

**Eighth Series, Vol. XXXIII, No. 15**

**Thursday, November 26, 1987**  
**Agrahayana 5, 1909 (Saka)**

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Ninth Session**  
**(Eighth Lok Sabha)**



सत्यमेव जयते

***(Vol. XXXIII Contains No. 11 to 20)***

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

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*No. 15, Thursday, November 26, 1987/Agrahayana 5, 1909 (Saka)*

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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

Thursday, November 26, 1987/  
Agrahayana 5, 1909 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[M.R. SPEAKER in the Chair]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

#### Cleanliness in 'CGHS' Dispensaries and Maternity Centres

\*289. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints about unhygienic condition prevailing in CGHS Maternity Centres in Delhi particularly in Sector-VI, R.K. Puram, New Delhi.

(b) if so, the remedial steps being taken in this regard; and

(c) whether similar complaints have been received about the hospitals and dispensaries under their control and if so, the steps proposed to be taken to bring the hospitals and dispensaries upto a certain level acceptable to the norms laid down by the World Health Organisation for keeping hospitals and dispensaries clean?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c). The Government is aware that the hygienic conditions at Central Government Health Scheme Maternity Hospital in Sector V, Ramakrishna Puram require improvement. The main problem relates to the unsatisfactory drainage facilities. There is frequent clogging in the

drainage system which creates dampness in the walls and un-hygienic conditions. The clogging often takes place because the patients and their relatives throw solid and semi solid unwanted material in the toilets and sinks.

There are similar problems in the case of other hospitals and dispensaries under the control of Central Government.

In the case of central Govt. Health Services, Maternity and Gynaecology Hospital, Sector V, R.K. Puram measures have been initiated to rectify the problems. On receipt of the estimates from Central Public Works Department in April, 1987 for maintenance and repairs, a provision has been made in the Revised Estimates for 87/88 and work has already started. The following action has also been taken to improve the conditions of this hospital.

- Installation of Solar Water Heating System for providing a continuous supply of hot water;
- Extra storage tank to supply water in Operation theatre and Labour room;
- Installation of water softening plant to supply soft water for high pressure autoclaves;

The Government and Directorate General of Health Services are reviewing the position in the hospitals periodically and taking necessary measures to improve the conditions with the available resources. These measures are:

- (i) Arrangement for disposal of waste and infected materials;
- (ii) Improvement in the drainage system;
- (iii) Augmentation of water supply.

The Government is aware that in the publications of World Health Organisation, certain suggestions have been made in the planning of hospital services. These include disposal of wastage and infected materials as well as providing facilities for proper disposals of sewage and sullage.

In the major hospitals at Delhi there are periodical meetings with the officers of Central Public Works Department for taking remedial steps. The pressures on the hospitals at Delhi is steadily growing and it may not be always possible for the hospitals to cope up with the growing demands for services.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that proper arrangements for cleanliness have not been made in the hospitals of Delhi and the drainage system is also not proper. But she has not replied to our question regarding the non-availability of medicines in these hospitals. As per my information, proper facilities for cleanliness are not available in the dispensaries at Jangpura, Srinivaspuri, R.K. Puram and other areas. Due to the defective drainage system, walls are affected and which is adversely affecting the patients. Along with it, the medicines recommended by doctors are also not available. In this connection, will the hon. Minister tell us to what measures are being taken to tackle this problem and various other shortcomings as well?

[*English*]

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: We are fully aware that the CGHS hospitals need a little more attention. The hon. Member was asking about the medicines. There are 215 medicines included in the formulary and against that 192 medicines are available in the CGHS dispensaries. This shows that 92 per cent of the listed medicines are available in the dispensaries, all over, and the medicines which are not included in the formulary but are prescribed by the

specialists, specially in Delhi, such medicines are purchased from the Super Bazaar and supply of such medicines is made within a period of one to three days. The Medical Officer in charge of the dispensary is also authorised to procure the formulary medicines and keep a buffer stock of 15 days' requirement, from the Super Bazaar.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, people are not able to get medicines even after taking several rounds of the hospitals. As a result, they have to waste a lot of time and face unnecessary difficulties and ultimately their suffering is prolonged. Can you not make such arrangements by which medicines could be stored in the hospital itself and distributed to the patients? Secondly, regarding the hospitals which are not under Central Government, I want to ask whether there is any proposal to bring them under the control of the Central Government? In view of the increasing population it becomes essential to ensure that proper arrangements are made in such hospitals. As facilities are not available to most of us at home, the new born and mother in confinement both go to the hospitals, but there too unhygienic conditions prevail and various other difficulties like non-availability of medicines etc. are also there. In this connection, is there any proposal to constitute a Parliamentary Committee so that the system could be streamlined?

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: The hon. Member has asked whether we will constitute a Parliamentary Committee. I don't think that we require to set up a Parliamentary Committee. The doctor incharge of the hospital is supposed to look after all such matters. In regard to the medicines, I have already stated that 92 per cent of the listed medicines are available in the dispensaries. Where such medicines are not available, a branch of Super Bazaar is attached and from where medicines are brought for distribution among the patients.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Minister is aware that in West Bengal 100 people had died because of encephalitis and now it has become an epidemic and many people are scared about this. If the State Government is not taking interest, will the hon. Minister... (*Interruptions*)

This is very serious question. Do not laugh. Sir, 100 people have died and the State Government is not doing anything. (*Interruptions*) I want to know whether the hon. Minister will send a medical team and medicines to rescue the people there (*Interruptions*)

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: Today the Question in the House is on the cleanliness in CGHS dispensaries and maternity centres in Delhi. To reply to what the hon. Member is mentioning here, I need a separate question. I will definitely answer it (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Bhoi.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: One hundred people have died. Will you send a medical team there? (*Interruptions*)

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: We will get the information from the West Bengal Government and to do the needful.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: West Bengal Government will not give it (*Interruptions*)

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to seek from the Madam Minister certain clarifications. She has replied that the question is on maternity centres and not on gynaecology. What are the guidelines or criteria of the World Health Organisation? I want to know whether criteria for maintenance of maternity centres, child health care Centres or Maternity Hospitals commensurate with the Bhor Committee recommendations, which was enunciated by Pandit Jawahar-

lal Nehru and if so, what are the preventive and curative steps the government of India has taken to eradicate or curb these complaints?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): It is not possible to answer this in the Question Hour. This is a specific Question and a specific answer has been given.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the soul of a country is the health of its population and the condition of health in Delhi and right in front of the eyes of the hon. Minister is such that.....

MR. SPEAKER: Come to the specific question, leave your souls and gods aside.....

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM: I want to know from the hon. Minister regarding the hospitals or health centres set up at the block and Tehsil levels. There is not a single doctor in the hospitals at Chhota Nagpur and, therefore you should send a central team to Bihar Government and get the report.....

MR. SPEAKER: You give it in writing, I will forward your letter .

[English]

#### Autonomous Colleges in Orissa

\*290. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of colleges in Orisa pending approval as autonomous colleges and whether any limit has been fixed for number of colleges;

(b) the number of applications which have been received from Government as well as private colleges to convert those colleges; and



(c) whether K.S.U.B. College at Bhanjanagar in Berhampur University has applied to convert the college as autonomous college, if so, what steps has been taken in this regard?

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The Programme of Action to implement the National Policy on Education envisages the development of about 500 autonomous colleges by the end of the Seventh Plan. No Statewise allocation of this number has been made.

(b) According to information available, 8 colleges in Orissa have applied for autonomous status to the Universities concerned.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Berhampur University has decided that no college affiliated to it might be conferred autonomous status for the present.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Mr. Speaker Sir, in Orissa, besides Agriculture University and Sanskrit University, there are three other Universities - Berhampur University, Utkal University and Sambalpur University. In all these three Universities, there is no elected syndicate or Vice Chancellor. Only Administrators are running the show and, many times, decisions taken by these Universities are arbitrary.

The hon. Minister has replied that eight colleges in these three Universities, most probably, have applied for autonomous status. I would like to know which are those colleges and to which University they have applied and what is the fate of those colleges getting autonomy? The U.G.C. has circulated detailed guidelines for giving autonomous status to the colleges. Amongst others, it is stated that a

representative of the U.G.C. as well as that of the State Government will consider all the applications of the affiliated colleges of that University and recommend to the U.G.C. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether in the Berhampur University this procedure is being followed; if so, who is the representative of the U.G.C. who attended the meeting? Is it a fact that it is necessary for a college, which wants to get an autonomous status, to have post degree classes there?

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has put so many questions, together but I want to reply to the main question only. (*Interruptions*)

I have understood the intention of the hon. Member behind asking this question and I want to clarify his query howsoever detailed it may be. So far as conferring of autonomous status is concerned, it is the responsibility of the U.G.C. The criterion is also decided by the University Grants Commission. But as the hon. Member has stated, we will have to make an amendment in the statute or the Act of Berhampur University for that purpose.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH RATH: This Minister has mentioned the criteria. I want to know whether guidelines are being followed.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Of course, definitely they are being followed.

[*Translation*]

This matter is between the State Government and the University. Still I want to assure the hon. Member that we have received an assurance from the Education Minister of the State to take immediate action in this regard. Presently, the situation is that we have not yet received any specific proposal from any University of Orissa so far and neither has the U.G.C.

received any proposals of this nature. A total number of 8 applications have reached us which include K.S.U.G. college, Bhanjanagar, which is under Berhampur University, Gangadhar Mehar College, Regional Engineering College, Rourkela under Sambhalpur University, and 5 colleges under Utkal University, which include, M.P.C. College, Cuttack, N.C. College, Jeypore, Government College, Angul, Chaiwala Womens' College Cuttack. In this way application from 8 colleges under 3 Universities have reached us.

[English]

UGC has been requesting the three Universities to expedite their recommendations about these colleges. The Sambalpur University has informed the Commission that the statute of the University is still to be amended to make provision for conferring autonomous status on colleges. The matter is pending with the State Government of Orissa.

[Translation]

We have not received any reply from Utkal University. I have informed about Sambhalpur. We have received applications from eight colleges of three Universities. If the hon. Member wants information about something else, he may ask

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH RATH: I am sorry to say that my supplementary question is not at all answered. And it is also not understood in view of the answer given to my main question. This is not a dispute between the State Government or the Universities. This is the national education policy of the country. Education is in the Concurrent List. The hon. Minister has replied in the first question that according to new education policy of the Government of India it is envisaged that 500 colleges are going to be developed to the autonomous status. So it is not the duty of the State Government or the Universities of the

State but it is a national issue. It is not that the statute of the University should be amended. It is for the Central Government and UGC to see that the education policy is implemented. It may so happen that some States may not like to implement this policy. So I would like to know from the hon. Minister what attitude is the Central Government going to take under these circumstances, and what is the attitude of the Orissa Government.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Sir, we have written to all States and it is correct that we want to grant autonomous status to 500 colleges by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan. Till January 1987, we have been able to give autonomous status to only 67 colleges. The U.G.C. has approved only 67 colleges. Among them, 45 colleges are newly established and 22 are old. The matter is under process with regard to colleges in Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra. The Department of Education of the Central Government has been giving directions to all the State Governments in this regard and UGC is also taking follow up action. This matter came under discussion in the C.A.B.E. meeting in 1987 as well. Except West Bengal, every State Government has given its consent and all of them want it to be enforced.

[English]

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister what are the criteria for the autonomous colleges to be approved by the UGC and the Union Government? According to the answer given by the hon. Minister, some colleges from Orissa have applied to the UGC to make them autonomous. So, may I know what is the criteria because the hon. Minister, while answering the question, has told that the Universities have not given their consent and the State Governments are not giving their consent. So, may I know that in case there is no consent from the concerned university and the State Government, will the UGC consider their

cases? If so, what are the conditions in which those colleges are to be considered by the UGC?

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Mr Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has asked two questions. The first is regarding the criteria. With regard to criteria, I want to say that quality of education imparted, results and educational efficiency come under it. Educational achievements will also be taken into consideration. The selection procedure adopted in a particular college with regard to appointment of teachers and admission of students shall also be taken into consideration. It shall also be taken into consideration whether the material facilities like library and other requirements of an educational institution are available or not. Apart from that, the various financial sources available will also be taken into consideration. These are the criteria. In other words, autonomy will be granted to only those colleges which fulfil the above-mentioned requirements. What is the next question asked by the hon. Member.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA. In case a college does not fulfil the criteria and it requests for an autonomous status, what will be the response to its request?

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on one hand we have the question of conferring autonomous status and on the other hand, it is said that if the concerned State Governments do not recommend for conferring autonomous status on certain colleges, then what can the Central Government do about it? We have given directions to the State Governments repeatedly and have instructed the U.G.C. to take follow up action. U.G.C. is taking follow-up action. U.G.C. is not inactive. Therefore, the hon. Member should not worry so much.

[*English*]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Speaker, Sir ..... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Why have you stood up?

MR. SPEAKER: He also wants to become autonomous

[*English*]

He is joining the autonomous college.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, according to the answer, the target of development of autonomous colleges to the tune of 500 is to be reached by the end of the Seventh Plan and there are only two years to go. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: For the Government?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: No, for the completion of the Seventh Plan. And also for the conclusion of the Congress (I) Government at Delhi. Sir, no beginning has so far been made at all. Not a single college has received the status of autonomous college. So, I would like to know what exactly are the bottlenecks in the development of this particular project and who is the final deciding authority in regard to conferment of status of autonomous college.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Mr Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has perhaps wanted to know as to why has this policy not been implemented so far? In reply I can only say that teachers and students are apprehensive of new experiments and students know very well as to how teachers resist all those new schemes which demand more accountability from them. The students do not want it, because it would involve new syllabus, detailed development of the systems and constant and comprehensive evaluation etc. which will be an additional burden on them. It can be recommended only after the doubts of the people are removed. The teachers organisations have also somewhat

opposed it. It is so, because the University will no longer be in control, but its control will be transferred to the college management. It is due to this fear that the teachers Organisations do not want colleges to become autonomous. But it is not that we will not implement this policy. Government will make every effort for such constructive purposes.

*(Interruptions)*

[English]

**Research in Vedic Mathematics about its Utility for Computer Calculations.**

\*291. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen press reports (Times of India dated 3 September, 1987) that in Britain, Researchers have found that Vedic mathematics has been found very useful in checking results of computer calculations and is opening new vistas in other fields also;

(b) if so, the researches made till now in India and being proceeded further relating to Vedic mathematics and its applications; and

(c) the names of such projects and Government's efforts to encourage them?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c). Some scholars in India are known to be engaged in the study and propagation of Vedic Mathematics. The Rashtriya Ved Vidya Pratishthan which has recently been set up, is considering the preparation of a project to encourage Vedic mathematics and its applications to computer calculations.

[English]

DR. A. K. PATEL: Reply given to my question is quite vague. I would like to know from the hon. Minister in which countries the simple methods of Vedic Mathematics are being taught and what decision the Government of India has taken to provide the same opportunities to the students in our country, in the Kendriya Vidyalayas which are under the direct control of the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): It is rather a difficult subject. Vedic Mathematics has been discovered after a very long time after centuries of having been ignored. Some scholars have ...

[Translation]

SHRI V. TULSIRAM: What is Vedic Mathematics? Please clarify. We are not able to understand it.

MR. SPEAKER: Some classes would be held for your benefit.

SHRI V. TULSIRAM: What is Vedic Mathematics?

AN HON. MEMBER: You will not be able to follow.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: I want to request hon. Shri Narasimha Rao to explain the meaning of Vedic Mathematics to Shri Tulsiramji, because he thinks it to be linked with Ayurveda.

SHRI V. TULSIRAM: I want to understand it and that is why I have asked about it.

MR. SPEAKER: Term 'Ayurvedic' also contains the term Vedic.

[English]

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: The very

fact that the subject matter of the question is so difficult to understand that Members want to know what it is. It is a proof that this subject has been more or less ignored for many many centuries. Only in 1961 for the first time one great scholar, vedic scholar of India, the Shankracharya (of, not Puri) that is what I really wanted to say - Bhartiya Krishna Shankracharya Goverdhan, has brought out a book in which he has given the sixteen sutras in the Vedic Law.

[*Translation* ]

MR. SPEAKER: Now he will ask as to what is the source?

[*English*]

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: And he has proved that all complicated computations can be made on the basis of these sutras in a very much easier manner than what we have been following so far. Today, Sir, we understand, that in the 1960s for instance, we had gone in for what was called neo-mathematics. There was a lot of criticism a lot of resistance. Neo-mathematics laid greater stress on numbers and now the whole computer conceptualisation is based on numbers. We are used to decimal. Now, there is also hexa-decimal where 16 is the base, as we used to have annas for instance. Four paise make one anna and sixteen annas make one rupee. Now, that has been changed to tens. In the computer field, it is the binary, that is, only two is the base. What we understand by the binary calculation today was available in the Vedic texts, say thousand of years ago. This is what has been discovered. Now, lots of work are going on, on the Vedic law. It is not just Vedas themselves. They are called Upa-Vedas. Actually "Sthapathya", for instance the architecture, the temple architecture, which has stood the test of the time of thousand years is not a part of the Veda by itself. It has been called the Upa-Veda which is an offshoot of the Veda and that is how all this great knowledge has come to stay.

Now, one Professor in California Uni-

versity called Prof. Briggs has written an article in which he has said it is fantastic to think that apart from discovering zero, the great scholars of India were also aware of binary and other numbers which have become the base of this computer concept today. Now, we have to go deep into this. There is the 'Prathishtan' which has been established only a few months ago. We have asked them to look into this. In fact, the 'Prathishtan' is meant to do this, not merely the text of the Vedas in the spiritual field. It is not that at all. They are going to correlate the text of the Vedas and the Vedantas and Upa-Vedas to modern times and see what more can be unvelled which perhaps even the Westerners are not aware of at the moment. So, this is the kind of work which has been entrusted apart from other kinds of work. So, let us give them a chance to do something. Sir a lot of things are coming to light. Now, the prospects seems to be quite encouraging.

DR. A.K. PATEL: What decision has been taken by the Government for the reconstruction of the 16 volumes written by Swami Bharati Krishna Teertha? His manuscripts are lost.

SHRI. P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: I have already said that this matter has been entrusted to an Expert Body, experts of Vedas will be working on this body and they will be looking into this.

DR. A.K. PATEL: Can you give the names of the scholars employed for this project?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: The whole 'Prathishtan' has to look into it first, then they have to set up a Committee for this purpose. To that stage, we have not yet come. The 'Prathishtan' has been established only three or four months back. This is a very new institution. We will certainly look into this. We are all interested and we are interested to see it, may be we could give something back to the Western scholars by saying that what they do not yet know was known in the Vidic times.

**Revival of Shipping Industry**

\*292. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:  
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently finalised the measures to revive shipping industry and framed guidelines for rehabilitation of viable companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the measures proposed by Government will help the shipping industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). A statement is given below:

**SATATEMENT**

(a) to (c) The recent measures taken by the Government to revive shipping industry include providing financial assistance to viable shipping companies through rehabilitation proposals, helping shipping companies in getting more percentage of share of Indian Cargo, simplifying procedures for acquisitions and scrapping of vessels, encouraging acquisition of specialised modern fuel efficient vessels etc. The guidelines framed by the Government with the help of Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India Ltd. for rehabilitation of viable Private Sector shipping companies include moratorium on repayment of loans, interest holiday for a limited period, rescheduling the repayment of loans etc. These measures would help the potentially viable shipping companies to overcome the adverse effects of the long global recession and lead to creation of a stronger and financially viable shipping industry.

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Sir, Government has been executing a number of rehabilitation schemes for the shipping industry in the face of global recession which has adversely affected the small

Indian Shipping companies. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Indian Shipping companies including the Shipping Corporation of India are mostly buying Korean built ships which are not suitable for our purpose

There are a lot of offers from western European countries like Denmark, France and West Germany with great facilities. If so, why this offer has not been considered properly in place of Korean and Japanese suppliers?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the main question which the hon. Member has put to the Department was on the shipping companies and what the Government is doing to rehabilitate them. The Supplementary that the hon. Member is trying to ask is whether offers of purchasing ships from some countries have come whether we consider them or not. I think better he puts a separate question on this subject

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Sir, last December a Planning Group as set up to go into the question of preparing a perspective plan for modernisation of shipping industry. I understand that this Group's Report has come. I would like to know what are the recommendations made by the Planning Group.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, it was an Empowered Committee which was set up to look into this matter and this subject has been transferred to the Finance Ministry. Under the Chairmanship of the Finance Secretary this Committee is working. I think the Finance Ministry will give you more information on the subject.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, the Scindia Steam Navigation is one of the oldest shipping industries now in our country, which is on the verge of closure, liquidation. May I know from the Minister whether there is any proposal to save this one of the oldest shipping industries of our country, Scindia Steam Navigation?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir,

it is a fact that one of the very old and rather oldest shipping company's the country is proud to call is Scindia.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): Thank you very much.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Madhav is feeling happy over this. It is unfortunate that the Company has landed up in this situation

Sir, the main reason of this Company coming to this state has been due to various factors and the main factor has been mismanagement of the Company. Then we have been noting that shipping has gone into recession, all shipping companies must think of diversification which they could not do and of course, that major factor has to be taken into account. Sir, in 1920 when this Company started, they had 40 ships and were one of the biggest in the country, but slowly and slowly because of various factors they landed up with assets of Rs. 85 crores and outstanding of Rs. 165 crores and overdue from the Government is roughly Rs. 135 crores. It is under the consideration of the Government, we have given them lot of options, how they can manage and give a feeling to the Government that the Exchequer's money is being utilised for the national cause and for a right cause. If Government is satisfied with these proposals and they come out with viability, Government will help them

SHRI ANAND SINGH: I just wanted to know this. The answer says, "...include providing financial assistance to viable shipping companies..." I would like to know how much money has been allotted in this Plan for this purpose.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, it is not the amount which matters. There are nearly 17 companies which had asked for viability assessment and out of 17, nine have been recommended for the benefits which we discussed with the shipping companies,

Finance Ministry and Surface Transport Ministry and six have been advised to wind up because they are not in a viable condition, and two are still under consideration. Amount is certainly not a factor because Government is fully aware that shipping is in recession. And we are also happy to inform the House that with this heavy recession our shipping industry has sustained itself in comparison to developed countries, where the Government is going beyond the imagination as to how much help to be given to the shipping industry, but whatever, little our country, our national Government, could afford, with that effort we have sustained the recession to a great extent. On Government part, as I have been mentioning in the House and at other functions Government have made whatever possible efforts in supporting the companies to face recession in terms of cargo support, in providing financial assistance and giving loan holidays and other major measures that could be possible

SHRI ANAND SINGH: The Question clearly says, what is the financial assistance.

MR. SPEAKER: He says, that is not the question.

SHRI ANAND SINGH: He has given that. But how much is he providing as financial assistance? He says, money does not matter. Then, what does matter?

DR. DATTA SAMANT: All the shipping industries in the country are facing the crisis. *(Interruptions)* I have no union there. Regarding Scindia Shipping Company and Mechanese Co in Bombay something is happening. Their share capital is only Rs. 180 crores. But so far about Rs. 700 crores or Rs. 800 crores from the banks as loan, from the Government money have been spent by these companies. But these people are not modernising the industry.

MR. SPEAKER: You put the question.

DR. DATTA SAMANT: I am going to ask the hon. Minister whether instead of giving

them such finances and all these things, why don't you do one thing. India is having a big coast and there is a lot of import and export. Why do you not take over these industries? Otherwise, the process will go on. You nationalise and take over, all these industries. Shipping industry has a parallel and good transport.

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT:** With your permission, I would just clarify the hon. Member's point. What I said was, we cannot really earmark that this money is allocated to revive the shipping industry. Whatever their requirement, that has to be seen. Some company may be just requiring loan holiday, no repayment. Some company may be requiring some more extra loan to continue the unit. I do say, whatever possible financial assistance required, we are for it, so that they can become viable. In case they cannot become viable, there is no question of any financial quota putting for it.

I will just read the measures which have been taken to face recession and make the companies viable so that the whole House knows about it.

- (i) Restructuring of the shipping industry by weeding out unviable units.
- (ii) Strengthening the capital structure of viable shipping companies.
- (iii) Encouraging non-shipping companies to diversify into shipping and diversification of shipping companies to offshore sector.
- (iv) Continuation of existing system of priorities in chartering of ships.
- (v) Providing cargo support to Indian shipping companies.
- (vi) Adopting a flexible policy on acquisition of second-hand ships. Earlier it was not there.

We have put a time limit. When a company asks for acquisition of ships, within 4 or 6 weeks, the company has to be told, "Yes or No" Earlier it used to take years together. The company is to earmark the ship and by the time, the ship is sold off. Government was not giving permission in time. So, we have simplified all these procedures

Then, there is reviewing the scrapping policy. Earlier, for scrapping, companies have to go and take the permission of Customs, and pay customs. Now, we have put it under O.G. licence. Any time, if the ship is to be scrapped, no delay is done in that. In the same way, we are also trying restructuring maritime training with changing technology. These are the measures.

As I mentioned earlier the main support which we are trying to give is cargo support. Earlier, when they used to import things, they used to come in the sellers' ship. That is called, C.I.F. Now we are getting it on F.O.B., Free on Board. This would be a great boost to the shipping industry.

I hold meeting every quarter with the shipping industry. We have face to face talk. The whole Department sits and the whole shipping industry sits. Their questions are clarified and whatever help can be given, on the spot, it is decided, in helping the shipping industry.

**SHRI H M PATEL:** I would congratulate the Government on the steps it is taking to revive the shipping industry. The various measures the Minister has read out just now are excellent provided, they, in fact, work in the way in which they are intended to work. The Minister himself has said how things take years together in order to give sanction to buying of second-hand ships or scrapping ships and so on. Now, they hope to do it in a matter of months. I hope until the shipping industry is revived, Government will really carry out its intentions. You do it not in months but within weeks. It is not necessary to take months for doing anything. It is not always a ques-



tion of funds as the hon. Minister rightly said. It is a question of taking decisions at right time and I hope that will be done.

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT:** Let me assure the hon. Member that the reflex action of a Pilot is supposed to be very quick.

**MR. SPEAKER:** That will help.

#### Road Accidents

293. **SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY:**  
**SHRI A. JAYAMOCHAN:**

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite the steps taken all these years the rate of road accidents is growing every year putting India at the top with road accidents rate resulting in fatal cases; and

(b) if so, what fresh initiatives are contemplated in the matter to bring down the number of road accidents to the minimum?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT):** (a) No, Sir. The number of road accidents and fatalities per one thousand vehicles has shown a progressive decline over the years.

(b) The recently constituted National Road Safety Council, in its meeting in July, 1987, recommended to the State Governments and U.T. Administrations to set up State Level Road Safety Councils and District-level Committees and to formulate and implement road safety measures, including highway patrolling.

Stricter provision have also been proposed in the Motor Vehicles Bill in respect of driver licences, vehicle fitness certificates and deterrent punishment for traffic violations.

**SHRI BRAJAMOCHAN MOHANTY: I**

would invite the attention of the hon. Minister to the annual report of the Transport Ministry. In the years 1984 and 1985, the rate of accidents for one lakh KM was 1.47. In 1985-86, it increased to 1.55 and in 1986 and 1987 it further increased to 1.63.

My question will be whether the hon. Minister had investigated and identified the reasons for the increasing accident rate during the last three years and whether the Government has taken any steps in that regard.

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT:** Seeing the increase in the fatal accidents, Government was worried and that is why they constituted the National Road safety Council at national level. We had held discussions with experts from the road sector and other experts who are available, to give us their opinion on it and we decided that at State-level also, such discussions should be held so that the matter could be thought over and some initiative should be taken in that line. I fully share the worry of the House and of the hon. Member that fatal accidents are on the increase. I am not denying that factor. When we calculate the ratio the hon. Member wanted to know about that—despite putting India at the top of road accidents, when you calculate the ratio of fatal accidents for 1,000 vehicles and when you compare with that of developed countries, where the number of vehicles is much more, their ratio comes down. If you count the number of accidents, theirs will be much higher than ours. Their ratio goes down because the developed countries have more vehicles in comparison to their population than that of India. In that ratio, we are certainly high. I am not denying that fact. But all possible action is being initiated by Government by bringing the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill which will be before the House any day. I could not bring it here because of my absence.

We are also holding road safety meetings of the Road Safety Council, some films are also shown.

About the selection of drivers in each State, we are making it compulsory that traffic police representative is also there so that he can check all this.

**PROF. N. G. RANGA:** The condition of roads is also very bad.

**SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY:** Apart from the provisions of driver licence, vehicle fitness certificate and deterrent punishment for traffic violation, my question would be whether an improvement in the condition of the road would lead to reduce the accident. Has that been considered in the Transport Ministers' Meeting and whether any guidelines have been worked out thereon.

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT:** The condition of roads is one of the main factors. With our limited resources, we have tried to improve the condition of the roads and I can only assure the House that national highways are being given higher priority by the Central Government. But Sir, at the moment, we have one more problem which I must inform the House today that the system is that money is allotted to the State Government to construct a particular national highway, It is the State PWD which executes the work on the national highways but to our sorrow and grief, the work is not that much perfect to the extent that is expected. We are discussing with the State Government to have a National Highway Authority so that hard-earned money which is spent on this vital sector can be monitored and the roads which are supposed to be of standard are checked by the Central Government. That proposal is pending with the Government and we are considering it. I must assure the House that we have taken very seriously with the State Government that roads should be maintained and properly constructed as per the guidelines laid down by the National Highways Authority.

**SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN:** This question of road accidents is a vast subject. I do not think that it can be disposed of in course of 10 or 15 minutes. It involves rural traffic

and urban traffic and the Home Ministry. Mr. Rajesh Pilot would not be the only person who is involved in this particular big issue. The Home Minister should also be here because the cases which are registered and disposed of come under the Home Ministry. As far as I know, 24,000 to 25,000 people get killed in road accidents every year and also a large number of people get maimed. So, these are the factors which should be considered mainly and the constitution of an advisory body as has been stated in the answer is no answer to these problems that we are facing. Advisory bodies will not help. It is the question of the Central Government and the State Government sitting together .....

**MR. SPEAKER:** Please put the supplementary. It is only a suggestion and not a question.

**SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN:** What sort of corrective and concrete measures the Minister is thinking of taking in co-operation with the State Government? The condition of roads is absolutely horrible. We should improve the condition of roads and segregate fast-moving and slow-moving traffic roads; they should set apart a lane for the pedestrians. That is why I am saying that it needs a half-an-hour discussion.

**MR. SPEAKER:** You have made only suggestions, no supplementary.

**SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO:** Sir, I want to know whether the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that incidence of road accidents is very high on national highway No. 5 between Vijayawada and Guntoor. Keeping this in view, the National Highway Department had proposed for conversion of two-lane road into four-lane highways to avoid accidents, i.e., two lanes on one side and two lanes on the other side, in the opposite direction. If so, I would ask the Minister whether the Government will look into it and give the necessary approval immediately and take further steps for development of four-lane highways to reduce the number of accidents.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: That particular thing has to be checked with the Department. I will come back to the hon. Member and clarify. I do not have the information with me now.

[Translation]

**Increase in Pay Scales and Interim Relief to Port Workers**

\*294. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI BALWANT SINGH  
RAMOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to increase the pay scales of the port workers and also give them interim relief:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). The wage structure of Port workers is due for revision only from 1.1.1988. Meanwhile, Government have sanctioned interim relief to them w.e.f. 1.1.1986 on the same lines as has been allowed to the workers of Public Sector Undertakings on Industrial Dearness Allowance pattern.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, I share the feelings of our hon. Member Shri H.M. Patelji in congratulating the Department of Surface Transport for taking quick and spot decision to improve the Department. Here, I would like to know under what guideline and under what circumstances the Shipping Corporation of India has revised the pay-scales last year. What forced them to take a decision last year to increase the interim relief of port workers

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question relates to the Port workers.

His question regarding the Shipping Corporation is a separate subject. I would like to inform the hon. Member that the original question pertains to the Port workers.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA. Sir, the hon. Minister has tried to escape the answer...

MR SPEAKER: He is still here.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: He has tried to escape the answer by telling the House that this question regarding the pay-scales of workers relate to the Port workers. After all, the Shipping Corporation of India is the mother institution. He cannot deny it. We are both - myself and Dr. Chinta Mohan - worried about the attitude adopted by the hon. Minister in sanctioning 39 per cent increase in the salaries of only 900 officers, which will incur a loss of rupees 327 crores to the Shipping Corporation of India. This has been done by-passing the guidelines of the BPE. Also, the employees belonging to Class-III and Class-IV groups are requesting the Ministry since 1975 for the increase in their wages. Their memorandum has been turned down. In this connection, I would like to ask: Why the BPE guideline was ignored and by-passed and why the lower grade employees have been ignored? I would like to know the answer from the hon. Minister.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, I think, the hon. Member has put it the other way round. Port is the mother institution of SCI because the Port started functioning first. The question which you have asked is totally under the subject of Port workers. What you are asking today is a different question. It is a genuine information given by you to me. I will certainly get it checked up as to how it has been done. I cannot give a clear and right information without checking the records. But I will pass on the

information to you. If this is correct, I will pass on the information to you.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: I can write a letter to you.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: I will inform you on my own. I will come back to you.

*[Translation]*

### **Bilaspur-Jabalpur Railway Line**

\*297 SHRI M. L. JHIKRAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey conducted to open a railway line from Bilaspur to Jabalpur via Mandla has completed,

(b) if so, the outcome thereof.

(c) the time by which the said railway line is likely to be opened, and

(d) the comparative effect in terms of distance in kilometres and time as a result of opening the proposed rail line as against the existing one between Bilaspur and Jabalpur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

and (d). No decision for taking up construction of the line can be taken nor any comparisons made before the survey is completed and report examined.

SHRI M. L. JHIKRAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I need your protection. How long will the issue of underdeveloped areas be avoided and for how long will he evade the questions regarding these areas?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, how can a decision be taken

in this regard before the survey is completed?

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### **WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

*[English]*

#### **Immediate Medical Aid to Medico Legal Cases**

\*295. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued specific instructions to the hospitals and dispensaries under their control, where first aid or regular treatment is expected to be provided in regard to the handling of medico-legal cases; if so, the details of those instructions;

(b) whether such cases, in practice, get medical aid immediately on their being brought to the hospitals;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(d) whether the set of instructions are proposed to be reviewed and if necessary, modified, in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs, to ensure that such medico-legal cases are attended to the hospitals without delay and the police take cognizance of these cases simultaneously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (d). Decision was taken in 1986 in a meeting of representatives of Government hospitals of Delhi and Police Authorities that the medico-legal cases be attended promptly without delay. This decision has been communicated to all the Medical Superintendents for compliance and is being followed. Copy of the decisions is given in the Statement below.

**STATEMENT**

A meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Director General of Health Services on 29-5-1986 to discuss the system change in dealing with the medico-legal cases in the hospitals. Representatives of Government hospitals and Delhi Police attended the meeting. The following decisions were taken:

- (1) Whenever any medico-legal case attends the hospital, the medical officer on duty should inform the Duty Constable, name, age, sex of the patient and place and time of occurrence of the incident, and should start the required treatment of the patient. It will be the duty of the Constable on duty to inform the concerned Police Station or higher police functionaries for further action.

Full medical report should be prepared and given to the Police, as soon as examination and treatment of the patient is over. The treatment of the patient would not wait for the arrival of the Police or completing the police formalities.

2. Zonalisation as has been worked out for the hospitals to deal with medico-legal cases will only apply to those cases brought by the Police. The medico-legal cases coming to hospital of their own (even if the incident has occurred in the Zone of other hospital) will not be denied the treatment by the hospital where the case reports, nor the case will be referred to the other hospital because the incident has occurred in the area which belongs to the Zone of any other hospital. The same police formalities as given in para (1) above will be followed in these cases.

All Government hospitals, medical institutes should be asked to provide the immediate medical aid to all the cases irrespective of the fact whether they are medico-legal cases or otherwise. The practice of certain Government institutions to refuse even the primary medical aid to the Patient and referring them to other hospitals simply because they are medico-legal cases is not desirable

However, after providing the primary medical aid to the patient, the patient can be referred to the hospital if the expertise facilities required for the treatment are not available in that Institution.

**Modernisation of Bokaro Steel Plant with USSR Assistance**

\*296. SHRI S.M. GURADDI:  
SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the draft plan for modernisation of the Bokaro Steel Plant has been prepared by the Soviet experts;

(b) if so, whether this modernisation plan has been handed over to Union Government;

(c) if so, the main features of the recommendations made in the draft plan; and

(d) the decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The main features of the proposal are:—

- (i) Modernisation of both the Converter Shops and installation of continuous casting machines;
- (ii) Increase in crude steel capacity from 4 MT to 4.5 MT.
- (iii) Modernisation of the Hot Strip Mill;
- (iv) Increase in saleable steel capacity from 3.156 million tonnes to 3.995 million tonnes.

(d) The Soviet proposal is being appraised by Steel Authority of India Limited.

### **Production of Pig Iron**

\*298. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the integrated steel plants of Steel Authority of India Limited are not producing sufficient quantities of pig iron to meet the demands of the foundries;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to step up production of pig iron within the country;

(c) whether large quantities of pig iron are imported to bridge the gap in indigenous supply and requirements of foundry industry;

(d) if so, the present system of imports of pig iron; and whether it is working satisfactorily; and

(e) the reaction of Government to the recent demand by the foundry men and pig iron consumers that the import of pig iron be canalised through the Steel Authority of India Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) The demand for pig iron of foundries and other consumers during 1987-88 is estimated to be about 1.5 million tonnes. The targeted production from SAIL during the current year is about 1.4 million tonnes of which 1.3 million tonnes is planned to be available for sale to consumers. There has, however, been a marginal slippage against target of about 7% in the first six months.

(b) SAIL is making efforts to bridge the short-fall in their targeted production during the balance period of the year. The gap between the demand and the estimated availability from SAIL is proposed to be met by the availability from the secondary producers and from imports.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) At present pig iron is imported under the system of canalised imports, imports under Open General Licence, imports under Registered Exporters' Policy and Advance Licensing. This system is working satisfactorily.

(e) Government have not so far taken a decision on this demand.

### **Non-Registration of Degrees by IMC of Medical Graduates from Nigeria**

\*299. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that hundreds of students of Indian origin who are medical graduates from Nigeria are in trouble since their medical degrees have not yet received the necessary registration from the Indian Medical Council;

(b) whether there is a proposal to accord registration to the above medical degrees by the Indian Medical Council; and

(c) if so, the stage at which the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Some students of Indian origin settled in Nigeria have represented that the medical degrees granted by Nigerian institutions have not been recognised by the Medical Council of India.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The question of recognition of Nigerian medical degrees is under consideration of the Medical Council of India for sometime. The Council has informed that necessary arrangements are being made by them for sending a team to visit Nigerian medical institutions. As soon as all the formalities are completed, the team will visit and the report will be considered by the Council.

### Forest Areas Notified for Wild Life Sanctuaries

\*300 SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:  
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) how many forest area have been notified by Government in different States as wild life sanctuaries for the protection and propagation of wild animals:

(b) the details of those areas in Orissa; and

(c) the steps taken for the development of those wild life sanctuaries?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) There are presently 358 notified Wildlife sanctuaries in the country.

(b) A statement is given below

(c) Steps taken for the development of Wildlife Sanctuaries include vesting of territorial and administrative control of Wildlife Sanctuaries in the Wildlife Wings of the respective State Governments, cessation of exploitation of forests and grasslands, central assistance for improving management capacity, habitat conservation, better protection of the fauna, interpretation and nature education, research and improved communications.

