91 the debt grew by over \$8 billion. In 1991-92 and 1992-93 that the Government was in power the increase averaged only about \$3 billion. In the first half of 1993-94, that is the current year external debt has increased by hardly \$300 million. Furthermore, the recent increase in debt has been more than offset by the sharp increase in our foreign currency reserves. I would like to assure this august House that we shall remain vigilant on this front so that

[Shri Manmohan Singh]

external debt remains within prudent levels. There is no question of India falling into a debt trap. In fact, we propose to respond to the easier payments situation by retiring some of the high cost debt we have incurred in the past. Indian companies will be freely permitted to pre-pay past foreign loans.

Honorable Members are aware that some of our external debt is owed to the IMF. We had approached the Fund in our hour of difficulty. Now that our payments situation has improved considerably and our reserves have been rebuilt to comfortable levels, we are in a position to repay the Fund somewhat ahead of schedule. Repayments of principal and interest amounting to \$1.4 billion are due to the Fund in 1994-95. Instead of following the regular schedule of payments, we intend to pre-pay the entire amount at the beginning of the year. This decision to pre-pay in no sense detracts from the excellent relations we have with the Fund which has helped us immensely in our time of need. We will not hesitate to seek financial support again, if conditions warrant.

At present exporters and other foreign exchange earners, are permitted to retain up to 15 per cent of foreign exchange receipts in an account designated in foreign currency. It has been decided to increase the percentage of retention allowed from 15 to 25 per cent. As a special incentive, for 100 % Export Oriented Units and units in Export Processing Zones as well as units in Electronic Hardware Technology Parks, and Software Technology Parks, the retention allowed will be 50 per cent. This facility is designed to protect exporters from having to incur conversion costs

when they make payments for imports. The necessary notifications are being separately issued by the Reserve Bank of India.

Turning to the need to strengthen fiscal discipline, I have long felt that Government should not be able to finance its deficits by creating money, through unlimited recourse to the Reserve Bank, by issue of *ad hoc* Treasury Bills. The Reserve Bank has not been happy about this development and as a former Governor of the Reserve Bank. I must confess to a lot of fondness to the old lady of the Boribandar street. This practice has also weakened the Reserve Bank's capacity to conduct effective monetary policy. As a corrective measure, I propose to phase out the Government's access to *ad hoc* Treasury Bills over a period of three years. In 1994-95 the budget deficit is being limited to about two-thirds of one percent of expected GDP, or Rs. 6,000 crore. Normally, net issue of *ad hoc* Treasury Bills for the year as a whole should not exceed this amount. It has also been agreed with the Reserve Bank that the net issue of *ad hoc* Treasury Bills should not exceed Rs. 9,000 crore for more than ten continuous working days at any time during the year. If this happens, the Reserve Bank will automatically sell Treasury Bills in the market to reduce the level of *ad hoc* Treasury Bills. This is a historic step which will in due course contribute to a significant improvement in fiscal and monetary discipline, which our country urgently needs and give the Reserve Bank greater scope for effective monetary management. In subsequent years, the recourse to *ad hoc* Treasury Bills will be progressively reduced and by 1997-98, the Government will cease to have direct recourse to the Reserve Bank for financing its deficit and will have to

meet its entire requirements through borrowing from the market.

Interest rates have an important influence on investment in industry and other sectors of the economy. There have been repeated demands that interest rates should be brought down. The minimum lending rates charged by banks have already been brought down already by three percentage points over the past year. The Financial Institutions have also reduced their effective rates. I am happy to inform the House that the All-India Financial Institutions are now reducing their minimum lending rate by a further one percentage point to 14 per cent exclusive of interest tax. Simultaneously, the commercial banks' minimum landing rate on term loans of three years and above is also being reduced from 15 per cent to 14 per cent. The Reserve Bank is separately issuing the notification. These changes take effect from tomorrow and will help to stimulate investment in our economy.

Government had earlier proposed certain amendments to the Companies Act to streamline the Act in line with the contemporary requirements. Several representations have been received from industry seeking modifications of these proposals to give Indian companies an environment in which they can compete effectively in the highly competitive market place. Government has reconsidered the matter in the light of these representations and it is proposed to submit a new Bill to Parliament which will be responsive to these concerns.

We live in a world where science and technology have become a major determinant of the power and wealth of nations. India is proud of the achievements of its scientists and

technologists, but a great deal more needs to be done to make science and technology an effective instrument of national renewal and national regeneration. To accelerate the development and application of indigenous technology to production processes, I propose to credit the 5 per cent cess on payments of royalty for imported technologies which is presently collected under the Research and Development Cess Act, 1986, into a new Fund for Technology Development and Application. This Fund will be placed at the disposal of the Department of Science and Technology to help the indigenously developed technologies reach the stage of commercial application. Necessary amendments to this effect will be made in the R & D Cess Act. I shall propose some further measures to promote research and development when I come to my tax proposals.

I would like to assure the House that our policies are geared towards promoting a dynamic and internationally competitive industrial sector. I am confident that given our vast reservoir of skilled manpower and entrepreneurship, Indian industry has the capacity and the will to meet the challenge of global competition. Government and industry will work as active partners to usher in the much needed second industrial revolution which is both more efficient and more employment and export oriented. This year, my revenue proposals, to which I will come later, include a strong package of measures to boost industrial investment and capital goods production. Looking ahead, I have a vision of our industrial firms acquiring a truly global reach and their names becoming household words in far off, distant lands.

[Shri Manmohan Singh]

Let me now turn to some issues relating to agriculture. An adequate flow of institutional rural credit to agriculture is vital for the development of the rural sector and this flow at present is unduly low in relation to need. The reasons include high costs of intermediation incurred by banks and cooperatives, fundamental weaknesses in the institutional structure and unsustainable restrictions on credit and interest rate policy. I propose to take a number of significant steps to lay the basis for a long-term improvement in rural credit. The National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) is the apex agency for rural credit. I am providing Rs. 100 crore for augmenting its share capital and the Reserve Bank will contribute an equivalent amount. This will nearly triple NABARD's share capital and equip it to play a strong leadership role in strengthening the system of rural credit.

One of our major concerns in rural credit has been the weak condition of the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). Of the 196 regional rural banks, as many as 150 have shown losses in each of the past five years. Many have completely wiped out their equity and reserves and in some the losses are eating into deposits. This is an unsustainable situation and long-term structural measures are necessary if these banks are to be rehabilitated. The Reserve Bank has already announced some measures giving RRBs greater flexibility in their lending operations to make them more viable. I propose to take up 50 of the 196 RRBs from all over the country in the course of 1994-95 for undertaking comprehensive restructuring, including cleaning up of their balance sheets and infusion of fresh capital. The form and modality of the restructuring and

associated financial support will be worked out during the year. The experience with these 50 RRBs will guide our approach in later years to the other RRBs. The success of this programme will depend on full cooperation from State Governments and sponsor banks, who are shareholders, as well as the employees of RRBs. Our objective is to transform presently weak and ailing RRBs into financially viable and effective instruments of decentralised rural banking and decentralise rural development.

In addition, we must find ways of strengthening the co-operative credit structure which has played a significant role in rural development through credit support. As against Rs. 6,295 crore of new lending by cooperatives during 1992-93, they are expected to reach Rs. 8,500 crore during 1993-94. During 1994-95 we are planning for a further increase to Rs. 9,600 crore. This quantitative expansion must be accompanied by organisational and structural changes which ensure financial viability. The Government proposes to initiate a series of measures for strengthening the cooperative structure. NABARD will be entering into memoranda of understanding with State and District Cooperative Banks and concerned State Governments for implementing State-specific development action plans to revamp the cooperative system and improve its viability.

These measures to strengthen the rural credit system are being accompanied by a substantial increase in the budget provision for Rural Development to which I will come shortly. It will also be our objective to ensure that our policies towards agriculture eliminate all unnecessary restraints on farmers. Restrictions on domestic movement of foodgrains and other agricultural goods

must be completely removed, so that our farmers can reap the benefits of an unified national market. They must also be increasingly free to export, thus not only making their due contribution to our national export effort, but also benefiting from profitable export opportunities.

Honourable members are aware, we have embarked on a basic restructuring of the banking system aimed at ensuring full financial viability of its operations and strengthening its competitive capability. I provided a sum of Rs. 5,700 crore as capital contribution to the nationalised banks in 1993-94 to help them make necessary provisions against bad and doubtful debts and meet the new capital adequacy norms. I had indicated last year that there would be additional capital needs in 1994-95 and 1995-96 and also that this burden could not be borne exclusively by the Budget. I am happy to report to the House that in December 1993 and January 1994, the State Bank of India successfully raised over Rs. 2,200 crore from the public through issue of equity and another Rs. 1,000 crore through a bond issue. To allow the nationalised banks to access capital markets in the same way, and mitigate the burden on the Budget, legislative amendments were introduced in the Lok Sabha in the last Winter Session. Their speedy passage will help many of these banks to mobilise the capital they need to meet their capital requirements. Many nationalised banks will nevertheless require additional support during 1994-95 and I am providing Rs. 5,600 crore in 1994-95 as additional capital contribution for these banks. As before, this capital will be provided in the form of Government bonds on which there will be no immediate cash outgo. Interest payments and amortisation will of course be a charge on future budgets.

I am grateful to this House for quick passage last August of the Recovery of Debt due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 which provides for the establishment of Special Recovery Tribunals. These Tribunals will soon be operational, and will play a major role in improving the recovery of banks' dues. I am also happy to report that the Reserve Bank is setting up the Board for Financial Supervision to supervise more effectively the banks and other financial institutions. To alert banks and financial institutions and put them on guard against borrowers who have defaulted in their dues to other lending institutions, the Reserve Bank of India is putting in place arrangements for circulating among banks and financial institutions names of the defaulting borrowers above a threshold limit. The Reserve Bank will also publish a list of defaulting borrowers in cases where suits have been filed by banks and financial institutions. Both these measures will encourage greater discipline among the borrowers.

The Government attaches high priority to reforms of the capital markets aimed at creating an efficient and competitive capital market subject to effective regulation by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) which will ensure adequate investor protection. After a temporary setback in 1992 following the securities scam, the capital market recovered ground quickly. The funds mobilised in the capital market through public and rights issues, duly approved by SEBI, in the first ten months of 1993-94 were over Rs. 18,000 crore, as compared to less than Rs. 1600 crore in the same period of 1992-93 and under Rs. 6,000 crore for the full year, 1991-92. In addition, a number of Indian companies raised funds abroad through Euro-equity issues and Foreign Currency Convertible

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Bond Issues. The Government is committed to a thorough modernisation of the capital market and rapid improvement of trading practices with a view to ensuring transparency and speed of settlements. The model National Stock Exchange with screen-based trading is expected to begin operation by the middle of this year. The establishment of a Depository System of scripless trading is another important objective. Government intends to bring before Parliament separate legislation for the establishment of these Depositories. The Government also proposes to make further amendments to the SEBI Act and the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act in order to give additional powers to SEBI.

In my Budget speech last year, I had announced the establishment of a High-powered Committee to study the insurance industry and make recommendations on directions for its development in future. The Committee on Reforms in the Insurance Sector was appointed under the Chairmanship of Shri R. N. Malhotra, former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India. The Committee has recently submitted its report, which underscores the need for progressive deregulation of the insurance sector to create a more competitive and financially strong insurance industry, functioning under an independent regulatory authority. The report is now under active consideration of the Government. It is my intention to evolve a broad national consensus about the future direction and content of reform in this important sector.

Efficient and abundant infrastructure services are a necessary precondition for the success of our

economic reforms and especially for international competitiveness. Our electric power sector is faced with severe problems, including problems of financial viability of the State Electricity Boards which must be solved if the supply of reliable power is to keep pace with ever-increasing demand. The sector requires major changes in the working of State Electricity Boards, rationalisation of tariffs and restructuring of responsibilities for generation, transmission and distribution. A Committee of the National Development Council is looking into a comprehensive reform of our power system and it will be necessary to face up to a number of hard decisions in this vital sector.

Significant steps have been taken in the oil and gas sector to promote investment including private investment in exploration, development, refining and marketing. We propose to deepen and intensify these initiatives. To promote modernisation and investment in the coal industry, Government is reviewing the policy framework for investment, pricing and distribution. New initiatives are under consideration in the Telecommunications Sector.

I shall now briefly go over the Revised Estimates for 1993-94.

Budget estimates for 1993-94 had placed the total expenditure at Rs. 131,323 crore. This is now expected to go up to Rs. 143,872 crore, that is, an increase of Rs. 12,549 crore.

Budget estimates for the current year provided Rs. 41,251 crore as budget support for Plan Expenditure. This is now being increased by Rs. 4,775 crore to Rs. 46,026 crore. Of this increase Rs. 3,493 crore are for assistance to States

for financing their plans. A large part of this increase relates to externally-aided projects. I have also provided Rs. 856 crore as advance plan assistance to special category States particularly to the north eastern States including Assam to cover their opening deficits and Rs. 339 crore as additional special plan loan to Punjab to help that State in the process of recovery.

Under the Central Plan, a provision of Rs. 600 crore has been made for the new Employment Assurance Scheme announced by the Prime Minister on 15th August, 1993. I have also augmented the current year's provision for the National Renewal Fund by Rs. 320 crore, taking the total to Rs. 1,020 crore. This increase will fund implementation of Voluntary Retirement Schemes in Public Sector Undertakings and also finance training and counselling.

Non-plan expenditure in the current year will require an additional provision of Rs. 7,774 crore. An additional Rs. 2,200 crore has to be provided for food subsidy and Rs. 900 crore for fertilizer subsidy. I am including a provision of Rs. 632 crore more towards assistance to States for providing concession to farmers on decontrolled fertilizers. It has also become necessary to provide an additional Rs. 2,320 crore for Defence expenditure. Honorable Members will appreciate that there can be no question of compromise on the external and internal security of our country. I am providing an additional Rs. 303 crore more for Police services. Other increases include Rs. 219 crore for pensions and Rs. 500 crore for loans to States as their share of small savings collections, following improved collections.