### STATEMENT

#### *Details of Wildlife Sanctuaries in Orissa*

Sl. No.	Name of Sanctuary	District(s)	Area in Sq. Kms.	Important species
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Balukhand	Puri	72.00	Blackbuck, Olive Ridley turtle
2.	Bhitter Kanika	Cuttack	650.00	Fishing Cat, Salt-water crocodiles.
3.	Chandka	Puri	220.00	Elephant
4.	Chilka	Puri & Ganjam	900.00	Waterfowl
5.	Debrigarh	Sambalpur	346.90	Leopard
6.	Hadgarh	Keonjar, Mayurbhanj	191.60	Elephant, Tiger
7.	Khalasuni	Sambalpur	116.00	Honey Badger, Leopard
8.	Kothagarh	Phulbani	399.50	Elephant, Mouse deer
9.	Kuldiha	Balasore	272.75	Ratel, Pangolin
10.	Lakhari	Ganjam	300.00	Leopard
11.	Mahanadi Baisipalli	Puri	168.35	Tiger, Elephant, Mouse deer
12.	Nandankanan	Puri	4.26	Gharial, Pangolin

1	2	3	4	5
13	Satkosia Gorge	Dhenkanal, Puri Cutack & Phulbani	795.52	Leopard, Elephant, Wolf
14	Simlipal	Mayurbhanj	2447.00	Tiger, Sloth Bear, Crocodile
15	Sunabeda	Kalahandi	442.13	Wild Buffalo
16	Ushakothi	Sambalpur	285.00	Honey Badger, Elephant

#### **Replacement of Old Coaches in N.E. Region**

\*301. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have received complaints to the effect that old and outdated coaches have been provided for use in the railways of the North Eastern Region; and

(b) if so, the steps, if any, taken to replace these with new presentable coaches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Some complaints have been received about the condition of coaches plying in the North Eastern Region.

(b) Replacement of coaches is arranged on age cum condition basis. There is an overall shortage in manufacturing capacity of coaches. Efforts are being made to augment the capacity.

#### **Purchase of Railway Equipments from USSR**

\*302. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to buy certain types of railway equipments including heavy duty electric locomotives and substantial quantity of railway tracks from the USSR; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b), Heavy duty electric locomotives and rails have been identified amongst the possible areas of purchase or technical cooperation between India and USSR. However discussions in this regard are at a very preliminary stage.

#### **Import Decanalisation of some Items**

\*303 SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to transfer some steel items, hot rolled coils and cold rolled sheets to the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) which were being imported by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b), A proposal has been received from SAIL for allowing SAIL to import certain items, presently canalised through MMTC, including Hot Rolled Coils and Cold Rolled Sheets, to enable SAIL to meet the full demand of consumers for these items.

[Translation]

#### **Programme of Indira Gandhi Open University**

\*304. SHRI VIRDHI CHANADER JAIN:



Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the programmes undertaken by the Indira Gandhi Open University so far; and

(b) the details of the progress made so far and also the details of the future programme in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). The University has started two diploma programmes, one in Management and the other in Distance Education, in January, 1987. These programmes are in progress. Fresh admission to these courses and a new diploma programme in Creative Writing is proposed to be made in January, 1988. Admission to B.A. and B.Com. courses is proposed to be made in July, 1988. To begin with, a preparatory programme for those who have not passed their higher secondary examination is being conducted between January and June, 1988. An entrance test for admission to this preparatory programme was held in September, 1987. Beside, the University also proposes to introduce Diploma programmes in Computer Education, Library Science, Tribal Education and Women's Education. Preparation of instructional material for these courses is in progress.

[English]

**Strengthening of Tamil Nadu Section of National Highway No.47**

\*305. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are proposed for the strengthening of the Tamil Nadu section of the Trivandrum-Kanyakumari National Highway No. 47; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Two estimates amounting to Rs. 150.81 lakhs have recently been sanctioned for strengthening of km. 625/0 to 631/2 and from km. 644/0 to 650/0 of Trivandrum-Kanyakumari section of National Highway No. 47 in Tamil Nadu.

**Financial Crisis in Asiatic Society**

\*306. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Asiatic Society, a premier institution of research and studies in the country, is facing acute financial crisis following non-imbursement of funds by the Centre:

(b) if so, the funds sanctioned and released so far by the Centre during the current financial year to this institution:

(c) the reasons for delay in releasing the funds in full; and

(d) what steps are being taken for immediately release of the sanctioned funds to avoid imminent closure of this institution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) The Central Government provides funds for approved schemes and projects. The question of reimbursement does not arise. Against the budget provisions for the Asiatic Society for the year 1987-88 of Rs.59.00 lakhs (Plan) and Rs. 46.38 lakhs (Non-Plan), Rs. 25.91 lakhs under Plan and Rs. 20.72 lakhs under Non-Plan have been released so far in the current financial year. These include funds carried forward from 1986-87 under both heads.

Release of funds have been made in

accordance with the usual procedure on receipt of relevant detailed information required. The Society did send some communications to Government indicating financial hardship. The main reason for the delay in release of funds was the non-submission of complete information in time by the Society.

(d) Further releases will be made in accordance with the usual procedure on receipt of complete details from the Society

**Development of Haldia Port**

\*307. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken so far for the development of Haldia Port during the 7th Plan period;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the amount sanctioned and released so far for the purpose

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Haldia Dock Complex is a part of Calcutta Port. The Important schemes costing Rs 2 crores or above included in the 7th Five-Year Plan for the specific development of Haldia Docks Complex are given below:

S.No.	Names of the Scheme
1.	Strengthening of existing oil jetty
2.	Construction of roads inside and outside the docks
3.	2nd oil jetty with tractor tugs
4.	Additional General cargo berth
5.	Augmentation of existing container terminal.
6.	Residential quarters at Chiranjibpur township.
7.	River protection bund at Haldia.

(c) No amount has been released by the Government so far for the schemes of the

Haldia Dock Complex because such expenditure is being met from its internal resources.

**Construction of Yamuna Bridge near ISBT, Delhi**

\*308. SHRIMATI GEEJA MUKHERJEE  
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 601 on 9th April, 1987 regarding construction work on Yamuna Bridge near ISBT, Delhi and state:

(a) the progress made so far in the construction work on Yamuna Bridge near ISBT, Delhi;

(b) whether the pace of progress is as per schedule and the bridge is to be completed by the end of 1988; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the corrective measures taken and proposed to ensure its completion by the scheduled date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). As the bridge over river Yamuna near ISBT in Delhi falls on 'Other Roads' the Public Works Department (Delhi Administration) are handling the project. According to them, 72% of the work has been completed so far. The present pace of progress is almost as per schedule and the bridge is likely to be opened to traffic by the end of 1988.

(c) Does not arise.

**Himalayan Car Rally**

\*309. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Himalayan Car Rally was recently held in the Capital;

(b) so the details of the cars and the participants in the rally and

(c) the object of the rally and the expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The 8th Himalayan Car Rally was organised from October 27 to November 1, 1987 by the Himalayan Rally Association

(b) 96 cars with 192 participants took part in the 8th Himalayan Car Rally

(c) The main objective of the Rally is to promote and encourage motor sports in the country. It is estimated that the expenditure in organising the 8th Himalayan Car Rally will be around Rs. 15 lakhs.

[*Translation*]

#### **Grant to Maharashtra for Health Schemes**

2911. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 2770 on 13 August, 1987 regarding decision taken in Conference of State Health Ministers and state;

(a) the progress made in implementing the decisions taken in the Conference held in Maharashtra; and

(b) when and how much grant was provided to Government of Maharashtra to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). The recommendations of the conference of State Health Ministers were general in nature and applicable to all States/UTs for strengthening the Health infrastructure in rural areas in

order to provide curative Preventive and promotive Health Care. The progress of establishment of sub-centres and Community health centres in Maharashtra is satisfactory and State is likely to achieve the VII plan targets in this respect. No grant is provided for establishment of these units except the sub-centres which is a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme after 1.4.81. The Schemes of establishment of Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres have the funds allocated under the Minimum Needs Programme

#### **Competent Staff for Manufacture of Bulk Drugs**

2912. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) whether State Governments are competent to approve competent staff for manufacture of bulk drugs in their states;

(b) if so, how many such persons were approved for bulk drugs in 1983 in various States including Maharashtra; and

(c) the basic qualifications and experience required for such staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) to (c). The State Governments appoint licensing authorities who grant licences for manufacture of drugs. While granting licences the licensing authority ensures that the manufacturers comply with conditions laid down under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules.

Qualifications and experiences of the competent technical staff are given in the Statement below.

**STATEMENT**

*Conditions for the grant or renewal of licence in Form 25—*

Before a licence in Form 25 is granted or renewed the following conditions shall be complied with by the applicant:—

The manufacture shall be conducted under the active direction and personal supervision of competent technical staff consisting at least of one person who is a whole-time employee and who is—

- (a) a graduate in Pharmacy or Pharmaceutical Chemistry of a University recognised by the Central Government for the purpose of this rule and has had at least eighteen months practical experience after the graduation in the manufacture of drugs. This period of experience may, however, be reduced by six months if the person has undergone training in manufacture of drugs for a period of six months during his University course; or
- (b) a graduate in Science of a University recognised by the Central Government who for the purpose of his degree has studied Chemistry as a principal subject and has had at least three years practical experience in the manufacture of drugs after his graduation; or
- (c) a graduate in Chemical Engineering or Chemical Technology or Medicine of a University recognised by the Central Government with general training and practical experience, extending over a period of not less than three years in the manufacture of drugs, after his graduation; or
- (d) holding any foreign qualification the quality and content of training of which are comparable with those prescribed in clause (a), clause (b) or clause (c) and is permitted to work as competent technical staff under this rule by the Central Government;

Provided that any person who was immediately before the 29th June, 1957, actively

directing and personally supervising the manufacture of drugs and whose name was accordingly entered in any licence granted in Form 25 as it existed before that date shall be deemed to be qualified for the purposes of this rule.

Provided further that the Licensing Authority may, in the matter of manufacture of disinfectant fluids, insecticides, liquid paraffin, medicinal gases, non chemical contraceptives, plaster of paris and surgical dressings for the manufacture of which the knowledge of Pharmaceutical chemistry or Pharmacy is not essential, permit the manufacture of the substance under the active direction and personal supervision of the competent technical staff, who, although not having any of the qualifications included in clauses (a), (b) or (c) of this rule, has in the opinion of the Licensing Authority, adequate experience in the manufacture of such substance

**New Dry Biomass Platforms for Reafforestation**

2913. SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to set up more dry biomass platforms for reafforestation purposes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

**Setting up of Agricultural/Rural Polytechnics in Rural Areas**

2914. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up agricultural or rural polytechnics in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) to (c). There is a scheme of this Ministry under which identified polytechnics are selected to act as focal points to promote transfer of technology to the rural areas. These polytechnics are designated as Community Polytechnics and are given Central Assistance for the implementation of the scheme. At present, there are 108 Community Polytechnics. The National Policy on Education has laid down that the Community Polytechnic System will be appraised and appropriately strengthened to increase its quality and coverage. Accordingly a National Expert Committee has been set up to do the appraisal. Further expansion of the system or otherwise will be taken up in the light of the report of this Committee.

#### **Creches Run by NDMC**

2915. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Creches run by NDMC take care of children upto the age of 7 years only;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether Union Government have directed Delhi Administration to admit children in creches upto the age of 12 years; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Delhi Administration in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As a matter of policy, NDMC admits children in the age group of 3 months to 7 years only, as children above 7 years are expected to go to school.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Construction of Joginder Nagar Mandi N.G. Link**

2916. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey for extension of narrow gauge line from Joginder Nagar to Mandi in Himachal Pradesh has been undertaken by the Railways during this decade;

(b) if so, the findings of the survey, including the length and the cost of the construction of the Joginder Nagar-Mandi narrow gauge link; and

(c) the decision taken by the Railways for the sanction and construction of this line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir

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

#### **Medical Facilities in Community Health Centres**

2917. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the details of medical facilities available in a Community Health Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : The details of medical facilities

available at a Community Health Centre are as follows:—

- (i) preventive and promotive work through health education;
- (ii) control/eradication of communicable diseases;
- (iii) Family Planning Education, motivation and provision of services for the Family Planning Programme;
- (iv) Maternal and Child health care, including immunization, prophylaxis against anaemia and Vitamin 'A' deficiency;
- (v) Curative services through outdoor clinics;
- (vi) Diagnostic facilities like X-Rays ECG and pathological laboratory facilities;
- (vii) Specialist services of Surgeon, obstetrician and Gynaecologist, Physician and paediatrician.

**Scholarships to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribe Students of Delhi University**

2918. SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students do not get scholarships while prosecuting higher studies in the various universities of Delhi as in other universities.

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether there is any proposal for extending other facilities besides reservation of seats for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students in the Universities of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND

CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) Ministry of Welfare, Government of India is extending assistance towards a scheme of post-matric scholarships for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students studying at post-matriculation stage to enable them to complete their education upto post-graduate level. The Ministry of Welfare have not received any complaint from SC/ST students regarding non-payment of scholarships in universities located in Delhi.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Apart from provision of reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes students in the Universities/colleges, the University Grants Commission have taken various steps for providing facilities to the candidates belonging to these communities. These facilities include award/reservation of various types of fellowships/scholarships, organising of special remedial courses, introduction of the Bursary Scheme, etc.

**Shipping Corporation of India Participation in MFA**

2919. DR. B.L.SHAILESH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shipping Corporation of India has participated in the MFA (Minimum Freight Agreement) evolved out jointly by the member lines of Karmahem conference and non-conference lines; and

(b) if so, under what circumstances and the benefits likely to accrue to the Corporation by such participation?

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

(b) The tariff rates were last revised on 1.5.1985. Since then there has been a serious erosion in the freight levels. There-

fore. member lines together with a few outsiders entered into a 'Minimum Freight Agreement' by establishing agreed rates on major commodities moving regularly in this trade. With the establishment of MFA the market share as well as the freight earnings of SCL have shown improvement.

[Translation]

**Teachers Participation in action plan of New Education Policy**

2920 SHRI AZIZ QURESHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the special provisions made in regard to teachers' participation in the action plan of National Education Policy;

(b) whether there is any proposal to give more representation to teachers in NCERT and UGC as per these special provisions;

(c) whether there is provision of special participation of school teachers in the National Level Committee of the National Teachers Welfare Organisation, and the details of proposals;

(d) whether teachers and instructors will be given more representation in the National Teachers and Instructors Training Council; and

(e) the action taken to make the Teachers Training Council a statutory body?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAH) : (a) The National Policy on Education, 1986 recognises the Central role of teachers in the educational process and it recognises that the provisions of the Policy can be implemented only with the total involvement and commitment of the teachers. The National Policy envisages higher status to teachers and freedom to them to innovate. It also envisages

improvement in pay and service conditions of teachers to be commensurate with their social and professional responsibilities. It postulates improved facilities to teachers to go along with accountability at all stages and in this the involvement of teachers' associations is contemplated. The policy has proposed a strengthened and improved programme of teacher education to upgrade their competency.

To improve the competencies of the teachers, to make them fully aware of the thrusts of the National Policy and to increase their motivation the Government has started a programme for mass orientation of 5,00,000 school teachers every year since 1986. This programme is implemented through the NCERT with the assistance of State Governments.

(b) According to the rules governing the composition of the NCERT and the UGC, four teachers are members of the NCERT Council and similarly four university teachers are members of the UGC

(c) The Working Committee of the National Foundation of Teachers' Welfare in every State includes six persons to be nominated by the State Education Minister, at least two of whom are eminent educationists

(d) The National Council of Teacher Education has 42 members out of which 12 experts in the field of pre-school, school and vocational education are nominated by the President of the Council.

(e) The National Policy envisages that the National Council of Teacher Education will be provided necessary resources and capability to accredit institutions of teacher education and provide guidance regarding curricula and methods. The Programme of Action which has worked out specific strategies to implement the provisions of the Policy, envisages that National Council of Teacher Education will be given autonomous and statutory status. These provisions of the Policy and the Pro-

gramme of Action will get taken up for implementation over a period of time.

[English]

**Reserve Forest Area**

2921. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any survey of the total reserve forest areas in the country;

(b) if so, the total reserve forest areas in different States and Union Territories as on 31st March, 1987; and

(c) the steps taken for the proper conservation of reserve forest areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS : (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b). State-wise details of area under reserve forests for the year 1984-85 as reported by the various State/UT Government are given in the statement below.

(c) The following measures have been taken by the Government for conservation of forest areas:-

1. Guidelines have been issued to the State Governments:—

(i) to avoid clear felling of natural forests and where such fellings are inevitable for restoration of crop or other silvicultural considerations, it should be restricted to areas not exceeding 10 hectares in the hills and 25 hectares in the plains.

(ii) to consider banning or fellings in the hills above 1,000 metres, at least for some years.

(iii) to identify critical areas in

the hills and mountains which require protection from felling of forests and need immediate vigorous afforestation.

(iv) to set apart 4% of the geographical area as protection areas like wildlife sanctuaries national parks biosphere reserves, etc

2. National Wastelands Development Board has been set up during 1985 with the object of bringing 5 million hectares of land every year under fuelwood and fodder plantation.
3. Soil, water and tree conservation in the Himalayas (Operation Soil-watch) and other afforestation programmes.
4. Development of infrastructure and enforcement of legal provisions for the protection of forest
5. Enactment of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to check diversion of forest land to non-forest purposes.
6. Development of alternative sources of energy to replace fuelwood in domestic and commercial sectors.
7. Substitution of wood by alternative materials in packaging, railway sleepers and building construction.
8. Liberalised import policy for forest products.
9. Fiscal incentives to industry which lead to wood substitution.
10. Use of preservative treatment has been stressed to prolong life, leading to reduction in demand.
11. Control of shifting cultivation.



**STATEMENT***State-Wise Details of Area Under Reserved Forests*(Area in Km<sup>2</sup>)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Reserved Area
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	49,921
2.	Assam	17,277
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	13,623
4.	Bihar	5,051
5.	Goa, Daman & Diu	42
6.	Gujarat	13,448
7.	Haryana	228
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1,825
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	20,892
10.	Karnataka	28,574
11.	Kerala	9,152
12.	Madhya Pradesh	80,995
13.	Maharashtra	42,713
14.	Manipur	1,377
15.	Meghalaya	706
16.	Mizoram	8,048
17.	Nagaland	483
18.	Orissa	20,108
19.	Punjab	43
20.	Rajasthan	12,281
21.	Sikkim	2,240
22.	Tamil Nadu	18,297
23.	Tripura	3,863
24.	Uttar Pradesh	34,579
25.	West Bengal	7,054

1	2	3
26.	A & N Islands	2,912
27.	Chandigarh	—
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	203
29.	Delhi	NA
30.	Pondicherry	—
31.	Lakshadweep	—
Total		4,01,935

### **Import of Interfrential Current Stimulators**

2922. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether interfrential Current Stimulators used for physio therapy are allowed to be imported in India;

(b) if so, under what specific provision of law these are allowed to be imported; and

(c) the details of import allowed during the last three years and the value of these stimulators which were imported and the names of the countries from which these have been imported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, provided the indigenous clearance from D.G.T.D. and import licence from Chief Controller Imports and Export are obtained.

(b) The import is allowed under the provisions of Ministry of Finance Notification No. 279/83 dated 30.9.1983.

(c) According to the information received from Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, hospitals and medical institutions can import medical equipment for their own use upto Rs. 2 lakhs in a financial year. Hospitals recognised by Central or

State Governments can import their requirements without any value limit. Details of imports during the last three years and the value of these stimulators which were imported and the names of the countries from which these have been imported are not available as the item is on OGL.

### **Release of Special Volume "Scientific Studies on Bhopal Gas Victims"**

2923. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research has brought out a special volume 'Scientific Studies on Bhopal gas victims' incorporating the research work of many Indians scientists in the aftermath of the worst industrial disaster anywhere in the World; and,

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). The Indian Council of Medical Research has brought out a special supplement of the Indian Journal of Medical Reserach on Scientific Studies on Bhopal Gas Victims. The details of the studies contained therein are as under:—

The analysis of 978 gas affected patients

admitted to the Gandhi Medical College Hospital, Bhopal showed that the most common and prominent complaints due to gas exposure were irritation of the eyes, respiratory symptoms comprising dyspnoea, choking sensation and pain in the chest, nausea, vomiting and epigastric discomfort, muscle weakness, tremors, paresthesia and depression.

Chest X-rays of 500 persons exposed to gas leak at Bhopal were studied to record the immediate abnormalities seen by inhalation of the gas. It was found that 41.4% patients showed evidence of a pulmonary reaction consistent with interstitial oedema while 40.6% revealed alveolar plus interstitial oedema. 8% showed destructive lesions like Cavitation and pneumomediastinum etc. This spectrum of lung injury caused by gas inhalation was recorded 72 hours after the leakage in those patients who had severe dyspnoea, cough and chest pain.

The lung function studies on 224 patients exposed to the toxic gas showed on investigation by spirometry that the most common finding was air flow limitation with or without reduction of the lung volume. The intensity of respiratory symptoms was out of proportion to the lung function impairment.

In a randomised assessment of out patients from 10 government clinics, (22.6%) of the screened patients were found to be suffering from psychiatric disorders. Of the 193 patients, 37.3% were suffering from neurotic depression, 24.9% from anxiety state and 35.2% from adjustment reaction.

Evaluation of the immune status, genotoxic effects and detection of mutagens in the urine of severely exposed subjects were carried out on hospitalised patients and residents of railway colony at Bhopal to evaluate the delayed effects by Ames test in the urine. In general, abnormalities were inconsistent and of minor nature. However, the cell cycle parameters were abnormal, but unless they persist, the

implications of their existence and relation to the overall toxic effects of the toxic gas are difficult to assess.

A study was undertaken on the morphology of human placenta in the women exposed at full term, premature birth and after M.T.P. 134 placentae were studied for evidence of any untoward effect of the gas. The mean weight of placenta and foetal weight at full term were found to be lower in gas exposed groups as compared to the controls at full term. There was no difference between the exposed group and control group as regards growth changes like infarction and calcification. The incidence of fibrinoid necrosis, syncytial knots, vasculosyncytial membrane was similar to data reported earlier in literature. Hydropic degeneration in the placentae of women who underwent M.T.P. was higher in the group exposed to gas, as compared to the controls. In full term deliveries, however, hydropic degeneration did not show any significant difference between the gas exposed and the control groups.

#### Loss to SAIL

2924. DR. SUDHIR ROY :  
SHRI S. PALAKONDRAYUDU :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the profit and loss of Steel Authority of India Ltd. plant-wise during the year 1986-87; and

(b) the steps taken to reduce the losses, if any, and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR) : (a) Plant-wise profitability of SAIL during 1986-87 is as follows:—

	<i>Profit/Loss(—)</i> <i>Rs./Crores</i>
Bhilai Steel Plant	(—) 38.67
Durgapur Steel Plant	(—) 22.46

1	2
Rourkela Steel Plant	11.13
Bokaro Steel Plant	125.17
Alloy Steels Plant	(—) 25.72
Salem Steel Plant	2.92
Other/Adjustments	0.44
	52.81
IISCO	(—) 81.91 (Prov)

(b) SAIL is making efforts to improve its profitability. *inter alia* by way of the following measures:—

- (i) Increase total production and improve productivity;
- (ii) Improve techno-economic parameters;
- (iii) Reduce inventories and working capital;
- (iv) Systematic improvement in maintenance of Plant and equipment for better availability;
- (v) Ensure adequate inputs and of the right quality;
- (vi) Modernisation of the projects alongwith technological upgradation; and
- (vii) Optimisation of captive power generation and energy conservation.

**Setting up of National Ship Design and Research Centre**

2925. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of allocation made under the Seventh Five Year Plan for set-

ting up a National Ship Design and Research Centre in the Central Sector;

(b) whether the Ship Design and Research Centre has been set up or Work commenced on the same;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the cost involved; and

(d) if not, when the work is likely to commence and where the Centre is to be located?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) There is a plan provision of Rs. 4 crores for the setting up of a National Ship Design and Research Centre in the Central Sector during the Seventh Five Year Plan

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No decision on the date of commencement of the work or the location of the project has been taken by Government.

**Development of a Drug for Heart Disease**

2926. SHRI YASHWANTA RAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Drug Research Institute has developed a new drug for heart disease;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efficacy of drug in the treatment of the disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Gugulipid is a nontoxic fraction of commiphora mukul resin. In pro-

longed toxicity studies in animals, gugulipid showed no adverse effects teratogenicity or mutagenic effect. Gugulipid has passed through the three phases of clinical trials successfully. Phase III trials with gugulipid, 1580 mg/day in divided doses, were conducted six medical institutions. In 70-80% patients gugulipid has showed average reduction of serum cholesterol (11%) and triglycerides (16%) compared to 10% and 21% respectively with the currently used drug clofibrate. Gugulipid was comparable to clofibrate in its hypolipaeamic effect. Gugulipid is devoid of side effects and clofibrate produced flu like syndrome.

The drug (gugulipid) is now marketed under the brand name 'Guglip' by CIPLA laboratories, Bombay.

#### **Destruction of Ozone Layer**

2927. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report on the destruction of ozone layer; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes Sir. The Government have received a report of the United Nations Environment Programme Coordinating Committee on the ozone layer-effects of stratospheric modification and climate change.

(b) The Government is examining this report in consultation with experts.

[*Translation*]

#### **Railway Line between Jainagar and Udaipur**

2928. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal to lay a railway line from Jainagar to Udaipur keeping in view the setting up of a cement factory at Udaipur and other aspects; and

(b) if so, the present position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir. Only a survey for a railway line from Jaynagar to Lakshmipur in Nepal was carried out by RITES in connection with a proposal to set up a cement plant there.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Adequate Facilities for Treating Heart Diseases**

2929. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that 30 million people in the country are suffering from heart diseases and that the disease is spreading among younger people;

(b) if so, the steps taken to provide adequate facilities for preventing as well as treating heart diseases;

(c) the estimated number of cardiologists in the country;

(d) the number of intensive care units in the country; and

(e) the number of heart surgery units presently available in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) The Government are aware of the high incidence of cardio-vascular diseases in the country. Younger people constitute about 20 to 40% of all medical cases in the Hospitals and 6 to 7 per 1000 school children are affected due to Rheumatic Heart diseases.

(b) The Government have set up Cardiac centres in the country with facilities of special investigative laboratory, medical cardiological unit, intensive care unit and Cardiac surgery unit to give treatment to cardiac patients

(c) Government is not aware of the number of cardiologists in the country as no reliable assessment has been made in this regard.

(d) All major hospitals (both at the Central Government and privately owned) in the country are having intensive-care units.

(e) There are 13 institutions in the country performing complicated heart surgery cases.

**Railway Line between Vidarbha and Bombay**

2930. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a railway line between Vidarbha and Bombay; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Rail lines already exist between Vidarbha and Bombay.

**Conversion of Manmad-Parli Vajjnath and Parbhani-Mudkhed Railway Lines**

2931. SHRI ASHOK SHANKAR RAO CHAVAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of conversion of metre gauge railway line to broad gauge on Manmad-Aurangabad-Parbhani-Parli-

Vajjnath and Parbhani-Purna-Mudkhed railway routes in Marathwada region has been delayed due to constraints of funds;

(b) if so, whether the State Government of Maharashtra has requested the Railways to work out a scheme wherein a part of the cost could be borne by it by raising debentures; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government of Maharashtra had suggested that the approved gauge conversion projects in Maharashtra could be partly funded by debentures to be raised by the State Government and to be subsequently recovered by levy of surcharge on the users of the service.

The State Government had since been advised that the above scheme would have first to be cleared by the Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission before any further action could be taken

**Report of the Working Group on Shipping**

2932. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a working group on shipping headed by the Chairman of the Shipping Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Group has formulated or submitted any interim or final report;

(d) if so, the broad details of the recommendations; and

(e) the reaction of Government to the major recommendations, particularly with

respect to foreign investment and privatisation in the Indian Shipping Industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (e): For preparing a long term perspective plan for Transport Sector in the time frame of 2000 AD and with a view to evolve a well-integrated multi-modal transport system, Planning Commission has set up a Steering Committee comprising of well known experts in the field. This Steering Committee in turn has set up several specialised groups including the Planning Group on shipping headed by Chairman & Managing Director of Shipping Corporation of India. The Group has *inter-alia* projected the requirement of Indian shipping tonnage in 2000 AD based on changing patterns of national trade and shipping technology and has suggested certain measures, including cargo support, to help the shipping industry. The report of this Group is to be an input for the work of the Steering Committee in the Planning Commission.

#### **Decision on Charter of Demands of Doctors**

2933. SHRI KESHORAO PARDHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Charter of demands submitted by the doctors of Central Health Service to Government last year when they went on strike, included *inter alia* the demand to raise their retirement age to 60 years;

(b) whether Government had given an assurance on the Charter of Demands of the doctors to raise their retirement age to 60 years;

(c) whether Government have since taken a decision on the above demand of the doctors; and

(d) if so, the details of the decision taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) to (d). One of the demands of the doctors who proceeded on strike from 20-7-87 to 28-7-87 was to raise their retirement age. The striking doctors were informed that the question of enhancement of retirement age will be considered in the context of general policy of the Government with regard to the retirement age for various categories of Central Government employees. At present, however, there is no proposal to raise the retirement age.

#### **Misuse of Amniocentesis Tests**

2934. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any law in force against misuse of Amniocentesis tests and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any cases of misuse of Amniocentesis tests have come to light and if so, the details thereof State-wise and year-wise for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No, Sir.

As per the information received from States/U.Ts Amniocentesis facilities are available in 40 Government institutions. However no report of misuse of Amniocentesis test have been reported to this Ministry.

(b) No, Sir.

#### **Regularisation of Services of Employees of Engineering Workshop, Arakkonam**

2935. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees, per-

manent and temporary, employed in Railway Engineering Workshop, Arakkonam since January, 1984; and

(b) the time by which the services of the

temporary employees will be regularised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a)

Strength of staff on	Permanent	Temporary
1.1.1984	1977	408
1.1.1985	1918	418
1.1.1986	1921	379
1.1.1987	2145	128

(b) All the temporary employees are regular employees working against regular posts.

RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI:  
SHRI U. H. PATEL:

**Conversion of Porbander-Junagarh Railway Line**

2936. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey for conversion of Porbander-Junagarh railway line has been completed;

(a) the number of trees planted during the current year in Gujarat and other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the survival rate at present;

(c) when the work on this project is likely to start?

(c) whether eucalyptus trees are planted under afforestation programme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of criticism raised against the eucalyptus plantation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) B.G. line exists between Porbandar and Wansjaliya. Survey for Wansjaliya-Jetalsar MG line into BG has not been approved. Jetalsar-Junagarh section is a part of Rajkot-Veraval MG line. Survey for conversion of Rajkot-Veraval MG line into BG has been taken up to determine its financial implication.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) A statement is given below.

(b) No systematic or scientific evaluation regarding survival rate/percentage in tree plantations raised under the afforestation programme has been carried out.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Eucalyptus is one of the several tree species planted under the afforestation programme. However, the information about the extent of area

**Afforestation Programme**

2937. SHRIMATI PATEL



planted under different species, including eucalyptus, is not maintained.

(e) The main criticism against planting of eucalyptus is that it consumes more sub soil water thereby lowering the water table; it does not permit any under growth and thus depletes the soil fertility. The criticism

is not based on any conclusive scientific data. However, instructions have been issued to all the States that mono-cultures of eucalyptus, particularly in areas occupied by tribal population, should be given up and an appropriate mix of several species suitable to local conditions should be raised.

#### STATEMENT

*The Number of Trees Planted up to September, 1987/Targetted to be Pianted During 1987-88*

S. No.	State/U.T.	Target No. of Seedlings in lakhs	Achievement upto Sept., 87. No. of Seedlings in lakhs
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3000.0	1,848.17
2.	Assam	500.0	450.55
3.	Bihar	3500.0	2,281.00
4.	Gujarat	3000.0	1,543.98
5.	Haryana	725.0	271.85
6.	Himachal Pradesh	700.0	362.94
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	405.0	107.30
8.	Karnataka	2500.0	2,276.29
9.	Kerala	1700.0	1,028.11
10.	Madhya Pradesh	4000.0	3,997.54
11.	Maharashtra	2600.0	1,997.14
12.	Manipur	170.0	165.35
13.	Meghalaya	150.0	203.75
14.	Nagaland	200.0	N.R.
15.	Orissa	2600.0	1,639.13
16.	Punjab	535.0	275.54
17.	Rajasthan	1500.0	765.00
18.	Sikkim	120.0	129.83
19.	Tamil Nadu	2400.0	83.41

1	2	3	4
20.	Tripura	260.0	260.00
21.	Uttar Pradesh	5000.0	2,631.10
22.	West Bengal	1400 0	1,330.00
23.	A & N Island	100.0	64.75
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	125.0	20.77
25.	Chandigarh	3.4	2.95
26	D&N Haveli	4.0	30.50
27	Delhi	40.0	14.80
28	Goa Daman & Diu	100.0	73.16
29	Lakshdeep	0.2	0 19
30	Mizoram	725.0	277.50
31	Pondicherry	10.60*	0.41
Total		38,073.20	24,133,01

**Basu Inquiry Committee on Jawaharlal  
Nehru University Campus Construction  
and Development**

2938. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:  
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:  
SHRI SAIFUDDIN  
CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN  
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased  
to state:

(a) whether Justice Basu Inquiry Com-  
mittee on Jawaharlal Nehru University  
campus construction and development  
lapses has fixed responsibility on any one;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND  
CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-  
MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c). As  
recommended by the Public Accounts  
Committee in its 179th Report (1983-84)  
the Jawaharlal Nehru University had  
appointed Mr. Justice A.K. Basu, Retd.  
Judge of the Calcutta High Court to  
inquire into the following matters:—

1. The failure of the University to  
enforce the terms of the Contract  
with the Architect;
2. The circumstances in which con-  
tracts involving Rs. 69.57 lakhs  
were awarded to inexperienced  
contractor, M/s. Home Decolam;
3. The circumstances in which the  
construction materials were lost  
including the possibility of collu-  
sion between the University staff  
and the Contractor;
4. The purchase of a non-functional

computer by the University, with a view to determining the responsibility;

The Enquiry Committee did not find any one specifically responsible for the alleged lapses. It, however, did not absolve completely the Architect of the University, Shri C.P. Kukreja, of the charge related to the award of eight contracts to M/s Home Decolam. After having considered the Report, the University has informed that the matter regarding the continuation of the services of the Architect will be placed before the Building and Works Committee in its next meeting for consideration.

#### **Manas Tiger Project**

2939. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the local tribal population in the neighbourhood 'Manas Project Tiger' are allowed to enjoy some rights like collecting firewoods, thatches etc. to meet their household requirements; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) According to the Management Plan of the Manas Tiger Reserve, proposed by the State Government of Assam, no rights are recognized in the Manas Sanctuary and areas outside the Sanctuary constituting the Manas Tiger Reserve. However, concessions in respect of grazing, fishing and thatch collection are allowed outside the Manas Sanctuary.

#### **Foreign Assistance for Afforestation Programme**

2940. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign countries have promised financial assistance to develop afforestation programme in a big way in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the names of the countries which have promised help and the schemes that are proposed to be undertaken in this regard;

(c) whether the scheme also visualised massive effort not only enriching forestry in the country but at the same time help and develop forest based handicraft industries so that the tribals are not displaced out of their forest land; and

(d) the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A list of foreign countries/organisations which are assisting in afforestation activities in different states is given in the statement below.

(c) and (d) The foreign aided social forestry projects envisage planting of trees which would provide mainly fodder, fuelwood, small timber and fruits for meeting the needs of the rural poor and the tribals. Development of forest based handicraft industries does not form part of these projects. However, the programmes provide support to tribal development in the form of social security plantations to prevent displacement of tribals from their forest lands.

## STATEMENT

*Foreign Assistance for Afforestation Programme*

S. No	Name of Projects	Period	Donor Agency	Total outlay (Rs M)	External assistance (US \$ M)	Total physical target (ha.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	U.P. Social Forestry Project—Phase-II	5 yrs 1985-86 to 1989-90	World Bank/USAID	1611.60	88.30	1,61,950
2.	Gujarat Social Forestry Project Phase-II	—do—	—do—	1296.50	92.30	3,13,400
3	Rajasthan Social Forestry Project	—do—	—do—	391.90	25.20	1,20,800
4.	Himachal Pradesh Social Forestry Project	—do—	—do—	572.90	36.60	1,12,833
5.	Haryana Social Forestry Project	5 Yrs 1982-83 to 1986-87 (extended upto March '88)	World Bank/ DANIDA	331.20 +75.00	16.90	67,000 +15,655
6.	J&K Social Forestry Project	—do—	—do—	237.12 +71.5	13.80	44,000 +12,300
7.	Karnataka Social Forestry Project.	5 Yrs 1983-84 to 1987-88	World Bank/ DDA	552.20	50.00	1,49,500

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.	Kerala Social Forestry Project	6 Yrs. 1984-85 to 1989-90	World Bank	599.20	31.80	85,300
9.	West Bengal Social Forestry Project.	6 Yrs. 1981-82 to 1986-87 (extended upto March, '88)	--do--	348.55 +142.80	29.00	93,000 +24,150
10	Bihar Social Forestry Project	6 Yrs. 1985-86 to 1990-91	SIDA	538.70	80 SEK Million for first 3 years.	1,57,950 ha. + 20.5 M.SDL
11.	Orissa Social Forestry Project	5 Yrs. 1983-84 to 1987-88	--do--	281.70	135 SEK Million	58,000 ha. + 51 M.SDL
12.	Tamil Nadu Social Forestry Project	5 Yrs. 1981-82 to 1985-86 (extended upto March, '88)	--do--	591.38	263 SEK Million	1,42,405 ha. + 7925 Km. + 170.33 M.SDL
13	Andhra Pradesh Social Forestry project	5 Yrs. 1983-84 to 1987-88	CIDA	456.04	44.00 C \$ M	44,655 ha. +15590.4 Km. +225.75 M. SDL
14.	Maharashtra Social Forestry Project.	8 Yrs. 1982-83 to 1989-90	USAID	564.00	30.00 US \$ M	81,000 ha.

Grand Total	8062.29	413.90	16.83.898 ha
		US \$ M	+ 23.515.4 Km
		+478 SEK M	+467.58 M SDL
		+ 44.00 C\$M.	

• Physical and financial Targets revised for extension of project period up to 1989-90.

[*Translation*]

**"Environmental Protection"**

2941. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on environmental protection during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87;

(b) the amount allocated for the year 1987-88 for this purpose;

(c) whether the entire amount has been utilised; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) to (c) A Statement is given below.

(d) The bulk of the shortfall in utilisation of funds is under the Ganga Action Plan. Delay in submission of schemes by the States and inadequacy of infrastructure were the main reasons for this shortfall.

**STATEMENT**

Amount allocated and spent on plan programmes relating to Environmental Protection including Afforestation by Ministry of Environment and Forests:

Year	Allocated	Rs. crores Spent
1985-86	84.70	66.18
1986-87	145.45	102.37

2. The amount allocated for the year 1987-88 is Rs. 164.20 crores.

[*English*]

**Adulteration in Milk and other Items**

2942. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of adulteration had risen from 14 per cent in 1986-87 to 21.6 per cent during the first four months of 1987-88 in milk and milk products followed by spices, cereals, fruit products etc.

(b) if so, whether any specific steps have been taken to check adulteration; and

(c) whether prosecution was launched against 41 persons and if so, how many of them were convicted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) As per the information provided by the Delhi Administration, the total percentage of adulteration in food items has increased in the capital from a approximately 14% in 1986-87 to 21.6% during the first four months of the year 1987-88.

A comparative statement pertaining to the years 1986-87 and first four months of 1987-88 is given below.

(b) The Department of Prevention of Food Adulteration, Delhi Administration is making utmost efforts to check the adulteration by vigorous sampling drives and the adulterators are prosecuted in the court of law under the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act 1954.

(c) During the first four months of 1987-88 prosecution was launched by the Delhi Administration in 41 cases and during the same period convictions were secured in 33 cases.

## STATEMENT

Comparative Statement of Adulteration in Food Articles Lifted During the Year 1986-87 and the First Four Months of Year 1987-88.