Gross tax revenue, which was estimated in the Budget at Rs. 84,867

crore, is now expected to yield Rs. 8,117 crore less. Of this, about Rs. 822 crore is due to tax receipts of the National Capital Territory of Delhi flowing into its own Consolidated Fund from 1st of December, 1993. There is also a consequential reduction in expenditure on this account. The rest of the shortfall is mainly under customs and Union Excise Duties. Customs revenue is Rs. 5,227 crore lower than expected mainly because imports have not increased as originally estimated. There is a shortfall of Rs 2,001 crore in excise duty mainly due to the setback in production in certain high revenue yielding sectors of the economy. Due to the delay in finalisation of the procedure for disinvestment of equity holding in Public Sector Enterprises, the related receipts this year are estimated at Rs. 2,500 crore compared to the Budget estimate of Rs. 3,500 crore.

The shortfall in receipts has necessitated a larger resort to borrowings. However, I have made serious efforts to ensure that the increased borrowing does not lead to excessive growth of high powered money which fuels inflation. Instead, we have seen to it that the Government has borrowed on the basis of market-related instruments such as the 364 days Treasury Bills which were stated in 1992-93. We have also introduced certain other new instruments such as zero coupon rate bonds and 3 year loans for conversion of maturing 364 days Treasury Bills.

External loans net of repayments are placed at Rs. 3,837 crore compared to the Budget estimate of Rs. 5,454 crore.

Taking into account other variations in receipts and expenditure, the current year is expected to end with a budget deficit of Rs. 9,060 crore. The fiscal

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deficit, which was estimated at Rs. 36,959 crore in the original Budget, is now expected to go up to Rs. 58,551 crore. the fiscal deficit as a percentage of GDP will, therefore, be 7.3 percent, which is much higher than projected at the budget stage. I am far from happy with this development. But, as I have stated earlier, there were special circumstances in 1993-94 which warranted somewhat higher deficit. In a situation characterised by idle industrial capacity, I was concerned that an attempt to bring about a sharp reduction in the fiscal deficit might well have been counter-productive. However, we cannot afford to repeat large fiscal deficits. Year after year we must return to the path of fiscal rectitude.

I now turn to the Budget estimates for 1994-95.

In order to maintain the tempo of development activities, the budgetary support for the Central Plan 1994-95 has been increased to Rs. 27,278 crore from Rs. 23,241 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94, an increase of about 17.4 per cent. The total outlay of the Central Plan of Rs. 70,141 crore for 1994-95 will be financed by budgetary support to the extent of 39 per cent as against 36 per cent in Budget estimates 1993-94. The balance of Central Plan outlay will be financed by the internal and extra-budgetary resources of the Central Public Sector Enterprises.

I am providing Rs 19,304 crore as Plan assistance to States and Union Territories in 1994-95 compared to Rs. 18,010 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94. The total budgetary support from the Central Government's budget to the Central and the State Plans will be

increased by 13 percent from Rs. 41,251 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94 to Rs. 46,582 crore in 1994-95.

The increased budgetary support to the Central Plan is being directed to support higher outlays in important social sectors such as Rural Development, Education, Health and Family Welfare and Women and Child Development, and Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. In response to the vital need for greater employment generation and capital formation in rural areas, and in order to focus more sharply on alleviation of rural poverty, the outlay for the Department of Rural Development has been increased from Rs. 5,010 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94 to Rs. 7,010 crore in 1994-95, representing a massive increase of 40 percent over the previous year. Hon. Members will recall that the allocation for Rural Development was Rs. 3,100 crore in Budget estimates 1992-93. In two years, we have more than doubled this provision. For the new Employment Assurance Scheme announced by the Prime Minister on 15th August, 1993, which is being implemented in 1752 identified blocks, an outlay of Rs. 1,200 crore has been provided as compared to the 1993-94 outlay of Rs. 600 crore. Similarly, the allocations for the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana have also been enhanced from Rs. 3,306 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94 to Rs. 3,855 crore in 1994-95. It is estimated that 1150 million mandays of employment are likely to be generated in 1994-95. I have also increased the allocation for the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, including the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Scheme, by Rs. 150 crore in 1994-95.

The Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana was launched on October 2, 1993, to

provide self-employment opportunities to one million educated unemployed youth in the country by setting up 7 lakh micro enterprises through industry, service and business ventures. The Scheme intends to cover urban areas during 1993-94 and whole of the country from 1994-95 onwards. A provision of Rs. 145 crore has been made for 1994-95.

The outlay for Agriculture will be Rs. 2,005 crore in 1994-95. A major thrust is being given to horticulture development, with a 42 percent increase in allocation from Rs. 130 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94 to Rs. 184 crore in 1994-95. A major scheme for promoting use of plastics in drip irrigation is under implementation for which an enhanced outlay of Rs. 45 crore has been kept during 1994-95.

In the Eighth Plan, we have given high priority to the development of human resources. The bulk of outlay for this sector is in the plans of the States. The outlay for education in the Central plan is being increased by 17.6 percent, to Rs. 1,541 crore in 1994-95. Special efforts are being made for strengthening of elementary education, for which the outlay has been increased from Rs. 442 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94 to Rs. 523 crore in 1994-95. The allocation for the University Grants Commission has been increased from Rs. 159 crore in the Budget estimates for 1993-94 to Rs. 209 crore in 1994-95. Special allocations have been made to upgrade the quality of libraries and laboratories in the system of higher education. Provision has also been made for the establishment of an Indian Institute of Technology and for two Central Universities in Assam. The House would recognise that as a Member of Parliament coming from the state of Assam, I am of course pleased with this allocation.

The outlay for Health has been increased by nearly 20 per cent from Rs. 483 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94 to Rs. 578 crore in 1994-95. A revamped National Programme for the Control of Blindness, will be implemented from the next year. The allocation for the Leprosy Eradication Programme has been increased from Rs. 35 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94 to Rs. 94 crore in 1994-95. Control and Prevention of AIDS is of paramount importance; an increased provision of Rs. 83 crore has been made for 1994-95.

The outlay for the vital Department of Family Welfare has also been increased from Rs. 1,270 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94 to Rs. 1,430 crore in 1994-95.

The provision for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes, inclusive of support to States for specified schemes, has been increased in 1994-95 to Rs. 982 crore. The share capital contribution by the Central Government to the National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation and the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation is being increased from Rs. 53 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94 to Rs. 76 crore in 1994-95.

Recognising the critical role of infrastructure, Plan outlays in Power, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Telecommunication, Railways and Transport, have all been increased. The Plan outlay for power sector has been raised from Rs. 7,461 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94 to Rs. 8,464 crore in 1994-95; and within this total, the budget support for this sector has been increased by over 27 percent from Rs. 2,445 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94 to Rs. 3,117 crore in

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1994-95. The Plan outlay for the Tele-communication services has been increased from Rs. 6,321 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94 to Rs. 7,246 crore in 1994-95. The outlay for Roads has been stepped up from Rs. 593 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94 to Rs. 665 crore in 1994-95. We have also increased the budget support to the Railways by 20 per cent from Rs. 960 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94 to Rs. 1,150 crore in 1994-95. To sustain long-term development, cost recovery for infrastructure services has to become much more effective. Investments in infrastructure sectors must increasingly be financed through internal and extra-budgetary resources of Public Sector Undertakings.