S. No.	Name of articles	1986-87			1987-88		
		No. of samples lifted	Found Adulterated	Percentage of adulteration	No. of samples lifted	Found Adulterated	Percentage of adulteration
1.	Beverages	13	—	Nil	35	05	14.28%
2.	Spices & Condiments	173	21	12.13%	174	52	29.88%
3.	Sweetening Agents	103	05	4.85%	27	09	33.33%
4.	Tea/Coffee	20	—	Nil	09	02	22.22%
5.	Milk & Milk Products	344	47	13.66%	182	31	17.03%
6.	Edible Oils	90	06	6.66%	89	03	3.33%
7.	Cereals	191	23	12.04%	86	15	17.44%
8.	Fruit Products	26	03	11.53%	03	01	33.33%
9.	Other Misc.	110	44	40%	32	20	62.5%
		1070	149	13.92%	637	138	21.6%



**Adulteration in Milk**

2943. SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI:  
SHRI V. VENKATESH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether adulteration in milk has been found highest in Delhi during the first four months of 1987-88; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to check adulteration in milk and other essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The percentage of adulteration in milk has increased from 13.66% during the year 1986-87 to 17.03 per cent in the capital during the first four months of 1987-88, as per the information provided by the Delhi Administration.

(b) The Department of prevention of Food Adulteration, Delhi Administration is making utmost efforts to check the adulteration by vigorous sampling drives and the adulterators are prosecuted in the court of law under the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act 1954.

As per the information provided by the Delhi Administration 1070 samples of milk and other essential commodities were

lifted during the entire year of 1986-87 whereas the number of samples lifted during the first four months of 1987-88 was 637.

**Operational Efficiency of DTC vis-a-vis its counter-parts in Metropolitan Cities**

2944. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the average occupancy rate per bus, fleet utilisation, average number of miles per litre of diesel oil consumption etc. (operational Indices) relating to Delhi Transport Corporation is compared to its counterparts like BEST in Bombay, A.P.S.R.T.C. in Hyderabad, M.S.R.T.C. in Madras and Bangalore;

(b) the reasons for the low-efficiency in Delhi Transport Corporation; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the efficiency in operation and maintenance of the vehicles under Delhi Transport Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The comparative data in respect of city services of Delhi Transport Corporation, Bombay Electric Supply and Transport Undertaking, and Pallavan Transport Corporation for 1986-87 is given in the table below:-

S. No.	Particulars	DTC	BEST	PTC
1.	Occupation ratio ( % )	166.80	124.00	123.50
2.	Fleet utilization ( % )	85.99	85.58	88.00
3.	Diesel consumption (Kilometers per litre)	3.59	2.94	3.49
4.	Earnings per Kilometer (paise)	318	596	506
5.	Accident rate (per 1 lakh Kms.)	1.67	6.79	3.30

Comparative data in respect of city services in Hyderabad and Bangalore are not readily available.

(b) The performance of DTC compares well in most respects with other city trans-

port Corporations. The difference in earning per kilometre is due to higher per kilometre passenger fares in Bombay and Madras.

(c) Some of the measures to improve

efficiency in DTC, which are taken on a continuing basis, are replacement of over-aged buses, deployment of infrastructural facilities, prescription of norms and targets for various performance parameters and speedy repair/maintenance of fleet.

#### **Shortfall of Actual Production of Rourkela Steel Plant**

2945. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any investigation has been made to determine the causes of shortfall of actual production of Rourkela Steel Plant at 1.1 million tonnes against the rated capacity of 1.8 million tonnes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether responsibilities for shortfall have been fixed?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The main reasons identified through studies for low production at Rourkela Steel Plant are:

- (i) Inherent bottlenecks in the equipment and design of the Plant.
- (ii) Deterioration in the quality of raw materials; and
- (iii) Progressively lowering availability and utilisation of equipment due to their ageing and technological obsolescence.

(c) In view of the above reasons being of a complex and varied nature, no specific responsibility can be fixed for actual production being below the rated capacity.

#### **Construction of New Hospital on Pattern of Safdarjang Hospital**

2946. SHRI D.N. REDDY : Will the Minis-

ter of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct a new hospital in West Delhi on the lines of the Safdarjang Hospital; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) The Delhi Administration propose to have the following hospitals in West Delhi;

- (1) 500 bedded Deendayal Upadhyay Hospital at Hari Nagar.
- (2) 100 bedded Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Hospital at Mongolpuri.
- (3) 100 bedded Hospital at Jaffarpur. The construction of the above Hospitals has already started.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Surprised Inspections to check Quality of Food served in Trains**

2947. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the quality of food served in the trains is very poor comparing to the price charged for it;

(b) whether there were any complaints regarding the quality of lunch/dinner packets served in Kerala Express;

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

(d) whether any surprise inspections were conducted by the Railway Authorities to check the quality of food served in trains; and

(e) if so, details thereof including the

findings of such inspections and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir. Extensive opinion polls conducted in number of trains reveal that majority of passengers found the quality of food to be good.

(b) Some complaints have been received.

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

(d) and (e) Inspections are carried out regularly by Inspectors and officers of the Railways to check the quality of meals and quality of service. Deficiencies noticed during the course of the inspections include some instances of food not being hot, the quality of food not being up to the mark, non-wearing of uniforms by bearers, delayed service, non-presentation of bills, etc. Remedial as well as penal action is taken against staff/contractors found responsible for deficiencies as a result of these inspections. The action taken to improve the catering includes use of better quality of raw materials, modernisation of base kitchens, training of staff, action against the staff and contractors, use of disposable containers, etc.

#### **Teaching Period for Teachers**

2948. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with a view to obtaining efficient and effective service from teachers Government had at one time decided to fix the maximum number of periods per week per teacher in Government and Government aided schools in Delhi at 28 and 32 periods per week?

(b) if so, what steps have since been taken to implement the decision; and

(c) if not, by what time the decision is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) According to information furnished by the Delhi Administration; and decision in principle taken in this regard by the Directorate of Education, Delhi Administration was not finally approved by the competent authority.

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

#### **Sri Lanka Request for Buses and Assistance in Road Building**

2949. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :  
SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sri Lanka has requested India to supply 2,500 buses;

(b) if so, whether any contract in this regard has been signed;

(c) whether Sri Lankan Government has also asked for help and assistance in regard to building of roads; and

(d) if so, whether India has agreed to help Sri Lankan Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) No formal request has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No formal request has been received.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Acceptance of LPG Cylinders by Oil Companies**

2950. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the special steel made by Steel Authority of India Limited for LPG cylinders has not been accepted by the oil companies;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken to sort out this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, during the month of March, 1987 some Cylinder manufacturers brought it to the notice of SAIL that H.R. Sheets of some heats showed excessive cracks while forming the Cylinders. As a matter of abundant caution SAIL, on its own, took a decision to withdraw these sheets available with these cylinder manufacturers.

(c) Technical experts of SAIL reviewed various aspects involved in the production of LPG steel sheets. Stringent process control measures have also been adopted to reduce the possibility of failures.

#### **Field Trial of an Anti-Cholera Drug in Bangladesh by Western Scientists**

2951. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to Western Scientists mass field trials in Bangladesh of an anti-cholera drug violating the provisions of the Declaration of Helsinki, which guides medical research on human subjects;

(b) if so, whether being a member of the South Asian Association of Regional Co-operation, Government propose to take up the matter with the World Health Organisation, which sponsored the whole research; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) As per information provided by W.H.O. the mass trials of anti-cholera drug and vaccines on human volunteers in Bangladesh were done after animal trials were completed. This is the accepted practice. It does not violate the provision of 'Declaration of Helsinki' which guides medical research on human subjects.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Late Running of Delhi-Sitapur Express Train**

2952. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the express train running between Delhi and Sitapur often reaches Sitapur as well as Delhi late; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to check late running of this train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Whereas the express train between Delhi and Sitapur City runs to time, the Express train between Sitapur City and Delhi reaches destination late sometimes mainly due to alarm chain pulling by miscreants.

(b) A close watch is being kept over its running.

[*English*]

#### **Integrated Education for Disabled**

2953. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK: SHRI K. PRADHANI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to extend the Integrated Education Scheme for the

disabled to all the uncovered areas in the current Plan period;

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

(c) the expenditure incurred on the Scheme during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The Government propose to steadily expand the coverage of the Centrally sponsored scheme of Integrated Education for the Disabled Children during the current Plan period. The Scheme has recently been revised in the light of the National Policy on Education and the Programme of Action. In the revised scheme the States/UTs have been advised to select specific blocks for implementation of the scheme and provide all the necessary inputs in the schools there, instead of implementing the scheme in scattered schools. Voluntary/autonomous organisations are also proposed to be involved to accelerate the pace of implementation of the scheme.

(c) 1985-86	Rs. 45.00 lakhs
1986-87	Rs. 170.77 lakhs

#### **Slow Work on National Highway No. 12 between Durrah and Suket**

2954. SHRI JUJHAR SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the reasons for slow and sub-standard work on National Highway No. 12 between Durrah and Suket on Kota-Jhalawar Track of Rajasthan.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): The progress of works on this stretch of road which is being done according to the specifications, has suffered due to heavy rainfall during 1987.

[*Translation*]

#### **Retirement Age of Doctors, Teachers & Professors**

2955. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the retirement age of the Homoeopathy Ayurvedic and Allopathy doctors is 58 years whereas the retirement age of the teachers and University Professors is 60 years:

(b) whether the experience of the doctors increases with the age and they become more useful for the nation;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to increase the retirement age of doctors to 60 years and if so, by what time; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) There is no proposal at present to raise the retirement age of the Homoeopathic and Ayurvedic doctors to 60 years.

However, in the case of Allopathic doctors, in the package of benefits announced to the striking doctors it was mentioned that the question of enhancement of retirement age from 58 to 60 years will be considered in the context of general policy with regard to the retirement age for various categories of Central Government employees. At present there is no proposal to raise the retirement age.

[*English*]

#### **Price Control of Vaccines for Diphtheria, Tetanus etc.**

2956. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI:

**SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI:**

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vaccines for Diptheria Tetanus, Partussis and Triple Antigen are required for immunisation under the 'National Health Programme';

(b) if so, whether vaccines for the above diseases are produced in the country and there have been no imports during the last three years;

(c) the annual allocation for the purchase of these vaccines;

(d) whether Government have not yet recommended for price control of these vaccines under category I; and

(e) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHA-PARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Country is self sufficient in indigenous production of these vaccines. However, UNICEF imported 7.5 million doses of DPT and 5 million doses of DT vaccine for the programme in 1984-85.

(c) Annual allocation for the purchase of these vaccines are given below:

(Rs in lakhs)

	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
DPT	266 43	314 54	323 03
DT	100 55	94 16	70 04
TT	78 39	100 44	81 40

(d) and (e) Seras and vaccines were not included for price control under Category-I, as their availability is far more important than the price, because price control has led to acute shortage of vaccines.

**Introduction of a Daily Train between Bangalore and Howrah**

2957. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any daily train facility between Bangalore and Howrah; and

(b) if not, whether in view of great demand from Bangalore to Howrah, there is any proposal to introduce a daily train between Bangalore-Howrah?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Two through coaches are available between Bangalore and Howrah. Besides intending passengers can travel with a single change-over at Jolarpettai/Madras.

[Translation]

**Musk Deer Sanctuary**

2958. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of musk deer in Dharmdhar of Pithoragarh district in Uttar Pradesh during the current financial year;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) to (c) A Wildlife sanctuary has been established at Askot in Pithoragarh district for the protection and propagation of local fauna including the musk deer.

[English]

**"Research Projects on Conservation and Protection of Environment"**

2959. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of research projects on conservation and protection of environment that are being sponsored by his Ministry;

(b) the estimated cost thereof; and

(c) the main features of these research projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) The research projects sponsored are given below:

	Number	Outlay (Rs in crores)	
1	Ongoing projects	345	19 16
2	Completed projects	292	8 80
3.	total number of projects (ongoing + completed)	637	27 96

(c) The research projects relate to studies on multi-disciplinary aspects of environmental protection with a view to develop strategies for sustainable resource management as well as aim to create facilities to conduct environmental research. The subject areas of projects include land use, flora, fauna, health, toxicology, monitoring for prevention and control of air, water and land pollution, ethnobiology, endangered plant and animal species, seed biology and tissue culture and environmental impact assessment. The R&D projects are implemented through Government/semi Government/autonomous institution and universities by augmenting the facilities for research and manpower by appropriate financial assistance. The progress of these projects is monitored through various mechanisms like review meetings/workshops, annual progress reports and review by experts. The findings from R&D projects are communicated to user agencies for implementation.

**Archaeological Excavations in Rajasthan**

2960. SHRI VISHNU MODI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any excavation work is going on in the State of Rajasthan by the Archaeological Department; and

(b) if so, their locations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, approval has already been accorded to the State Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Rajasthan to resume excavation at Ganeshwar, district Sikar, Rajasthan during the season (1987-88).

**Allocation for Drive Against Tobacco**

2961. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the funds allocated for launching publicity drive against all forms of tobacco use for the years 1986-87 and 1987-88?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): No specific allocation of funds has been made during the 7th Five Year Plan for launching publicity drive against the use of all forms of tobacco products. However, with a view to creating public awareness on the health hazard of tobacco, a comprehensive health education campaign has been undertaken through cinema slides, mass media and pamphlets. Government of India had earlier produced a documentary film highlighting the hazards of smoking and chewing of tobacco and their relationship with Oral Cancer.

[Translation]

**Repair of National Highways Damaged by Floods in Bihar**

2962. SHRI R.S. KHIRHAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways damaged by floods in Bihar are proposed to be repaired urgently;

(b) if so, by what time and the total amount allotted so far; and

(c) whether Government propose to undertake repair work of the National Highway from Muzaffarpur to Sitamari in the next financial year?

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

(b) Repairs of immediate nature are

expected to be completed within this financial year. Permanent remedial measures are likely to be completed within 3 years subject to availability to resources. An allotment of Rs. 647.58 lakhs has so far been made to Bihar Government for Maintenance and Repairs of National Highways during 1987-88.

(c) Muzaffarpur to Sitamari is not a National Highway. Responsibility for repairs to this road rests with the State Government.

[English]

**Scaling of 'White Needle Peak' by Women Teams**

2963. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some teams of Indian Women had scaled 'White Needle Peak';

(b) if so, the details of this expedition;

(c) whether the Indian Mountaineering Federation proposes to draw some more programme to encourage large number of women in the country to participate in these expeditions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) and (b) According to the information received from Indian Mountaineering Foundation, a team led by Kumari Nasim Akhtar, General Secretary, Adventurous Forum of Youth, Guwahati scaled 'White Needle Peak' (6500 m) in Kashmir Himalaya during September, 1987. The team consisted of 10 women, 2 male instructors, one doctor, 4 helping members and one television camera member.



(c) to (e) The Indian Mountaineering Foundation holds annual winter camps and rock climbing meets in which girls are encouraged to participate.

#### **Catering arrangements at New Delhi Railway Station**

2964. SHRI MOTILAL SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether after introduction of hygienic and tasty snacks of standard quality in place of fresh poorie/subzi trollies, in consultation with the India Tourism Development Corporation, there have been any improvement in the state of congestion at the platforms at New Delhi Railway Station;

(b) the number of stalls removed and the number of added commission vendors employed for sale of pouries in casseroles; and

(c) the amount of loss sustained, if any, on account of the stuffs served in casseroles and the loss due to removal of fresh poori/subzi trollies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No stall has been removed from the platform but some stalls have been reduced in size, and some stalls resited. No additional commission vendor has been employed but 3 existing Commission Waiters have been utilised for sale of poories in casseroles.

(c) Profit and Loss account is maintained unitwise and not for each item separately. New Delhi vending unit is earning profit.

#### **Sindhi Vikas Board**

2965. SHRI S.G. GHOLAP : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to form a Sindhi Vikas Board on the lines of Urdu Vikas Board for the development of Sindhi language and literature; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b) A proposal to form Sindhi Vikas Board on the lines of the Taraqqi Urdu Board for the development of Sindhi language and literature is under consideration of the Central Government.

[*Translation*]

#### **Leasing out of Mines in Harijan and Advasi Areas**

2966. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give on lease the mines in those areas predominantly inhabited by Harijans and Adivasis with a view to raise the standard of living of these sections of population; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAMDULARI SINHA) : (a) and (b) Bringing new area under mining operations depends on various economic considerations including potentiality of the area. Under the existing law, it is open for any person to apply for mining lease over any area except area reserved for exploitation in the public sector and the lease is granted generally on the basis of priority of applications. There is no proposal to give preference for grant of lease to areas predominantly inhabited by Harijans and Adivasis.

[English]

**Amount Released for Kumbalangi-Perumpadappu Bridge**

2967. PROF. K V THOMAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to, state the assistance so far released out of Central Road Fund (Allocation) for the construction of Kumbalangi-Perumpadappu bridge in Cochin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : Funds out of Central Road Fund are not released workwise but in lumpsum to the State Govt. Keeping in view the total cost of schemes approved for the State based on their accruals, amount released there against, balance of operative sanctions in hand, requirement of funds projected by State Govt. and availability of funds in Budget. The work for the construction of Kumbalangi-Perumpadappu Bridge in Cochin was originally approved in January 1981 at an estimated cost of Rs 80 00 lakhs which was subsequently revised in June 1984 to Rs 148 50 lakhs including Rs 120.00 lakhs debitible to Central Road Fund (Allocation). However, the particulars of technically sanctioned works of this Bridge for authorisation to Audit to admit expenditure thereon are still awaited from the State Govt. The amount released to State Govt. of Kerala for the years 1981-82 to 1986-87 out of this Fund is as under—

Year	Amount released
	(Rs in lakhs)
1981-82	39 40
1982-83	33 73
1983-84	82 83
1984-85	110 00
1985-86	80 00
1986-87	Nil

[Translation]

**Construction of Approach Road over Indravati River**

2968 SHRI MANKURAM SODI Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether the construction of the approach road to the bridge over Indravati river near Jagdalpur in Baster District of Madhya Pradesh is not satisfactory;

(b) the time schedule fixed for completing the construction work of the approach road and the reasons for the delay; and

(c) whether any departmental action has been taken for delaying and not completing the construction work by the Contractor in accordance with the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (c) The construction of Indravati Bridge has since been completed. However the work of approaches has received a set back on account of difficulties in acquiring forest land and contractual problems. The contract with the Contractor has been rescinded and State Public Works Department propose to complete the work departmentally by March, 1988. Necessary action is being taken against the defaulting Contractor as per terms of agreement.

**News-Item Captioned "Nirog Ke Naam Par Ho Raha Hai Maut Ka Ayat"**

2969. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item "Nirog ke naam par ho raha hai maut ka ayat" published in the "Jalte Deep" dated 23 September, 1987;

(b) if so, whether Government have signed an agreement with America under which a vaccine injectable with sharp nee-

dles into the patient's body is proposed to be imported;

(c) whether American scientists themselves are doubtful about the success of the said vaccine because of no firm opinion of their own regarding the same;

(d) if so, whether Government had considered this aspect before entering into an agreement; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b) The Government of India has not come across any News item "Nirog ke Naam par ho Raha Hai Maut Ka Ayat". However, the Government of India have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the conceptual frame work of Vaccine Action Programme. This programme envisages upgradation of present technology and development of new technologies in respect of several vaccines against communicable diseases widely prevalent in India and those of interest to the country.

(c) to (e) While signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Government, Government of India had taken into consideration every aspect of the matter. Only vaccines against diseases of major public health importance in India will be selected. Their selection will also be dependent upon evidence of efficacy in laboratory investigation and freedom from adverse reaction. Each Vaccine proposed for inclusion will be carefully screened by Indian experts before deciding on the issue.

[English]

#### **'Rapidly Dwindling of Forest in Orissa'**

2970. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the forest in Orissa are dwindling rapidly and if the present rate of denudation continues, barely 5 percent of the States total geographical area will remain under 'closed forests' by the end of this century;

(b) whether Union Government have sought any report from the State Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the co-operation that has been extended by Government in this regard to Orissa State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) According to the survey carried out by National Remote Sensing Agency using satellite imagery, the loss of forest cover in state of Orissa during the period 1972-75 to 1980-82 was 8958 Km<sup>2</sup> which amounts to 5.8% of the geographical area of the State. The Forest Survey of India has estimated that for the period 1981-83, the area under 'closed forests' and 'open forests' was 18.3% and 15.6% respectively, of the geographical area of the State.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Ilmenite Places Deposits**

2971. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is known since 1945 that ilmenite places deposits exist along the Konkan coast of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, whether the surveys by the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) along the Jaigad-Vijaydurg sector of Konkan coast have revealed substantial ilmenite deposits;

(c) if so, whether plans have been prepared for probing the reserves by drilling bore-holes;

(d) if so, the year by which the reserves are likely to be exploited commercially; and

(e) the plans for setting up of industries in the backward Konkan region of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

#### **Revenue from Freight Traffic**

2972. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the achievement of revenue earning from freight traffic during the period April-September, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : The total earnings from freight traffic during the period April to September, 1987 is Rs. 2913.63 crores.

#### **Implementation of Chattopadhaya Commission Report**

2973. SHRI SWAMI PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any action on implementation of the recommendations made by Chattopadhaya Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the date from which these recommendations have been implemented; and

(c) if not, the detailed reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) to (c) The National Commission on Teachers I (Chat-

topadhaya Commission) submitted its report on 26.3.1985. The Government appointed an Empowered Committee under the Chairmanship of Education Secretary on 16.10.1985 with a view to examining the recommendations made by the National Commission on Teachers-I. Meanwhile, Government started the formulation of New Education Policy. Since important issues considered by the Commission were also under consideration in the New Education Policy, it was decided to withhold examination of the recommendations.

Based on the recommendations of the NCT-I and the views of the Empowered Committee thereon, as also the postulates of National Education Policy, 1986, Government have revised the pay-scales of school teachers working in Union Territories and the Central autonomous bodies. Besides, several recommendations of NCT-I have also been covered under the National Policy on Education, 1986 and the Programme of Action formulated by the Ministry which are under various stages of implementation. Accordingly, action has already been taken on as many as 56 recommendations. In respect of the remaining recommendations, the Empowered Committee which has since been reconstituted is examining them. Based on the recommendations of the Empowered Committee, appropriate action will be taken by the Government.

#### **Captive Breeding of Otter**

2974. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any programme for captive breeding of otter has been launched by the Karnataka Forest Department;

(b) if so, the main features of the programme;

(c) whether any assistance has been provided to the State Government for implementing this programme; and

(d) to what extent the programme has been successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main features of this programme include captive breeding of two species of otters for purposes of rehabilitation in the wild.

(c) The Central Govt. has provided Rs. 2,37,500/- to Karnataka for this programme.

(d) The programme was initiated in 1986-87 and infrastructure for captive breeding is being raised.

[*Translation*]

### III effects of Eucalyptus Plantation

2975. SHRI AKHTAR HASAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that more adverse effect of drought is caused to the land area near large eucalyptus plantations;

(b) whether Government have conducted or propose to conduct any study in this regard; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to check the effect of drought on near-by area and on vegetation due to the existence of eucalyptus plantations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) There is no conclusive evidence to prove that lands located near large scale Eucalyptus plantation are more prone to drought than other comparable lands.

(b) Several studies have been undertaken for assessing water requirements of

Eucalyptus and its effect on soil moisture and groundwater table. Some of these are continuing.

(c) Government have issued guidelines for choice of species in consultation with local people, restricting monoculture plantations preferring mixtures of indigenous species and not resorting to clearfelling of natural growth, except in small patches, to raise plantations.

[*English*]

### "Migration of 'Kiang' to India from Tibet"

2976. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the population of 'KIANG' a wild ass in the Changthang area of Ladakh has increased many fold as a result of large scale migration of the said animal across the border from Tibet, as well as, due to protection given to the animal in our side of the area;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to increase in number and voracious feeding habit of the said animal, the grazing area and the shrubs and bushes have denuded which has adversely affected the health of domestic animal and has also badly affected the environment.

(c) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to control the migration and multiplication of 'KIANG' population to protect the environmental surroundings and the domestic animals of the people living in the border area; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) Since no monitoring of the population of the 'KIANG' or Tibetan Wild ass has been carried out, it is not possible to confirm whether any large scale migration of the

species into the Changthang has occurred or not?

(b) According to the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir no data is available to show that the grazing grounds have been denuded because of increase in the population of the Kiang.

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

[*Translation*]

#### **Damage to Tracks due to Floods in Bihar**

2977. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the operation of trains on Bakhtiyarpur-Rajgir line in Danapur Division in Eastern Railway has been suspended due to damage caused by floods there;

(b) whether the daily passengers, pilgrims and other tourists visiting Rajriha, Nalanda, Pawapuri and Bihar Sharif are facing great inconvenience as a result thereof; and

(c) if so the time by which Government would undertake the work of repair on the damaged tracks and restore the operation of trains there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some inconvenience is inevitable.

(c) The restoration work has been commenced by the Eastern Railway and likely to be completed by 31-1-1988

[*English*]

#### **Policy Regarding Appointment of Vice-Chancellors etc. of Central Universities**

2978. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for appointment of Vice Chancellors/Rectors/Pro-Vice Chancellors in Central Universities;

(b) whether there is any uniform Policy in this regard; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of SCs/STs among them in the Central Universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) (i) In University of Delhi, Jawaharlal Nehru University, North-Eastern Hill University (Shillong), Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi and University of Hyderabad, the Vice-Chancellor is appointed by the Visitor, from a panel of not less than 3 names recommended by a Committee, consisting of a nominee of the Visitor and 2 nominees of the Executive Council/Board of Management of the University.

(ii) In the case of the Aligarh Muslim University, the Vice-Chancellor is appointed by the Visitor from a panel of at least 3 persons recommended by the Court from a panel of 5 persons recommended by the Executive Council.

(iii) In the case of Visva-Bharati the Vice-Chancellor is appointed by the Visitor from a panel of not less than three persons recommended by a Committee consisting of one nominee of the Court, one nominee of the Executive Council and one nominee of the Visitor.

(iv) In the case of the Banaras Hindu University, the Vice-Chancellor is appointed by the Visitor on the recommendation of a Selection Committee constituted by the Visitor for the purpose.

(v) The first Vice-Chancellor of the Pondicherry University has been appointed by

the Visitor for a term of five years under the transitional provisions of its act.

(vi) The Pro-Vice-Chancellor/Rector of Central University is appointed by the Executive Council/Board of Management of the University on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor. In the case of Visva-Bharati, the Governor of West Bengal is Rector of the University.

(b) A uniform policy is adopted in regard to the appointment of the above functionaries in the Central Universities.

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

#### **South Indians More Prone to Diabetes**

2979. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether South Indians are more prone to diabetes than people in other parts of the country;

(b) whether another kind of diabetes known as 'insulin requiring diabetes' which was different from 'insulin dependent diabetes' and non insulin dependent diabetes' was noticed in the General Hospital of Madras;

(c) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) There is no hard data to indicate any significant difference in the prevalence of diabetes in South India as compared to the other parts of the country.

(b) This type of diabetes has been described from several parts of the country, although different nomenclatures have been used.

(c) and (d) Studies have been initiated. A report from Orissa suggests that below the age of 30 years, malnutrition related diabetes mellitus may constitute 2/3rd of all cases, with preponderance of protein deficient diabetes.

#### **Cancellation of Himsagar Express**

2980. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have cancelled the Himsagar Express which linked Kashmir and Kanyakumari; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The train has been cancelled due to inadequate through traffic and increase in frequency of New Delhi-Kerala Express to daily.

#### **Additional Coaches to Agra-Jhansi and Malwa Express**

2981. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agra-Jhansi Express via Gwalior is always over-crowded;

(b) whether there is a demand from the Agra passengers for providing additional coaches to this train as also to Malwa Express;

(c) whether there is also a demand for a special halt at Datia, a place away from Morena; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) 11 pairs of mail/express and one pair of passenger trains connect Agra with Jhansi at convenient

timings. There is, however, no Agra-Jhansi Express.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Malwa Express and 7 other trains have been provided halt at Datia.

**Increase in Reservation Quota in Trains Originating from Assam**

2982. SHRI MANIK SANYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that all the trains originating from different parts of Assam, bound for Howrah, New Delhi, Bombay, Trivandrum and Lucknow etc. passing through different railways stations of North Bengal are having meagre quota of reservations; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to increase the quota in these trains, in view of the sufferings of the people of North Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The distribution of existing reservation quotas in different trains originating from Assam has been done on the basis of demand pattern of different interests, namely, travelling public from North Eastern States, North Bengal, Sikkim, part of Bihar, etc. There is no scope for making adjustments in these quotas for the present.

**Community Health Volunteer Scheme**

2983. SHRI A. J. V. B.  
MAHESHWARA RAO:  
SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA  
REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Community Health Volunteer Scheme is being implemented by paying Rs. 100 per worker;

(b) whether this scheme is not being implemented properly as medicines are not supplied to workers regularly; and

(c) the number of workers working under this scheme, State-wise, and steps Government propose to take to improve the working of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Village Health Guides previously called Community Health Volunteer is getting an honorarium of Rs. 50/- P.M.

(b) Preventive and promotive aspects of Health Care are being carried out normally. However, the treatment of minor ailments/injuries is affected if medicines are not supplied regularly.

(c) The State-wise number of Health Guides functioning in the country is given in the statement below.

The modifications contemplated by Government of India will be implemented after the Writ Petition filed by Health Guide Associations are vacated by the Courts.

**STATEMENT**

*State-wise Number of Health Guides Functioning in the Country*

States/U.Ts	Number
Andhra Pradesh	34822
Assam	10192
Bihar	12180
Goa	458
Gujarat	288
Haryana	9512
Himachal Pradesh	4328
Karnataka	14673



States/Uts.	Number
Madhya Pradesh	31739
Maharashtra	43154
Manipur	1718
Nagaland	348
Orissa	22495
Punjab	11931
Rajasthan	184
Sikkim	273
Tripura	1897
Uttar Pradesh	82855
West Bengal	41233
Grand Total	324280

#### **Samples of Drugs Drawn for Testing During 1986-87**

2984. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many samples of drugs were drawn by the Inspector of Drugs for testing in the year 1986-87;

(b) how many of the said samples were sent to the Central Drug Laboratory for testing;

(c) how many reports of those tests have been received;

(d) how many samples were found sub-standard;

(e) what action has been taken against the erring manufacturing companies; and

(f) whether there is any proposal for overhauling the Central Drug Laboratory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (f). As per the information available during 1986-87, 28382 samples were drawn for testing, out of which 4066 samples were reported to be sub-standard. During 1986-87, prosecutions were launched in respect of 1011 cases. Departmental actions such as cancellation/suspension of licences of the firms, withdrawal of batches from the market etc. were taken in respect of remaining cases. 664 prosecutions cases were decided which resulted in conviction in 428 cases and 236 acquittals.

A plan proposal has been drawn up for strengthening the Central drug testing laboratories.

#### **Telephones at Enquiry Offices at Railway Stations**

2985. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is only one telephone each, for general enquiry and reservation enquiry at railway station. Delhi and other big cities which remain generally engaged and the public is put to much inconvenience as a result thereof;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to provide more telephones both at general enquiry offices and reservation enquiry offices at the main railway stations at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Varanasi etc.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). No. Sir. At Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Varanasi, more than one P & T phone each in General Enquiry Office and Reservation Enquiry Office has been provided. The

existing number of telephones is adequate for the present

#### **Passenger Amenities in Trains**

2986. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars regarding passenger amenities provided to passengers on board of the trains;

(b) whether there is any distinction between such amenities on various trains; and

(c) if so, the criteria on which such distinctions are fixed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) to (c) The standard of passenger amenities is related to the requirement of different types of journeys namely suburban, short distance, long distance, etc

#### **'Substitution of Aluminium for Wood'**

2987 SHRI NARSING SURYAWANSHI Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that Aluminium Association of India has stated that vast areas of forests could be saved by using aluminium as a substitute for wood in doors and windows in houses and added that one lakh trees can be saved a year, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z R ANSARI) (a) Government are not aware of any report published by Aluminium Association of India regarding substitution of aluminium for wood

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Disparity in pay scales of Research Assistants and Assistant Research Officers of Central Ayurveda and Siddha Research Council**

2988 SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SINGH Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) whether Research Assistants and Assistant Research Officers (Ayurved) have been given the pay scale of Rs 1400-2300 and Rs 2000-3500 respectively in the Central Ayurveda and Siddha Research Council,

(b) whether the Fourth Pay Commission had recommended a uniform pay scale of Rs 2200-4000 for all the graduates of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathic system of medicine as has been done in the case of MBBS, and

(c) if so, the reasons for which Research Assistants and Assistant Research Officers (Ayurved) working in Central Ayurveda and Siddha Research Councils have not been placed in the pay scales as recommended by the Pay Commission in spite of the fact that graduates and post-graduates in Ayurveda are also holding these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) (a) Yes Sir

(b) The 4th Pay Commission had recommended that the posts of Indian Systems of Medicine/Homoeopathy physicians in the prervised scale of Rs 650-1200 in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare may be given the revised scale of Rs 2200-4000 if the incumbents are degree holders in Ayurvedic Siddha Unani and Homoeopathic systems of medicine

(c) The Research Assistants and Assistant Research Officers (Ayurveda) working in the Central Council for Research in

Ayurveda and Siddha have been provided revised scales of pay as per recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission for these categories of posts in these scales.

[English]

**Restoration of Suspended N.G. Trains on Western Railway**

2989. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding N.G. Sections and trains in Gujarat on Western Railway that had been suspended during the past six months and have not been restored yet

(b) whether Government are aware that

N.G. Sections in Gujarat are passing through backward areas; and

(c) if so, the steps taken for recommencement of such suspended railway routes and trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Details of N.G. trains which remained suspended as on 1.11.87 are given in the statement given below.

(b) and (c). Traffic requirements of the various sections have been kept in view while suspending certain trains as a measure of rationalisation of N.G. services as also due to water scarcity in some sections.

**STATEMENT**

*Restoration of suspended N.G. trains on Western Railway*

*Details of N.G. Sections and Trains Remaining Suspended as on 31-10-87*

S. No.	Section	Trains Description
1	2	3
<i>Rationalisation</i>		
1.	Ankleshwar-Rajpipla	135/158 Mixed
2.	Nadiad-Bhadran	181/182 Mixed
3.	—do—	183/184 Passenger
4.	Nadiad-Kapadvanj	163/166 Mixed
5.	Miyagam-Makrol	193/194 Mixed
6.	Dabhoi-Timba Road	225/226 Passenger
7.	Chanded-Dabhoi	248 Mixed
8.	—do—	195/196 Mixed
9.	Dabhoi-Malsar	209/210 Mixed
10.	Pratapnagar-Jambusar	197/198 Mixed
11.	—do—	215A/216A Passenger

1	2	3
12.	Pratapnagar-Dabhol	215 Passenger
13.	—do—	212 Passenger
14.	Samni-Dahej	217/218 Mixed
15.	—do—	231/232 Passenger
<b>Water scarcity</b>		
1	Joravarnagar-Sayla	490/491 Mixed
2.	Bhavnagar-Talaja	497/498 Mixed
3.	Bhavnagar-Mahuva	495/496 Mixed.

### **Performance of Public Sector Undertakings**

2990. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the production performance of public sector undertakings under his Ministry during this year;

(b) whether there have been steady improvement in the production performance;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the efforts made to improve the performance further to achieve the annual target?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (c) A State-

ment giving details in regards to the production performance of undertakings under the Department of Steel for the last 2 years and for the first 7 months of the current year, alongwith corresponding growth rates, is given below.

In so far as the undertakings under the Department of Mines are concerned, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Improvement of production performance is a continuous process and efforts are being made not only to achieve planned targets but to exceed them. These efforts are by way of improving work-culture, better maintenance of plant and equipment, adherence to technological norms and better and more effective monitoring.

## STATEMENT

## Production Performance of Public Sector Undertakings under Department of Steel

Name of the Public Sector Undertaking and product	Production given in (Unit)	1985-86	1986-87	Growth rate (%)	1987-88 (April to October, 1987)	Growth rate for the first 7 months over the corresponding period last year (%)	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
<b>1 Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)</b>							
Saleable Steel	Lakh tonnes	60.04	63.12	5	34.84	12	—
<b>2. Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd. (KIOCL)</b>							
(a) Iron Ore Concentrate	Lakh tonnes	18.02	34.58	92	20.05	6	—
(b) Pellets	Lakh tonnes	—	1.85	—	3.76	—	—
<b>3. National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC)</b>							
(a) Iron Ore	Lakh tonnes	93.85	101.25	8	47.55	(—) 5	Drop in iron ore production due to fire accident at Bailadila-14 mine of NMDC.
(b) Diamonds	Carats	15,819	15,190	(—) 4	9,050	7	—

\* Commercial production of pellets started in April, 1987.

4. *Manganese Ore (India) Ltd. (MOIL)*

Manganese Ore	Lakh tonnes	4 53	4 79	6	2 65	(—) 1	Marginal drop due to planned reduction of low grade ore which is uneconomical.
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5. *Bharat Refractories Limited (BRL)*

Bricks (including mass)	tonnes	52,556	54,360	3	29,001	(—) 2	Marginal drop due to frequent power interruptions, labour problems and some equipment failures.
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6 *India Firebricks and Insulation Company Limited (IFICO)*

Bricks (including mass)	tonnes	32,006	31,276	(—)2	18,217	4	—
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7. *Sponge Iron India Ltd SILL*

Sponge Iron	tonnes	42,033	51,545	23	19,632	(—)25	60% power cut imposed on all industries in the State of Andhra Pradesh for over 3 months.
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**University Status to Jamia Millia Islamia**

2991. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to grant University Status to Jamia Millia Islamia in the light of views of the University Grants Commission; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The proposal is being examined in the light of the views of the University grants Commission.

**Drug to Cure Baldness**

2992. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Regional Research Laboratory, Hyderabad has developed a drug to cure baldness;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the new drug has any side-effects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith trials carried out on the medicine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No, Sir. However, Regional Research Laboratory, Hyderabad has worked out on a process development of known drug 'Minozidal' which has been marketed in USA.

(b) Regional Research Laboratory, Hyderabad has worked out its manufactur-

ing process under a sponsored scheme by CIPLA, Bombay.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Trials in India have not been carried out. However, dermatological effects are reported to have been observed in some cases. Some investigators related dermatological effects such as itching, scaling, flushing to the use of minoxidil. Once started, use of minoxidil will require to be continued because of danger of hair fall in case of discontinuation of its use.

**International Meet on Children**

2993. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an International Meet on Children was held in Delhi in November, 1987;

(b) if so, what was the motto of this Meet;

(c) the name of the States and foreign countries who participated in the Meet;

(d) whether the National Museum for Children has also been inaugurated on the occasion; and

(c) if so, the name of place where this has been set up with special features of this Museum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) No International Meet on Child was held in Delhi in November, 1987. However, the Bal Bhavan Society, (India) organised National Children's Assembly, Bal Divas, Theatre Festival from 10th to 19th November on the occasion of birthdays of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Smt. Indira Gandhi. About 200 children from different State Bal Bhavans! Bal Kendras of India came for the occasion. A large number of children from

Delhi and its surrounding areas also participated in the activities.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The National Museum of the Child is under construction. The Museum, when completed, will have 5 galleries, Audio-Visual Block, Science Section and Astronomical Laboratory under the Dome.

**“World Environment Programme Aid to Gujarat”**

2994. SHRI P PENCHALLIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total aid of World Environment Programme for forestry development in tribal districts of Gujarat; and

(b) whether the aid extends for five years or more?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z R. ANSARI): (a) No aid has been provided from World Environment Programme for forestry development in tribal districts of Gujarat.

(b) Does not arise.

**Duty time for Music and Primary Teachers of Kendriya Vidyalayas**

2995. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the school timings in Kendriya Vidyalayas for primary, secondary and higher secondary sections, respectively;

(b) whether the timings for music and primary teachers in many a Kendriya Vidyalayas in Delhi and outside are more than the normal timings prescribed for primary, secondary and higher secondary sections; and

(c) if so, the reasons and justification for such variation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The school hours in all the Kendriya Vidyalayas are as follows:

(i) Primary Sections	5 Hours 30 minutes including 30 minutes recess.
(ii) Secondary and Higher Secondary Sections.	6 Hours 10 minutes including 30 minutes recess.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Transfer Guidelines for Teachers of Kendriya Vidyalayas**

2996. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision in the Transfer Guidelines of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan that Post-graduate teachers promoted as Vice-Principals should be posted outside the region of their present posting as also in another language area;

(b) whether this provision is being adhered to in toto; and

(c) the details of such promotees who have been given promotional postings either within the region or within the same language area where the promotees had been posted on the eve of their promotions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.



**Compensation to Families of Indian Seamen Died in Gulf War**

2997. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Seamen who have lost their lives working on merchant ships, on account of attacks against their ships in the Gulf war during the last one year;

(b) whether families of such victims are duly compensated by the respective companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the remedial steps Government propose to ensure compensation to families of those victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No Indian Seamen engaged through Seamen's Employment Offices Bombay and Calcutta working on Merchant Ships have lost their lives on account of attack against their ships in the Gulf War during the last one year. However, one Indian national working on a UAE fishing boat died as a result of an attack on it by a U.S. Naval ship on 1.11.87.

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

**Restoration of Shimla-Amritsar Mail And Ranchi Express**

2998. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Administration has taken note of the extreme inconvenience caused to the people of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh by the cancellation of the Shimla-Amritsar Mail and Ranchi Express, running between Kalka and Amritsar with through coaches for Pathan-

kot/Jammu and between Kalka and Ranchi respectively during the current year (1987-88);

(b) whether representations for the restoration of these trains have been received by the railway Administrations;

(c) if so, the decision taken thereon and the likely dates by which the trains would be restored; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to alleviate the sufferings of the people on this score?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Though certain representations have been received, the traffic offering on the route is meagre. There is also no serious inconvenience as suitable connecting trains via Ambala are available to/from various destinations for these few passengers.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

**Renovation of Unremunerative Railway Lines**

2999. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to take steps to make some of the unremunerative railway lines profitable by providing a few missing links like Salla Khurd-Hoshiarpur in Northern Railway so as to enable them to attract more traffic;

(b) if so, the names of the railway lines which have been selected for this purpose, zone-wise and the likely date by which missing link would be provided; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) As per accepted

recommendations of the National Transport Policy Committee criteria for choice of new rail lines includes "rail lines to serve as missing links which can form alternative route to relieve congestion on existing busy rail route". There is no proposal for construction of rail line from Saila Khurd to Hoshiarpur.

(b) Construction of Talcher-Sambalpur rail line in South Eastern Railway was approved as a missing link. Its completion will depend on availability of resources in the coming years.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Research Centres Financed by Indian Council of Social Science Research**

3000 SHRI MANIK REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of Research Institutes/Centres in the country which are presently funded by the Indian Council of Social Science Research for their maintenance through recurring grants;

(b) the procedure for selecting or identifying such Institutes;

(c) the details of Research Institutes in the country which got only non-recurring grant since 1984 and the amount granted to each of them; and

(d) whether there are any applications pending with the ICSSR requesting for grants under this scheme; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI):(a) to (d) Financial assistance is given by the Indian Council of Social Science Research to research institutes/centres in accordance with the criteria and procedure laid down in the Rules of grant-in-aid to societies and institutes

doing research in the field of social sciences and which are outside the purview of the University Grants Commission. The criteria laid down include that the institute should be a registered society in existence for a period not less than five years; should be of an all-India character; and should have achieved excellence in the field of social sciences. Such institutes are identified by the ICSSR with the prior approval of the Government of India on the basis of recommendations of a visiting committee with regard to its competence and potential. Under the aforesaid, scheme financial support is presently being extended to 22 Research Institute/Centres as detailed in the statement given below. Apart from grants for non-recurring items of expenditure, all these institutes are provided financial assistance for meeting recurring items of expenditure. The proposals for grants under the scheme from the following institutes are pending final decision in the matter:-

- (i) The Gujarat Institute of Area Planning, Ahmedabad.
- (ii) The Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, New Delhi.
- (iii) The Ambedkar Institute of Labour Studies, Bombay.

#### **STATEMENT**

##### *List of Addresses of the Research Institutes Supported by the ICSSR*

- 1 Dr V M Rao  
Officiating Director,  
Institute for Social & Economic Change,  
Nagarbhavi P O  
Bangalore.
- 2 Prof Surajit C Sinha,  
Director  
Centre of Studies in Social Sciences,  
10, Lake Terrace,  
Calcutta-700029.
- 3 Dr T N Krishan,  
Director,  
Centre for Development Studies,  
Askulam Road, Ulloor,  
Trivandrum-695011

4. Prof. Nageshwar Prasad,  
Director,  
Gandhian Institute of Studies,  
Post Box No.1116, Rajghat,  
Varanasi-221001.
5. Dr. M.P. Pande,  
Registrar,  
ANS Institute of Social Studies,  
Patna-800001.
6. Shri T.L.Sankar,  
Director,  
Institute of Public Enterprise,  
University Campus,  
Hyderabad-500007.
7. Dr. T.N. Madan,  
Director,  
Institute of Economic Growth,  
University of Delhi,  
Delhi-110007.
8. Prof. G.D. Deshingkur,  
Director,  
Centre for the Study of Developing  
Societies,  
29, Rajpur Road,  
Delhi-110006.
9. Dr.S.P.Punalakar,  
Director,  
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14. Prof.R.J.Mody,  
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15. Prof.A.D.Pant,  
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18. Shri.Rashpal Malhotra,  
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19. Dr. Boudhayan Chattopadhyay,  
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20. Dr. Veena Mazumdar,  
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21. Prof. R. Radhakrishna,  
Director,  
  
Centre for Economic and Social Studies,  
Nizamia, Observation Campus,  
Begumpet, Hyderabad-500016

22. Dr. B.N. Misra,  
Director,  
Centre for Development Studies,  
C/o State Planning Board,  
Secretariat,  
Bhubaneshwar.

**Link of Social Sciences with Health Problems**

3001. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the National Health Policy, Government purpose to link social sciences with health problems; and

(b) if so, the number of social scientists, particularly, the sociologists, social anthropologists and Health Economists working at the National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Some aspects of the Social Science connected with health problems are involved in the National Health Policy, implementation of which is the concern of State Governments. The role of social scientists at the implementation stage of the policy and the exact requirement of such personnel may have to be decided by state governments.

(b) No such posts exist at the National Institute of Immunology.

**Appellate Authority to Review Central Pollution Control Board**

3002. DR.B.L. SHAIKESH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an authority to hear appeals against decisions of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has not been set up as yet;

(b) if so, the reasons for such an abnormal delay; and

(c) how long will it take to set up the appellate authority to review CPCB decisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The matter is under examination.

**Introduction of New Courses**

3003. SHRI P. PENCHALLAIH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce new course like Home Economics and Nutrition at the concerned centres; and

(b) if so, the details of those institutions where such courses are proposed to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) First degree and post-graduate courses in Home Science are already being offered by most of the agricultural universities. A number of other universities and colleges are also offering courses in this discipline.

As part of the programme for restructuring under-graduate courses in General Education, the University Grants Commission has suggested introduction of application oriented subjects. Nutrition and Home Economics among others have been suggested as possible areas in which such courses can be framed and introduced.

A list of institutions where courses in the discipline of Home Economics are available is given below in the Statement I.

A list of institutions which have introduced Home Economics as an application

oriented subject is given below in statement II.

### STATEMENT-I

*List of Institutions where courses in the discipline of Home Economics are available*

#### UNIVERSITIES

1. Andhra Pradesh Agriculture University
2. Assam Agricultural University
3. G.B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology
4. Gujarat Agricultural University
5. Harayana Agricultural University
6. Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwa-vidyalaya
7. Kerala Agricultural University
8. Marathwada Krishi Vidyapeeth
9. Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology
10. Punjab Agricultural University
11. Rajendra Agricultural University
12. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
13. University of Agricultural Sciences. Bangalore.
14. M.S. University, Baroda
15. Nirmala Niketan University, Bombay

16. S.N.D.T. Women's University, Bombay
17. Sardar Patel University, Gujarat
18. University of Mysore
19. University of Indore
20. Utkal University

#### COLLEGES

1. Avinashilingam College, Coimbatore
2. Lady Irwin College, New Delhi
3. S.I.E.T. Madras
4. V.H.D. Institute, Bangalore
5. J.D. Birla Institute
6. St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam
7. Queen Mary's, Madras
8. College of Home Science, Chandigarh
9. W.C.C. Madras
10. Lady Amrit Bai Daga College
11. S.S. Girl's College, Condra (Nagpur)

### STATEMENT-II

*List of Institutions which have introduced Home Economics as an Application-Oriented Subject*

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Ranapratap Degree College, Sultanpur | Nutrition & Health Education |
| 2. Daulatram College, Delhi             | -do-                         |
| 3. Lakshmibai College, Delhi            | Food Technology              |
| 4. Vivekanand Mahila College, Delhi     | -do-                         |

5	Hindu Girls' College, Jaqadhari	Fruit Preservation & Applied Nutrition
6	Arya Girls' College, Ambala	-do-
7.	Waghira College of Arts & Commerce, Saswad	Home Economics
8.	Tuljaram College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Baramati	-do-
9.	S.N. Arts D.J.M. Commerce B.H.S. Science College, Sanganner	-do-

### **Modification of Facilities in Hospitals of Capital**

3004. SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH: Will the Ministers of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any new proposal for modification of the facilities in certain hospitals like the All India Institute of Medical Sciences and other Central units in the capital with a view to give better service to the public; and

(b) if so, by when Government propose to provide such facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

### **Water Borne Diseases**

3005. SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any positive guidelines from the concerned experts to control endemic water borne diseases; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) No. However, the Govern-

ment is fully aware of the measures required for the control of water borne diseases.

(b) Does not arise.

### **Sher-E-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, Srinagar**

3006. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shere-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, Srinagar is not in the approved list for the benefits of Central Government Health Scheme beneficiaries; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Central Government Health Scheme has not so far been extended to Srinagar (Kashmir).

### **Study to Determine Link Between Use of Pesticides and Causes of Death/Fatal Diseases**

3007. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted to determine the link between these of pesticides and causes of death fatal diseases;

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

(c) the States which are using insecticides that have been declared to be harmful to human life; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to regulate the use of such insecticides/pesticides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) A number of studies have been conducted to determine the link between various pesticides and causes of death/fatal diseases in the country and elsewhere. The W.H.O. also undertaken frequent reviews on the safe use of pesticides.

(b) The studies conducted did not reveal any death/fatal disease due to the use of insecticides in public health. In public health sector, DDT and HCH (Chlorinated Hydro Carbon Insecticide) and Malathion (organophosphate insecticide) have been in use for more than two-three decades but so far, no harmful effect on human life has been reported.

(c) and (d) No State has been using insecticides in public health which are declared harmful to human life.

The use of insecticides/pesticides in the country is regulated by the Insecticides Act, 1968. Only those insecticides/pesticides are put in use which are registered under the Act in the country.

#### **Passenger Amenities in Railways**

3008. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any feed back, from various consumer organisations, relating to provision of passenger amenities in trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Railways regarding implementation of the suggestions made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. A memorandum was received from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry for providing certain additional amenities for the passengers.

(b) The suggestions made are given in the statement below.

(c) Railways have already provided a number of facilities mentioned in reply to part (b). Provision of amenities for the passengers is a continuing process. Improvements/additions are made within the funds available for this purpose.

#### **STATEMENT**

##### *Passenger Amenities in Railways*

1. Public Address System should be provided on all superfast trains.
2. Items of luggage to be carried in the compartment should be restricted.
3. Unauthorised entry of short distance passengers in reserved coaches should be stopped.
4. Lincensed porters should carry on their person certified printed cards showing portorage charges.
5. Adequate supply of drinking water in long distance Superfast trains as also on the platforms.
6. Luggage weighing machines should be made available on all the departure platforms.
7. Passenger guides should be provided.
8. Revised fares on tickets should be shown by rubber stamp.
9. Steps should be taken to avoid overcrowding at the railway stations.

10. Cushioned berths should be provided in all Express trains involving night journeys.
11. Quality of food and soft drinks supply in the trains should be improved.
12. A doctor should be available on the train to attend to emergent cases of sudden sickness of passengers
13. Carriage should be thoroughly washed and cleaned before commencement of journey.

**“Declaration of Manas Project Tiger as National Park”**

3009. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: Will the Ministry of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to convert the ‘Manas Project Tiger’ into National Park for protecting tigers and other wild life animals;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to include more areas including recognised forest villages within the proposed National Park;

(c) the number of forest villages and population that are likely to be affected and what are the plans to rehabilitate the uprooted villagers; and

(d) whether it is not possible to declare the said Project Tiger to be converted into National Park with the existing area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): (a) The State Government of Assam is considering the declaration of the Manas Tiger Reserve into a National Park.

(b) and (c) The decision as to which areas would be included in the National Park rests with the State Government of Assam. The Central Government, on the demand of the State Government, pro-

vides financial assistance for rehabilitating the affected villagers. So far, the State Government has not demanded any assistance for this purpose pertaining to the Mans Tiger Reserve.

(d) It would be possible to declare the existing Manas Tiger Project area as a National Park.

**External Aid for Development of Forest in Maharashtra**

3010. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign countries have come forward to help the Government of Maharashtra to develop the forest wealth of the State;

(b) whether a time bound programme has also been drawn up in this regard; and

(c) If so, the details of the foreign help made available and the details of the programme drawn up in this regard with the particulars of the employment schemes now under progress.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Social Forestry Project with financial assistance from United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is being implemented in Maharashtra State for a period of 8 years from 1982-83 to 1989-90. The project is estimated to cost Rs. 56.4 crores, with donors contribution of US \$ 30.0 Million (Rs. 28.2 crores equivalent), for afforestation of 81,000 ha. wastelands, in the State to meet fodder, fuelwood and small timber requirements of the rural areas. The project which is under progress, envisages generation of about 30 million mandays of employment through afforestation programmes.



**Decision to terminate Medical Research Projects on Bhopal Gas Victims**

3011. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has decided to terminate the medical research projects on Bhopal gas victims prematurely; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Two projects viz. (i) Thyroid status in M.I.C affected and unaffected areas of Bhopal—a long-term assessment and (ii) Clinical and forensic toxicological studies in M.I.C. affected persons, were terminated after detailed consideration by experts since no positive findings were found.

**Unesco Conference**

3012. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India participated in the 24th General Conference of UNESCO held in Paris from October 20 to November 21, 1987;

(b) if so, the subjects discussed and the conclusions arrived at; and

(c) the stand taken by India on different issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The main item on the agenda of the Conference was the consideration of the Draft Programme and Budget of Unesco for the biennium 1988-1989. The

Conference also received a number of reports by the Director-General on the activities of the Organization and evaluation of selected programmes. During the Conference, a general policy debate was held in the plenary sessions in addition to consideration of other items relating to Unesco's contribution towards improving the status of women, peace, promotion of human rights, elimination of apartheid and racism. A special debate was also held in the plenary session on the report by the Director-General about the draft programme for International Literacy Year. The Conference considered the proposal for proclamation of the International Year of the Family and a report on the World Decade for Cultural Development. A new Director-General of Unesco was elected and elections to a number of intergovernmental bodies, responsible for different intergovernment programmes of Unesco, were also held. In addition, elections for the seats which had fallen vacant in the Executive Board were held.

2. One of the items included in the agenda, which was proposed by India, was the celebration by Unesco in 1989 of the centenary of the birth of Jawaharlal Nehru.

3. The leader of the Indian Delegation, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, made a comprehensive policy statement in the plenary session of the General Conference covering various aspects of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1988-89. Shri Narasimha Rao told the Conference that India had consistently advocated the value of international co-operation and it had strived to strengthen international co-operation in all its forms. He stated that the activities of Unesco in building the defences of peace in the minds of men, in replacing asymmetrical relations among nations by co-operation on the basis of equality, mutuality and harmony, and measures to reduce prejudices and tension between nations, deserve the support of entire international community. He reiterated that Unesco is a major international forum for the exchange of the best of experiences

and achievements of mankind which are directly relevant to the higher realms of human civilization.

4. The members of the Indian Delegation took an active part in all the discussions in the Five Programme Commissions and the Administrative Commission. The Indian delegation made intervention in each of the discussion units taken up for consideration in the various Commissions. Besides, India also took part in the special debate held on the celebration of the International Literacy Year. India submitted 14 draft resolutions which sought to include a number of activities or modify existing work plans set out in the document containing Draft Programme and Budget for the next biennium. The underlying objective of the amendments proposed was to emphasize the point of view of India and other developing countries and to highlight certain priorities and programmes which should receive attention by Unesco. The resolutions submitted by India laid emphasis on such areas as universalisation of primary education, eradication of illiteracy, co-ordination between formal and non-formal education, equality of educational opportunity for girls and women, development and improvement of higher education, co-operation in key areas in science and technology and social and human sciences, improving of access to information, management of water resources, preservation and presentation of the cultural heritage etc.

5. The General Conference also approved India's resolution by inviting the Director-General to carry out a series of practical activities involving Unesco in the celebration of the hundredth birth anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru and to associate the Organisation with the activities organized on the occasion of the anniversary in Member States.

6. India also took a leading part in the discussion leading to approval of Unesco's biennial budget for 1988-1989 amounting to 350,386,000 US dollars

7. Mr. Federico Mayor of Spain was elected and appointed as the new Director-General of Unesco. India has been elected to the following international Intergovernmental Committees of Unesco at this session:

- (1) The Council of the International Bureau of Education (IBE).
- (2) Intergovernmental Council of General Information Programme (PGI).
- (3) Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP).
- (4) Intergovernmental Committee of the World Decade for Cultural Development.
- (5) Headquarters Committee.

#### **Preservation of Ramkha Peeth Temple and Hazrat Ajan Pir Dargah in Assam**

3013. PROF PRAAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a historic temple, known as Ramkha Peeth at Deogharia in Sibsagar District (Assam) has been completely eaten up by erosion and flood of the Brahmaputra and that another historic shrine and place of pilgrimage, known as Hazrat Ajan Pir Dargah, just near the aforesaid temple at Deongharia is facing similar fate of extinction due to continuous erosion;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to protect the historic shrine and rebuild the temple,

(c) whether the Assam Government submitted to Union Government early this year a detailed flood protection scheme under T.S.P wherein protection measures for the above historic monuments were incorporated;

(d) whether these are still pending consideration by his Ministry; if so, the reasons for delay ; and

(e) the latest position of these proposals under T.S.P.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The temple known as Ramkha Peeth and Hazrat Ajan Pir Dargah at Deoghariya are not under Central protection. No report has been received about the damage caused to the temple and similar threat to the Dargah due to flood of Brahmaputra. The Archaeological survey of India has requested the State Department of Archaeology to take appropriate steps for their protection and preservation.

(c) to (e) The Government of Assam are considering for two schemes for protection of Deogharia and Ajan Pir Dargah area. These schemes have been included in the Tribal Sub-plan of Assam Government but detailed schemes for protection of the above areas have not so far been received for technical examination and further processing by the Central Water Power Commission.

[*Translation*]

**Financial Assistance to Widows and Destitutes**

3014. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes being run by Government to provide financial assistance for the maintenance of widows and destitutes;

(b) the criteria adopted for providing facilities under these schemes to the said categories of women; and

(c) whether financial assistance is also

sanctioned on the recommendation of a Member of Parliament or a Member of Legislative Assembly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) There is no Central Scheme to provide financial assistance for the maintenance of widows and destitutes. The following Schemes of the Department of Women & Child Development are directed towards the welfare of women, including widows and destitutes:

- (i) Centrally Sponsored Scheme of assistance for setting up Women's training centres/Institutes for rehabilitation of Women in Distress.
- (ii) Training-cum-employment-cum-production units for women.
- (iii) Scheme of assistance for construction/expansion of hostel building for working women with Daycare Centre
- (iv) Socio-economic Programme for Needy, Destitute Women and Physically Handicapped. The salient features of the above Schemes are given in the statement below.

(c) No, Sir.

**STATEMENT**

**Financial assistance to Widows and Destitutes**

1. *Centrally Sponsored Scheme of assistance for setting up Women's training centres for rehabilitation of Women in Distress.*

The main objective of the Scheme is to rehabilitate the destitute women and dependent children through vocational training and through residential care so that these women may become economically independent. On

the recommendation of the State Government, assistance is given to voluntary organisations on sharing basis of 45:45:10 between the Central Government, State Government and the voluntary agency to meet expenses on Stipend to the trainees, salary of training instructors, rent of the building, cost of equipments etc. and rehabilitation grant where necessary Grant is routed through State Governments/Union Territory Administration.

### 2 *Training-cum-Employment-cum-Production Units for Women*

The Scheme, started in 1982-83 with Norwegian assistance, aims at providing financial assistance to Public Sector Undertakings/Corporations/Autonomous Bodies/Voluntary Organisations for imparting training to Poor Women of Rural Urban Slum Areas, Women Belonging to weaker sections of the Society, War Widows and Widows of employees in the enterprises etc. and subsequently employing them on sustained basis. Assistance is provided towards construction or Workshop-cum-Production Unit, Training Costs, Seed Money as initial working capital, dormitory facilities with Day-care Centre. The application for grant in aid is routed through the State Government/U.T. Administration.

### 3 *Scheme of assistance for construction/expansion of hostel building for working women with Day-care Centre.*

The objective of the Scheme is to provide accommodation for single working women, unmarried women, widows, divorcees, separated women, married but with husband out of town Under the Scheme, assistance is provided to voluntary organisations to the extent of 50% of the cost of land and 75% of the cost of construction building Working Women, whose income does not exceed Rs. 2000/- p.m (consolidated) are eligible for hostel accommodation. Applications for grant in aid are to be routed through the State Governments/Union Territory Administration.

### 4 *Socio-economic Programme for Needy Destitute Women and Physically Handicapped.*

The Programme being executed through the Central Social Welfare Board endeavours to provide destitute women, widows, deserted and physically handicapped etc. opportunities for engaging themselves for full time and part time employment thereby earning full wage or part wage to supplement their family income. On the recommendations of the

State Social Welfare Advisory Board, assistance is provided to voluntary organisations up to maximum amount of Rs. 3 lakhs to set up the following units:

- (a) Units under Small Scale Industries;
- (b) Units as ancillary to large industries;
- (c) Procurement/Production units of Handicrafts,
- (d) Handloom Training-cum-Production Units,
- (e) Production units with agricultural background

### **Financial Assistance to Sanskrit Scholars**

3015. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the development of Sanskrit Education Scheme, Sanskrit Scholars above 55 years of age and earning less than Rs.250/- per month are eligible for financial assistance to the extent that the total monthly income becomes Rs 250/-;

(b) if so, when this decision was taken;

(c) whether any payment by way of Dearness Allowance etc. has been sanctioned so far to those Scholars as in the case of other Government pensioners; if so, the amount thereof;

(d) whether the amount of financial assistance is also proposed to be revised; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Under the scheme of 'Development of Sanskrit Education', eminent scholars of Sanskrit, whose age is above 55 years and

annual income is less than the grant admissible are given Rs. 3000/- per annum. Previously, it was Rs. 1800/- per annum, which was increased from the year 1980-81.

(c) Since this is an ordinary financial assistance, the question of giving DA etc. does not arise.

(d) and (e) The question of enhancement of present amount is under consideration of the Ministry.

#### **Extinction of Salt-Water Crocodiles**

3016. SHRI A. JAYA MOHAN: Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT & FOREST be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fast extinction of salt-water crocodiles found along the coast of Bay of Bengal in the States of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the suitable measures Government propose to take for the conservation of this rare species?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): (a) The population of the salt-water crocodile has increased in the recent past in the states of Orissa and West Bengal and is not facing extinction in these two States. In the States of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, this reptile had been extinct for some years.

(b) Captive breeding of the salt-water crocodile has been successfully carried out and specimens have been released in designated sanctuaries, including previous habitats. Sanctuaries have been created for the protection of the species and its habitat along the eastern coast.

#### **Scarcity of Trained Nurses**

3017. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a tremendous scarcity of trained nurses in the country as claimed by the Trained Nurses Association of India at its biennial conference at Guwahati recently;

(b) whether working conditions of nurses are satisfactory;

(c) whether a high powered Committee is looking into these aspects;

(d) whether its report has been received and if so, the recommendations made therein; and

(e) any short-term steps initiated to bridge the gap between demand and supply of nurses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) According to the available information, there is shortage of nursing personnel in the country. Working conditions for Nurses are same as obtaining in respects of other health professionals.

(c) and (d) A High Powered Committee on Nurses and Nursing Profession has been constituted to review the conditions of services, status, allied matters pertaining to Nursing Profession in the country and to make suitable recommendations to the Government. The report of the Committee has not been received by the Government.

(e) Training of Nurse is mainly a State subject and training of Nurses is undertaken by them according to their requirement.

[Translation]

#### **Social Forestry Scheme**

3018. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether decisions regarding the species of trees to be planted under the exter-

nally aided social forestry scheme are taken by Indian authorities; and

(b) if so, the main species of trees planned under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The kind of trees planted under the scheme are fodder, fuelwood, small timber and fruit trees. The main species planted are: siris, subabul, neem, lasora, kachnar, babul, sainjna, khejri, bakain, vilayati-babul, eucalyptus, kanji, casuarina, shisham, sagon, bans gamhar, jamun, mango, cashew, ber, tamarind, jack-fruit etc.

[English]

**"Social Forestry Scheme"**

3019. SHRI S. M. GURADDI:  
SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state: the organisations in the country which have agreed to help in the implementation of externally aided social forestry scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): The following organisations are assisting in the implementation of externally aided social forestry projects in the country:

Sl No	Name of the Organisation/ Agency	State in which being implemented
1	World Bank (IDA)	Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana J & K, West Bengal, Karnataka & Kerala
2	United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan Himachal Pradesh and Maharashtra
3	Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA)	Tamil Nadu, Orissa & Bihar
4	Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)	Andhra Pradesh
5	British Overseas Development Assistance (ODA)	Karnataka
6	Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)	Haryana and J & K

[Translation]

**Introduction of a Direct Train between Mandla and Jabalpur via Nainpur**

3021. SHRI MOHAN LAL JHIKRAM Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to

introduce a direct train from Mandla (narrow gauge line) to Jabalpur Via Nainpur;

(b) if so, the time by which this proposal is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the difficulties thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Two pairs of connecting services are already available between Mandla Fort and Jabalpur.

**Proposed Extension of National Highway No. 26 Upto Mandla**

3022. SHRI M.L. JHIKRAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether National Highway No. 26 from Jhansi to Lakhnadon was proposed to be extended upto Mandla via Ghunsaaur, a distance of 86 kilometres and

(b) if so, the reasons for not taking any action so far?

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

(b) Does not arise

[English]

**"Distillery Pollution"**

3023 SHRI SRIBALLAV  
PANIGRAHI  
DR. G. VIJAYA  
RAMA RAO

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued guidelines to the State Governments and the industries concerned especially the distillery units which contribute to large scale pollution in the country, to take immediate and effective steps to eliminate pollution within a specified time limit; and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Central Board for Prevention and Control of Water Pollution has evolved minimal National Standards (MINAS) for eleven industries. The Central Board evolved MINAS for distillery effluents in 1981 and circulated these to the State Pollution Control Boards for implementation in distilleries in their States. Distillery units were expected to provide necessary treatment facilities by May, 1984 to bring their effluents within the desired standards. Majority of the distillery units have not yet provided such treatment plants. Remedial measures are reviewed by the Central Board and the State Boards from time to time. Legal action has also been taken against some defaulting units.

**Coach Factory in N.E. Region (Rangiya)**

3024 PROF. PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have any proposals for establishing a Railways Coach Factory in the North Eastern region; preferably at Rangiya:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if it is not being considered now, whether it is to be proposed later?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) to (c) No, Sir. Keeping in view the capacities available in the existing Production Units and those under construction for coach building in the country, no further increase is considered necessary. As such, there is no proposal to set up another coach building factory in the country at present, or in the near future.

**Railway Link between Guwahati and Tinsukia**

3025. PROF. PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a long standing demand for a broad gauge railway line from Guwahati to Tinsukia linking the presently excluded District Headquarter and important towns of

Nagaon, Golaghat, Sibsagar, Jorhat and Dibrugarh in Assam; and

(b) if so, the steps taken, if any, to meet this demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Survey was conducted for construction of a new Broad Gauge rail line from Guwahati to Dibrugarh and Tinsukia connecting District towns of Nagaon, Jorhat and Sibsagar as one of the alternative routes. The Government of Assam, however, recommended a Broad Gauge line from Guwahati to Dibrugarh and Tinsukia alongwith a Broad Gauge link from Champamukh to Nagaon along the existing Metre Gauge route. The Planning Commission has not approved the proposal.

[*Translation*]

#### **Aims of Technical Education**

3026. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the aim of imparting technical education, diploma and engineering degree and I.T.I. education is to make students self-dependent and to provide employment to them;

(b) whether the aforesaid technical education fulfils this objective;

(c) if so to what extent; and

(d) if not, whether Union Government propose to give a new shape to this technical education by making radical changes under the new education policy, so that all the students become self-dependent and get suitable employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (d). The aim of Technical Education at various levels including Certificate, Diploma, Degree is to provide education and training which would enable gainful employment of the students trained through these courses. This objective is being fulfilled and the candidates trained in Technical Education are employed by Industries or other Users Organisations at appropriate levels.

In addition to wage employment some can also choose to be self employed. The National Policy on Education has laid down that in order to encourage students to consider self-employment as a career option, training in entrepreneurship will be provided in Degree or Diploma programmes. In pursuance of this policy, schemes have been formulated to create facilities for entrepreneurship training.

[*English*]

#### **Deletion of Provisions Preventing Port Employees from Contesting Elections**

3027. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 7641 on 19 April, 1979 regarding provision of banning employees of Bombay Port to take part in politics and state

(a) whether the provision preventing port employees from contesting elections has not been deleted as yet;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any of the employees of the Bombay Port Trust has been punished for contesting Municipal or other elections during the period from 1985, onwards;

(d) if so, the nature of the punishment given by the Port authorities; and

(e) the sanction of Government thereto?



THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Under the relevant provisions of the Bombay Port Trust regulations the Port employees are barred from contesting elections. No decision has ever been taken by the Government to delete this Provision.

(c) to (e) The Bombay Port Trust has initiated disciplinary action against two employees who contested the elections to the Municipal Corporation of Greater Bombay and they propose to initiate disciplinary action against another employee on the same ground.

### **Training Programmes at Nlepa**

3028. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the training contents of the training programmes for the Deputy Education Officers (DEOs) and Principals at the National Institute for Educational Planning and Administration have not been revised for the last ten years in spite of the New Education Policy; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

The training contents of the training programmes for the District Education Officers (DEOs) and Principals organised by the Institute are being constantly reviewed and have been extensively revised with focus on the National Policy on Education, 1986 and the Programme of Action.

The course contents for District Education Officers (DEOs) programme include major thrusts of National Policy on Education; planning and management issues of the National Policy on Education; com-

munity participation in Education; education of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, minorities and women; universalisation of elementary education; non-formal and adult education. National Literacy Mission, vocationalisation of Education; secondary education; human resource development planning; school complexes; school mapping and institutional planning and evaluation.

The training content of the training programme for college Principals has also been restructured to include the thrust areas of the National Policy on Education and Programme of Action, 1986 and topics on autonomous colleges, restructuring of courses and planning for equity, quality and efficiency; relationship of the College with State, University, school and community; problems of women education and University education. The training content for the programmes for School Principals has also been extensively revised to include the major thrust areas in the National Policy on Education and Programme of Action and other relevant topics already listed against District Education Officers (DEOs) programme. Some of these programmes are organised at the request of States, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, and Sainik Schools etc. and are tailored to their specific requirements.

(b) Does not arise.

### **Budgetary Provisions for National Literacy Mission**

3029. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the much publicised National Literacy Mission has not yet been launched and the entire budgetary provision for this has remained unutilised; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND

**CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI):** (a) and (b) The National Literacy Mission provides *inter-alia* that the existing programmes will be continued, but their quality will be improved by application of proven Science & Technology inputs, better supervision, suitable training, pedagogical innovations, etc. Although the National Literacy Mission as such has not yet been formally launched, the existing programmes are continuing and the necessary funds provided therefor are being utilised.

**Amount Allocated for Navodaya Vidyalayas**

3030. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of the amount earmarked for Navodaya Vidyalayas that has been spent by the end of September, 1987;

(b) whether any further allocations will be made; and

(c) the States which have lagged behind and for what reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) A provision of Rs. 59.00 crores has been earmarked for the Navodaya Vidyalayas in the Revised Estimates for 1987-88. Out of this, a sum of Rs. 5.00 crores has been released upto September, 1987 which works out to 8.47%.

(b) Not contemplated at present.

(c) Except for the State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Assam and West Bengal which expressed some reservations about the medium of instruction envisaged in the Scheme, all other States and Union Territories are offering land and buildings for

starting Navodaya Vidyalayas in their districts in a phased manner.

**Cost Estimates of Captive Integrated Communication System of SAIL**

3031. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1780 on 9 March, 1987 regarding setting up of captive integrated communication system through satellite by SAIL and state;

(a) whether the cost estimates of the captive integrated communication system of SAIL alongwith detailed project report, if any, are now available;

(b) if so, the cost estimate for setting up the system;

(c) in what and how efficiency of SAIL will improve due to the system;

(d) in what ways the absence of such system is now hampering efficiency of SAIL; and

(e) what benefit will accrue in financial terms to the SAIL and to the country?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. I. FOTEDAR) (a) No, Sir.

(b) this is not yet available

(c) to (e) The system is expected to provide efficient and reliable communications for SAIL plants, Units, Mines, Central Marketing Organisation, branch offices and stockyards.

Improved communication will provide data more expeditiously than is possible at present on various operational and marketing aspects of plants, mines and stockyards. This will enable quicker decisions to be taken in dealing with such problems. The financial benefits can be assessed only after the detailed budget report is available.

**Non-Canalised Steel Imports**

3032. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether accounts/statistics are maintained of non-canalised steel imports;

(b) if so, the figures of non-canalised import of steel during 1983-84 to 1985-86, category-wise; and

(c) the names of units allowed to import non-canalised steel and the purpose for which they were allowed to make such imports?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No such data is available.

(c) No compilation of unitwise importers of non-canalised steel is available.

**Manufacture of Steel**

3033. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 7049 on 20 April, 1987 regarding import of steel and state:

(a) the categories of steel which are not possible to manufacture in India;

(b) whether attempts have been made to start manufacturing of these categories of steel, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some of these categories could be made in India, if so, the reasons for import; and

(d) to what extent import was at the cost of domestic production?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (c) By and large all the major categories of steel are

capable of being produced in the country. However, in some cases the demand is not sufficient to make it economical for such items to be produced in India. In such cases and also where indigenous production is not sufficient to meet demand fully, imports are allowed to meet consumer demand.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Import substitution is a continuous process and the Indian steel industry has been constantly making attempts for import substitution. Production of Boiler quality plate, pressure vessel steel, high strength micro-alloyed steel 90 UTs rails etc. are all attempts to manufacture these steel items which were not produced earlier.

(d) Imports are regulated to broadly ensure that they do not take place at the cost of domestic production.

**Modernisation and Technological Upgradation of R.S.P.**

3034. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 7150 on 20 April, 1987 regarding modernisation of Steel Plants and state:

(a) the main components of modernisation and technological upgradation of Rourkela Steel Plant and cost of each such component;

(b) the time frame for modernisation of the various main components; and

(c) what economies are expected through modernisation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) The proposed modernisation scheme of Rourkela Steel Plant is divided into two phases. In Phase I, the schemes pertaining to improvement and provision of raw material preparation and all other operating parameters are

envisaged. Phase II of the modernisation scheme mainly consists of setting up of a new Steel Melting Shop with continuous caster, installation of a continuous caster in the existing Steel Melting Shop and the modernisation of the Plate Mill and the Hot Strip Mill.

The Phase I of the modernisation is tentatively estimated to cost Rs. 415 crores and Phase II Rs. 1265 crores.

(b) The Phase I of the modernisation scheme is expected to be completed in a period of 5 years. The total modernisation is, however, expected to be completed in a period of a little over 6 years.

(c) The modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant besides leading to increased production of hot metal, crude steel and saleable steel will also result in improvement in productivity and technological indices leading to substantial economies and better financial performance of the plant.

#### **Spread of Diarrhoea In Kerala due to Drought**

3035. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the spread of disease like diarrhoea, etc. in Kerala due to drought and non-availability of pure drinking water;

(b) is so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have conducted any survey to assess the possibilities of any epidemic in the drought hit areas;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to check any possible adverse impact of drought on the health of the people in the affected areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes.

(b) to (e) According to the information received from Director of Health Services, Kerala, 276 cases of Gastro with 16 deaths were reported in July, 1987 from the coastal areas of Trivandrum District against 206 cases with 6 deaths in June 1987. In the Quilon District, 502 cases with 20 deaths with Gastroenteritis/Cholera have been reported during the period from 22.9.87 to 31.10.87. These large number of cases are due to drought situation and non-availability of potable drinking water in the area. Steps have been taken to contain the spread of diseases as under:→

- Chlorination of drinking water sources.
- Health Education.
- Supply of ORS packets.

In addition Central assistance to the extent Rs. 3.3 crores has been provided to the Govt. of Kerala to undertake short-term supply source, drilling of tubewells, erection of power pumps and hand pumps, construction of storage reservoirs, etc. These works are to be undertaken and completed before March, 1988 so as to improve the water supply position in the urban area.

#### **Proposal to Development Yamuna into a Navigable Waterway in Delhi**

3036. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH:  
SHRI YASHWANTRAO  
GADAKH PATIL:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Inland Waterways Authority of India is planning to develop Yamuna into a navigable waterway in Delhi, to help resolve the transport problem of the Capital; and

(b) if so, the details of the plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Action has been initiated by the Inland Waterways Authority of India for undertaking feasibility study to ascertain the viability of navigation on river Yamuna.

#### **Regional Women's Polytechnics**

3037. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK. Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up Regional Women's Polytechnics under the New Education Policy;

(b) whether Government of Orissa has given a proposal for location of such a Polytechnic in Orissa; and

(c) if so, when it is to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) In pursuance of the National Policy on Education the Government propose to set up Residential Polytechnics for Women under the Central Scheme. It is proposed to establish one such polytechnic during the current financial year.

The proposals have been invited from the State Governments for the same. No proposal has been received from the State Government of Orissa so far.

#### **Sambalpur Railway Division**

3038. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of Sambalpur Railway Division in Orissa has started;

(b) if so, when;

(c) the amount estimated to be spent on the establishment work of that project; and

(d) the amount released by Government for that project so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On 16.10.87 with the commencement of construction of Control Office.

(c) and (d) The amount sanctioned for works connected with setting up of Sambalpur Division is Rs. 4.5 crores. A sum of Rs. 82 lakhs has been released upto 1987-88

#### **Plan to Utilise by-Products of Steel making Processes**

3039. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited has plans to utilise coke over gas, blast furnace slag and other by-products of steel making processes for making many downstream products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether these by-product plans would improve the economics of the Steel Authority of India Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. SAIL Plants are recovering several coal chemicals from the coke oven gas as by-products. These are further processed into value added downstream products, like benzene, toluene, solvent naphtha, extra hard pitch, tar oils, etc. SAIL is further considering proposals for long term tieups of such inputs with new downstream industries. Granulated blast furnace slag is sold by the SAIL Steel Plants to cement producers.

(c) Yes, Sir.