The role of science and technology is critical for modernising our economy and making it globally competitive. The outlay for the Department of Science & Technology has been raised by 19 percent from Rs. 189 crore in Budget estimates 1993-94 to Rs. 225 crore in 1994-95.

Total non-plan expenditure next year is placed at Rs. 1,05,117 crore compared to Rs. 97,846 crore in the Revised estimates of current year. I have to draw the attention of the Honourable Members to a major factor which has been contributing to the sizeable increase in non-plan expenditure year after year, and this is the interest burden. The provision for interest payments next year is placed at Rs. 46,000 crore. This is an increase of Rs. 8,000 crore over the current year's Budget estimates whereas the increase in total non-plan expenditure is Rs. 15,045 crore. Honourable Members will appreciate that the major part of the interest burden is a legacy from the past and it continues to grow because of the continued high level of Government

borrowing. Interest payments can be reduced only if we can implement a programme of phased reduction in the Government's total borrowing requirements or fiscal deficit. This can become a reality only if our tax system becomes more buoyant, our public enterprises generate more internal resources and we reduce expenditure on subsidies. A bold programme for disinvestment of Government equity in public enterprises and earmarking a part of the sale proceeds purely for debt reduction would also be of great help.

Defence is another important element in non-plan expenditure. We cannot take chances with our national security. I am, therefore, providing Rs. 23,000 crore for Defence as against Rs. 19,180 crore in the Budget estimates for 1993-94 which was itself increased to Rs. 21,500 crore in the Revised estimates. I am providing Rs. 4,000 crore each for food subsidy and fertilizers subsidy. I am also providing Rs. 341 crore being the balance amount payable by Government under the scheme of Debt Relief to Farmers. Furthermore, I am providing for a net expenditure of Rs. 365 crore on account of Government's assumption of exchange loss liability on Foreign Currency Non-Resident Accounts Scheme, which was previously borne by the Reserve Bank of India.

The provision made in next year's Budget for non-plan expenditure other than the provisions for interest payments and defence is actually Rs. 2,729 crore less than in the Revised estimates for the current year.

Coming to receipts, gross tax revenue at existing levels of taxation is placed at Rs. 87,136 crore. State's share of taxes next year is estimated at

Rs. 24,394 crore compared to Rs. 22,244 crore in the Revised estimates of the current year. External loans net of repayments are placed at Rs. 4,279 crore compared to Rs. 3,837 crore in the current year's Revised estimates.

Taking into account maturing liabilities, the net Small Savings collections next year are placed at the same level as in the current year, that is, Rs. 6,000 crore. I am taking a credit of Rs. 4,000 crore next year as receipts from disinvestment as a continuation of the policy of mobilizing non-inflationary resources from the sale of public sector equity. Total receipts are estimated at Rs. 1,45,699 crore and total expenditure at Rs. 1,51,669 crore leaving a gap of Rs. 6,000 crore.

I now turn to the tax proposals for 1994-95. This year I shall begin with the proposals relating to indirect taxes.

Over the years, our indirect tax structure has grown into a complex maze of high and multiple rates, with numerous exemptions, and different rates being applicable for the same product for different uses and users. This has resulted in unnecessary complexity leading to administrative abuse, mounting litigation and uncertain economic impact. All this has effectively eroded the tax base and buoyancy of the system and created serious economic distortions. My proposals, in both customs and central excise, aim at simplifying the structure and continuing the process of moving to moderate rates of taxation.

Customs duties though lowered in the past three budgets need to be brought down further to make key imported raw materials and capital goods available to Indian industry at reasonable costs and

also to reduce unduly high levels of protection to industry. At the same time, the scale of duty reduction has to be so calibrated as to ensure that it does not place unreasonable pressure on domestic producers of similar products. In this framework, the key features of my customs tariff reform proposals are:—

- Further reduction in the peak rate of customs duty;
- Substantial reduction in duties on key raw materials, such as steel and chemicals;
- Reduction in customs duties on capital goods to boost investment combined with other incentives which will help the domestic capital goods industry;
- Reduction or removal of anomalies caused by import duties on raw materials and components being higher than on finished products;
- A systematic effort to unify rates on similar products to serve both economic rationality and to reduce the scope for classification disputes;
- A major pruning of notifications including end use exemptions to about half their present number, thus reducing discretionary power and possibilities for disputes and abuse.

I propose to reduce the peak rate of customs duty from 85% to 65%. Items like baggage and liquor will however continue to attract higher duty as at present.

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Availability of capital goods at a reasonable cost is necessary to enhance our competitiveness and promote investment. It is also necessary to ensure that our domestic capital goods industry, which has tremendous potential, is not at a comparative disadvantage due to anomalies in our tax structure. To further both these objectives, I propose the following package of measures:

- (a) I propose to reduce basic customs duty on project imports and general capital goods from 35% to 25%. The facility of project imports is being extended to include port development. All this will help to reduce cost of investment and modernisation in Indian industry. Import duty on parts, whether imported as parts of original equipment, or as spares is also being reduced to 25% from the present rates varying from 25% to 85%. Import duty on fertiliser projects and power projects will continue at nil rate and 20% respectively without any countervailing duty.
- (b) Domestic suppliers of capital goods have consistently argued that if domestic capital goods are to compete with imports, there should be a countervailing duty on imports of capital goods equivalent to the excise duty on domestic capital goods. I propose to accept this demand.
- (c) I am simultaneously extending the benefit of Modvat to capital

goods so that full credit of excise duty paid on domestic capital goods or countervailing duty paid on imported capital goods will be available at one time. This has been a long standing demand of all sectors of Indian industry.

- (d) At present, machine tools attract duty at varying rates of 40%, 60% and 80%. I propose to simplify the structure by charging duty at 35% or 45% only.
- (e) With the reduction of duty on finished capital goods it is necessary to reduce the customs duty on steel, which is a key input. I propose to reduce the customs duty on steel from a range of 75% to 85% at present to 50%. Import duties on primary forms of major non-ferrous metals copper, zinc and lead are also being unified at 50%. These proposals will give a strong boost to investment in the economy and will help the domestic capital goods industry, in particular.

To help domestic metal producers, the import duties on all ores and concentrates are being reduced and unified at 10%. To reduce the cost of inputs for the secondary steel sector, I propose to reduce import duty on melting scrap from 12.5% to 10% and on iron ore pellets from 15% to 10%.

In order to give a thrust to the export efforts of our leather industry, which is a major export earner, and is also employment intensive, I propose to reduce import duty on a large number of

items of machinery and raw materials used in this industry from rates varying from 25% to 50% at present to a uniform level of 20% without the addition of countervailing duty.