**Programme to Launch an Intensive Immunisation Drive**

3040. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to launch an intensive immunisation drive in certain areas identified as having greater potential to achieve universal immunisation in certain period;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of districts, State-wise and Medical Colleges selected under this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have launched the Universal Immunization Programme in 1985. Under this Programme, at least 85% of the infants are proposed to be immunized against the six vaccine preventable diseases i.e. Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Tuberculosis, Polio and Measles and, 100% of pregnant women are to be immunized against Tetanus with two doses of TT. The whole country is to be covered under the Programme by 1990. Districts are taken up in phases and, till this year 182 districts have been covered and that way, by 1989-90, the remaining districts would be taken up under the Programme. The districts chosen in the early stages of the programme were selected basing on some criteria like fairly developed infrastructure, manpower in position etc., in order to make a successful start for the Programme. Again, the districts are taken up on the recommendations of the State/Union Territory Governments. During 1985-86, 50 medical colleges with their attached PHCs were included under the Programme and, during 1986-87, the remaining medical colleges numbering 56 were also included. The number of districts taken up during the year and those proposed to be taken up in the coming years State-wise and the list of medical colleges brought under the

Programme during 1985-87 are given in Statement-I and II laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. Lt—5248/87].

**Use of Dharamshala Attached to Safdarjung Hospital**

3041. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dharamshala attached to the Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi is being fully utilised for the purpose for which it was constructed; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) The Dharamshala is partly used for allotment to patients. One floor has been given to the Principal Pay and Accounts Office as there is no other accommodation in the Hospital to accommodate the staff of that Office. A part of Dharamshala is used for storing bulky daily use items such as bandages, gauge, cotton etc., for which again accommodation is not available in the Hospital.

**“Importance of re-use Technology”**

3042. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:  
DR. V. VENKATESH:  
SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have taken any measures to lay stress on the importance of re-use technology for the re-use of solid wastes and their impact on environmental improvement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The government have taken steps to create awareness regarding the importance of utilisation of waste materials. As a result of awareness created, re-use of solid wastes is practised extensively in India. Technologies are available for utilisation of industrial and municipal solid wastes. Some of the solid waste re-use instances in our country are composting of municipal and animal waste, use of bagasse as fuel and for making paper, recycling of used paper, metal and plastic cans, glass bottles and utensils and bricks from fly ash.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Long-term Policy and Nutrition**

3043. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:  
DR. V. VENKATESH:  
SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has called for a long-term policy on nutrition;

(b) if so, whether the latest review of the Commission has pointed out that 86 per cent of the children come under various categories of malnutrition;

(c) if so, whether the review has also outlined that the nutritional status of pregnant and nursing mothers continues to be poor; and

(d) if so, what measures Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Planning Commission have not made any review of the extent of malnutrition among the children and pregnant and nursing mothers. However, several studies and surveys conducted by various research institutes have pointed out that the nutritional status of pregnant and nursing mothers and children is low.

(d) To improve the nutrition status of children in the age group of 0-6 years and pregnant and nursing mothers, Government of India has built a nutrition component into the centrally sponsored "Integrated Child Development Services Scheme". The Balwadi Nutrition Programme and the Central Scheme of Creches for children of working and ailing women also provide for nutrition to the children who are the beneficiaries of these programmes. The Government of India is further implementing a nutrition programme called the Wheat Based Nutrition Programme for the benefit of children in the 0-6 age group and pregnant and nursing mothers. The State Governments are also running Special Nutrition Programmes to supplement the nutritional requirements of the target groups.

#### **Discussions with Russia on Higher Education and Training**

3044. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:  
DR V VENKATESH:  
SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI:  
SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of Union of Soviet Socialist Republic visited Delhi in mid September, 1987;

(b) if so, whether discussions were held by India on matters relating to co-operation in the field of higher education and training of specialists;

(c) whether any discussions took place regarding raising of scholarships for students also; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Union of Soviet Socialist Republic agreed to offer additional 180 scholarships every year to the Indian scholars for graduate, post-graduate studies and specialised training of short duration in the following fields—

- 55 scholarships in basic and applied sciences;
- 60 scholarships in engineering and technology;
- 10 scholarships in environmental sciences;
- 40 scholarships for humanities and social sciences; and
- 15 scholarships in miscellaneous fields including sports coaching and sports medicine.

#### **Blindness Eradication**

3045. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:  
DR. V. VENKATESH:  
SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI:  
SHRI BIMALKANTI GHOSH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons who suffer from blindness in the country;

(b) the measures Government have taken for the eradication of blindness; and

(c) to what extent these measures have been successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) A survey conducted by I.C.M.R. in 1971-73 estimated that 9 million persons were blind in the country. These persons could not see well at six meter distance. Another survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation in 1981-82 estimated 3.47 million blind persons who could not see well at three meter distance.

(b) Under the National Programme for Control of Blindness the Government have created strengthened infrastructure for community eye care with graded expertise at peripheral, intermediate and Central levels to provide community eye care, speedy relief to the needy adopting an extended eye camp approach coupled with health education measures. Primary eye care services are being provided at 3700 block level Primary Health Centres, 80 Central Mobile Units and 120 District Mobile Units. 404 District Hospitals, 60 Medical Colleges, 9 Regional Institutes of Ophthalmology and 53 Eye Banks have been strengthened to provide better eye care facilities. A country-wide survey of blindness is also currently in progress.

(c) Yearly performance of cataract operations has been stepped up from 5.50 lakhs in 1981-82 to nearly 12 lacks in 1986-87. Between 1981-82 and 1986-87 nearly 60.50 lacks cataract operations have been performed in the country.

#### **"Afforestation Programme with the Help of Ayurveda Acharyas"**

3046. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:



(a) whether services of Ayurveda Acharyas are sought by Government in Planting useful and medicinal plants in the country under afforestation programme; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) No formal consultation with Ayurveda Acharyas is considered necessary. However, under Afforestation Programme the species for planting are selected keeping in view the demand and agro-climatic conditions as well as in consultation with the local people and other experts.

#### **Eradication Programmes of Various Diseases**

3047. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the diseases for the control of which Government have taken up various programmes and the details thereof;

(b) the name of drugs required for control of those diseases;

(c) whether any of these drugs are imported; and

(d) if so, the names of those drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP) is concerned with control of Malaria and Filaria.

National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP)— a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme to achieve arrest of disease activities in all known leprosy cases.

National Goitre Control Programme (NGCP) envisage supply of iodised salt in place of common salt in the Goitre endemic areas. National T.B. Control Programme—for control of Tuberculosis cases.

National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) - for control of blindness and visual impairment.

Guinea Warm Eradication Programme—A programme to eradicate the disease in endemic State of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. Oral Rehydration Therapy—for control of diarrhoeal diseases through Oral Rehydration salt.

Expanded Programme of Immunization was started in 1978 to reduce the morbidity and mortality of vaccine preventable disease of childhood like, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis, Measles, Tuberculosis and Typhoid fever.

#### *Essential Drugs for National Programme*

(b) 1 *National T.B. Programme*

- |    |   |                     |
|----|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Inj Streptomycine Sulphate  |                     |
| 2. | Isonicotinic acid Hcl tablets                                     |                     |
| 3. | Combinations containing—<br>Isonicotinic acid Hcl<br>Thiacetazone | — 150 mg<br>— 75 mg |
| 4. | Combinations containing—<br>Isonicotinic acid Hcl<br>Thiacetazone | — 75 mg<br>— 37 mg  |

- |    |                     |          |
|----|---------------------|----------|
| 5. | Ethambutol tablets  | — 800 mg |
| 6. | Sodium Pas granules |          |
| 7. | Pyrazinamide        |          |
| 8. | Rifampicin          |          |

**II. National Leprosy Eradication Programme:**

- |    |             |                              |
|----|-------------|------------------------------|
| 1. | Daspone     | — 100 mg and 50 mg tablets   |
| 2. | Clofazamine | — 100 mg and 50 mg capsules  |
| 3. | Rifampicin  | — 300 mg and 150 mg capsules |

**III. National Trachoma Control Programme and National Programme for Control of Blindness:**

- |    |                              |                |
|----|------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. | Tetracycline Hcl ointment    | — 1%           |
| 2. | Sodium Sulphacetamide Drops  | — 10% & 20%    |
| 3. | Pilocarpine Eye drops        | — 1% & 2%      |
| 4. | Hydrocortisone drops & Oint. | — 0.5% & 1%    |
| 5. | Iodoxouridin eye drops       | — 0.1%         |
| 6. | Timolol Maleate              | — 0.25% & 0.5% |
| 7. | Acetazolamide Tablet         | — 250 mg       |
| 8. | Atropin eye drops & oint.    | — 1%           |
| 9. | Homatropin eye drops         | — 1% & 2%      |

**IV. For prevention of Dehydration under ORT:**

- |    |                       |
|----|-----------------------|
| 1. | Oral Dehydration Salt |
|----|-----------------------|

**V. Goitre Programme:**

For Iodization of edible salt, Iodine in the form of Potassium Iodate is essential.

**VI. E.P.I. Programme:**

For EPI Programme DPT, DT, TT, BCG, Polio, Typhoid and Measles vaccines are used.

**VII. National Malaria Eradication Programme:**

- |    |              |
|----|--------------|
| 1. | Chloroquin   |
| 2. | Amodiaquin   |
| 3. | Quinine Inj. |

4. Combination of Pyrimethamine (25mg) + Sulphametipyroxine (500 mg)
5. Paracetamol

VIII *Filaria*

Diethylcarbamazine

(c) Yes, Sir

- (d) (i) Injection Streptomycin Sulphate
- (ii) Isonicotinic Hydrochloride tablets
- (iii) Ethambutol tablets
- (iv) Pyrazinamide
- (v) Rifampicin
- (vi) Dapsone
- (vii) Clofazamine
- (viii) Pilocarpine Eye drops
- (ix) Hydrocortisone drops and Ointment
- (x) Iodoxouridine Eye drops
- (xi) Timolol Maleate
- (xii) Homatropin Eye drops
- (xiii) Iodine in the form Potassium Iodate
- (xiv) Chloroquin
- (xv) Combination of Pyrimethamine (25 mg) + Sulphametipyrasone (500 mg)
- (xvi) Paracetamol

**Renovation of Chitradurga Fort**

3048. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the historic Chitradurga Fort is in a crumbling state;

(b) whether any plan for the renovation of the Chitradurga Fort has been sent by the Archaeological Survey of India;

(c) whether unauthorised constructions in the fort premises have come up; and

(d) if so, the action Government have taken to preserve this historic fort?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Some parts of the Chitradurga Fort are in a dilapidated state and a conservation scheme for the Fort complex has already been included in the Action Plan for 1987-88.

(c) and (d) The area in which the protected monuments are located, is yet to be formally transferred to Archaeological Survey of India by the State Authorities. Steps have already been taken up with District Authorities for the removal of unauthorised constructions and prevention of further encroachments.

**"Polluted Tungabhadra River"**

3049. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI) has submitted any report on the pollution along 10 kilometre stretch of Tungabhadra river in Karnataka due to toxic discharge;

(b) when the report was submitted;

(c) whether the report will be implemented; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) The Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI) had submitted a report on the impact of effluents from Harihar Polyfibre and Gwalior Rayon Factories on the aquatic life in the river Thungabhadra near Harihar in Karnataka.

(b) The report was submitted to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board in November, 1986.

(c) and (d) The Karnataka State Government is examining the report through the Technical Advisory Committee.

#### **Speeding up of Express Trains and Shuttle Services between Bangalore and Tumkur**

3050. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for taking more time by express trains other than Mahalakshmi Express to cover the distance between Bangalore and Tumkur;

(b) whether Government propose to speed up the express trains and shuttle services between Bangalore and Tumkur; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Bangalore-Tumkur is a single line section. Stoppages and crossings en-route, load of the train and other operational factors determine the running time of different trains. There is no scope for speeding up any train at Present.

#### **Demand of Steel**

3051. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be

pleased to state the estimated demand for steel by 2000 AD in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): The estimated demand for steel by 2000 AD in the country would be about 25 million tonnes.

#### **Social Science Division under ICMR**

3052. SHRI MANIK REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up any Social Science Division under the Indian Council of Medical Research;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to set up the same now; and

(d) the number of Social Scientists of the level of Research Officers and above working under the Indian Council of Medical Research?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The Government of India have not set up any Social Science Division under the Indian Council of Medical Research so far.

(b) and (c) The quantum of work does not require setting up of a Division for Social Science at present.

(d) There are six officers of the level of Research Officer and above working under the Indian Council of Medical Research.

[Translation]

#### **Construction of Buildings for Nehru Yuvak Kendras**

3053. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the

Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places, where construction of buildings for Nehru Yuvak Centres is going on;

(b) the names of the places where buildings for Nehru Youth Centres are proposed to be constructed during the current plan;

(c) whether there is any proposal to construct Nehru Yuvak Centre in Pithoragarh District of Uttar Pradesh in this plan;

(d) if so, the year in which it would be constructed; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA). (a) Under the Scheme of Nehru Yuva Kendras, there is no provision for construction of buildings for Nehru Yuva Kendras. However, to facilitate rural youth activities, construction of a Multi-purpose Complex at Nehru Yuva Kendra, Alipur (Delhi) has been undertaken.

(b) Presently construction of such Complexes at any other place is not under consideration.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

#### **Setting up of Unit of Bharat Refractories in Pithoragarh**

3054. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India had ever given its approval to the proposal of construction work relating to the unit of Bharat Refractories to be set up in Devalthal (Pithoragarh) Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the year in which this approval was given;

(c) whether the said construction work was taken up on the basis of this approval,

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any investigation has been done again with regard to the potential suitability of the Magnesite to be used in this factory; and

(f) if so, when this investigation was conducted and the reason for conducting such investigation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M .L. FOTEDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Approval was given in September, 1982.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. BRL took action for inviting tenders for the supply, erection and commissioning of equipment required. Offers received indicated a much higher requirement of funds than estimated at the time of seeking Government's approval to the project. The delay and the escalation in costs prompted the company to review the project.

(e) and (f) There has been no requirement for further investigations since the quality of magnesite is known.

[English]

#### **Private Proposals for Sea Transport Along Eastern Coast and Bombay High**

3055. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director General of Shipping (DGS) has received any Proposals from private parties for sea transport along Bombay's Eastern Coast (Bombay-Vashi, Bombay-Belapur) and Bombay High; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Director General of Shipping received in March 1987 a proposal from a company for acquisition of Hovercraft Passenger Boats on New Ferry wharf - Vashi and Nariman Point - Borivli routes.

(b) The proposal was examined by D. G. Shipping and the company was requested to furnish various technical details/information, which has not so far been fully furnished by them.

#### **"Plantation of Wild Plants"**

3056. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:  
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:  
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH  
MALIK:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether about 7,000 wild plants used by the tribals to fight diseases and over 100 animal and bird species which serve as a source of their food and energy have been identified recently by the All India Coordinated Research Programme on ethnobiology;

(b) if so, whether such plants will be planted in other parts of the country;

(c) the details thereof;

(d) how far these plants have been found successful in curing diseases; and

(e) the progress made in this research programme and results achieved thereby so far and how it is proposed to utilise it by developing appropriate scientific technology based on easily available resources as upgradation of local skills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND

FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The project programme envisages generation of information on suitable plant species for specific geographic regions. Practical cultivation/commercial exploitation of the results is beyond the scope of the project.

(d) Chemical and pharmacological screening of some of these plants by institutions like the Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow and Regional Research Laboratory, Jammu have revealed their potential medicinal properties. A number of plants have been considered worthy of further scientific investigation for treatment of jaundice, snake bite, epilepsy, impotency and sexual disorders, rheumatism as well as an abortifacient and for anti-fertility use.

(e) The project presently operating at 17 centres has completed 4 years and has covered 55% to 60% of the tribal areas. The findings of the project have been communicated to the State Governments for development of appropriate programmes.

#### **"Gas Leaks"**

3057. SHRI VISHNU MODI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether gas leakages from various industrial units in the country are becoming a regular feature;

(b) if so, the number of cases of gas-leaks which have come to the notice of Government during the current year indicating number of persons affected by the gas-leaks, area-wise and industry-wise;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the erring industries, industry-wise;

(d) whether Government would consider shifting of such units to outskirts of cities/towns or other areas; and

(a) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Seventeen incidents of gas leakages have come to the notice of the Central Government during the current year. Several people were affected to a minor extent and were discharged after treatment for one or two days.

(c) The steps taken include the following:

- (i) Manufacturing processes are stopped till thorough inspection is conducted by factories inspectorate and clearance accorded for restarting.
- (ii) State Pollution Control Boards issue orders restraining the industry from operation till thorough checking is done by factory inspectorate, State Pollution Control Boards and any other committee constituted by the respective authorities of the State.
- (iii) The State Governments have in most cases set up committees to identify the hazardous industries in the State.

(d) and (e) All units cannot be shifted. Each case has to be decided on individual circumstances.

#### **National Leprosy Eradication Programme**

3058. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Leprosy Eradication Programme has failed either to minimise the incidence of the disease or is anywhere near complete eradication;

(b) whether all activities of this programme are mainly concentrated in the urban areas whereas 75 per cent of the population live in rural areas;

(c) if so, how urban and rural areas, with population break up, are being covered under the programme; and

(d) whether Government propose to pay special attention to the rural areas and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) All detected leprosy cases irrespective of urban or rural base are covered under the programme. National Leprosy Eradication Programme is a vertical programme and implemented as hundred percent Centrally Sponsored Scheme. Combinations of drugs (MDT) have been found highly effective. 201 districts in the country are identified as endemic districts. Due to logistic, financial and operational reasons MDT to endemic districts is planned in a phased manner taking district as a unit. As on 48 endemic districts are under MDT and 26 are planned for current year. All endemic distts. Will be covered by MDT by 1995.

#### **Late Running of Trains**

3059. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:  
SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI  
GUPTA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the late running of trains is monitored regularly with a view to find out the contributory causes;

(b) if so, the result of the study for the last six months;

(c) the railways zones where the punctuality has improved as also the zones where it has deteriorated; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main factors found responsible for the late running of trains were alarm chain pulling agitations/bandhs, accidents and failures of diesel and signal equipments.

(c) On South Eastern, North East Frontier, Southern, South Central and Western Railway, the punctuality has improved. On Central, Northern, Eastern and North Eastern, it has deteriorated.

(d) Intensive chasing and round the clock monitoring of Mail/Express trains is being done.

#### **German Technology for Steel Production**

3060. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited is considering to adopt a German technology which will reduce cost of production of steel;

(b) whether it is the same technology which the Tata Iron and Steel Company had adopted years ago;

(c) if so, the reasons why this could not be done by the Steel Authority of India Limited earlier; and

(d) whether it is a different technology; if so, the details with regard to its investment and the cost benefit ratio that would be at the production level?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) SAIL have

already adopted the KORF technology for induction of oxygen/air in open hearth furnaces which improves productivity and helps to reduce the cost of production of steel.

(b) and (c) TISCO introduced this technology in March, 1987 as a sub-license of SAIL who had initiated the transfer of this technology from M/s Korteck. SAIL introduced it in Rourkela in April 1987 and is planning to introduce it in IISCO.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Introduction of a Local Train between Asansol and Bardhaman**

3061. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce one more local train from Asansol to Bardhaman;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is lack of spare line capacity and inadequacy of terminal facilities at Asansol as well as Bardhaman.

#### *[Translation]*

#### **Increase in Skin Disease due to use of Soap and Detergent Powders**

3062. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken by Government so far in regard to the apprehensions of increase in the incidence of skin disease by using soaps and detergent powders in the country;



(b) whether manufacturers are using alkyl beyeue, Sulphanate liner, alkyl Sulphate, Sodium Sulphate and beneyeu Sulphate, etc. in more than the required quantity in manufacturing soaps and powders;

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to remedy the situation; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) According to data available in general the use of soap and detergent powder do not cause numerous skin diseases. However, reaction may take place in an individual who is allergic to one or more constituents of particular brand of soap/detergent powder.

(b) to (d) As per the information furnished by the Ministry of Industry, Department of Industrial Development, these are active ingredients used for manufacture of detergents. Standards for the detergents include certain minimum percentage of these active ingredients. One or more of these ingredients could be used by the manufacturers. The manufacturers are free to use higher percentage of these ingredients to improve detergency.

#### National Institute of Water Sports in Goa

3063. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National Institute of Water

Sports is proposed to be established in Goa;

(b) if so, when the same would be established; and

(c) the other details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to establish a National Institute of Water Sports at Goa.

#### Centrally Assisted Sports Projects

3064. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sports projects being financially assisted by Union Government;

(b) the financial assistance already rendered in each of these projects so far; and

(c) the details of progress made in respect of each of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) The number of sports infrastructure projects approved for Central financial assistance under the Scheme of grants to State Governments, State Sports Councils, Registered Organisations etc. during the last three years are as follows:-

(Rs in lakhs, ')

Year	No of Projects	Amount approved	Amount released
1985-86	177	385	213
1986-87	598	2976	1479
1987-88 (Till 15th Nov. '87)	245	1604	1155

The 2nd instalment of grant will be released on receipt of utilisation certificates and progress reports from State Governments.

**Selection of Candidates for Khalasi Post in Central Workshop, Golden Rock**

3065. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had recruited candidates for Khalasi post in the Central Workshop, Golden Rock in 1983;

(b) if so, what was the total number of candidates selected;

(c) whether there are 211 candidates who were selected but have not been taken into rolls; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 1400 candidates were selected against Group 'D' vacancies in the Mechanical and Diesel Wings.

(c) and (d) 164 out of the panel mentioned in reply to part (b) above could not be offered appointment. Apart from the recruitment referred to in parts (a) and (b) above, there was another selection held for Group D posts in the Electrical Wings of the Golden Rock Workshop and finalised in October, 1984, in which 111 candidates were selected but 47 candidates could not be appointed during the currency of the panel i.e. till October, 1985. These 211 (164 + 47) candidates could not be offered appointment as vacancies were not available for their appointment during the currency of the respective panels.

**Matador buses in Delhi**

3066. SHRI SWAMI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some matador buses have been purchased from the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited for operation in Delhi;

(b) whether there is any proposal to link more areas in Delhi with these buses;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Delhi Energy Development Agency have purchased 69 battery-operated buses known as Electravans, on an experimental basis to provide short-haul pollution-free transport to public in the congested areas of Delhi.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The results of the operation of these buses have not been fully assessed.

**Public Address System in DTC Buses**

3067. SHRI SWAMI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether public address system has been installed in certain DTC buses;

(b) whether certain buses under the DTC have details of its route on the left side of entry-gates;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to provide these facilities on all D.T.C. buses;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Certain private buses under DTC operation, which operate on fixed allotted

routes have details of routes, indicated on left side of entry-gates.

(c) to (e) Installation of public address system in 300 more buses is under process. Indication of details of routes on the left side of entry gate has not been found feasible on buses; which operate on different routes/trips. The route-details are however provided at major bus-stops.

#### **Construction of High Speed Corridor**

3068. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJES WARI:-

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways had planned to construct a high speed corridor in the country to enable it to acquire an assimilate the technology of the modern system of railways traffic;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total amount required for the plan and by which time the plan is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No decision has been taken for the present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Standing Committees for Road and Road Development**

3069. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Transport Development Council has decided to set up two standing committees for road and road development:

(b) if so, the main purpose of these two main committees; and

(c) the extent to which the Transport Devel-

opment Council has helped in the development of roads and transport in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Transport Development Council, in its 20th meeting held on 8th September, 1987 has re-constituted two Standing Committees one each on Roads and Road Transport, to deliberate on important issues and make recommendations pertaining to these sectors.

(c) The Transport Development Council is an apex body to advise the Government in the field of policy making for the development of Roads and Road Transport. Its recommendations have been very useful.

[Translation]

#### **Introduction of an Express Train between Delhi and Saharanpur via Shamli**

3070. SHRI AKHTAR HASAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is only one express train out of the trains running from Delhi to Saharanpur and beyond that via Shamli;

(b) whether Government propose to introduce one more express train between Delhi-Saharanpur via Shamli;

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be introduced; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). One Express, three Fast Passenger and three Stopping Passenger trains available each way are considered adequate to meet the present traffic requirements.

[English]

### Control of Diabetes

3071. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have included Diabetic Control Programme in the National Health Programme;

(b) if so, the details of action being planned to control diabetes;

(c) whether Government have allocated any funds for the purchase of medicines required for the control of diabetes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) The Government of India have accepted in the 7th Five Year Plan the Central Health Sector Programme titled 'District Diabetic Control Programme' which is initially expected to cover, on a pilot basis, five districts in the country where the Primary Health Care testing procedure would include integration with National School Health Services. The main stress of this programme will be on prevention of diabetes mellitus. The programme also aims on community education and awareness of diabetes mellitus.

Under this programme, arrangements will also be made to provide the life saving drug insulin.

(c) The Government of India have not allocated any separate funds for purchase of medicines required for control of diabetes.

(d) The question does not arise.

### Medicines Required for Sexually Transmitted Diseases

3072. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether medicines required for sexually transmitted diseases are very costly in the country;

(b) the names of the centres in the country where these disease are treated; and

(c) the medicines required for treatment of these diseases and how many of these medicines are being supplied by Government to these centres for free distribution to poor patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No.

(b) and (c) The sexually transmitted diseases are treated in all the Departments of Skin, STD & Leprosy of the Medical Colleges and STD clinics in the District hospitals, General Hospitals & Civil Hospitals of the country.

The medicines required for treatment of these diseases are:—

- (i) Penicillin
- (ii) Streptomycin
- (iii) Sulpha drugs
- (iv) anti-histaminic drugs, and
- (v) Erythromycin or Tetracyclin used in cases resistant to Pencillin.

No drugs are being supplied by the Central Government to the States for treatment of STD under the STD Control Programme. Poor patients suffering from sexually transmitted diseases are supplied drugs free of cost by the STD clinics.

### Increase in Blindness due to Glaucoma

3073. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether blindness due to glaucoma is on increase;

(b) the other aspects of the eye diseases and the incidence of blindness in the country; and

(c) the existing facilities and expertise available to reverse the trend and bring improvement in this field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No specific survey in this regard has been undertaken.

(b) I.C.M.R. Survey of 1971-73 estimated that 9 million persons were blind in the country. These persons could not see well at six meter distance. The disease-wise break-up of the persons were estimated as.—

Cataract	55%
Trachoma & Associated infections	20%
Smallpox	3%
Nutritional deficiencies	2%
Injuries	1.2%
Glaucoma	0.5%
Others	18.3%

(Smallpox has since been eradicated in June, 1975).

(c) Primary Eye Care Services have been provided at 3700 block level Primary Health Centres, 80 Central Mobile units and 120 Distt. Mobile Units have been deployed to cover outreach areas. 404 District Hospitals, 60 Medical Colleges and 9 Regional Institutes have been strengthened to provide better eye care facilities. These also include early detection treatment and referral services for Glaucoma patients.

#### **Stoppage of Avadh/Assam Express and Additional Quotas for Kamrup Express**

3074. SHRI MANIK SANYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum from the Nagrik Samity on behalf of the people of the Falakata of Jalpaiguri District has been received by the General Manager (Operations) North Frontier Railway, Maligaon, regarding stoppage of 509/510 Avadh/As-

sam Express and sanction of additional quotas for 60 Dn Kamrup Express for Falakata; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Provision of stoppage of 509/510 Avadh-Assam Express and increase in the quota of 60 Dn. Kamrup Express at Falakata have not been found justified.

#### **Reintroduction of Kanchanjunga Express**

3075. SHRI MANIK SANYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Howrah bound 57 Up and 58 Dn Kanchanjunga Express originating from New Jalpaiguri station subsequently running from New Bongaigaon has been withdrawn;

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

(c) whether there is any proposal to reintroduce the train to relieve the hitherto neglected people of North Bengal having only one train originating from New Jalpaiguri to cater to their needs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) 57/58 Kanchanjunga Express and 67/68 Tista-Brahmaputra Express were withdrawn from 16-8-1987 due to flood and breaches on the sections enroute.

(c) and (d) Both these trains have since been restored to run on 3 days in a week, from 20.11.87, for the time-being.

### **Shifting of Originating Station of Assam Mail**

3076. SHRI MANIK SANYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the North Frontier Railway has shifted the originating station of Assam Mail from Dibrugarh Railway Station to Tinsukia causing much inconvenience to largely populated Dibrugarh town; and

(b) if so, the reasons for this change.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAV-RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) For the convenience of through passengers availing B.G. trains at Guwahati, the schedule of 3/4 Assam Mail was revised to originate-/terminate at Tinsukia in October, 1987 Time Table. Instead, 7/8 Tinsukia Mail has been extended to run to and from Dibrugarh town

[*Translation*]

### **Increase in use of Contact Lens**

3077. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the use of contact lens is on increase these days in India;

(b) whether the Eye specialists have different opinion with regard to its usefulness;

(c) whether the lenses made in India are costlier than the foreign made lenses, if so, reasons therefor; and

(d) the views of Government with regard to its usefulness?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHA-PARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The usefulness of contact lens is accepted by the Eye Specialist. However, they may differ with regard to the usefulness of certain types of contact lens in different eye conditions.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Certain defective errors and some eye diseases are better treated with contact lenses. The contact lenses are used for optical purposes in high degree of Myopia and other defective errors as a substitute of glasses. In certain weather conditions like dusty atmosphere there is a risk of damage to the cornea. Properly manufactured and fitted contact lenses under the supervision of trained Optometrist or eye surgeon do not produce any damage to the cornea or to the eyes. This is an essential mode of therapy in certain optical and therapeutic indications where its benefits is universally accepted by the Ophthalmologists.

[*English*]

### **Psycho-Social Competence in Children of MIC Exposed Areas**

3078. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study sponsored by the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development regarding the psycho-social competence in children of MIC exposed areas of Bhopal has revealed that intellectual performance of this lethal gas exposed children was significantly lower than their counterparts from the unexposed group; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the findings of the study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHA-PARDE): (a) and (b) A study entitled 'psycho-social competence in Children of MIC Exposed Areas of Bhopal' was sponsored by the National Institute of Public

Cooperation and Child Development. The main conclusions of the study are:

- (i) The children exposed to MIC gas displayed lower level of psycho-social competence and showed more psychiatric problems as compared to their control group counterparts.
- (ii) The effects included poor level of cognitive functioning, certain degree of deviance in social skills accompanied by physical ailments and threats to mental health and wellbeing.

The Indian Council of Medical Research also supported a pilot psychiatric study of children affected by MIC in Bhopal. Results of the pilot study revealed that the intellectual level is lower in MIC affected areas as compared to control area in children aged 6—16 years. Another study in this regard is in progress.

#### **Requirement of Primary Schools**

3079. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total requirement of primary schools in the country to achieve the objective of universalisation under the National Education policy, State-wise;

(b) the total number of primary schools in the country according to latest available information, State-wise;

(c) the average non-recurring cost and recurring annual expenditure on a model primary school as envisaged under the Operation Blackboard;

(d) whether it is proposed to give financial assistance to State Governments for universalising primary education; and

(e) if so, the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENTS (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) As per available information there are 528079 primary schools in the country as on 30th September 1985. The State-wise break up is given in the statement given below. The State Governments assess the need for new schools on the basis of a viable number of students available in any place, the availability of schooling facilities in the neighbourhood and the financial resources available to it. All State Governments have been advised to ensure that all habitations with a population of 300 (200 in case of tribal, hilly and desert areas) are provided primary schools within the Seventh Plan. The Fifth All India Educational Survey with the reference date as 30th Sept. 1986 is being conducted by NCERT to collect detailed data about the existing facilities in primary schools. The survey has not been completed yet.

(c) The Government has not laid down the concept of a model primary school nor has the cost for such a school been worked out. Expenditure on a primary school varies from school to school and state to state depending on the student/teacher population, size and quality of building, teaching aids and pay scales of teachers. However, a functional primary school with essential facilities has been envisaged under Operation Blackboard. Operation Blackboard envisages the provision of essential facilities in all primary schools viz. (1) School building with atleast two reasonably large all weather rooms with a deep verandah and separate toilets for boys and girls; (2) atleast 2 teachers, one of them as far as possible a woman; and (3) essential teaching and learning material including blackboards, maps, charts, a small library, toys and games equipment. For such a school the cost would vary but it is estimated that on average the two class rooms would cost about Rs. 52,000/- the toilets about Rs. 5,000/- and the teaching learning material about Rs. 7215/-. The-cost of teachers

would depend on the pay scale applicable in that State.

(d) and (e) Financial assistance is proposed to be given to State Governments under the following centrally sponsored schemes for the attainment of Universalisation of Elementary Education as shown below—

(1) Operation Blackboard 100%

financial assistance to all primary schools for second teacher and essential equipment

(2) Non-Formal Education: To State Governments: NFE Centres 50%.

NFE centres exclusively for girls 90% and to NFE centres run by voluntary organisations 100%.

#### STATEMENT

S No	Name of the State/U T	Number of primary schools as on 30 9 1985
1	Andhra Pradesh	42054
2	Arunachal Pradesh	986
3	Assam	25970
4	Bihar	50847
5	Gujarat	11900
6	Haryana	5978
7	Himachal Pradesh	6802
8	Jammu & Kashmir	7700
9	Karnataka	24735
10	Kerala	6845
11	Madhya Pradesh	62703
12	Maharashtra	37500
13	Manipur	2717
14	Meghalaya	4150
15	Mizoram	1000
16	Nagaland	1270
17	Orissa	36993
18	Panjab	12331
19	Rajasthan	27590



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20.	Sikkim	470
21.	Tamil Nadu	29118
22.	Tripura	1956
23.	Uttar Pradesh	74051
24.	West Bengal	49811
25.	A & N Islands	181
26.	Chandigarh	34
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	124
28.	Delhi	1775
29.	Goa, Daman & Diu	1014
30.	Lakshadweep	18
31.	Pondicherry	356
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	India	528079

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Source: Planning, Monitoring and Statistics Division of Ministry of Human Resource Development.

#### **Causes of Accident to 316 Dn Barharwa-Rampurhat Passenger**

3080. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether investigations were made to determine the causes for the accident to 316 Dn Barharwa-Rampurhat passenger on Eastern Railways where several bogies had derailed; and

(b) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Commissioner of Railway Safety, Eastern Circle who conducted the statutory enquiry into this accident, has come to the conclusion that the accident

was caused due to the snapping of safety bracket of a coach, its falling on the track and forming an obstruction in the passage of this train.

#### **Degrees/Diplomas by Unrecognised Institutions**

3081. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Universities/Institutions that are functioning without being recognised by Government;

(b) whether Government have received queries/complaints regarding the granting of Degrees/Diplomas by such unrecognised Universities under false pretences promises;

(c) whether the University Grants Commission has suggested/taken any steps to warn the public of the ineffectiveness of degrees/diplomas awarded by such Universities/Institutions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take in respect of such universities/institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No such list of universities/institutions is maintained by the Government or the University Grants Commission.

(b) Queries/complaints have been received from time to time seeking clarifications about the bonafides of certain institutions functioning as universities and awarding their own degrees

(c) to (e) According to the provisions of the UGC Act, only a university established under a Central or a State Act or an institution deemed to be a university under section 3 of the UGC Act, has the right of conferring or granting degrees. Under the Act, no institution other than a University established under an Act of Parliament is entitled to have the word "University" associated with its name. Legal action is taken by the UGC whenever considered necessary against so-called universities and institutions violating the aforesaid provisions of the UGC Act. Press notes are also issued, wherever necessary, to make the public aware of the status of such institutions and authenticity of the degrees/diplomas awarded by them.

#### **Gymnasium at Tellichery in Kerala**

3082. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a Gymnasium at Tellichery in Kerala;

(b) if so, whether land has been acquired for the same and the work has commenced;

(c) the estimated cost of the project and the allocations made for it during 1987-88;

(d) whether the Gymnasium is to be run by the State Government or directly by Union Government;

(e) whether Government had conducted any study/survey to determine the benefits of the project and the public response thereto; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The Sports Authority of India (S.A.I.) has decided to set up a Gymnastic centre at Tellichery under its scheme 'Special Area Games'.

(b) Govt. of Kerala has made available the land at Tellichery for this purpose. The construction work has not yet started.

(c) The estimated cost of the Gymnasium is about Rs. 20.00 lakhs. The S.A.I. has granted an advance of Rs. 10.00 lakhs to Govt. of Kerala. Funds are available with Sports Authority of India to meet the remaining cost on the project during 1987-88.

(d) The Gymnastic Centre will be directly run by the Sports Authority of India.

(e) and (f) A survey was conducted by experts in sports sciences and anthropology to assess the feasibility of spotting and nurturing talent for gymnastics from the

traditional circus families in and around Tellichery. A survey of number of children in the required age group in the traditional circus families was also conducted. The studies were conducted to assess the benefits of the project and public response to the project has been good

#### **Epidemic of Various Diseases in Drought Affected Areas**

3083. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various diseases have broken out in the drought affected areas in the country;

(b) if so, the details and the number of

casualties which took place as a result thereof particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the details of medical, financial and other assistance that Union Government are providing to such States; and

(d) the financial and medical assistance provided to Andhra Pradesh during the last three months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) The requisite information is given in the statement below.

(c) The medical stores supplied to various States, on their request, on credit basis, are as under:—

#### *Orissa*

Tablet Halogen — 5 lakh tablets

Bleaching Powder — 16.85 MTs

#### *Rajasthan*

Vitamin A Capsules — 1.00 lakh Nos.

Bleaching Powder — 90 MTs.

Anti-Cholera Vaccine — 50,000 doses.

Halogen Tabs. — 60.00 lakh

#### *Karnataka*

Anti-Cholera Vaccine — 10.00 lakh doses.

(d) No financial assistance has been provided by the Ministry of Health to any

Government including Andhra Pradesh.

#### **STATEMENT**

The various diseases, number of persons affected and fatalities reported in the drought affected areas including Andhra Pradesh, are as under:—

Name of the State	Type of diseases reported	No. of affected	Fatalities
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh	Diarrhoeal diseases	7111	418

	1	2	3	4
2.	Himachal Pradesh	Diarrhoeal diseases	142012	—
		Gastroenteritis	53272	—
3	Karnataka	Diarrhoeal diseases	1133	68
		Chloera	7242	375
		Viral Hepatitis	243	—
		Measles	286	28
4	Kerala	Diarrhoeal diseases	433201	123
5	Madhya Pradesh	Measles	37	10
		Diarrhoeal diseases	112	12
6	Maharashtra	Diarrhoeal diseases	8046	12
		Viral Hepatitis	181	9
7	Rajasthan	Gastroenteritis	1656	24
8	Tamil Nadu	Gastroenteritis	25734	630
		Cholera	3116	33
9	Uttar Pradesh	Gastroenteritis	1163	—

The Government of Gujarat, Orissa, Haryana, Punjab and Union Territory of Chandigarh have reported that there was no outbreak of large number of diseases

#### **Enquiry counter in Andhra Pradesh**

3084. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received some complaints from Andhra Pradesh about the functioning of the Railways Enquiry counters in the state;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/being taken to improve the functioning of these enquiry counters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During 1986-87 and 1987-88 (till date)

eight complaints were received regarding telephone calls from the public not being attended to by the staff posted in the Enquiry Offices at stations in Andhra Pradesh.

(c) Following action has been taken:

- (1) Senior Supervisors directly responsible for the performance of Enquiry Offices have been directed to make frequent surprise checks.
- (2) Senior Officers have been asked to make calls without revealing their identity to check the responsiveness of staff.
- (3) Stern action is taken against the defaulting staff.

**Over-Bridges in Andhra Pradesh**

3085. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the priority list sent by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to Union Government for the construction of railway over-bridges in the State during 1985-86, 1986-87 and by the end of the Seventh Plan;

(b) the details of the cost involved, the work completed and expected to be completed; and

(c) the number of over-bridges planned to be taken up for completion during the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) A statement is given below.

(c) The works of road over/under bridges are included in the Annual Plan of the Railways on year to year basis, subject to the State Government sponsoring the proposals, undertaking to share the cost and ensure availability of funds.