Electronics and telecommunication are vital for rapid economic development and can greatly contribute to generation of both additional employment and exports. I propose to rationalise the tariff structure for these sectors as follows:

- (a) The import duty on computer parts is being reduced from 80% to 50%. The duty on specified components is being reduced from 50% to 40% and on specified piece parts from 35% to 30%. The import duty on application software is being reduced from 85% to 20%.
- (b) In order to encourage the telecommunication sector, I propose to reduce import duty on non-electronic parts for the manufacture of such equipment from 50% to 40% and on optical fibre from 85% to 40% to encourage manufacture of optical fibre cables in our own country.

The domestic watch industry has a significant growth potential. To enable this industry to become internationally competitive, and help to reduce the scope of smuggling I propose to reduce the import duty on certain items of machinery for the industry from 50% at present to 25%. I also propose to reduce the duty on certain components and raw materials for the watch industry from 70% and 50% at present to 25% and 20% respectively.

The present import duty structure for medical equipment is highly complex and involves in some cases time consuming administrative procedure. The domestic industry is also not able to compete with imported equipment because it is now available duty-free to hospitals on production of certificates by designated authorities. In order to remove the above hindrances, I propose to abolish the system of certification for charitable hospitals and freely permit import of specified medical equipment at 15% without any countervailing duty. The list of such equipment is being separately notified and can be expanded on merits. Import at zero rate for government hospitals and for all specified life saving and sight saving equipment is, however, being continued. Import duty on other medical equipment which is at present 85% is being reduced to 40%. Components for their manufacture will be allowed to be imported at 15% customs duty. This differential will help manufacture of medical equipment by our indigenous industry.

The import duty structure for coal and petroleum is also being simplified. Crude petroleum and coal will attract import duty of 35% as against Rs. 1500 per metric tonne and 85% respectively. Duty on coke is being reduced from 85% to 25%. LPG and other petroleum gases will attract import duty at 15%. Naphtha and kerosene will continue to be exempted from basic customs duty. Other petroleum products will attract an import duty of 30%. These changes do not affect the administered prices of petroleum products to consumers.

The present import duty structure for chemicals provides for a lower rate of duty of 15% for the basic feed stocks and peak rate of 85% for the finished

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chemicals. The overall dispersal of the rates is being reduced by the reduction of peak rate to 65%. In addition, duties on DMT, PTA and MEG are being reduced from 70% to 60% and on intermediates like xylenes and toluene, the duty is being reduced from 40% to 30%. The 15% rate for basic feed stocks has been kept undisturbed.

In the pharmaceutical sector, import duty on a large number of raw materials which at present varies from 85% to 50% is being lowered to two rates of 50% or 25%. In a few cases, there has been some upward adjustment of import duty having regard to the need to protect the interest of domestic manufactures of drug intermediates.

While I have no doubt that the phased reduction of customs tariffs is essential for the longer term interest of our industry, I am also fully aware of the concern of some industries about the dumping of certain imported goods at artificially low prices. I assure the House that our anti dumping provisions will be reviewed and further strengthened, if necessary.

I now turn to my proposals for central excise.

This Budget proposes a major reform of the excise tax structure as part of our programme of modernising our tax system. The principal features of this restructuring are:

- Extension of modvat to capital goods and petroleum products;
- Shift in the bulk of excise taxation from specific to *ad*

valorem rates which will assure much greater built-in buoyancy of revenues.

- Reduction in the total number of *ad valorem* tax rates to about half the existing number which will be a major step towards simplicity and transparency;
- Continuing the process of lowering rates when they are unduly high;
- Application of uniform rates for similar commodities to the extent possible. This will reduce classification problems, scope for misuse and widespread litigation;
- Removal of complicated price list procedure;
- Reduction of the number of special exemption notifications by about half.

These steps will promote growth of manufacturing output and employment, will make tax administration easier, less discretionary and also reduce the scope for misclassification corruption disputes and evasion. They will increase revenue elasticity and pave the way for an eventual adoption of a Value Added Tax.

Inevitably, a major restructuring involves changes in many rates for several products as products have to be reclassified into fewer rate categories. Furthermore, duty rates have been adjusted in some cases to compensate for loss of revenue because of the

extension of Modvat. However, I have ensured that items of mass consumption are not burdened by higher taxes. For example, full exemption continues for many goods such as handloom products, unbranded drugs, domestic electric bulbs, bicycles, baby food, cooking oil spices, jams, jellies, sauces, tea and coffee. And care has been taken not to raise the rates on, for example sugar, matches and vanaspati. I repeat there should be no adverse effect on prices of essential items of consumption of the common man as a result of these proposals.

I will now highlight a few major areas of special interest.

Sir, the House may recall that the Modvat scheme was introduced in 1986. Its subsequent extension has greatly helped to reduce the cascading effect of input taxes. But the coverage remains incomplete. Petroleum products, textiles, matches tobacco products and capital goods had been left out of the scheme. There is a persistent demand from industry to make the scheme more comprehensive. I now propose to extend the Modvat scheme to two important sectors namely, capital goods and petroleum products.

I propose to rationalise the structure for petroleum products. At present, the excise duty rates are specific. There are numerous exemptions depending on the end use. I propose to replace the existing specific rates by a uniform *ad valorem* rate of 10% on all petroleum products with the exception of motor spirit which will attract duty of 20%. End use exemptions will be virtually eliminated. Existing concessions for the fertilizer industry are, however, being continued. These changes have no impact on the administered prices of these items.

The current duty structure for cotton and man made fabrics is a combination of *ad valorem* and specific rates. I propose to switch over to *ad valorem* rates of 5%, 10% and 20% only instead of the numerous specific and *ad valorem* rates currently prevailing.

The present excise duty structure on fibres and yarns is highly complicated and different specific rates are prescribed for different varieties of yarn and fibres. This has required frequent testing of samples to determine the correct duty liability. In order to obviate all problems of classification and to make the excise duty neutral as between various fibres and yarns, I propose to impose a uniform excise duty of 20% on all fibres and blended or spun yarns. On cotton yarn, excise duty is, however, proposed at 5% only instead of the present complex and varying specific rates depending on the count of the yarn. As regards filament yarns, revenue consideration preclude moving to a uniform excise duty. I have thus proposed an *ad valorem* duty rate of 60% for polyester filament yarn, 30% for nylon and polypropylene yarn and 15% for viscose filament yarn. For industrial yarns, lower rates of 30%, 20% and 10%, have been prescribed. The scheme of Modvat is being extended to yarns made from fibres. With this Modvat will cover all yarns. These changes are largely a simplification and rationalisation of the structure. Combined with the reduction in customs duties, they should help to moderate prices in this sector.

I propose to fix a uniform duty of 15% on all metals, except aluminium for which the duty will be 20% as against 25% now. However, a lower duty of 10% will be available to pig iron and certain other products of iron.

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The excise duty structure on drugs differentiates between Schedule I, Schedule II and other drugs. Schedule I drugs which are for the National Health Programme and are under price control are fully exempted from excise duty. This will continue. Single formulations of Schedule II drugs attract excise duty at 10% while other branded drugs pay excise duty at 15%. I propose to unify these rates at 15%. I propose to charge a moderate 10% excise duty on branded ayurvedic and homoeopathic medicines and medicines of other alternative systems. At present, bulk drugs producers cannot get full benefit of Modvat credit because the excise duty on bulk drugs is 5% which is too low. This is being raised to 10% to enable them to get full credit. Unbranded drugs, however, will continue to be exempted from excise duty.

In order to simplify the duty structure for various chemicals and chemical based products like dyes, paints, tanning preparations, etc, I am proposing a uniform duty of 20% on such products instead of present rates varying from 5% to 25%. A uniform duty of 30% is being proposed for major bulk plastic, synthetic paints and detergents, which currently attract 35%.

The paper duty structure is complicated due to ad-valorem rates of nil, 10%, 15%, 25%, 30%, specific rates and specific cum ad-valorem rates. This is now being simplified by making the general rate of duty on paper at 20%, keeping nil rate for newsprint, stationery articles etc, 30% for paper based laminates and floor coverings and 10% or 15% for paper made from unconventional raw materials. I am enlarging the scope of the exemption currently available to paper

mills using unconventional raw materials. This exemption currently limits the benefit by clubbing the clearances of paper from more than one factory of a manufacturer. I am now allowing this concession to be availed of by each factory separately. This was done at the specific suggestion of the State of West Bengal. I sincerely hope that Jyoti Basu will respond by not ill treating the gallant Mamata Banerjee.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Balpur): I do not want to interrupt now. But such comments are not justified. This does not behove the Finance Minister.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: The duty rate of 70% applicable to cosmetics and similar personal care products are too high for items which are now increasingly forming part of the consumption basket of ordinary people. The rate is, therefore, being reduced to 50%.

I am also proposing certain changes in the general small scale industry exemption scheme. At present only registered units are eligible for concessions upto a clearance value of Rs. 75 lakhs. Non-registered units can get exemption only up to Rs. 30 lakhs. I propose to do away with this distinction so that small scale units can get the exemption meant for them irrespective of whether they are registered or not. This will satisfy one of the major demands of small scale industry. The scope of the small scale exemption scheme is also being expanded to cover a number of additional items including certain iron, steel and copper products.

Under the present scheme, a small unit manufacturing goods under the brand name of another unit is entitled to duty concession only if the brand name does not belong to a large unit. There have

been reports of bigger units avoiding payment of duty by getting their brand names registered in the name of smaller units. This does not allow a small manufacturer to promote his own brand. With the advent of international brand names in the country, it is necessary to check the misuse of the scheme in the interest of domestic industry. I, therefore, propose that the benefit of duty concession would not be available to clearances of goods bearing the brand names of another manufacturer.

One of the persistent demands of the small scale industries has been to allow them to pay duty even though they are otherwise entitled to exemption as this will enable their customers to claim the benefit of Modvat credit. There is considerable merit in this request, and I propose to give the option to those who will like to exercise it.

It may be recalled that in the last budget, in order to give encouragement to the ship breaking industry, basic customs duty on ships for breaking up was reduced to 5%. Countervailing duty was payable in addition. Ferrous metals obtained from breaking up of ships were consequently exempted from excise duty. There have been some disputes regarding liability of countervailing duty on ships for breaking up. In order to obviate the disputes, I propose to exempt ships for breaking up from countervailing duty and correspondingly adjust the basic customs duty to 15%. For the ship breaking industry, all goods obtained from such breaking up are also proposed to be exempted from excise duty so that ship breaking activity is completely outside the excise control.

As I am continuing the specific rates of duties on cigarettes, and these have

remained unchanged for two years despite an increase in price, I propose to increase the duties on cigarettes by about 12%. However, in the non-filter segment, the excise duty for upto 60 mm category is being reduced from Rs. 120 per thousand to Rs. 60 per thousand, for increased utilisation of tobacco in this industry, which would in turn help the tobacco growers. I must confess that I had doubt about the latter concession. But I have always believed that when in doubt, act as the poet said: "A bold peasantry, their country's pride; when once destroyed can never be supplied." In the interest of tobacco growers I am agreeing to this concession.

Over the years, while attempts have been made to widen the base for domestic indirect taxes, the services sector has not been subjected to taxation. Yet this sector accounts for about 40% of our GDP and is showing strong growth. There is no sound reason for exempting services from taxation, when goods are taxed and many countries treat goods and services alike for tax purposes. The Tax Reforms Committee has also recommended imposition of tax on services as a measure for broadening the base of indirect taxes. I, therefore, propose to make a modest effort in this direction by imposing a tax on services of telephones, non-life insurance and stock brokers. The tax will be payable at 5% on the amount of telephone Bills, the net premium charged by the insurance companies, and the brokerage or commission charged by the stock broker and they have given me enough trouble in the last one year in relation to their services. These proposals will come into force from a date to be notified later on.

The existing system of determination of value of goods for

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charging excise duty is cumbersome and time consuming. It involves filing of price lists in advance by the assessee and their approval by the excise officer. The process has to be followed whenever there is a change in the price. As a measure of procedural simplification, I have decided to dispense with the requirement of price lists. The assessee will now be allowed to pay excise duty on the basis of the value arrived at from the invoice. I am sure that this facility will be widely welcome by the industry. This will also help lay the ground for eventual adoption of a value added tax system which relies on invoice value.

The details of the revenue implications of the measures announced are given in the Explanatory Memorandum to the Finance Bill.

I have also proposed certain other amendments in the Finance Bill seeking to effect changes in the Customs Act, and Excise and Customs Tariffs. The amendments are merely enabling provisions and do not have significant revenue implications. Besides, there are proposals for amendment of some of the existing notifications. In order to save the time of the House, I do not propose to recount them.

Copies of notifications giving effect to the above changes in customs and excise duties will be laid on the Table of the House in due course

I now turn to my direct tax proposals for 1994-95.

I propose to carry forward the basic philosophy which has guided our tax reforms of moving to a simpler system

with moderate rates of tax and a much greater reliance on broadening the base, with better tax administration.

I have received numerous representations from workers, trade unions, and other bodies representing middle class citizens for raising the exemption limit for income tax which is now Rs. 30,000. I am persuaded that there is merit in the demand and I propose to raise the exemption limit to Rs. 35,000. With this, a salary or wage earner with a gross income of Rs. 50,000 will pay no income-tax. A working woman with a salary of Rs. 52,000 will also pay no tax.

And to oblige Shri Nitish Kumar and our friends in the Trade Union Movement, I wish to say:

"Mana Ki Teri Deed Ke Kabil Nahi Hun Mein.
Tu Mera Sauk Dekh, Mera Intzar To Kar."

I also propose to adjust the tax slabs which have not been changed for two years. At present, the first bracket is from Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 50,000 with a tax rate of 20 percent. Henceforth the first slab will be Rs. 35,000 to Rs. 60,000, with the same rate of 20 percent tax. The second slab at present is from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1,00,000 with a tax rate of 30 percent. Hereafter, the second slab will be Rs. 60,000 to Rs. 1,20,000 with the same rate of 30 percent tax. The maximum tax rate of 40 percent which at present applies to incomes above Rs. 1,00,000 will henceforth be applicable to incomes above Rs. 1,20,000.