**STATEMENT**

(a) Works of road over bridges recommended by the Government of Andhra Pradesh in the list of priority for the year 1985-86 and onwards are as follows:-

1985-86	Road over bridge at Nidadavole
	Road over bridge at Kavali
	Road over bridge at Mahbubnagar
	Road over bridge at Ghatkesar
1986-87	Road over bridge at Kavali
	Road over bridge at Mahbubnagar
	Road over bridge at Ghatkesar
	Road over bridge at Jangaon
	Road over bridge at Ramamurthy Pantulupata
The remaining period of the 7th Five Year Plan	Road over bridge at Jangaon
	Road under bridge at Ajitsingh Nagar
	Road over bridge at Lalapet
	Road over bridge at Fatehnagar
	Road over bridge at Debirpura
	Road over bridge at Adikmet
	Road over bridge at Sitaphalmand
	Road over bridge at Ghatkesar
	Road over bridge at Umadnagar

Road over bridge at Thimmapur

Road over bridge at Mahbubnagar

Road over bridge at Ongole

Road over bridge near Sitanagaram

Road over bridge near Parvatipuram at Garividi

Road over bridge at Tilaru town

(b) The estimated cost involved in these works is as follows—

Sl No	Particulars of work	Railways' share	State Government's share
		(Rs in lakhs)	
1	Road over bridge at Kavali	54.95	58.31
2	Road over bridge at Nidadavole	62.61	77.09
3	Road over bridge at Jangaon	70.00	72.65
4	Road over bridge at Lalapet	86.92	255.70
5	Road over bridge at Dabirpura	64.31	159.49
6	Road under bridge at Ajitsingh Nagar	53.87	71.33
7	Road over bridge at Umdanagar	46.31	50.97
8	Road over bridge at Thimmapur	56.01	61.55
9	Road over bridge at Ghatkesar	28.79	30.31

In respect of remaining works, the cost involved is yet to be worked out as the plans, estimate and site details are under finalisation. None of the 8 sanctioned works (listed at items 1 to 8 above) has been completed. The completion of these works will mainly depend on the completion of approaches by the State Government. Item 9 is proposed for inclusion in 1988-89 Works Programme.

#### **Increase in Heart Diseases**

3086. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH.  
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether heart diseases are assuming alarming proportions in the country;

(b) the details regarding the victims of this diseases in different age groups and in different walks of life;

(c) whether use of artificial fertilisers and softened water provided through water pipe is harmful for those having high cholesterol; and

(d) what remedial measures are proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) (a) and (b) Heart diseases are an important cause of illness and death in India. There are no reliable statistics to show that heart diseases have increased in the recent past. Heart diseases are common at all ages and in all socio-economic groups. However, the types of heart disease may differ in various groups. Thus congenital heart disease and rheumatic heart disease occur in children and young adults while ischemic heart disease and hypertension are common in older people. Rheumatic heart disease is common in poorer people while hypertension and ischemic heart disease are common in the affluent sections of society.

(c) Government are not aware of any study that has revealed that the use of artificial fertilisers and softened water provided through pipe water is harmful for those having high cholesterol. However, there is an inverse relationship between hardness of water and Cardio Vascular Diseases.

(d) The Government have set up cardiac centres in the country with facilities of special investigative laboratory, medical cardiological unit, intensive cardiac unit and cardiac operation unit to give treatment to cardiac patients.

#### **Proposal for A.C.I Class in Gowthami Express**

3087. SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESHWARA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide A.C.I. Class in Gowthami Express; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to change the timings of Godavari Express and Gowthami Express?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

#### **Wildlife Animals Affected by Various Projects**

3088. SHRI D.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether wildlife animals are adversely affected whenever huge projects are executed; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take for safeguarding the wild life?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These measures include the preparation and implementations of wildlife rehabilitation and management plans in areas affected by such projects

#### **Test Tube Babies**

3089. SHRI D.N. REDDY: Will the minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of test-tube babies born in India;

(b) how many are surviving and healthy; and

(c) whether research is still on to make it more successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) (a) and (b) As per available record six test-tube babies have been born under collaborative programme of Institute for Research in Reproduction of I.C.M.R. and K.E.M. Hospital, Bombay.

All the test-tube babies delivered at KEM Hospital, Bombay are surviving and in good health.

(c) Yes, further research is still going on to make it more successful.

**Request for Daily Running of Mangalore-Bombay Train**

3090. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request has been received from the Government of Kerala for running the trains between Mangalore and Bombay daily which is only twice a week at present; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The biweekly service between Bombay and Mangalore has been provided from October, 1987. Making it daily has not been found feasible.

**Deportation of Foreign Nationals Suffering from AIDS from Kerala**

3091. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any foreign nationals were arrested and deported from Kerala due to AIDS disease;

(b) if so, the details of those foreigners; and

(c) the methods adopted by Government for knowing whether foreign nationals coming to India have AIDS or not?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) According to information available with this Ministry, 3 foreign students from Trivandrum were found positive for AIDS infection and they have been deported. One Italian lady was arrested in

connection with the smuggling of Narcotic drugs and detained at Central Prison, Trivandrum. She was found positive for AIDS infection by blood test and the authorities concerned have been informed for appropriate action for her deportation. She has since been repatriated on 25.10.1986.

(c) Instructions have been issued to screen all foreign students being admitted in Indian Universities for AIDS. The Government has also decided to screen foreigners for AIDS who intend to stay for more than one year, except those working in missions.

**Involvement of Tamil Nadu Express in Railway Accidents.**

3092. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number of accidents which took place on Amla-Nagpur section and beyond towards Madras side during the last three years and how many times Tamil Nadu Express was involved, with details of casualties and compensation paid to the next of kins?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): During the 3 years ending October 1987, 1 train accident occurred on the Amla-Nagpur section of Central Railway and 8 passenger train accidents beyond Nagpur towards Madras side. Tamil Nadu Express was involved in accidents on 2 occasions during this period resulting in simple injuries to 2 persons and death of an outsider at an unmanned level crossing gate. No compensation was paid or payable in these two cases.

However, Tamil Nadu Express was involved in an accident near Nagpur on 7.11.87. the enquiry whereof is progress.

**Charges at Scooter Stands at Railway Stations**

3093. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:



(a) whether contractors at scooter stands at New Delhi Railway Station charge exorbitant rate on hourly basis;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the rates approved by the Railways to be charges from the public with that of helmet;

(d) the steps taken to ensure that only the approved rates are charged by the contractors; and

(e) the reasons for not putting a prominently displayed board showing the rates of charges as approved by the Railways at all the Railway Stations in the country including the New Delhi Railway Station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No such complaint has come to notice

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The rates approved by the railways for parking of Cycle/Scooter/Motor Cycle (with helmet) at New Delhi Railway Station are as under:

- |      |   |           |
|------|---|-----------|
| (i)  | From 8 00 to<br>20.00 hrs.                          | — Rs 1 25 |
| (ii) | From 20.00 hrs<br>to 8.00 hrs<br>of the next<br>day | — Rs 1 25 |

For regular customers, there is a monthly rate of Rs. 15/-

(d) Surprise checks and inspections are frequently conducted by the railway staff. Cases of irregularities noticed during such inspections are taken up with the contractor in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

(e) Boards indicating the prescribed rates are required to be displayed at the cycle/scooter stands at all the railway sta-

tions. Suitable action is taken against the defaulting contractors.

#### **Minimum Passenger Amenities at Railway Stations**

3094. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the minimum passenger amenities that are provided to passengers on platforms of railway stations,

(b) whether it is a fact that railways have specified four categories of railway stations for the purpose of fixing the minimum level of passenger amenities, and

(c) if so, the criteria fixed for each category of railway station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) and (b) There are two categories of stations for provision of passenger amenities, namely (i) Regular/Flag Stations, and (ii) Halt Stations Minimum amenities to be provided to passengers on platforms of these Railway Stations are as below —

(i) *Regular/Flag Stations* —

- 1 Waiting Hall
- 2 Seating arrangements
- 3 Lighting arrangements
- 4 Drinking Water arrangements
- 5 Latrines
- 6 Suitable platform
- 7 Booking arrangements
- 8 Shady trees

(ii) *Halt Stations:—*

- 1 Suitable platform
- 2 Waiting Shed-cum-Booking Office
- 3 Lighting where trains stop at night
- 4 Shady trees

(c) Provision of amenities is primarily based on the volume of traffic dealt with at the station.

**Distinct Features of Indira Gandhi Open University**

3095. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of Indira Gandhi Open University which distinctly differs from the working of other existing universities of India; and

(b) whether the idea of Open University lacks the teacher-taught relationship which was treated as the very foundation of Indian system of education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The Open University concept is based on the principle that face-to-face instruction is not a precondition for imparting education and promotion of learning. The pedagogic packages of the Open University system are designed to promote self-learning. The absence of personal relationship between the teacher and the student is compensated by the use of modern communication and information technology in the preparation of these packages and their delivery systems. The other distinguishing features of the Indira Gandhi National Open University are relaxed entry regulations, flexibility in combinations of courses, wide range of disciplines and facility for the students to study at their place, time and pace. In addition, the University will provide student support services through advice, counselling, guidance, etc. through a network of Study Centres located in different parts of the country. These special features will provide opportunities for higher education to students in remote and hilly areas, housewives, professionals and other serving persons which traditional universities may not be able to provide.

**Delinking of Degrees from Jobs under New Education Policy**

3096. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a firm decision to delink degrees from job and to lay emphasis on job-oriented system of education in its new education policy;

(b) in what way Government propose to take effective steps to implement its new policy and divert to flow of students seeking admission in colleges for degree course; and

(c) whether Government have taken any decision to check the growing unemployment by giving students employment-oriented education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The National Policy on Education-1986 visualises a beginning to be made in delinking degrees from jobs in selected areas. Implementation of this proposal is expected to facilitate refashioning of job-specific courses and to provide opportunities to those who, despite being equipped for a given job, are unable to get it because of the preference given to graduate candidates.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training) has initiated an analysis of the content of various jobs to identify the posts for which the requirement of University degrees could be dispensed with. The Department of Education has also initiated steps to establish a National Testing Service (NTS) to conduct tests to determine the suitability of candidates for specified jobs. It is expected that the NTS will become operational in 1988-89. Once the tests conducted by the NTS have established their credibility and reliability,

bility and gained greater acceptability by the employers, it is expected that more and more students will enroll for programmes of vocational education rather than degree courses in general education. Meanwhile, efforts are also under way to introduce large scale programmes of vocationalisation of secondary education.

**Introduction of Ferry Service between Dahej and Ghogha Ports of Gujarat**

3097. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposals from private shipping companies for introduction of ferry service between Dahej and Ghogha ports of Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) One such proposal has been received.

(b) Director General of Shipping informed the Company in February, 1985 that there is no objection to the starting of the service provided the vessel is surveyed and issued with certificates by the Flag Country for the purpose. The Company was also requested to submit revised proposal taking into account proposed traffic to be carried. No further response has so far been received by Director General of Shipping from the company.

**Seventh Blast Furnace in Bhilai Steel Plant**

3098. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Seventh Blast Furnace has been commissioned in Bhilai Steel Plant; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) It was commissioned on 30th August, 1987.

**Demand of steel in Engineering Sector**

3099. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the supply of steel by the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) to the engineering sector for meeting their export requirements is not satisfactory;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total demand of steel made by the engineering sector and the total supply made; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure supply of steel to the engineering units according to their requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (d) SAIL has not been able to meet the full demand of the engineering sector for their export requirements due to production of steel being less than demand. However, engineering goods exporters are allowed to import, duty free, their full requirement of steel for meeting their export requirements. Data on demand and supply of steel for the engineering sector separately is not maintained.

**Decline in Production of BALCO**

3100. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production has declined in the Kobra Aluminium Complex, BALCO during this year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of steps taken to increase the overall performance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAMDULARI SINHA): (a) to (c) The production of saleable aluminium metal at Korba Aluminium Complex of Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd. (BALCO) slightly declined during the first seven months of the current financial year 1987-88. Against the target of 55,850 tonnes of saleable aluminium metal, the actual production upto the end of October, 1987 has been 50,340 tonnes representing 90% of the target achievement. During the current financial year, Balco's Korba Complex had to face difficulties by way of two natural calamities (1) a cyclone in April 1987, damaging the 120 MVA transformers disrupting power distribution system and (2) a lightning in August, 1987 completely burning one of the rectifiers supplying power to the Smelter. As a result of these, there was some short-fall in production. The damaged transformers have since been repaired and the plant operations normalised. The rectifier damaged by the lightning in August, 1987 is also under repair. The production of saleable aluminium metal has started picking up and during the month of October, 1987, the production was 99% of the target fixed for the month.

#### **Deaths Due to Dog bite and Import of Vaccines**

3101. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual rate of deaths due to dog bite in the country;

(b) whether the vaccine for treatment of dog bite is imported or indigenously manufactured and the expenditure incurred on its imports, if any, during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government so far to be self-sufficient in the indigenous manufacturing of the vaccine and the results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The number of deaths due to dog bite (Rabies) reported during the years 1984, 1985 and 1986 is given below:

Year	Cases
1984	722
1985	698
1986	619

The above figures are generally in respect of patients treated in medical institutions only.

(b) The Anti-Rabies vaccine Sheep-brain vaccine inactivated by phenol or Betapropiolactone (BPL) is manufactured in the country itself. However, the new tissue culture vaccine for rabies is being manufactured in some developed countries. Some private firms/individuals are importing this vaccine for limited use. Government has no information on the amount of expenditure incurred for importing the limited quantity of this vaccine by private firms/individuals.

(c) The country is self-sufficient in the manufacture of indigenous antirabies vaccine (phenol or BPL in activated). However, a pilot project for the production of tissue culture vaccine is in progress at Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor.

#### **Price of Tea at Railway Stations in Uttar Pradesh**

3102. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH:  
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tea vendors at the railway stations in Uttar Pradesh have increased the rate of a cup of tea from fifty paise to one rupee and the quality of tea is also not good;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to reduce this rate of a cup of tea at the railway stations in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) The price of tea in cup of 150 ml. has been increased on all Railways. It has been done after a period of about 4 years on account of considerable rise in the costs of raw materials and the wages of the staff. The Railways have instructions to ensure service of standard quality of tea to the passengers. Instructions have also been issued to the Railways that to meet local demands, lower price can be fixed for reduced quantity of tea.

#### **Meeting of Otorhinolaryngologists**

3103. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI:  
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Otorhinolaryngologists of the World held a meeting in November, 1987 at New Delhi;

(b) if so, the names of the countries which participated;

(c) whether some scientific, academic and research work was presented at the meeting;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether opportunities were provided during the meeting to share knowledge and expertise on various E.N.T diseases; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the details of gadgets and equipments exhibited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes,

(b) There were participants from Korea, U.K., Japan, Muscat, Syria, West Germany, Denmark, Spain, Holan, Sweeden, USSR, Vietnam, Czechoslovakia, China, USA, Taiwan (Delegates from Taiwan joined in individual capacity), Saudi Arabia, Iran, Turkey, Egypt, Behrain, Belgium, Qatar, Kuwait, Australia, Netherland, Thrailand, Indonesia, Pakistan, Greece, Newzealand, Austria, Hongkong, Singapore, Phyllipines, Italy, France, Malaysia, Finland, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh.

(c) Yes.

(d) According to the organizers the Scientific Sessions comprised of invited lectures, panel discussions, scientific films, posters on various ongoing aspects of many diseases covering ENT speciality. This included congenital and related defects of the Ear and Facial Skeleton, Surgery of the ear pitfalls, Neuro-otology, Cochlear implants, tumours related to head and neck, adjuvant thereapy in head and neck cancer, cosmetic and reconstructive procedures, Dysphonia, Immunology and Allergy in ENT practice, Newer diagnostic and thereapeutic techniques, tropical ENT diseases, ENT in rural areas, Computers in Clinical practice etc.

(e) Yes.

(f) All the diagnostic and operative instruments related to ENT were exhibited in the Congress like Operating Microscopes, Evoked Response of the Audiometry and different implants etc.

#### **Overloading of School Children by Three-Wheeler Scooters in Delhi**

3104. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE  
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that three-wheeler scooters in Delhi are carrying 4 to 30 school children;

(b) if so, whether this overloading is permissible; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not cancelling the permits of such vehicles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Instances of over-loading by three-wheeler scooters have come to notice.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Such offending TSRs (Three wheeler scooters) are being prosecuted in terms of Section 112 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 and Delhi Motor Vehicles Rules. In the period from 1-1-87 to 15-11-87, 548 TSRs have been challaned for overloading. Attention of Transport Authorities of Delhi Administration have been drawn to the Provisions of Section 60 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, which provides for cancellation of permits, in appropriate cases, for violation of Permit Conditions.

### Completion of on-going New Railway Lines

3105. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of the on-going Projects (new railways lines and conversions) have been targetted for completion during the Seventh Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the remaining on-going projects would be completed during the early years of the Eighth Plan;

(d) if so, the cost of each one of the on-going projects on the date of commencement and as also on 1 January, 1987; and

(e) whether all on-going projects would be completed prior to the taking up of any new projects in the remaining years of the Seventh and Eighth Plans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) 1. Following New Lines have already been commissioned in VIIth Plan upto date:-

#### *New Lines*

(i) Nagothana-Roha (BG)	—	15	km.
(ii) Parallel BG line between Tirunelveli and Milavittan (BG)	—	53	km.
(iii) Koraput-Machiliguda (BG)	—	20	km.
(iv) Dharmanagar-Pencharthal (MG)	—	22	km.
(v) Milavittan-Tutorin Harbour Siding (BG)	—	11	km.
(vi) Tupkadih-Talgaria (BG)	—	33	km.
(vii) Motumari-Jaggayapet (BG)	—	32	km.
(viii) Vishnupuram-Nadikude (MG)	—	18	km.

2. Following New Lines & Gauge Conversions are planned for

commissioning in the current financial year:-

#### *New Lines*

(i) Bhatinda Bye-pass (BG)	—	6	km.
(ii) Lalabazar-Jamira (MG)	—	3	km.
(iii) Miryalguda-Nadikude (BG)	—	21	km.
(iv) Bhuj-Naliya (MG)	—	107	km.

*Gauge Conversions*

(i) Suratgarh-Bikaner

— 178 km

3. Commissioning of the other New Line & Gauge Conversion projects in the remaining 2 years of the VIIIth Plan will depend on availability of resources in the Annual Plans.

(c) No, Sir. Considering the availability of resources so far.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No such decision has been taken.

**National Programme for Drug Testing**

3106. DR. B. L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have mooted a national programme for drug testing to be launched in the Eighth Plan and to provide an infrastructural base for implementing drug control measures;

(b) if so, whether any framework in this behalf has been prepared or is being prepared; the role to be assigned to the State Government and Central Laboratories like the Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow, Haffkine Institute, Bombay and others in this programme; and

(c) its broad features?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) Proposals for the 8th Five Year Plan have not yet been drawn up.

**Field Trial of Anti-Serotonin Drug for Migraine Cure**

3107. DR. B. L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any field trials of the discovery of anti-serotonin drug for migraine cure have been carried out and its efficacy and safety both as preventive and prophylactic drug to keep migraine away have been made;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) when the drug will be marketed in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) A new drug, Methysergide, is available in America under the trade name of Sansert. This drug has not yet become available in India.

The other anti-serotonin drugs in experimental stage undergoing clinical trials abroad are metergoline/metitepine, mianserin (Pizotifen), and cinanserin.

**Children's University**

3108. DR. B. L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Official proposal for a Children's University, a first for this part of the world, was discussed by the State Education Ministers and a number of top educationists at a meeting held in the capital earlier this month;

(b) if so, the outcome; and

(c) the broad features of the proposed Children's University and where it will be located?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

### **Malpractices in Railway Reservations**

3109. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether malpractices in reservation of railway bookings still persist on several stations; and

(b) if so, what special measures are proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There are some complaints to this effect.

(b) Some of the important measures taken to eliminate malpractices in reservations are:-

- (i) Computerisation of reservations which started in Delhi area is being extended to other major cities in phases.
- (ii) A close surveillance is maintained on reservation offices to detect and apprehend touts. During 1986, 1947 touts were apprehended and prosecuted by the Zonal Railways.
- (iii) Strict supervision is maintained over reservation staff and those found indulging in irregularities are awarded deterrent punishments.
- (iv) Checks are conducted in running trains to detect cases of transferred reservations
- (v) Railway staff are also sent to visit the addresses given in the requisitions and reservations cancelled if particulars are found fictitious.

(vi) In some cases, where telephone numbers are given in the requisition slips, phone calls are made to check whether the reservation is genuine. In cases of doubt, the reservation is cancelled.

(vii) Frequent warnings to intending passengers against unauthorised purchase/sale of tickets are issued through notices and announcements over the public address system.

[Translation]

### **Conversion of Darbhanga-Samastipur-Hasanpur Railway Line and New Railway Line between Sakri-Hasanpur**

3110. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position in respect of implementation and the time schedule fixed for completion of conversion of Samastipur-Darbhanga metre-gauge railways line and new railway line between Sakri-Hasanpur;

(b) whether survey had already been conducted for the conversion of Darbhanga-Jainagar metre-gauge rail line into broad gauge; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Survey for provision of a parallel BG line instead of its conversion from MG to BG between Samastipur and Darbhanga is in progress. No action can be taken till the survey is completed and the report examined.

Construction of Sakri-Hasanpur new MG line is an approved project. It has not been possible to take up construction of this rail line due to severe constraint of resources.



(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The survey for conversion of Darbhanga-Jaynagar (68 km) M.G. rail line into B.G. was carried out in 1983. The project was estimated to cost Rs. 15.37 crores at the then prevailing prices and was assessed to be financially unremunerative.

[English]

**Allotment of Land for Storage and Handling of Liquid Cargo at Madras Port**

3111. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether land is being allotted to same company and its associates at Madras Port from year to year for the storage and handling of liquid cargo for the last many years;

(b) whether the Company and its associates have put up permanent structures on the land allotted to them

(c) whether Government are aware that the Company and its associates had made a bid against a tender by the State Trading Corporation for storage of cargo for a period of three years on the land allotted to them for one year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT). (a) The following companies have been allotted land for storage and handling of Liquid Cargo on annual basis which is being renewed from year to year by the Madras Port Trust

- (1) Indian Molasses Company Private Limited.
- (2) M/s. J.R. Enterprises.
- (3) M/s. A.V.R. Company.
- (4) M/s. Oswal Oils and Vanaspathi Industries.
- (5) The Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation Limited.
- (6) The Madras Fertilisers Limited

Apart from the above, Indian Oil Corporation was allotted land in 1983 for 25 years.

(b) In respect of all allotments, tanks have been put up soon after the allotment.

(c) and (d) It is not clear which company is being referred to and therefore the reaction of the Government does not arise

**Democratisation of Management of Universities**

3112. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have proposed guidelines for the democratisation of management of universities,

(b) if so, the names of universities which do not have student representation in their policy making or executive bodies as on 1 November, 1987, and

(c) the names of universities which do not have functioning students unions as on 1 November, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI KRISHNA SAHI) (a) No new guidelines on the management of Universities have been formulated by the Government or the University Grants Commission. However, the Programme of Action for the implementation of the National Policy on Education-1986 envisages a review of the management patterns of Universities, including the structure, roles and responsibilities of various University bodies. In pursuance of this, the UGC has appointed a Committee and its work is in progress

(b) The composition of various University bodies is prescribed in the Act and Statutes of each University. The details of such provisions in the Acts and Statutes of the State Universities are not collected and maintained by the Central Government. In

respect of the Central Universities, there is no provision for representation of students on their Executive Councils. However, provision has been made for the representation of students on the Courts as well as the Academic Councils of the Aligarh Muslim University, North Eastern Hill University and the Visva-Bharati, and the Academic Councils of the Delhi University, Hyderabad University and the Jawaharlal Nehru University. There is no provision in the Act and the Statutes of the Banaras Hindu University for the representation of students in any of its bodies. The Statutes prescribing the composition of various bodies of the Pondicherry University and the Indira Gandhi National Open University have not yet been framed.

(c) According to information available, among the Central Universities; Students Unions in the Aligarh Muslim University and the North Eastern Hill University are not functioning at present; Pondicherry University has not set up a Students Union so far and the Indira Gandhi National Open University has no students on campus. Information relating to Students Unions in the State Universities is not available.

#### **Repair of Flood Damaged National Highways**

3113. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the brief particulars of major damage suffered by National Highways during the recent floods in the eastern part of the country;

(b) whether the damages have been repaired;

(c) if not, the target date by which these are expected to be repaired; and

(d) the special allocation made for the purpose and its State-wise break-up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) National Highways in the States of Assam, Bihar, Meghalaya and West Bengal have suffered major damages during the recent floods. Major damages include damages to culverts, bridges, road crust and breaches of road.

(b) and (c). Immediate restoration works have been completed.

(d) State-wise break up of funds, so far released, is as under:

(1) Assam	— Rs. 50 lakhs
(2) Bihar	— Rs. 75 lakhs
(3) West Bengal	— Rs. 135 lakhs

#### **Damage to Railway System Due to Flood**

3114. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the brief particulars of major damages suffered by the Railway system during the recent floods in the eastern part of the country;

(b) whether the damages have been repaired and the operations normalised since then; and

(c) the cost of repairing these damages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Through communication to North Eastern region, both on Broad gauge and Metre gauge routes via Katihar on the North Eastern and North-east Frontier Railways and on Grand Chord and Main line routes of the Eastern Railway was dislocated.

(b) All the flood affected sections on North Eastern, Northeast Frontier and Eastern Railways have been restored except the following:

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1.	Old Malda-Singhabad	(N.F. Railway)
2.	Manihari-Teznarayanpur	(N.F. Railway)
3.	Sakri-Nirmali	(N.E. Railway)
4.	Jhanjharpur-Laukaha Bazar	(N.E. Railway)
5.	Bakhtiarpur-Rajgir	(E. Railway)

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(c) Rs 25.42 crores approximately

**Provision of A.C. Sleeper Coaches in trains on Manmad-Aurangabad-Nanded Route**

3115. SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether both on broad gauge and metre gauge Mail/Express trains, conventional first class coaches are proposed to be replaced by air-conditioned sleeper coaches;

(b) if so, the trains which are proposed to be provided with air-conditioned sleeper coaches on the Manmad-Aurangabad-Nanded metre gauge route; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) 551/552 Kacheguda-Manmad Ajanta Expresses.

**Allocation of fund for Development/Modification of Engineering Workshop, Arakkonam**

3116. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount earmarked for the development/modification of the Engineering Workshop, Arakkonam in the Budget for 1986-87 and 1987-88;

(b) out of that how much amount has been released so far, and

(c) the steps taken for development of this workshop?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Rs. 34.42 lacs for 1986-87.

Rs 58.99 lacs for 1987-88.

(b) Full amount has been provided for in the Budget of the respective years.

(c) Development of the workshop is a continuous process.

**Replacement of Coaches**

3117. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to replace all the first class coaches by A.C. sleeper coaches;

(b) if so, the number of coaches replaced so far;

(c) the time by which all the coaches would be replaced;

(d) whether Railways have stopped renovating the old first class coaches; and

(e) if so, whether the old coaches will remain in use, which were otherwise to be replaced by new ones or would have at least been renovated, till these are replaced by AC sleeper coaches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 336 A.C. Sleeper Coaches have been provided on 280 Mail/Express trains which were having first class accommodation and 56 new Mail/Express trains.

(c) Exact time cannot be given as it depends upon the production of coaches every year.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) All first class coaches are renovated and given examination at regular intervals in the Workshops.

#### **R&D In field of orthopaedic implants**

3118. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether non-availability of good quality or orthopaedic implants and absence of innovative research and development facilities have adversely affected speedy and effective treatment of injuries to persons in road accidents;

(b) whether the death rate of patients from multiple injuries is very high; and

(c) if so, the details of research and development activities in manufacturing orthopaedic implants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid in the table of the House.

[*Translation*]

#### **Proposal for an Authority for Development of Kandla Port**

3119. SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for setting up of an Authority for development of Kandla Port; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) There is no proposal for the setting up of an Authority for the development of Kandla Port. However, a suggestion has been received from an Honourable Member of Parliament to set up a Working Group for the development of Kandla-Gandhidham Complex consisting of non-officials and officials. The main task of the Working Group should be to promote industrialisation and development of economic infrastructure of the Kandla-Gandhidham Complex.

[*English*]

#### **Disparity between CGHS Monthly wage Doctors and ESI ad-hoc Doctors**

3120. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the question of bringing the CGHS monthly wage doctors at par with the ad-hoc doctors of the ESI as both the categories were initially appointed under similar terms and conditions; if so, what decision has been taken in the matter;

(b) whether Government agree with the rationale of the decisions of the tribunal on the basis of which the ESI ad-hoc doctors have been given a higher starting pay scale without any break in service after 90 days and without any connected benefits like leave and annual increments; and

(c) if so, the reasons for delay in equating both the categories of doctors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) Medical Officers of CHS and ESIC are not on the same footing. While the service conditions of CHS doctors are governed by Central Health Ser-

vice Rules the Service conditions of ESI doctors are governed by regulations framed under E.S.I. Act.

#### **Seminar on Child Accidents**

3121. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether a two day seminar on child accidents was organised by the National Institute of Public Co-operation and Child Development;

(b) if so, what were its recommendations; and

(c) Government's response to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) (a) Yes, Sir A two day National Seminar on Prevention of Childhood Accidents was organised by the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development on 14-15 October, 1987 in New Delhi

(b) Its recommendations are grouped into the following five broad categories:

- (i) Accidents requiring medical interventions;
- (ii) Accidents requiring surgical interventions, including head injuries;
- (iii) Eye injuries;
- (iv) ENT injuries; and
- (v) Road traffic accidents and orthopaedic injuries.

The final report along with the recommendations has not been received by the Government so far. Action will be taken on

these recommendations on receipt of the report.

#### **Implementation of Family Planning Programme in Rural areas**

3122. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Family Planning Programmes in the country and particularly in rural areas are not being implemented fully;

(b) whether due to the above reason population in the country and particularly in rural area is increasing rapidly; and

(c) the amount allocated to each State for family planning programme for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Family Planning Programme is being uniformly implemented throughout the country For implementing the programme in rural areas, we have a vast network of PHCs, Rural Family Welfare Centres, Sub-Centres, etc., as a result of which the percentage of rural population accepting sterilization has gradually increased from 67.2% in 1980-81 to 71.3% in 1985-86. Likewise there has been a gradual increase in acceptance of IUD by rural population from 58.5% during 1980-81 to 76.0% in 1985-86.

(b) Census figures for 1971 and 1981 indicate that percentage of rural population to total population is gradually decreasing 80.09% in 1970-71 to 76.69% in 1980-81. Based on the Sample Registration System of Registrar General of India for 1985 the overall annual growth rate of population for the country as a whole is 2.11% as against 2.10% for rural areas. With sustained efforts, it is hoped, it shall be possible to further arrest this growth rate and achieve the NRR of Unity by the turn of the Century.

(c) The amount allocated during the current year is indicated in the statement given below.

**STATEMENT**

*Allocation Made to the Various States During 1987-88*

Sl. No.	State	Allocation 1987-88 (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3243.86
2.	Assam	1083.00
3.	Bihar	2522.99
4.	Gujarat	2189.57
5.	Haryana	820.67
6.	Himachal Pradesh	438.03
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	363.50
8.	Karnataka	2911.25
9.	Kerala	1994.82
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2687.28
11.	Maharashtra	4120.11
12.	Manipur	160.80
13.	Meghalaya	133.56
14.	Nagaland	99.92
15.	Orissa	1614.02
16.	Punjab	978.63
17.	Rajasthan	2141.87
18.	Sikkim	93.26
19.	Tamil Nadu	3154.77
20.	Tripura	147.33
21.	Uttar Pradesh	6231.40
22.	West Bengal	3928.11

**Homes for Destitutes in Sikkim**

3123. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some destitute homes for women are functioning in Sikkim;

(b) if so, the names of places where such homes are functioning with the number of inmates in each such home at present;

(c) whether certain Centrally Sponsored schemes for destitute women are also in operation,

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

(e) the allocation made so far and proposed to be made for each such scheme during the remaining years of the seventh Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise. However, recently grant-in-aid has been sanctioned for setting up a Short Stay Home for Women and Girls at Gangtok by the Department of Women and Child Development.

**Government Accommodation to  
Employees of Kendriya Vidyalayas,  
Delhi**

3124. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA: Will the Minister of Human RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of Kendriya Vidyalayas at Delhi are allotted Government accommodation from the general pool;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether such employees who share Government accommodation with their parents, are entitled to draw house rent allowance; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Employees of autonomous organisations are not eligible for allotment of government accommodation from general pool. Accordingly, the employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan are not allotted Government Accommodation.

(c) and (d) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan follows the Government of India Rules in this regard, according to which to employees who share Government accommodation with their parents are not entitled to draw House Rent Allowance.

12.00 hrs

[English]

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Sir, I want to raise a very important question. Kindly give a hearing....

MR. SPEAKER: What is the problem?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The Delhi Police are....

MR. SPEAKER: No. Not allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not given him permission. I am not allowing him.

*(Interruptions)\*\**

MR. SPEAKER: Look here, Professor Saheb. This is a question where you cannot put allegatory things like that. You have to give it to me. I will find out if there is any basis.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Why can't you listen to me? I am giving you an answer.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I can produce hundreds of affidavits. I do not believe in affidavits. Nothing doing. Not allowed.

*(Interruptions)\*\**

MR. SPEAKER: I do not care about it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You are not allowing a discussion on the Misra Commission's Report.

MR. SPEAKER: You are saying something which is very, very untrue.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am not....

MR. SPEAKER: You have said that I am not allowing. When did I do that?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The Business Advisory Committee....

MR. SPEAKER: That is what you can say; do not refer to me. I allowed it. I admitted it. What you are saying is untrue. You should not say that.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am not saying anything against you as a person. We have had no opportunity....

MR. SPEAKER: You have to find time. I am ready for it. No problem. It is with you. You give me the time and I will allow.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You give the direction to settle this matter, discussion on Misra Commission's Report must take place.....

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing doing. I will have to find out because affidavits can be given, and there is no case for this discussion. I am not allowing. Nothing goes on record.

*(Interruptions)\*\**

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed. Absolutely not.

*(Interruptions)\*\**

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: At least allow discussion on Misra Commission's Report.

MR. SPEAKER: We shall see. I am not committing myself. I can commit myself to one thing - that I have already committed with you that I am ready to have a discussion on the Misra Commission's Report.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Give priority to that.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): The Report of the Misra Commission was laid on the Table of the House long back.

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: It has happened in your presence. What is the use of telling me? You should find out time in B.A.C. I have no objection.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: You should find out time and hold discussion immediately.

MR. SPEAKER: It is for you to find time.



[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Government is obstructing the discussion on Misra Commission's Report.

MR. SPEAKER: No; I deny it. Government said, "We are ready".

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed.

(Interruptions)\*\*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar): The Delhi Police.....

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed. That is all. Irrelevant.

(Interruptions)\*\*

SHRI. SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Yesterday I demanded a discussion under rule 193 on the judgment given by the High Court in which certain observations were made and Government was asked to make....

MR. SPEAKER: What is that?

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: The High Court of Andhra Pradesh made certain observations and requested the Central Government to consider some cases against....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You may give it to me. I will go through it.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: You have expunged it....

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen to me. Mahfooz Aliji, you also listen to me.

[English]

This is something which concerns the Chief Minister of a State and a Minister. Registration of an F.I.R. does not mean that some crime has been committed. No. Look here, Mr. Mahfooz Ali Khan, you also listen to this. If that was the situation, then the situation becomes very much untenable....

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: There are specific charges.

MR. SPEAKER: It does not matter. Until and unless they are proved.... (Interruptions) Mr. Mahfooz Ali Khan, you have not gone through the rules. There is a provision under rule 353. Under that, it is a censure motion against a Minister that can be brought. Otherwise, not. Until and unless there is a *prima facie* case for that, I cannot allow such a thing on the floor of the House. Mr. Shantaram Naik, you can give me a notice. I will look into it. Whatever I can do, I will do. Otherwise, not.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: I would give a notice under rule 353.

MR. SPEAKER: If there is *prima facie* case, I will consider it.

[English]

I can only consider if there is anything.

[Translation]

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA (Shahjahanpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, gas worth one crore of rupees is going waste daily in

H.B.J. gas pipe line. The industrialists are blackmailing the Government by not setting up the factories.

MR. SPEAKER: You have given the Calling Attention Notice.....

[English]

It is under my consideration. I will consider.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Please give me one minute, Sir.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I have told you.

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Yesterday you expunged certain remarks which do not attract rule 380....

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada): He goes on making observation, Sir, What is this?

MR. SPEAKER: I have to consider that and then give my considered opinion.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: That is all right. But he is not obeying your observations.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Shantaram Naik, are you talking about the same thing?

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Under Rule 380, certain remarks of mine were expunged by you, Sir. I say, my remarks were neither defamatory nor indecent, not unparliamentary and nor undignified.

MR. SPEAKER: I never expunged anything.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: No, Sir. You have expunged.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Naik, what I said was, without my permission nothing forms part of the record. You first have to seek my permission and if that was not the case, then I should not be here. What is the use of me? I only can regulate and regulation can be done at my discretion.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: He made a charge against the Prime Minister and that has gone on record.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not on record.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: No, Sir. I have seen. He said something like "Italian connection" and that is on record.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIV PRASAD SAHU (Ranchi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Home Minister towards Singhbhum district of Chhota Nagpur region.

MR. SPEAKER: You should give it in writing. It cannot be done like this.

SHRI SHIV PRASAD SAHU: Kindly listen to me. It is very important matter....

MR. SPEAKER: You should give it in writing. I will listen to you.

SHRI SHIV PRASAD SAHU: It is not a question of giving in writing.

MR. SPEAKER: How could it be a matter about which you can speak.

(Interruptions)\*\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing allowed.

[Translation]

Please listen to me. If you do so, it will not be possible to run the House. You may occupy this seat.

12.07 hrs.

**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

[English]

**Notification under Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Merchant Shipping (Examination of Skippers and Mate of Fishing Vessels) Rules, 1987 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No.G.S.R. 509 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 1987 under sub-section (3) of section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 [Placed in Library See No LT-5108/87]

**Annual Report of Maulana Azad College of Technology, Bhopal**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Maulana Azad College of Technology, Bhopal, for the year 1986-87 together with Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No LT-5109/87]

**Mineral Concession (Second Amendment) Rules, 1987 and Review on the Working of and Annual Report of National Aluminium Co. Ltd. for 1986-87**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English ver-

sions) under sub-section (1) of section 28 of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957:—

- (i) The Mineral Concession (Second Amendment) Rules, 1987 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 855 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th October, 1987
- (ii) G.S.R. 856 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th October, 1987 containing corrigendum to Notification No.G.S.R. 458 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 1987.

[Placed in Library See No.LT - 5110/87]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (i) Review by the Government on the working of the National Aluminium Company Limited, Bhubaneswar, for the year 1986-87.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Aluminium Company Limited, Bhubaneswar, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT - 5111/87]

**Notifications under Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Annual Report of and Review on the working of All India Institute of Speech and Hearing for 1986-87**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Drug and Cosmetics (First Amendment) Rules, 1987 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 71 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th January, 1987 together with a corrigendum to the Hindi version thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 723 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st August, 1987, under section 38 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5112/87].

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 23 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954:—

- (i) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1986 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 851 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th June, 1986 together with corrigenda thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1207 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th November, 1986 and Notification No. G.S.R. 28 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th January, 1987. [Placed in Library See No. LT-5113/87]

- (ii) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1986 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 910 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th June, 1986 together with a corrigendum to the

Hindi version thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 500(E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th May, 1987. [Placed in Library See No. LT-5114/87]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore, for the year 1986-87.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore, for the year 1986-87 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore, for the year 1986-87

[Placed in Library See No. LT - 5115/87]

**Annual Report of the Society for  
Promotion of Wastelands Development  
for 1986-87**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND  
FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): I beg to  
lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development, New Delhi for the year 1986-87.
- (2) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development, New Delhi, for the year 1986-87 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Society, for Promotion of Wastelands Development, New Delhi, for the year 1986-87.

[Placed in Library See No. LT - 5116/87]

#### ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

[English]

#### National Shipping Board

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (2) (a) of Section 4 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves, to serve as members of the National Shipping Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (2) (a) of Section 4 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves, to serve as members of the National Shipping Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

*The motion was adopted*

12.08 hrs.

#### ILLEGAL MIGRANTS (DETERMINATION BY TRIBUNALS) AMENDMENT BILL\*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

(S. Buta Singh): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Banatwalla.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): I oppose the Bill strongly and with all the vehemence at my command. Sir, the Bill is a gross betrayal of all minorities — religious, linguistic and ethnic. To say that the Bill is as a result of experience gained in the working of the principal Act is nothing but political hypocrisy. The Bill represents a meek and reprehensible surrender to dark forces of chauvinism.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the principal act was passed by this House in the context of the situation as developed in Assam. Therefore, there were several inbuilt safeguard and the amendment Bill destroys all these safeguards. I therefore, say that the Bill is an instrument for legalised persecution and oppression. As it is, there is a great deal of persecution and oppression in Assam and the provision of this Bill will further facilitate the oppression and persecution of even the innocent citizen of Assam. I, therefore, strongly oppose the Bill. The Bill is a fraud on constitutional guarantee. This is a mockery of our legal system.

Sir, I once again, urge upon the Government, even at this stage to withdraw this obnoxious Bill. I appeal to the House to throw the Bill out.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): This Bill will open a flood-gate of harassment to Indian citizens who are living in Assam for decades. In the names of detection and expulsion, thousand of genuine Indian citizens will be evicted, those who are living since 47.

What is the difficult with the present Act? The present Act is sufficient enough to detect the foreigners. Now with this amendment, any person can make a complaint against any other person because the territorial limitation of 3 kms. has been done away with. Then, the decision of the appellate tribunal will be final. Nobody will be allowed to go to the High Court against the decision of this Tribunal.

This Amendment Bill violates Articles 226 and 227 of the Constitution. Thousands of citizens who are living in Assam and who came to Assam even during 1947 will now be evicted. I know Sir, about 85000 genuine citizens who are residing in Maligaon and other areas are now being evicted, being identified as foreigners.

So, this Bill will help to evict thousands of India citizens. As this Bill violates the fundamental rights of the Constitution, I oppose the introduction of this Bill the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Amendment Bill—and I urge the Minister to withdraw this Bill.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, you may please tell me if your notice was tabled in time?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Yes, Sir, in time.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, it was received in time.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): It should have been the first Sir. I thought my notice would be the first.

MR. SPEAKER: Your notice was in time: so I included it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): He is the authority on the Constitution Sir.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: For the sake of humanity and civilised behaviour, I stand to oppose the introduction of this Bill. It is clearly a matter of political expediency so far as this Government is concerned and that is going to prevail over justice and fairplay.

The statement of objects and reasons of the present Bill shows that the 1983 original Act was for the establishment of tribunals for determination in a fair manner of the question of whether a person is an illegal migrant or not. But that modicum of fairplay or justice which was included in the initial legislation is being done away with. Now the entire procedure is sought to be changed for the purpose of not helping or assisting a fair determination of the question; but to make it possible for a complainant to make allegations and charges, so that people can be driven out of Assam on the plea of being foreigners.

This dilution of some of the just provisions of the initial legislation negates all the assurances that were given by Pandit Nehru and Sardar Patel on the floor of this very House to those people whose sacrifices and sufferings had ushered in the freedom of this country and put Pandit Nehru and Sardar Patel on the seats of power.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Incidentally the present one also!

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Now, Sir, such assurances which were at that time said to be national commitment to the people of this country and article of faith of those people who became victims of a politically expedient decision, namely, partition of the country how that article of faith is being preserved and how that national commitment is being kept to the subsequent generations of those people who suffered no less than those whom we have given 'Samman Patras' today. I wish the Government has been little more can did in saying that in the statement of objects and reasons how determination of the question of illegal migrants in a fair manner was being hampered. Is the object to make it

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

more fair so far as the alleged illegal migrants are concerned or more fair to the complainants against the so-called illegal migrants. This affects lakhs of people. I have got instances and I hope, Sir, when justice is not being obtained from the executive and the Government of India is entering into all sorts of agreements and accords irrespective of their serious consequences and repercussions on humanity as such people who are not at fault at all just because some people—who are our good friends—have mistaken notion that their development is being allegedly hampered by people who have participated in the development of Assam in all its sectors now for the sake of entering into an accord the greatest attack on humanity and minimal rights of the people living in this country were brought about.

If you go through the statement of objects and reasons there will be reduction in the strength of the Tribunal. It becomes easier to make frivolous complaints. Previously under the present Act only a person within 3 km could make a complaint. The base of it was that a person must know himself that somebody was an illegal migrant. Now in a police station area comprising hundreds of km anybody can make a complaint and, as such, the trouble starts for these people. I hope that there is another forum in this country and judiciary will come to the rescue of those people. That is why an attempt is being made to restrict access to the judiciary. This is a serious legislation. I know the hon. Minister has to sacrifice or compromise with his own feelings and sense of fairness but by this surrender to the chauvinistic forces you cannot bring about integration of the country far less you are bringing miseries to the lakhs and lakhs of people. I appeal to the Government to retrace its steps and not surrender in this manner the rights of a large number of people.

SHRI ABDUL HAMID (Dhubri): I also oppose the introduction of this Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: You did not give your notice in time. So I am helpless.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Sir, he is the only Member from Assam. He should be given time.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI ABDUL HAMID (Dhubri): I have written to you for opposing introduction of this Bill. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Why don't you listen? Please listen to me. Why do you not listen to what I say. I have no objection. You have given your notice late. It is your fault. It is not my fault. Your notice has been received at 10.20 A.M. I would have allowed him too. I have no hesitation.

SHRI ABDUL HAMID: I had given it at 10 A.M.

MR. SPEAKER: You had given at 10.20 A.M. It should have come at 10 A.M.

[*Translation*]

You should have been a little alert. You should have given notice early.

AN HON. MEMBER: Kindly relax this rule for him.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: No, I won't.

[*Translation*]

When I did not stop him, then what was the trouble with him?

[*English*]

Don't waste my time.

S.BUTA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at this stage, the merits of the Bill have not to be discussed.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ABDUL HAMID: I stage walk out.

MR. SPEAKER: You may speak when discussion on the Bill takes place. Why do you stage a walk-out? You blame others because of your own weakness.

*At this stage, Shri Abdul Hamid left the House.*

[*English*]

S.BUTA SINGH: Sir, under Rule 72, the introduction of the Bill can be opposed. (*Interruptions*) ....only on the constitutional points and legal grounds. Since no Hon'ble Member from the Opposition has raised any objection as to the constitutional or legal competence of the House therefore, the other things.....

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: I raised.

S. BUTA SINGH: Hon'ble Members, Shri Banatwallaji, Achariaji and my learned friend, have tried to misinterpret certain provisions which are given in the objects of the Bill. The Government of India is fully committed to protect the rights of the minorities... (*Interruptions*)..

Sir, we will not do anything and we will not allow anything to happen in Assam or in any other part of the country which will impinge....(*Interruptions*)....upon the constitutional rights of our citizens. We are bound to implement the solemn words of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. We will not allow anything to happen which is against the spirit of the Constitution.

I can assure the Hon'ble House and the Members opposite. This House is supreme. At the time of discussion, the Hon'ble Members may point out what are the things which really hit at the constitutional rights of the citizens. Definitely this House is supreme. But at this stage, the introduction of the Bill should not be interrupted only on the frivolous grounds—the grounds which are not legal and constitutional. Certain insinuations made by the Hon'ble Members are not in the order I can tell you only one thing..... (*Interruptions*) ....Fairplay and justice are the cardinal principles of the Acts that Parliament has passed. Our party is committed totally to protect the lives and the property of the minorities of our country in any part of the country.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the *Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983*”.

*The Loka Sabha Divided*

**Division No. 9]**

**AYES**

**[12.29 hrs.**

Abbasi, Shri K. J.	Ataur Rahman, Shri
Abdul Ghafoor, Shri	Athithan, Shri R. Dhanuskodi
Ahmed, Shri Sarfaraz	Awasthi, Shri Jagdish
Akhtar Hasan, Shri	Azad, Shri Bhagwat Jha
Anand Singh, Shri	Baghel, Shri Pratapsinh
Ansari, Shri Abdul Hannan	Bairagi, Shri Balkavi
Ansari, Shri Z. R.	Bairwa, Shri Banwari Lal
Arunachalam, Shri M.	Baitha, Shri D. L.



**Banerjee, Kumari Mamata**

**Bhagat, Shri H. K. L.**

**Bharat Singh, Shri**

**Bhardwaj, Shri Parasram**

**Bhoi, Dr. Krupasindhu**

**Bhumij, Shri Haren**

**Bhuria, Shri Dileep Singh**

**Birinder Singh, Shri**

**Buta Singh, S.**

**Chandrasekhar, Shrimati M.**

**Chandrashekharappa, Shri T. V.**

**Chandresh Kumari, Shrimati**

**Charles, Shri A.**

**Chaturvedi, Shri Naresh Chandra**

**Chaudhry, Shri Kamal**

**Chavan, Shrimati Premalabai**

**Chinta Mohan, Dr.**

**Choudhari, Shrimati Usha**

**Choudhury, Shri Samar Brahma**

**Dalwai, Shri Hussain**

**Das, Shri Sudarsan**

**Das Munsii, Shri Priya Ranjan**

**Dennis, Shri N.**

**Deora, Shri Murli**

**Devi, Prof. Chandra Bhanu**

**Dhillon, Dr. G. S.**

**Digal, Shri Radhakanta**

**Dighe, Shri Sharad**

**Digvijaya Singh, Shri**

**Dikshit, Shrimati Sheila**

**Dinesh Singh, Shri**

**Dogra, Shri G. L.**

**Gaikwad, Shri Udaysingrao**

**Gamit, Shri C D.**

**Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya**

**Gholap, Shri S.G.**

**Ghosh, Shri Bimal Kanti**

**Gomango, Shri Giridhar**

**Goswami, Shri Dinesh**

**Gupta, Shrimati Prabhawati**

**Jain, Shri Nihal Singh**

**Jangde, Shri Khelan Ram**

**Jatav, Shri Kammodilal**

**Jena, Shri Chintamani**

**Jhansi Lakshmi, Shrimati N. P.**

**Jhikram, Shri M. L.**

**Jitendra Prasada, Shri**

**Kamla Kumari, Kumari**

**Kaul, Shrimati Sheila**

**Ken, Shri Lala Ram**

**Khan, Shri Mohd. Ayub**

**Khan, Shri Rahim**

**Khirhar, Shri R. S.**

**Kinder Lal, Shri**

Kolandaivelu, Shri P.	Netam, Shri Arvind
Krishna Singh, Shri	Pandey, Shri Manoj
Kurien, Prof. P. J.	Panigrahi, Shri Sriballav
Lal Duhoma, Shri	Parashar, Prof. Narain Chand
Lowang, Shri Wangpha	Pardhi, Shri Keshao Rao
Madhuree Singh, Shrimati	Patel, Shri U. H.
Mahabir Prasad, Shri	Patil, Shri Vijay N.
Mahalingam, Shri M.	Pattnaik, Shri Jagannath
Mahendra Singh, Shri	Penchalliah, Shri P.
Malviya, Shri Bapulal	Peruman, Dr. P. Vallal
Manorama Singh, Shrimati	Pilot, Shri Rajesh
Manvendra Singh, Shri	Poojary, Shri Janardhana
Mavani, Shrimati Patel Ramaben Ramjibhai	Potdukhe, Shri Shantaram
Mehta, Shri Haroobhai	Purushothaman, Shri Vakkom
Mishra, Dr. Prabhat Kumar	Raj Karan Singh, Shri
Mishra, Shri Ram Nagina	Ram, Shri Ramswaroop
Mishra, Shri Umakant	Ram Dhan, Shri
Modi, Shri Vishnu	Ram Singh, Shri
Mohanty, Shri Brajamohan	Ramachandran, Shri Mullappally
Murmu, Shri Sidha Lal	Ramulu, Shri H. G.
Naik, Shri G. Devaraya	Rana Vir Singh, Shri
Naik, Shri Shantaram	Ranga, Prof. N. G.
Naikar, Shri D. K.	Rao, Dr. G. Vijaya Rama
Namgyal, Shri P.	Rao, Shri P. V. Narasimha
Natarajan, Shri K. R.	Rao, Shri Srithari
Negi, Shri Chandra Mohan Singh	Rao, Shri V. Krishna
	Rathod, Shri Uttam
	Raut, Shri Bhola

Reddi, Shri C. Madhav	Sreenivasa Prasad, Shri V.
Sahu, Shri Shiv Prasad	Sukh Ram, Shri
Saikia, Shri Gokul	Sukhbuns Kaur, Shrimati
Sakargaym, Shri Kalicharan	Sultanpuri, Shri K. D.
Sankhawar, Shri Ashkaran	Suman, Shri R. P.
Sankata Prasad, Dr	Sunder Singh, Ch.
Satyendra Chandra, Shri	Surendra Pal Singh, Shri
Scindia, Shri Madhavrao	Swell, Shri G. G.
Sethi, Shri Ananta Prasad	Tanti, Shri Bhadreswar
Shah, Shri Anoopchand	Tewary, Prof. K. K.
Shaktawat, Prof. Nirmala Kumari	Thakkar, Shrimati Usha
Shankaranand, Shri B.	Thambi Durai, Shri M.
Shanti Devi, Shrimati	Thomas, Prof. K. V.
Sharma, Shri Chiranjilal	Tigga, Shri Simon
Sharma, Shri Nand Kishore	Tomar, Shrimati Usha Rani
Shrivendra Bahadur Singh, Shri	Tulsiram, Shri V.
Siddiq, Shri Hafiz Mohd	Van, Shri Deep Narain
Sidnal, Shri S. B.	Venkatesan, Shri P. R. S.
Singh, Shri Santosh Kumar	Vijayaraghavan, Shri V. S.
Singh Deo, Shri K.P.	Vyas, Shri Girdhari Lal
Sinha, Shri Atish Chandra	Yadav, Shri Kailash
Sodi, Shri Mankuram	Yadav, Shri Ram Singh
Solanki, Shri Kalyan Singh	Yegesh, Shri Yogeshwar Prasad
Soundararajan, Shri N.	Zainul Basher, Shri

**NOES**

Acharia, Shri Basudeb	Basu, Shri Anil
Banatwalla, Shri G. M.	Chatterjee, Shri Somnath

Chowdhary, Shri Saifuddin	Reddy, Shri C. Janga
Dandavate, Prof. Madhu	Reddy, Shri S. Jaipal
Kurup, Shri Suresh	Saha, Shri Ajit Kumar
Mahata, Shri Chitta	Sait, Shri Ebrahim Sulaiman
Malik, Shri Purna Chandra	Shahabuddin, Shri Syed
Pandey, Shri Kali Prasad	Tiraky, Shri Piyus
Patel, Shri H. M.	

[English]

12.29 hrs.

[MR DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MR. SPEAKER: Subject of correction,  
the result \* of the division is:

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

Ayes : 172

(i) **Need to declare the road between  
Nasirabad and Mhow as a  
National Highway**

Noes : 17

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: We register  
our strong protest and walk out.

*Shri G. M. Banatwalla and some other hon.  
Members then left the House.*

S. BUTA SINGH: I introduce the Bill.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur):  
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the road from  
Nasirabad Cantonment of Rajasthan to  
Mhow, an important Cantonment of mad-  
hya Pradesh passes through another Can-  
tonment at Neemuch. The present  
condition and maintenance of this road is  
very poor. The entire traffic from Bombay  
to Delhi via Ajmer-Jaipur passes through  
this road. Lakhs of vehicles move on this  
road round the clock. It is becoming very  
difficult day by day for the Governments of  
Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan to main-  
tain this busiest road. The Government of  
Madhya Pradesh have sent its recent prop-  
osals to the Central Government to declare  
the road from Neemuch to Mhow as a

\* The following Members also recorded their votes:

Ayes: Prof. Salahuddin, Shri Harpal Singh, Shri Nawal Kishore Sharma and  
Dr. G. S. Rajhans;

Notes: Shri V. S. Krishna Iyer and Shri Mohd. Mahfooz Ali Khan.

[Shri Balkavi Bairagi]

national Highway. The pressure and density of traffic on this road is increasing day by day.

It is essential that Central Government should take over the road from Nasirabad to Mhow under its control in the public interest and declare it a National Highway. It would also cover the portion of road from Neemuch to Mhow as well. I would like to request the Central Government that it should include this National Highway in its top priorities and should do justice with this area.

- (ii) **Need to direct the Government of Madhya Pradesh to ensure appointment of teachers in all schools in the backward areas.**

DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA (Janjgir): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, Madhya Pradesh is quite backward in the field of education. Approximately one third population of the State consists of tribal Harijans. They reside mostly in the forests and hilly areas. The Government has given a lot of importance to education but in the Madhya Pradesh there is a perpetual shortage of teachers in primary and secondary schools. The teachers have not been made available even in the developed areas and at the places where transport facilities are available. In the rural areas the conditions of schools are very bad and dearth of teaching staff also persists. Today when the backward class and tribal Harijans have started taking interest in education, they are unable to get proper education due to the dearth of teachers. In rural areas there is acute shortage of schools for the girls. The parents of girls living in rural areas ask them to discontinue their studies after primary or pre-secondary stage, because they are not in a position to afford the expenditure involved in the education of their daughters beyond their native place. The truth is that in the rural area there are neither proper school buildings, nor teachers. The students of rural areas face hardships in getting admission in the

schools situated in the urban areas. It is beyond imagination for the tribal students living in remote rural areas to come and study in the towns. The irony is that on the one hand unemployment among educated youth is increasing and on the other hand, the shortage of teachers in schools still persists.

I request the Central Government to instruct the Government of Madhya Pradesh to appoint teachers for every school to teach girls and boys without any delay so that proper education may be imparted and unemployment problem too is solved to some extent.

[English]

- (iii) **Need to remove discrimination in regard to the supply of power to certain companies in Karnataka**

SHRI KESHAORAO PARDHI (Bhandara): Because of acute shortage of power, the high tension industries in Karnataka are being subjected to 70-80% power cut. However, despite such power cut, a few units in the State have managed to get additional power supply from NTPC's generating unit in the State. One company has been receiving supply of additional power @ 3 lakhs units per day from 3rd February, 1987 and this fact has been acknowledged by the firm itself in the Directors' Report of the company for 1986-87.

It is understood that other industrial units are also receiving additional power supply from NTPC's unit in Karnataka.

Discrimination in the matter of supply of power to some units is against the provision of the Electricity Act 1948, which stipulates that there shall not be any undue preference to any person or particular unit in such matters.

The Government is, therefore, urged upon to take immediate and appropriate measures to go into the matter and remove and discrimination, if it exists.

- (iv) **Need to allocate improved oil-seeds to Central Organisation for Oil Industries at the same rate as to Vanaspati industry to enable it to maintain the prices of edible oil at reasonable level.**

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore) : Edible oil is an essential part of the daily food for the common man. To check price rise of the indigenously produced edible oils, the Central Government is importing edible oils spending more than hundred crores of rupees every year in Foreign Exchange. In spite of it the price of indigenously produced edible oils is rising day by day.

It is a matter of consolation that the Central Organisation for Oil Industries (COOIT) has offered to enter into a voluntary rice control agreement with the Government to enable it to maintain the prices of edible oils at a reasonable level.

It is understood that the Oil Refiners Association of India has written to the Government requesting that if the imported oil seeds are given to the processing industries in the same manner as imported edible oils are given to the Vanaspati Units at a predetermined price, they are agreeable to enter into such an agreement.

These edible oil refining industries mostly come under small scale sector. They are facing lot of difficulties to run the industries in the absence of allocation of imported raw oils at the same rate as allocated to the Vanaspati Industries.

In such circumstances, I request the Government to give due weightage to the offer of the COOIT and their request for allocating imported oilseeds and imported raw oils at the same rate as to Vanaspati Industries so that the price of indigenously produced edible oils may be reduced.

- (v) **Need to have steamer service throughout the year from Calcutta to Karimganj.**

SHRI SUDARSAN DAS (Karimganj): During rainy seasons the National Highway No. 44 passing through Meghalaya State and Lumding Badarpur Rail Link of N.F Railway passing through Karbi Along and North Cachar Hills, get often blocked due to landslides, etc. causing scarcity of essential commodities, rise in prices and distress to the people of Tripura, Mizoram States, Cachar and Karimganj districts of Assam and the Western part of Manipur State. To meet the situation, the new seasonal steamer service from Calcutta to Karimganj through Bangladesh operating only a few months of the year may be operated as previously throughout the year.

I, therefore, request the Government of India to see that steamer service is made possible throughout the year.

- (vi) **Need to set up a TV relay station at Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh.**

SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI (Chittoor): I request the hon. Minister for Information and Broadcasting to set up a TV Relay Station at Chittoor. The people of the area not able to see regional programmes as well as national programmes. Several representations have been made to the hon. Minister from the people of Chittoor. The people of Chittoor are in dark about the developments in the country. I request the hon. Minister to sanction a TV Relay Station immediately. The People of Chittoor will be grateful to the Minister for this.

- (vii) **Need to appoint a Judge of the Supreme Court to resolve the Maharashtra-Karnataka boundary dispute.**

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): The boundary dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka is pending for the last thirty one years. It is likely to harm

[Dr. Datta Samant]

beyond repair the brotherly feelings among the people living along the borders of the two States and will ultimately affect national integration. All efforts including the appointment of the Mahajan Commission by the Union Government have failed to bring about a satisfactory solution to the Maharashtra-Karnataka boundary dispute.

The Union Government have advised the Chief Ministers of both the States to solve the dispute amicably but there is no solution whatsoever so far.

In the interest of national integration, harmony and brotherhood between two States, I appeal to the Union Government to appoint a judge of the Supreme Court to examine the recommendations of Mahajan Commission, to study the data and evidence collected by the Commission and to recommend fresh proposals applying the principles of (i) village as a unit; (ii) geographical contiguity; and (iii) linguistic affinity, viz. relative linguistic majority and wishes of the people and to report within three months.

**(viii) . Need to enquire into the non-payment of compensation under the Crop Insurance Scheme to the tribal farmers in Maharashtra.**

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD (Hingoli): The Crop Insurance Scheme introduced in Maharashtra for the benefit of the farmers affected by scarcity and flood has failed to provide compensation to the scarcity affected policy holders in the Tehsil of Kinwat, District Nanded, Maharashtra in the year 1986-87. Though the Paisewari of 133 villages was below 50 paise, still they were denied their legitimate claim. This has created great unrest and doubt about the scheme.

Adjoining areas having better conditions were given compensation while the tribals of Kinwat Tehsil were denied compensation under the scheme. The Government should enquire into the matter and find out the fact both from the people and the officials and sanction the claim of insurance to the people of Kinwat, Maharashtra.

[Translation]

**(ix) Need to stop the flow of contaminated water into the Ganga in Kanpur.**

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kanpur is a big industrial town of North India. No doubt, the factories and mills contribute in polluting the Ganga, but the leather tanneries have worsened the situation still further. Recently the Supreme Court in one of its directives had ordered to keep these tanneries closed till the appropriate pollution preventing equipments are not installed there. It should be ensured that the Supreme Court orders are strictly enforced. In Kanpur the water of the two drains before Bheron Ghat pumping station and Kesa Power House goes in the Ganga. This results in the pollution of water. Moreover the same water, is sent to Kanpur to meet the demands of drinking water after necessary treatment. This causes a lot of diseases among the people. The Government is requested that this should be stopped with immediate effect and the shortage of drinking water be met by clean drinking water.

12.40 hrs.

[English]

REGIONAL RURAL BANKS (AMENDMENT) BILL

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Janardhana Poojary on the 23rd November, 1987, namely:—

“That the Bill further to amend the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976, be taken into consideration.”

Hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members who have taken part in this debate. About twenty hon. Members from this side and also from the Opposition side have taken part in this very informative debate and I have to mention the names of some of the hon. Members whose contribution was very effective. They are, Shri

Madhav Reddi, Shri K.S. Rao, Shri Basudeb Acharia, Shri Thampan Thomas, Shrimati Basavarajeswari, Prof. N.C. Parashar, Shri Vijay N. Patil, Shri V. Krishna Rao, Shri G.M. Banatwalla and Shri V.C. Jain. In fact I must be grateful to them for studying the RRBs functioning in depth and their contribution would be kept in mind for our future reference and for future action. In fact when I was hearing some of them, I found they have given more information to us in order to have effective functioning in the rural areas.

The Banks were nationalised on 19th July, 1969 in order to give economic strength to the nation, and more particularly to the weaker sections who are living below the poverty line. After the nationalisation in spite of the best efforts, the banking sector was not able to fully cater to the needs of the weaker sections, small farmers and also the marginal farmers who were living in the interior villages and tribal places. The attitude of the bankers even after the nationalisation was that they have to only cater to the needs of the industrial sectors and also the big sector. The approach was this: when they were asked to go to interior places to serve weaker sections, they thought that the money which was being given would not come back; and it would be not viable for the banking sector to reach the weaker sections. So, considering the situation in the country, the then Government of India headed by Shrimati Indira Ji thought of starting these Regional Rural Banks which would go to rural areas.

As the hon. Members were pleased to make the point yesterday, it is the duty of the Government to cater to the needs of the weaker sections, particularly those living below the poverty line.

The argument that has been placed before the nation by some of the economists and also some of the so-called experts is that if the banking sector—which is called commercial banks—is taken to rural areas, it will not be viable, and the prime consideration of profit-making will not be there. This argument is given, even after the nationalization of

banks, even though the objective was to go in for mass banking instead of class banking. Government of India thought that in order to serve the weaker sections, commercial banks will not be viable, and that we should have a structure, an institution, which would be a low-cost structure, so that nobody could complain that it would not be viable. (*Interruptions*) When this idea was mooted and conceived, preparations were made, and the Bill was placed before Parliament and it was enacted. Today, after this short span of years, we have got about 13,000 rural bank branches in the country, of 196 rural banks, covering 357 districts in 23 States. We have mobilized, through these Regional Rural Banks, Rs. 1763 crores as deposits, and we have given loans to the rural people i.e. to target groups viz. small and marginal farmers and also weaker sections... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJOY BISWAS (Tripura West): What was the amount given? You have mobilized, but you have not given the money.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: We have given Rs. 1846 crores, even though the deposit was to the extent of Rs. 1763 crores. We have not only utilized the deposits mobilized in rural areas, but we have given much more than that—the amounts coming from the sponsor-Bank, the Reserve Bank, NABARD and other sources.

We do not say that it is sufficient. Much more funds should flow into rural areas. Here, what have been our efforts so far? Out of 29,922 branches which are in rural areas—out of 53,540 branches in the country—the branches situated in the rural areas of the rural banks in the country number 11,918. This constitutes 40% of the rural branches. As far as the districts in the tribal sub-plan areas are concerned, i.e. in the interior places where Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are living, we covered most of them. Out of 96 districts, we have covered so far 83 districts. Similarly, out of 115 districts in tribal sub-plans, we have covered 97 districts by the RRBs.



[Shri Janardhana Poojary]

Coming to the amount that has been given to the rural people, as I have stated earlier, that amounted to Rs. 1,736 crores. When we give loan to this area, it is true, as pointed out and studied by the hon. member, Shri Madhav Reddi, that some of the rural banks have incurred losses; some of the rural branches, because they have started functioning recently, have incurred losses. The information which I have got is that out of 194 branches, 46 branches have earned profit to the extent of Rs. 4.65 crores; 148 regional rural branches are in losses, and their figure of losses comes to Rs. 32.56 crores. So cumulative loss so far of RRBs, which I have referred to, is Rs. 89.63 crores. Taking into account the losses sustained and also the situation prevailing in the rural areas, I respectfully submit before the hon. House whether we are in a position to give more facilities to our workers whom we respect and whom we want to give more. It is a statutory provision that their salary and service conditions—because they have to cater to the needs of the targeted group where the cost should be, as far as possible, less and it should cater to the needs of the weaker sections and small and marginal farmers — and their structure should also be a low cost structure: and the statutory provision was incorporated stating that their salary and other service conditions should be on par with the employees of the State Government.

In the states, cooperative societies and cooperative banks are working and the State Government employees are also working. So far as rural bank structure is concerned, their capital base is concerned, 54 per cent comes from the Central Government, 35 per cent comes from the sponsoring bank and 15 per cent comes from the State Government. As the structure is a lost cost structure, as I said earlier, it is catering to the needs of the weaker sections of the society, the viability also will not be very strong. So, it was considered that the structure should be on par

with the State Government employees; their salary and other service conditions should be in line with the salary and service conditions of the employees of the State Government. The employees of the State cooperative sector, cooperative societies and cooperative banks are getting less than the employees of the regional rural banks. Our sympathies are with the weaker sections and the employees of the regional rural banks.

Representations have been made by Shri Basudeb Acharia and other members from that side and also by Kumari Mamata Banerjee and other members from this side to us asking for more fund and more facilities for them. Considering all these factors, in order to go into this problem as per the directions of the Supreme Court, today we have set up the national industrial tribunal to go into the salary and other payments to be made to the employees of these Regional Rural Banks. So, I request the hon. Members to bear with us so far as the functioning and also the viability of the rural banks is concerned.

Hon. Member Shri Madhav Reddi mentioned that there were demands for the closure of these rural banks and he made a fervent appeal to the Government that they should not be stopped and some hon. Members from this side also made an appeal to us not to close them. I heard the hon. Members and it is my personal view and it is also the view of the Government that we have to go in for these regional rural banks in a big way and we should not stop the functioning of the regional rural banks, and we have to strengthen the base of these regional rural banks. They have been successfully catering to the needs of the weaker sections and the people who are living in rural areas whose income is not more than Rs. 6,500 per annum. We have come up with all these amendments. Hon. Members have made some suggestions and have also referred to the recommendations of the working group headed by Shri Kelkar. All the recommendations need not have statutory backing. Wherever

It is required we have to come up with the amendments and in respect of the other recommendations we have taken, wherever it was possible, administrative actions and if any hon. Members want, they may write to me and I will definitely give these details to them.

Now, coming to the training aspect of the officers and staff of the regional rural banks, the points that have been made by Shri Reddy and also Shri Basudeb Acharya, and others here, that they should be trained are noted; and some hon. Members from this side said that the training is not sufficient. For the benefit of the hon. Members I can say, that out of 46,245 employees we have given training to 37,238 employees, both officers and other staff.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): That is a good record.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: It is also our effort to give more training to these people and I fully agree with the hon. Members that the officers and staff members should be committed and they should work hard and come up to the aspirations of the weaker sections and the rural people, and their approach should also be rural. It should not be an elitist approach, their mind and heart, everything should be for the rural people. For that purpose we have made it a point to see that they are trained in this respect. Not only that; we have asked our banking sector in rural areas that once in a week the banks should be closed and they should go to the rural areas, they should guide them and talk to them. They should inform the weaker sections and also the rural people, what are the benefits available for them. We have been monitoring it and we have asked the Chairman of the banks, we have also asked the officials of the Banking Division and the other supervisory staff to go to the villages to find out whether these people are going.

13.00 hrs.

Even as the Minister of State for Finance,

I personally went to the rural areas and we sat under the trees without even chair or anything of that sort, on the floor we sat and discussed the problems of the rural people with the officers, motivating them to look into the problems of the weaker sections of the rural people, particularly to see that the women folk take full advantage of the programmes. In spite of that Sir, I must confess that some blacksheeps are there as pointed out by the hon. Members from this side and that side that there is an element of corruption. When I recently went to the villages, three or four Scheduled Caste people came and told me 'Sir, we have taken Rs. 12,000/- loan and we have to part with Rs. 1,000/- as bribe'. When they told this, immediately we have taken action and recorded the statements of those Scheduled Caste people. I made the Assistant General Manager of the Bank to stay there to go deep into the matter and to find out who was responsible for that and to take action.

Sir, I request the hon. Members from both sides whenever you go there—some of the hon. Members are writing to me bringing out some complaints which are general in nature and when I order for enquiries and when those people gone to the villages, stereo type replies are being given to us. There is no other machinery and I have found out in some cases that complainants have been won over by clique and they have been given threats also that they are going to harm them. We have got information to such an extent. Whenever we got information, we pursued it. I request the hon. Members to pursue whenever you write about the complaints to us.

Whenever we give some replies to you and there also if you are not satisfied with it, kindly approach the complainants and find out the truth what had happened at the grassroot level and write to us back. This pursuance will help the Government to take action.

Sir, in one day, we have raided the houses of the forty nine Bank officials;

[Shri Janardhana Poojary]

actions are being taken, but we are not satisfied. Improvement has to be done in that field to tackle more people. If there are specific instances brought to our notice, definitely we will not spare any person.

Sir, the hon. Members may be eager to find out how many small and marginal farmers were helped and to what extent. So far, as on 31.12.1986, we have financed 6.93 lakhs farmers with the loan of about Rs. 169.32 crores. *(Interruptions)*

It is through Regional Rural Banks and only small and marginal farmers, not non agriculture sector. I have stated that Rs. 1846 crores have been given.

The hon. Member Shri Banatwalla has stated that we have not gone in a big way in the southern region rural areas. The figure about the rural areas, I am not having it. But, so far as the Credit Deposit Ratio of the Commercial Banks are concerned, for the benefit of the hon. Members, it is the highest, about 81 per cent higher than any other in the southern region. So far as the Credit Deposit Ratio of the Regional Rural Banks are concerned, in the southern region we have gone to the extent of 160 per cent.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): In Meghalaya, it is the highest.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: We would have given higher in West Bengal but there was little resistance. If there would not have been any resistance, and you could have welcomed our coming there in order to motivate, then we would have given more funds to West Bengal also.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda): You can help the poor, but not for advertisement.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I do not want to take much time of the hon. Members. The hon. Member Shri Piyus Tiraky made one point stating that 'Why can't you give loan without interest to the people when you are getting loans from the international area, where the rate of interest is lower?' and he has given certain examples. I respectfully disagree with him and I say that whatever assistance we get from the World Bank, whether it is IBRD or any other institution it will come to the kitty of the nation, the Government of India. From it, we will have to cater to the needs of various sectors. State Governments are given for the developmental activities in the form of loans seventy per cent and in the form of grant thirty per cent. It has to go from that same kitty, and even to NABARD, we have to give loans and it would be somewhere near seventy eight per cent.

Taking into consideration the cost of deposit and other expenditure involved, we are giving in rural areas loans at concessional rate of interest at 4 per cent and to the farmers at 10 per cent. Under IRDP we are giving a subsidy of one-third. Suppose, a sum of Rs. 3000/- has been given as loan, Rs. 1000/- will be as subsidy. In the case of small farmers the subsidy will be 25 per cent. In the case of tribal people the subsidy will be 50 per cent. So if we calculate it, it will be more beneficial than giving the money without interest. In the other case, on the principal also the poor people will be getting subsidy. So I do not think, the hon. Member is correct when he says that we give the impression in the loan functions that the money is given as a grant. The hon. Member referred this to me. I respectfully submit that in the loan functions, it is made very clear that it is their duty to repay the loan. There we talk of corruption also. We are giving these loans in the presence of 50,000 people.

We are making them to understand that nobody should even give a glass of water to any person.

Regarding security and surety also, up to Rs. 5,000—now it is up to Rs. 10,000 under IRDP—no security is required. For cottage and village industries and for small-scale industries, up to Rs. 25,000, no security or surety is required. We are warning the bank people also if they demand surety and security. The main objective of the Credit Camps is to educate the weaker section, who are not literate and who are not having the knowledge about the details of the programmes and the benefits which are available to them. The weaker sections are not in a position to read out and digest the literature which is printed by the branches of the banks. For that, the Minister himself is going and explaining in detail. Even in those functions I have been criticised for taking lot of time for explaining. Even at the cost of criticism, I have taken lot of pain to go from place to place, from district to district. That is the point to be considered. Some people say we do not want to work. We really do not find time. There should be will to work. Without breaking for lunch or dinner, without any break even for tea or anything. We have been moving from place to place from 7 A.M. to 3.30 P.M. When I visited the hon. Member Shri Madhavrao Scindia's constituency, I started from here five o'clock and I came back after 24 hours continuous work and after covering two districts, including the Chambal Valley. So, like that we are moving...*(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

SHRI BAPULAL MALVIYA (Shajapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I would request the hon'ble Minister to visit Shajapur and see for himself the situation.

[English]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Please wait. I will answer to everything.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is coming to that. Don't worry.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: So, Sir, like that we are moving. Not only we are moving, we are monitoring it also and not only we are monitoring, at some places we are taking action also. The hon. Members want us to take action. When we are taking action at the spot, it is criticised saying that we are doing public trial. We are not doing public trial. Whenever you, the Members of Parliament or the public representatives put a question here, bringing out some of the deficiencies to our notice, or when you bring to us the cases of corruption, we say yes, we will look into that and we will take action. We move because all the people cannot come to Delhi. When we go to the villages, the village people represent to us. If we make enquiries and if we say that we will take action, could it be construed as public trial?

It is also stated that some of the union leaders have gone to the extent of saying that we are conducting public trials. It is not true. We are going to the rescue of those people who are down-trodden, who are helpless, who are illiterate, who are unfortunate people on this country. For that purpose, it is our duty to take action.

Thank you very much, Sir. I do not want to take further time of the hon. House. I commend the Bill for the consideration of the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, are you withdrawing your amendment to the motion for the consideration of the Bill?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: No, Sir, I am not withdrawing.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now I put amendment No. 5 to the motion for the consideration of the Bill, moved by Shri Basudeb Acharia, to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 5 was put and negatived.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill. Now we shall adjourn for lunch and will reassemble at 2.15 p.m. and then we shall take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

14.15 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at nineteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at nineteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

**REGIONAL RURAL BANKS (AMENDMENT) BILL—Contd.**

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Regional Rural Banks (Amendment) Bill, 1987.

There is no amendment to Clause 2.

The question is:

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 2 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 3—(Amendment of Section 3)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is an

amendment by Dr. D.B. Patil. He is not here. Then, Shri C. Madhav Reddi.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: I beg to move:

Page 2,—

after line 10, *insert—*

"Provided further that the financial assistance to be extended by the Bank by way of refinance shall not be at a higher rate of interest than charged by National Bank for such loan." (22)

Sir, I had already said about the purpose of this amendment to Clause 3 and it does not need any further elaboration and if the hon. Minister accepts my amendment, I will be happy.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): I am sorry that I am not in a position to accept it because so far at the time of the setting of the RRBs, the share capital would be 25 lakhs. There is no provision for relaxation.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Hanamkonda): Clause 3 is in regards to the refinance. The rate of interest for refinance which is charged by the NABARD as well as the sponsored banks is not the same. NABARD is charging 7% while the sponsored banks are charging 8½%. I said that because that rate is so high in these Banks, because of lot of borrowing accounts, lot of deposit accounts and services accounts are also very costly.....

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I followed it.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: My amendment is that there should be statutory provision so that the sponsored bank does not charge more than what the NABARD charge.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Here

it has already been reduced, that is, from 8.5% it has been reduced to 7%. Already it has been done.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Madhav Reddi, are you withdrawing your amendment?

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: I seek leave of the House to withdraw my amendment No. 22 to Clause 3.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Has Mr. Madhav Reddi leave of the House to withdraw his amendment?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

*Amendment No. 22 was, by leave, withdrawn.*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, I will put the Clauses 3 to 5 together.

The question is:

"That Clauses 3 to 5 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 3 to 5 were added to the Bill*

*Clause 6*

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: I beg to move.