I had stated last year that I was forced to retain the surcharge of 12 percent on non-corporate incomes for one more year. I was tempted to repeat the same thing this year. But then, I thought life is short and I have promises to keep. I therefore, I am happy to announce that I now propose to withdraw the surcharge completely.

Last year, I had indicated that while major reforms of the corporate tax structure are desirable they would have to be deferred by one year. I now propose to implement those promises implement these reforms which will help both our private and public sector companies to save more, invest more, and become more competitive.

At present, widely held companies are taxed at 45 per cent. While other domestic companies attract 50 per cent tax. I propose to do away with the distinction which now exists between the tax rates for widely held and closely held domestic companies and lower both rates to a single rate of 40 per cent.

All domestic companies having income exceeding Rs. 75,000 are currently liable to pay surcharge at the rate of 15 percent. Much as I would like to eliminate this surcharge, revenue constraints compel me to continue this levy for the present. The tax on companies incorporated abroad, but earning income in India, is 65 percent at present. In line with the general reduction in corporate tax rates, this rate is being reduced to 55 percent.

One of the consequences of our economic policies is the need to assist Indian companies to re-structure themselves to improve their competitive position in the market. This may call for divestment of part of the business assets or realisation of potential value form dormant assets, both of which will entail long-term capital gains tax. This Acts as a deterrent to re-structuring. The present rate of such long-term capital gains tax on domestic companies is 40 percent, whereas long-term capital gains of individuals are taxed at only 20 percent. I, therefore, propose to lower the rate of

capital gains tax on domestic companies to 30 percent.

I also propose that, just like shares, even units of Unit Trust of India and other approved Mutual Funds, if held for more than 12 months, will be treated as long-term capital assets, with consequential benefits; the required holding period for such units at present is 36 months. This will bring some welcome relief to investors in units who generally belong to lower middle or middle classes.

The rates of taxation of investment income (i.e. dividend and interest income) of non-residents vary with the tax status of the recipient. I propose to rationalise the scheme of such taxation by having a uniform rate of Rs. 20 percent on such income in the hands of all non-resident companies and non-resident individuals (be they Indians or foreign nationals).

Representations have been received from Non-Resident Indians that they should not lose their Non-Resident status even if they visit India and stay for more than 149 days. I propose to raise this period of stay to 181 days which is precisely what the NRIs have asked for.

Two years ago I introduced a special tax rebate for senior citizens (i. e., those aged 65 and above) at 10 percent of the tax due if their income was below Rs. 50,000. Last year I increased the tax rebate to 20 percent and also increased the income limit to Rs. 75,000 I now propose to raise the tax rebate admissible to them from 20 percent of the tax due to 40 percent and make the benefit available to senior citizens having income upto Rs. 1 lakh.

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In 1992, we had decided to club the income arising to a minor child with that of the parent. This causes undue hardship in cases involving handicapped children and their parents. In order that the post-tax income of a child who is physically handicapped is not reduced, I propose to exempt the incomes of such handicapped children from the provisions of clubbing, both under the Income-tax and Wealth tax Acts.

106. For enabling self-employed people particularly professionals to contribute to a pension fund to provide for security in their old age, the Unit Trust of India is going to set up a fund. I propose to include contributions to such a pension fund among the amounts which qualify for tax rebate under Section 88 of the Income-tax Act.

Investment in the development of human resources is an essential prerequisite for growth and progress. Several students take loans for their studies. As a means of helping students from poor families, who take loans from financial institutions, and to ensure that higher education in our country does not remain a monopoly of the rich and the very rich, I propose to allow a deduction from income of Rs. 25,000 per year on account of repayments of principal and payment of interest up to a cumulative total of Rs. 2 lakhs. This tax concession will be available to students who undertake graduate or post-graduate studies in Engineering, Medicine or Management, or post-graduate studies in Pure Sciences, applied sciences, Mathematics or Statistics.

Encouragement of science and technology is essential for promotion of

growth and for self reliance. At present, when an assessee makes a contribution to a National Laboratory under the aegis of Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Indian Council of Medical Research or Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, he or she gets a weighted deduction of 125 percent of the contribution as I provided last year. I propose to extend this benefit to all Universities, deemed Universities, Indian Institutes of Technology and scientific laboratories under the aegis of the Defence Research and Development Organization, the Department of Electronics, the department of Biotechnology and the Department of Atomic Energy.

Several Universities and Co-operative Societies have made representations that the tax exemption under section 10 (10C) for approved Voluntary Retirement Schemes should be extended to their employees. I propose to accept their representations.

A statement has already been made in the last session of Parliament, signifying Government's intention to exempt the incomes of Government Corporations established for the welfare of the backward classes. I propose to make legislative amendments for carrying out this commitment.

The system of community of property (COMMUNIAODOS BENS) is peculiar to the people living in Goa, Daman, Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli. Recently, certain judicial decisions have been handed down according to which business income of a Goanese family becomes taxable entirely in the hands of a single entity. The decisions affect the time-honoured method of dividing such income equally and assessing such

income separately in the hands of the husband and wife. I believe that a mere tax collector has no right to sow the seeds of discord in families. This I understand has given rise to unnecessary tensions and anxiety amongst the Goan couples. To set at rest all controversies in this area, I propose to make suitable amendments in the Income-tax Act to ensure that, excepting for salaries, any other income arising to the citizens governed by the system of community of property in Goa will be divided equally and assessed separately in the hands of the husband and the wife. I hope that when the time comes, the people of Goa will remember the hand that helps.

We have, in the last few years, liberalised the taxation of perquisites in the form of medical expenditure in the case of employees. I propose extending the scope of the benefit by including reimbursement of bills paid by employees to recognised private hospitals.

In order to give relief to those living in their own houses and as an incentive for house construction, I propose to raise the deduction on account of interest on borrowed capital for house construction from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000 for purposes of income tax. This will help a large number of middle class house holders who live in their own houses.

We have been implementing a simple presumptive scheme of taxation for the assesses in the unorganised sector for the past two years. The scheme was to have ended with this year. I propose to continue with the scheme. My hope is that more people will avail of this very simple scheme and come forward readily to contribute their mite to the national tax effort without any fear or inhibition.

In addition, I am introducing a new estimated income scheme for contractors with a turnover of upto Rs. 40 lakhs and for truck-owners who own upto ten trucks. In the case of contractors, the net profit will be estimated at 8 percent of the gross receipts. In the case of truck owners, the income will be estimated at Rs. 24,000 per truck per year for Light Commercial Vehicles and Medium Motor Vehicles, and Rs. 30,000 per truck per year for Heavy Transport Motor Vehicles. In both these cases, no further deduction on account of depreciation or interest or other expenses will be allowed. In both cases, the scheme is optional. This scheme is based on the recommendation of the Chelliah Committee on Tax Reforms. The scheme will be simple and free of irritants, and I expect an enthusiastic response.

Last year, I announced a five-year tax holiday to new industrial undertakings commencing production in States specified in the Eighth Schedule to the Income-tax Act. There have been repeated and widespread demands that the benefit should be extended to backward districts in other States. I had announced the setting up of a Study Group to go into this question. The Group's report has been received and is under consideration. As a stimulus to new investment in backward districts in other States of the country, I propose to extend this concession to such districts which are backward according to certain guidelines which will be prescribed.

Government has already announced its intention of allowing the deduction in respect of profits of new industrial undertakings engaged in the manufacture of items listed in the Eleventh Schedule of the Income-tax Act to large-scale units also, provided such units are set up in the backward States.

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enumerated in the Eighth Schedule. I propose to give legislative shape to this intention.

In order to continue to give encouragement to the export of computer software, I propose extending the exemption for such export profits for one more year.

We have an ambitious programme of attracting tourists to this country. It has been strongly urged that the present rate of tax on expenditure incurred in hotels discourages tourism. I, therefore, propose to reduce the rate of expenditure tax from 20 percent to 10 percent. I am doing so on the expectation on the assurance of my colleague. The Hon. Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism that the State Governments too will follow suit and reduce their taxation on hotels in order to encourage tourism within the country and attract more foreign tourists to our land.

Pollution control is of vital importance to all of us. I, therefore propose to include pollution control among the eligible projects for concession under section 35AC of the Income-tax Act, so that a person who makes a contribution to such a project can claim 100 percent of such contribution as a tax deduction.

The exemption limit for gift-tax is Rs. 30,000 and an additional exemption of Rs. 30,000 is available for gifts to dependant relatives on the occasion of marriage. Marriages are joyous occasions of family re-union, and honest tax-paying citizens have a right to be free from tax considerations as far as possible on such auspicious occasions. I, therefore, propose to raise the exemption for such

gifts on the occasion of marriage of a dependant relative from Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 1,00,000.

As conventionally estimated, the proposed changes in custom duties will result in a revenue loss of Rs. 2,981 crores and a revenue gain of Rs. 699 crores. On the Excise side, the revenue gain is anticipated at Rs. 2,106 crores and reliefs will amount to Rs. 2,000 crores. The effect of changes in Direct taxes will result in a loss of Rs. 1,075 crores in the personal income-tax collections and Rs. 1,355 crores in Corporation tax. The estimated loss on Expenditure-tax is Rs. 75 crores. Taking into account an estimated gain of Rs. 600 crores on account of taxes on services, the total net loss on account of tax measures by conventional methods of calculation amounts to Rs. 4,081 crores. The loss to the State on account of reliefs in personal income-tax is Rs. 625 crores and the gains on the Excise duty Rs. 148 crores. On the basis of these calculations, the Centre will suffer a net loss of Rs. 3604 crores.

Normally, a revenue loss of this magnitude at a time when the fiscal system is under pressure would require levy of additional taxes or an increase in existing rates. I have not followed this course of action for several reasons. The revenue loss calculations do not give any credit for simplification and rationalisation of the tax structure which will help revenue collections. Fiscal experts are near unanimous that there is considerable evasion of taxes in our system and that it is possible to reduce tax rates and yet mobilise additional revenue by improving tax administration and compliance. The simplification in the indirect tax structure that is now being introduced, will reduce the scope for discretion, disputes and litigation, all of which are a source of tax

evasion. The shift to ad-valorem excise duties will also add to buoyancy. I also propose to make a major effort at improving tax administration. Tax laws are going to be administered fairly and firmly. Computerisation, which has already begun in both Departments, is expected to further improve tax administration. I also hope that tax payers who have long argued for moderation in the rates of taxes and held out assurances that this would improve compliance, will now live up to their side of the bargain. They have, after all in the long run, the most to gain from the success of this experiment.

Economic life everywhere is characterised by great uncertainty. There is always the possibility that things may not work out the way I have assumed. Although one cannot be dogmatic in these matters, my considered view is that the risks involved in the course of action I have proposed, do not cross the limits of prudence. The consequence of postponing the tax reform, or of imposing additional taxes to offset the revenue loss as conventionally calculated, would be wholly unproductive in a situation where our economy is characterised by sizeable unutilized industrial capacity, record food stocks and comfortable foreign exchange reserves. Any such course could give a setback to the economic recovery which our country needs, and which is now on the horizon.

For these reasons, I do not propose to assume any revenue loss as a result of the Budget proposals. The Budget deficit will therefore remain at Rs. 6,000 crores and the fiscal deficit at Rs. 54,915 crores. At this level, the fiscal deficit will be around 6 percent of GDP. This is higher than I would like to see, but as I have said, all tax reforms involve some risks.

This Budget is being presented at a critical time for the economy. There are moments in history which call for determined and decisive action. The consequences of inaction or ill-designed responses can be horrendous and are felt for decades to come. June, 1991 was one such a moment. Thanks to the magnificent leadership provided by the Prime Minister Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, we have been successful in reversing the adverse tide in our fortunes. However, the task of national reconstruction is by no means over. It is by its very nature a task which should occupy us for the rest of the decade. But we pursue this task today from a stronger position. The economy has been restored to health and shows all the potential for rapid growth in the years ahead. Our agricultural sector is strong and well placed to respond to the new policies. Our industrial sector, both, private and public, has begun the difficult process of restructuring to face increasingly competitive market conditions. The climate for investment—both domestic and foreign—has vastly improved. The tax structure now proposed goes a long way towards the kind of modern tax system and moderate tax rates and an emphasis on compliance, which is the hallmark of all successful countries. I am confident that it will provide a strong stimulus for new investments, economic revival and international competitiveness which is what our economy needs today. The medium term objectives set out in the report of the Tax Reform Committee are now clearly within our reach.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Budget is inspired by a firm conviction that India has all the material and human resources to be a front-ranking nation of the world. We are on the threshold of a new century,

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indeed a new millennium. There are tremendous opportunities, provided we have the wisdom and foresight to seize them. There are also immense dangers if we falter or appear indecisive. Sir, this then is a time for hard work, for recapturing the high noon of idealism which inspired our freedom struggle, for a firm determination to hold aloft, undimmed and untarnished, the bright torch of India which, as Jawaharlal Nehru was fond of saying, embodies her great and eternal spirit so that its light reaches every home and rekindles hope, faith and courage, and pride in being an Indian. Let us strive tirelessly, as the great poet Rabindranath Tagore said in his famous prayer, to build an India where "the clear stream of reason has not lost its way into the dreary desert sand of dead habit". May we all be worthy of this noble task and of this ancient and sacred land of India.

With these words Sir, I commend the Budget to this august House.

18.43 hrs.

FINANCE BILL, 1994*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): I beg to

move for leave to introduce a Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1994-95.

MR SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1994-95."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH:
introduce the Bill.**

MR SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again on Tuesday, the 1st March, 1994, at 11.00 a.m.

18.44 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Tuesday, March 1, 1994 / Phalgun 10, 1915 (Saka)

* Published in Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 28.2.94

** Introduced with the recommendations of the President.