Page 2,—

for lines 22 to 25, *substitute—*

"(i) The issued capital of each Regional Rural Bank shall, in the first instance, not be less than one tenth of the authorised capital." (1)

Page 2,—

*for lines 22 to 25, substitute—*

"(1) The issued and paid up capital

of each Regional Rural Bank shall in the first instance, be one crore of rupees." (22)

The object of this amendment is to see that in the Act itself there should be a provision for one crore of paid up capital of the bank. This is not there in the Bill. In the Bill, it is mentioned about the authorised capital being enhanced to Rs. 5 crores. But as far as issued paid-up capital is concerned, it has been left to the discretion of the Government. There is no commitment of the Government that it will be increased to one crore rupees. The Minister has already accepted while making a statement that he is going to make that one crore. Then why not you include this Bill itself?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : The amendment is not acceptable because the amendment proposed in the Bill is more comprehensive and it may be retained. The amendment proposed by the Member will increase the share capital in the case of 193 RRBs thereby involving an additional budgetary allocation by the Government of India and the State Governments. So, it is not acceptable.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Do you mean to say that the Government is not going to enhance the paid up capital of the Bank from Rs. 25 lakhs to one crore? You don't want to do it?....Shall I read out what you said in your speech.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: There, I said that for the share capital the provision has been made for increasing it. It will be increased from 25 lakhs to one crore rupees at the time of setting up.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: That is not the intention. You want to increase the authorised capital of the existing banks from one crore to five crore rupees. This authorised capital with regard to issued and paid up capital—the Bill says—could be anywhere between Rs. 25 lakhs and Rs. 1.0 crore.

[Shri C. Madhav Reddi]

In other words, you can increase it up to Rs. one crore also. While introducing the Bill you said that this is going to be enhanced to Rs. one crore. If the intention is to enhance it to Rs. one crore, in the Financial Memorandum you said that this is going to be done, but you cannot now assess as to what is going to be the actual expenditure. You have not specified it in the Financial Memorandum. That does not mean you are not going to increase it. The whole intention of the Bill, actually the recommendation of the Kelkar Committee is to see that the share capital of the company is enhanced. And then, mere increase of the authorised capital is nothing. Authorised capital from Rs. one crore to Rs. five crores you can have it— from Rs. one crore to Rs. five crores or Rs. ten crores, we are not concerned with that. Unless the paid up capital of the Bank is going to be increased, it does not serve any purpose. I do not know what is the intention of the Government. What are you going to do? Are you going to enhance the share capital of the Bank or not?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Sir, an enabling provision has been made. What I stated earlier also is very clear. For the reason mentioned, it is not acceptable.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I shall now put amendments Nos. 1 and 23 moved by Shri Madhav Reddi to the vote of the House.

*Amendments Nos. 1 and 23 were put and negatived.*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put clause 6 to the vote of the House

The question is:

“That clause 6 stand part of the Bill.”

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 6 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 7—(Amendment of Section 9)*

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Sir, I move:

Page 2, line 40,—

after “who are” insert “not” (2)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, I move:

Page 2,—

*For lines 30 to 33, substitute—*

“(a) two directors, who are officers of the Central Government, State Government, Reserve Bank, National Bank or any other bank, to be nominated by the Central Government;” (6)

Page 2,—

*for lines 36 to 39, substitute—*

“(c) two directors, who are officers of the National Bank, to be nominated by that Bank;

(d) one director, who is a representative of the recognised trade union of the Bank, having the largest number of Bank's personnel as its members, to be nominated by the concerned trade union; and” (7)

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Sir, the purpose of this amendment is to see that the Directors appointed by the State Government also should be non-officials. You want to take the non-official quota to

yourself and you don't want to give the non-official quota to other shareholders, i.e., the State Governments? Two Directors are to be nominated by the Central Government from among the non-officials, all the rest of the directors by the NABARD or by the Sponsor Bank or by the State Government will be official. I can understand the nominations of the Sponsor Bank and the NABARD being officials. But why do you restrict the two directors to be nominated by the State Bank also to be official? After all, we also have the non-official element when we are contributing to the share capital, then why don't you give that facility to us—at least one director official and one non-official? Is it not a discrimination?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, my amendment is also of identical nature. But now in the present Act the State Government can nominate two non-officials directly and this has been done away with in this amendment Bill. Now, only the Central Government can nominate two non-official directors and others by the Sponsor Bank, the Reserve Bank of India and the State Government. They can only nominate two officials. So, the same provision should be there. What is now still in existence is that the State Government can nominate, so that the State Government can nominate from among the non-officials, may be from the peasant organisation or agricultural workers' organisation.

AN HON. MEMBER: Why not MPs?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Or can be MPs also who are interested in this work. And we also talk of workers' participation in the management, but there is no provision in this Amending Bill that at least one representative should be from the majority union. First, that association should be recognised and one of the directors should be the representative of the majority union because we talk of workers' participation in the management, for better management of the RRB. I suggest that one of the

directors should be from among the majority recognised union.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Earlier one non-official Director used to be appointed by the Central Government and the sponsor bank used to suggest the name of another non-official, but approved by the Central Government. So, it was one from the Central quota and another from the sponsor bank quota, as approved by the Central Government. Now instead of the name being sponsored by the sponsor bank, the Central Government is directly appointing the non-officials. We have given up the appointment of officials, i.e. by the Central Government. Whereas two officials for each RRB were earlier appointed by the State Government. We have not reduced it from 2 to 1. Whereas in the case of Central Government, we have reduced it from 3 to 2. So, the amendments suggested by the hon. Members are not acceptable.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: I agree with you that you have reduced the quota of Central Government from 3 to 2. That is Okay. But here, you are now nominating non-officials. These two directors going to be nominated by the Central Government are from non-officials. But another two directors to be nominated by the State Government are going to be officials.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: These non-officials are appointed from the district, within the jurisdiction of a particular regional rural bank. So, they are from the State itself, from the district itself. They are not from different States. But the appointing authority is only the Central Government. Now, that power is retained. So far as sponsor bank power is concerned, that is taken over by the Central Government because it was the sponsor bank. The sponsor bank is functioning under the Central Government. So, that power is retained by the Central Government now. Anyway, these two officials are from the State Government itself.



SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Let it be for the State whether they appoint officials or non-officials in the operation area of the bank. Even the district unit has a regional bank. There are so many non-officials. Why are you hesitating to give this power to the State Government?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: We are also appointing from the State itself.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: You will nominate your own men, those who are defeated in the elections. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: It is within the district itself. Anyway, we will see it. We are going to keep it in mind.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will you consider this proposal?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: This is your suggestion for future action. But we will keep it in mind.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Bring an amendment.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put all the amendments moved to clause 7 to the vote of the House.

*Amendments Nos. 2, 6 and 7 were put and negatived.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 7 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 7 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 8—(Amendment of Section 11)*

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: I beg to move:

Page 3, line 4,—

after "The Sponsor Bank" insert—

"in consultation with the concerned State Government" (3)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: I beg to move:

Page 3, line 4,—

for "The Sponsor Bank" substitute—

"The National Bank" (8)

Page 3,—

for lines 6 to 12, substitute—

"Provided that no appointment of such an individual shall be made if such an individual is an officer of the National Bank, except after consultation with the Central Government." (9)

Page 3,—

for lines 17 to 25, substitute—

"(a) The National Bank shall have the right to terminate the term of office of the Chairman at any time before the expiry of the period specified in sub-section (1):

Provided that no such termination shall be made if the Chairman is an officer of the National Bank, except after consultation with the Central Government." (10)

Page 3,—

for lines 32 to 35, substitute—

"(b) the Chairman shall hold office during the pleasure of the Central Government." (11)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri D.B. Patil—not here.

I will put all the amendments moved to clause 8 to the vote of the House.

*Amendments Nos. 3, 8, 9, 10 and 11 were put and negatived.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are no amendments to clauses 9 and 10. Therefore, I will put together clauses 8 to 10.

The question is:

"That clauses 8 to 10 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 8 to 10 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 11—(Amendment of Section 17)*

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 4—

*after line 14, insert—*

"(c) in the second proviso after the words "the employees of the words" "Sponsor Bank," shall be inserted."  
(4)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 4—

*for lines 13 to 14 substitute—*

"(b) for the first proviso, the following proviso shall be substituted, namely:—

"Provided that it shall be lawful for the National Bank, if requested so to do by Regional Rural Bank, to send, during the first year of functioning of a Regional Rural Bank, such number of officers and other employees on deputation from the National Bank or from any other Regional Rural Bank to the Regional Rural Bank concerned as may be necessary or desirable for efficient performance of its functions." (12)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put the amendments moved by Shri C. Mad-

hav Reddi and Shri Basudeb Acharia to the vote of the House.

*Amendments Nos. 4 and 12 were put and negatived.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clauses 11 and 12 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 11 and 12 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 13—(insertion of new chapter VA)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 5—

*for lines 3 to 11, substitute—*

"(a) the continuance in service of all the employees and officers of the transferor Regional Rural Banks in the transferee Regional Rural Bank at the same remuneration and on the same terms and conditions of service, which they were getting or as they were being governed, immediately before the date on which the amalgamation takes effect without effecting the seniority of any employee or officer of the transferor Regional Rural Bank." (13)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put the amendment moved by Shri Basudeb Acharia to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No. 13 was put and negatived*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 13 stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 13 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 14—(Insertion of New Section 24A)**

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 6—

for lines 27 to 33, substitute—

“24A. Notwithstanding anything contained in section 19 and without prejudice to the provision of section 35 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the National Bank shall from time to time, monitor the progress of the Regional Rural Banks and cause inspection, internal audit and scrutiny to be made by one or more of its officers or by one or more officers taken on deputation from Regional Rural Banks to the National Bank and suggest corrective measures to be taken by such Regional Rural Banks.”(14)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put the amendment moved by Shri Basudeb Acharia to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No.14 was put and negatived.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

“That Clauses 14 and 15 stand part of the Bill.”

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 14 and 15 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 16—(Amendment of Section 29)**

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 6—

Omit lines 40 to 43 (15)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put

the amendment moved by Shri Basudeb Acharia to the vote of the House.

*Amendment No.15 was put and negatived.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

“That Clauses 16 and 17 stand part of the Bill.”

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 16 and 17 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1 the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Sir, I beg to move:

*“That the bill be passed.”*

[*Translation*]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Bill is now going to be passed. The Central Government will nominate two non-officials. What is the objection of conferring the right of nominating at least one of the two non-officials on the State Government? You have said that you will keep this in mind. But for how long? It will be of no avail. At least you should agree with the suggestions given by the leaders of the opposition. If you nominate two non-officials on political level, then the State Governments too should be given a chance to fulfil their political aim. They may nominate an official or non-official, but what is the objection in giving them a chance? I do not understand this. In the district there are members of your party, their party as well as of our party. By nominating non-officials, it will be clear as to how the rural banks are functioning. That person can not give a loan of more than rupees five thousand. The D.R.D.A. schemes are linked with the rural banks. The officer always think of completing his quota and the bank officials make an

assessment whether the money would be recovered or not. The bank people give money only to those persons who repay their loan and the fact is that those in real need of money do not have any possibility of getting money. I sent you a letter two-three days back telling you the conditions prevailing in the commercial banks and had given an instance that a manager of a branch of the bank gave loan to a person, but out of that money he deducted thirty five per cent as D.R.D.A. commission and paid twenty five per cent to the consumer and the remaining amount showed as loan but at the same time deposited it in the bank as fixed deposit. The schemes cannot be implemented like this. By mobilising deposits in Andhra Pradesh it has become first. Its name is Upla Branch, Karim Nagar District. So such type of things are happening. It is necessary to see whether the loans being given in rural areas are proving beneficial or not and the schemes are being implemented properly or not. Can a pumping set be bought with Rs 3000; it cannot be bought. So allocation for this purpose should be increased. A non-official will know this thing better than an official. An I.A.S. officer is more worried about achieving his target. A bank official has to see how the loan will be repaid. He gives the loan to those persons who can provide more surety. The project officer aims to finish the available subsidy as quickly as possible. If we look at the statistics, we find that there are very few people below the poverty line, but in reality it is otherwise.

Similarly there are different scales for bank employees in different States. In Uttar Pradesh and Bihar this has been kept at the level of B.D.O. But in both these places the scale of B.D.O. is different. So is the case of scales in respect of LDCs. Employees of regional banks work according to State Government rules. This is not proper. The minimum scale for people working in rural areas should be same as that for people working in regional banks. Their salary is less than that of an officer in a commercial bank. UDCs and LDCs come

here on deputation who on promotion become chairman and chairmen of sponsored banks becomes sponsors. Why do you appoint chairmen? They have to be provided with cars and the question of rise in overhead charges and their T.A., D.A. and salaries are also involved. Leaving aside all these things, a regional bank should be set up at regional level or by combining 10 to 15 districts keeping in view its viability. In so far as the question of viability is concerned, it has been observed that whenever anybody makes a fixed deposit, Government does not give more than 10%-11% rate of interest whereas commercial banks give a higher rate of interest. Therefore, efforts should be made to increase it.

The Honourable Minister may kindly keep in mind the amendments moved by us. Next time when an amendment is introduced, these too should be kept in view.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Sir, I have already given my reply, in detail, to most of the questions raised by my hon. Member.

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: You have given the reply but my question has remained unanswered.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has forgotten. At least you may explain what he wants.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Regarding the problems of employees, I have already stated that the National Industrial Tribunal is set up to look into all other amenities for the Regional Rural Banks. So, there is nothing more to add.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

*The motion was adopted.*

14.42 hrs.

**RAILWAY CLAIMS TRIBUNAL BIL  
AND  
METRO RAILWAYS (CONSTRUCTION  
OF WORKS) AMENDMENT BILL**

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up the next item.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): Sir, I seek your kind permission to club both these Bills together and hold the discussion together.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think the House will agree to this. The point is that items 10 & 11 will be taken together.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right. The hon. Minister may move the Bills now.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of a Railway Claims Tribunal for inquiring into and determining claims against a railway administration for loss, destruction, damage, deterioration or non-delivery of animals or goods entrusted to be carried by railway or for the refund of fares or freight to it or for compensation for death or injury to passengers occurring as a result of railway accidents and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

I also beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Act, 1978, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration".

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do you want to say anything? If you want to say anything, you can say. Otherwise I will call the hon. Members to speak.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: No, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motions moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of a Railway Claims Tribunal for inquiring into and determining claims against a railway administration for loss, destruction, damage, deterioration or non-delivery of animals or goods entrusted to be carried by railway or for the refund of fares or freight to it or for compensation for death or injury to passengers occurring as a result of railway accidents and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration".

"That the Bill further to amend the Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Act, 1978, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Now, Mr. Amal Datta to speak.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): Sir, I will speak on Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Amendment Bill. Mr. Basudeb Acharia will speak on Railway Claims Tribunal Bill....

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: I would like to make some introductory remarks.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, hon. Members have often expressed their concern about delays in payment of compensation for deaths and injuries in train accidents. Appointment of Claims Commissioners in major accidents and adjudication of claims by them is quite time-consuming. In the case of minor accidents, the claimants are

required to apply to the ordinary District Courts and it takes years for the overburdened District Courts to finalise their cases. Hence, there is a need for a more prompt machinery to ensure speedy settlement of accident claims.

Another category of claims for compensation against the Railways is for loss of, and damage to, consignments carried by the Railways. The Railways do settle such compensation claims through their own Claims Officers and this internal machinery has been streamlined so that the litigation on this account is minimal. Nevertheless, there are some disputed claims which go to the civil courts. The House is aware that inordinate delays occur in disposal of suits by ordinary civil courts. About 22, 425 suits now pending are three to nine years old, and about 2,580 suits are pending for a period of more than nine years, in different parts of the country. There is, therefore, a definite need to provide an expeditious remedy and to remove harassment and hardship caused to rail-users on account of such prolonged litigation. The Estimates Committee and the Railway Reforms Committee had recommended establishment of a Tribunal to settle such matters.

The Government have accordingly brought the Railway Claims Tribunal Bill to provide specialised and exclusive forum for expeditious payment of compensation to the victims of train accidents and a much quicker remedy to the rail-users to get their loss and damage claims resolved. The proposed Tribunal will also be vested with powers to deal with the disputes regarding refund of fares and freight charges.

The Tribunal will have adequate number of Benches in different parts of the country, so that the applicants are not required to travel long distances for getting the relief. Each Bench will have two Members, one judicial and one technical. This composition will help in quicker understanding of the facts and judicious application of law. The Tribunal will have powers of sum-

mary disposal on the basis of documents and affidavits, obviating the need for lengthy oral evidence as far as possible.

I hope that the establishment of the Railway Claims Tribunal will fulfil one of the long-standing demands of the rail-users and will go a long way in expediting settlement of their claims against the Railway Administration.

With these words, I commend the Bill for the consideration of the House.

As far as the Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Amendment Bill is concerned, as the House is aware, the Ministry of Railways are presently, engaged in the construction of a prestigious Mass Rapid Transit System in Calcutta, commonly known as Calcutta Metro, which would be the first of its kind in the country. The Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Act, 1978 provides for a speedy procedure for the acquisition of lands, building etc. by the Central Government, independent of the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894. For the purpose of said acquisition, a notification has to be issued under section 7 notifying the intention to acquire any particular plot of land or building etc. for the construction of Metro Railway. Section 9 provides for the objections, if any, from the affected persons, to be heard by the Competent Authority constituted under the said Act. Thereafter, under section 10(1), a declaration has to be issued by the Central Government, by notification in the Official Gazette that the particular plot of land or building etc. should be acquired. Sub-section (3) of section 10, however, provides that the notification under section 7 shall cease to have any effect, if the declaration under section 10 (1) is not published within a period of one year from the date of publication of notification under section 7.

Experience has shown that taking advantage of the above provisions, the affected parties, often resort to dilatory tactics by going to the Court and obtaining stay orders with the object of making the

[Shri Madhavrao Scindia]

publication of declaration under section 10(1) impossible within the said period of one year. Thus, the acquisition proceedings, in some cases, get unduly delayed. Hon. Members would appreciate that if the acquisition of even one plot of land, critically located, is stalled due to dilatory tactics of the affected persons, commissioning of the full length of Calcutta Metro would not be possible.

In order to eliminate these difficulties, and to ensure timely completion of the prestigious project of Calcutta Metro, the Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Amendment Bill, 1987 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha, to insert a proviso to subsection (3) of section 10 of the said Act to exclude the period during which an acquisition proceeding remains stayed by an order of Court for computing the period of one year under section 10 (1). A similar provision exists in the Land Acquisition Act, 1894.

With these words, I commend the Bill, as passed by the Rajya Sabha, for consideration of this House.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): Sir, the metro railway, whether prestigious or not, is absolutely essential for the life to continue in Calcutta. It was recognised by the Central Government as an essential project way back in mid-sixties. Till date, no assessment has been made as to whether metro, as originally conceived, will serve the purpose it was intended to serve or whether some change are to be made, whether some expansion is necessary in view of the growth of Calcutta in both the North and South directions. We are still at the stage where we were conceptually in the mid-sixties. We have not moved a step from there because we have not been able to implement what we thought we would be able to implement in five years. Fifteen years have gone since then. We are nowhere near completion of

the project yet. It is although prestigious, but it is also a disgrace for the Central Government that they have been so tardy in the execution of this project.

Sir, take for instance the Bill itself. The land acquisition for the purpose of metro started as far back in 1973 or 1974. In 1978, they brought an Act for the purpose of eliminating the difficulties arising out of the construction of metro railway in Calcutta. Now after nine years, it has occurred to them that some people are spoiling their records by going to courts so far as land acquisition is concerned. It has taken them such a long time. It is not that diory tactics taken by the people are unknown to anybody. We have known about these things for the last 30 years. Constitutional provisions enable people to go to court under certain Articles of the Constitution and get certain remedies, certain immediate reliefs which although meant to be for a short period yet has become prolonged because courts are congested. Now this is a conventional wisdom available to anybody who is prepared to apply his mind but unfortunately, the Railway Minister and his subordinates are not. I am not talking of this Railway Minister but his predecessors.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS (Tezpur): Including Mr. Dandavate.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Now, Sir, I have nothing against this Act. But this Act enables me to say a few things.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara): It is also a CPM tactics.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Certain things should be known about the metro railway. The prestigious project, as I said, conceived in 1960 was the first of its kind. Its costing was made in June 1972 on the basis of 1970 or 71 prices. It was Rs. 140 crores. Two years later in 1974 they pro-

duced another estimate — again abstract estimate and not the detailed estimate — and that was Rs. 250 crores. Within two years it jumped from Rs. 140 crores to Rs. 250 crores. Then the next estimate, I do not know whether they had any internal one, which came in December 1981. It was Rs. 560 crores.

Now, Sir, why I am giving this is to show the Government's way of execution or implementation of a prestigious project. In 1981, it was supposed to have cost Rs. 560 crores. At that point of time, only Rs. 96 crores had been spent on the project, which means not even one-sixth of the then cost estimate and not even detailed cost. The detailed cost would have been much more. There has never been a proper machinery instituted for the purpose of execution of this project. No proper machinery has never been set up. Up-to-date, there is no metro railway authority which can take independent decisions. For the small purposes, they have got to come and report. Lot of decisions have got delayed because they have to come to Railway Board for sanctions on these matters. Now, what happened as a result was that they have no machinery there. There is no independent authority there and they have to come to some other authority for sanction. So, finalisation of tenders which could have taken not more than six months was delayed anywhere from 18 to 54 months. The finalisation of tenders and award of tenders was taking 12 to 34 months. Since there was no proper supervision of work, they were giving at random extension to the contractors whom they could not supervise to see that they are working in time. Even for the delayed awarded contracts, the contractors were given extension for periods of 10 to 68 months. Can you imagine that more than five years extension was given for execution of contracts of may be worth Rs. 10 crores to Rs. 20 crores! This has been the situation because no machinery has been set up by the Railways which was necessary for the execution of projects.

Is it I who have been saying that such a project was necessary? No. First, a Cabinet Note said that such a project was necessary. Then the Administrative Reforms Commission said that; then the Railway Convention Committee said that; then the National Transport Policy Committee said that. In spite of these committees saying that and in spite of even the Cabinet saying that, they have not up to date set up an authority for purposes of construction and running of the railways. As a result, further delay is going to take place.

I am bringing out this history not merely for the purpose of telling the people how bad the Metro Railway has been; I have a constructive motive behind it. Even today they should pay heed to it and have an authority which will be fully responsible for the execution of the work.

As a result what has happened is that even the orders for building of the railway coaches have been delayed out of all proportions. They could not finalise the design of the coach for a long time and when they did and placed orders, even then there have been abnormal delays by the Integrated Coach Factory in Madras. When they were received after two or three years delay, they were supposed to be given trial run of 2 lakh kilometres. But that was not done. Each of these proto-type rails has been given trial run for only 16000 kilometres in place of 2 lakh kilometres. It is not my prescription; it is railways' own prescription that it should be given 2 lakh kilometres trial run. Instead of that they are giving not even 10% of the prescribed kilometres as trial. So, what will happen? An accident will take place sometime and then they will put the blame on anybody; but not on themselves. These facts should be taken note of today, so that the Railway Minister can arrange for a proper trial run of these rails. That has not been done so far.



14.58 hrs

(SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI *in the Chair*)

Another point is that a General Manager to the Metro Railway — I think five or six successive ones for the last five or six years—is appointed only for a period of eight to ten months or maximum for one year. And at the fag end of this career. Perhaps he was entitled to be promoted as General Manager of the Railways, but no other berth could be found for him, so put him on Metro Railways because it is nobody's child. That has been the attitude. That is one of the reasons also which has caused the delay.

The reasons for delay have been analysed in the audit report — delay in finalising the contracts, giving extensions, no supervision and other things are there. But one of the reasons are that no-priority was given for supply of essential materials like steel and cement. They call it a prestigious project and they don't give priority in the supply of steel and cement when there is scarcity. Now there is no scarcity, everything is available. But even then there is a considerable delay in the execution of the balance portion of the work. There is considerable delay in running the trains properly.

Some of the MPs have visited the Metro Railways and we have been shown that a controller by means of which trains can run at an interval of 1½ minutes has not been acquired. As a result now the trains cannot run except at an interval of eight to ten minutes. They say it will take four years. When they say four years it becomes eight to ten years. I believe when the Metro Railway is completed physically even then the proper running of trains will not be possible for want of this controller. They are not even decided about the methods to be applied for the construction

of works of Metro railway. Their experimentations are still going on as to what method to apply and how to give the contract, etc. This is something the Railways should have learnt by now but Railways have not learnt the lesson. They should have learnt the lesson in these long 15 years.

Life of Calcutta has been brought to standstill at some points because we have been constructing Metro railways at congested corridors. There is no coordination with the State Government. I am sure the Minister will deny this but I will conclude by narrating my own experience when I as an MP sought to have coordination between the State Government and the Metro Railways. I went to the Urban Affairs Minister there in 1985. At that time the Urban Affairs Minister said that he had called so many meetings but not one of them has been attended by the General Manager of Metro Railways and now I refuse to call any more meetings because the General Manager does not attend the meeting. Then I went to the Mayor of Calcutta and found the same state of affairs. I personally sent two messages to the General Manager — one by telephone and the other by a letter. General Manager did not come to see the Mayor. I am sure the Railway Minister will deny lack of coordination. He will say State Government does not cooperate and all those charges but this is my personal experience and nobody can say anything against that. I have told the Chairman, Railway Board that this is the position. General Manager, Metro Railways is behaving in this fashion. Can you expect cooperation from the State Government? I do not know of late whether the situation has improved or not but I hope the Railway Minister will take note of it and put an end to this kind of affairs.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): Madam Chairman, these two Bills, namely, the Railway Claims Tribunal Bill and Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Amendment Bill are before the House for consideration. Of course, even

though they are clubbed together there is nothing common in them except that the Ministry which is piloting the Bills is the Railway Ministry. I would, therefore, make it clear that I would confine my remarks to the Railway Claims Tribunal Bill only.

I would wholeheartedly welcome this Railway Claims Tribunal Bill which is before the House. It seeks to provide for the establishment of Tribunal/Tribunals to deal with the claims against the Railways regarding loss, damage and deterioration to the goods or animals entrusted to the Railways as public carriers.

Secondly, to deal with claims regarding refund of fares or freights and also to deal with the accident claims arising out of railway accidents which are at present, being dealt with by the Claims Commissioner. The first two types of claims, which I just now mentioned, are being dealt with by the civil courts. It is an admitted fact in all the quarters that our civil courts are crumbling under the weight of the arrears of work. Therefore, it is a good idea to give expeditious justice to those who are filing claims against the railways on four or five counts which I have already mentioned.

The idea of tribunal is also very laudable. It consists of chairman, vice-chairman and also judicial and technical members. The tribunal has been made as independent as possible. The appointments are to be made by the President of India. The appointment of chairman is sought to be made by the President in consultation with the Chief Justice of India. As far as the other members are concerned, their appointments would be made by the Central Government. The removal part is also laudable. None of them can be removed from their service except on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity to work which will have to be proved before a Supreme Court Judge. These are all good provisions which make the tribunal an independent and impartial body to deal with the public claims. Technicalities are also to be avoided because the provisions

of Civil Procedure Code are not being applied. But they would be following the rules of natural justice. There is no appeal except an appeal direct to the High Court. As I said, this tribunal would definitely help expedite the disposal of thousands of claims which are already pending. The Minister has said that nearly 22,000 claims—which are all three-year old—are pending. There are also claims pending even for a period longer than this. So, this tribunal will definitely help in clearing up all the arrears and would administer justice to the citizens of this country who use railways for travelling or for sending their goods or animals.

Having said this, I would also make certain critical remarks as far as this Bill is concerned. Firstly, I have not been able to follow exactly the rationale for bringing forward this Bill during this session. The Indian Railways Act is already before the House and has been referred to the Joint Select Committee. When that Bill is already before the Joint Select Committee, I do not know why this part has been brought forward.

It would create further complications and more work from this point of view. At several places, references have been made to different sections of the existing Indian Railways Act. As soon we pass this Bill and when the new Railways Act would replace the old one, the Government would have to come forward again with an amending Bill for making consequential amendments to the proposed bill. The Railway Minister may explain as to what was the rationale behind this, namely, bringing this Bill before the main Railways Act would be replaced by the new Railways Act.

Secondly, throughout this, we have been told that there would be Benches, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, technical members and other legal members and it has not made clear as to how many Benches will be there except in the financial memorandum, which refers to 19 Benches which will be established under

[Shri Sharad Dighe]

this Bill. If the objective is to give expeditious justice to the claimants against the Railways, then we should have large number of Benches as far as this Tribunal is concerned. At present, we have got. District Courts in every district throughout India and people have got access to the District Courts for filing their claims. Even in other Civil Courts suit can be instituted against the Railways. The very objective will be defeated if we establish only few Benches throughout India which will not be accessible to common people or people who have less means of livelihood. It will be difficult for them to go to those Benches and have their litigation tried there.

My submission is that Government will have to think of establishing more Benches rather than the 19 Benches. At least as many as the Benches as the number of District Courts should be established. Those Benches should have the power or moving from one place to the other so that they can go to far-off places, into the interior and hear these cases as far as claims against Railways are concerned. The number of Vice-Chairmen should have been made elastic than four as fixed in the Act. If they would have said that the number of Vice-Chairmen would be as the Central Government would decide from time to time, that would have been better as far as this Act is concerned. Regarding qualifications, I have got nothing to say except to refer to condition that the Vice-Chairman and other members would be taken from the Indian Legal service and also from the Railway Administration. If we want to gain the confidence of the people as far as the Railway claims are concerned, members of tribunal should not be recruited from Railway Administration for such Tribunals. They have got a bias in favour of the Railways and the litigants also feel that this bias will come in their way. Therefore, it would have been better if the Railway Administration people would not have been recruited in this and that provision would not have been made.

Similarly, I do not know why people from the Indian Legal Service are going to be recruited. When we say that persons who are qualified to be High Court judges or who are sitting High Court judges or past High Court judge can be recruited, then all judicial services are covered. Therefore, it was not necessary to bring in this that persons from the administrative cadre namely, the legal service, that is, the law and judiciary would be recruited. This also comes under bias and the litigants would not feel that this is an impartial tribunal.

Finally, I would say that distribution of work has been left here to the Central Government. This would create so many practical problems. Whenever a suit is filed, it will have to go to the Central Government first for distribution or allotment to certain Tribunals. Therefore, you should have appointed territorial Tribunals or territorial Benches so that the litigation could have gone to the Bench which was in that territory. That would have been easier.

Finally, as far as the appeal to the High Court is concerned, ninety days limitations is given. I do not know whether other provisions of the Limitation Act would apply to this. That should have been made clear otherwise so many times, we do not get certified copies and cannot file an appeal in time and some delay is there and for condoning that delay, a provision is not there.

With these remarks, I welcome this Bill and support it.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY (Visakhapatnam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support some of the valid points raised by my learned predecessor, Shri Sharad Dighe.

At the outset, I would request the hon. Minister to consider whether it would be appropriate even now to re-examine the position and refer this Bill also to the Select Committee along with the Bill which has been there before the Select Committee.

As I said, various valid points have been raised. We have been wanting to have a comprehensive legislation on this subject. All the time we have to depend on a century-old Indian Railways Act which reminds us of the relics of the colonial past. Even in this Bill if we look at the entire Chapter 7, it is devoted to amendments to the various Sections of the Indian Railways Act itself. The basic Act, the Indian Railways Act, is intact, we are only making certain amendments. Therefore, I suggest that we should have a comprehensive legislation and that should include whatever is contemplated now and whatever is on the anvil or is before the Select Committee, so that we need no longer refer to a century-old law and depend on that and depend on piecemeal legislation from time to time to meet the present day requirements.

How does litigation occur? Why are the claims increasing? That has got to be looked into first. I have got with me a copy of the India Railway Safety Performance 1985-86—A Review. According to it, in the year 1977-78, 172 persons were killed and 421 persons were injured in the rail accidents and a sum of Rs. 45.82 lakhs was paid to them as compensation. Normally, it should be at the rate of Rs. one lakh per head—those who were killed. For 172 persons what should be the amount that should be paid? And what is the amount which has ultimately been paid? It is Rs. 45.82 lakhs. Again in 1981-82, 446 passengers were killed and 717 injured in rail accidents and only a sum of Rs. 46.13 lakhs was paid as compensation. The maximum compensation of Rs. One lakh that was stipulated originally is there on the paper only and it is not in practice. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister that without any reference to the status of the persons killed in rail accidents, they should be paid a minimum compensation of Rs. one lakh. Perhaps it is not possible to provide that in the Act; it should be provided in the rules. It should be very clearly laid down, otherwise it is very difficult and the people are put to immense difficulties and hardships.

Kindly see Section 73 of the Indian Railways Act. There are several loopholes. According to it, the railway administration is responsible for loss, damage or deterioration of goods in transit arising from any cause except those due to the act of God, war, public enemies, omission or negligence of the consignor, consignee etc. Therefore, a number of claims filed by different parties can be repudiated. There is a wide scope for the Railway Administration to repudiate the claims.

Under Section 74, when the consignment is booked at owner's risk rate, the railway administration is not responsible except on the proof by the claimant that such loss or damage was due to negligence. Therefore, there is a lot of scope. A predominant number of cases were repudiated. I got the figures with me and I would like to quote them here.

The value of claims accepted and the percentage of value of claims paid on earnings increased from Rs. 21.9 crores in 1982-83 to Rs. 30.5 crores in 1983-84 and further to Rs. 33.0 crores in 1984-85.

Thus from Rs. 21.9 crores it has gone up to Rs. 33.0 crores. This is always on the increase. That is one aspect which I would like to point out to the Minister.

Again, if you look at the number of cases. 4 to 7 lakh cases, claims are annually being made by different parties and customers. Out of this the number of claims which are repudiated range from 35 to 45 per cent. For instance in the year 84-85 the number of claims paid was 1,68,000 and repudiated 1,73,000. So several claims are repudiated on one ground or another. I pointed out earlier, how it is possible for the administration to immediately deal with it. put up some plea and then repudiate the claim put forward.

Another interesting point has been made out by a sample study of 1363 cases repudiated during last ten days of August

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1985 undertaken on six Railways. What exactly it reveals?

	No. of claims repudiated
Party's negligence	364
Claims Notice not served within six months	328
Defective condition of packing	145
Improper Loading	101

Like this most of the cases which were repudiated were repudiated only on technical grounds causing immense hardship to the customers. The Railways should have earned the confidence of the people but instead it is creating innumerable problems for them. Therefore, that point requires to be carefully considered.

Then, it is not merely providing them an opportunity to go before the tribunal but avoiding certain circumstances which ultimately force them, drag them to the court or before the tribunals. Now, how many suits are pending? The Minister said that it is about 52,000 and odd. I have some figures here to dispose of the facts. I have got a Report of the Public Accounts Committee Report, the Eighty-Fourth Report, of the Eighth Lok Sabha. It is understood that there has been continuous increase in number of court cases instituted every year, decreed against Railways and amount paid as compensation as a result of court decrees. That means the cases which were repudiated were on untenable grounds. In 1983-84, 33,305 new suits were instituted. In 1984-85 it came down to 29,000 and odd. So, several thousands of cases are there. So, how is it possible for the 19 benches and one tribunal to look after all the problems? It is not at all possible, as my learned predecessor has earlier pointed out.

Previously, the court was having jurisdiction over the place at which the passenger had obtained his pass or purchased his ticket or got the receipt for goods handed over for carriage. Even in those places, cases can be filed. Now it is not possible because it is confined to the 19 Benches. Therefore, it will be more difficult to file cases. Moreover, even now it is not specified where these Benches are going to be located.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Madam, from my Party, I am the only person speaking on this Bill. Please give me some more time. I will not take more than four or five minutes.

Now, let me explain how difficulties arise and how customers — even the public sector undertakings—are put to severe losses and how there is a lot of harassment. I may be permitted to read from the Report of the PAC. It is clearly mentioned in the Report that the transit losses of foodgrains increased from Rs. 23.27 crores in the year 1977-78 to Rs. 95.85 crores in the year 1983-84. What has to be done? There is a stupendous loss or shortage of foodgrains when they are being transported from one place to another. Naturally, people will put up their grievances and other problems before the Claims Tribunal. Now let us have a look at the claims. The Public Accounts Committee finds that as against Rs. 48.69 crores claimed by the Food Corporation of India as the compensation on account of loss/ pilferage and damage to foodgrains in rail transit, only Rs. 1.17 crores were recovered by them from the Railways during the period from 1977-78 to 1984-85. Out of an amount of Rs. 48 and odd crores, only about Rs. one crores were to be paid, what is to be done? If this is the situation faced by public sector undertakings, what will be the position of an ordinary person? The outstanding claim of the FCI on account of shortage and damage in rail transit is stated to be Rs. 26.83 crores at the close of September 1985. This is the situation

Now the Committee further finds that the compensation claim on account of loss/pilgerage and damage to foodgrains in transit amounting to Rs. 16.29 crores was repudiated by the Railways from the years 1977-78 to 1984-85. How could it be repudiated? The Committee is astonished to find that no efforts seem to have been initiated so far to settle these claims which amounted to Rs 21 21 crores as on 31st March 1982. Subsequently, these claims have increased to Rs 40 62 crores as on March 31, 1984. This is the position as far as foodgrains are concerned.

Similarly, I will explain how difficulties have been arising as far as Coal India is concerned. With regard to coal, there are test checks at certain points to see whether the coal is correctly loaded or not. In September 1985, 1 18 lakh wagons loaded at different coal fields were weighed for test checks. The test weighments revealed that 37.49 per cent of the wagons were overloaded, 41.39 per cent were underloaded and only 21.12 per cent of the wagons were correctly loaded. This is the difficulty. Whose fault is this? And the game of passing the buck and shifting the responsibility from one person to another or from one party to another party, merrily starts. Endless and countless litigations take place, controversies and discussions arise without any remedy. What is the way out of all these problems? How can we solve them?

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): It is like the overloading of the Treasury Benches!

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: As far as this underloading of wagons is concerned, there have been complaints from the consumers that there is shortage of coal to the tune of 13 to 16 per cent on the carrying capacity. That is the shortage which is being felt. And the test checks also revealed that the wagons are not correctly loaded. Madam much more than this — because you are giving the bell, I will not be able to cover my points and ultimately I have to be satisfied by making a reference to another important classical example of

the total negligence of the Railways — how it all happened. It was brought forth very clearly in one of the Reports of the PAC— 50th Report—in the year 1986-87. This is “A parcel containing 8 kgs. of gold valued at Rs. 14.8 lakhs was booked by the State Bank of India, Bombay to Agra on March, 1983. It was actually despatched on 26th April, 1983. When the luggage van was opened at Busaval, the gold parcel was found missing. The mysterious disappearance of gold parcel defied all detection.”

So far nothing has happened. Nobody could detect it.

MR CHAIRMAN Is it from the guide book?

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool): This had happened when the train was going from Bombay to Agra. On the way these 8 kgs. were lost and the claim is still pending.

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE There is no trouble in Bombay!

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY Railways repudiated it.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY This is what has happened. When such a situation happens or when such incidents occur, it is the responsibility of the Railways to improve the administration to do something better. Otherwise, it is very difficult. Providing just a scope for people to approach the Tribunal that itself is not a sufficient satisfaction and solace.

Here, one important point which I would like to mention before I conclude is, that as far as the decrees are concerned, once the decrees are given, then the order made by the Claims' Tribunal under this Act shall be executed by the Claims' Tribunal as a decree of the Civil Court. And for this purpose, the Claims' Tribunal shall have all the powers of the Civil Courts. It is not a question of allowing parties to go and approach the Civil Courts for securing the

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implementation or the execution of the decrees which were awarded by the Tribunals. As soon as the decree is awarded, it is for the Railway administration to immediately deposit the amount and enable the party to withdraw that amount whenever it is necessary. You may insist on the parties concerned to deposit the security amount, if necessary. But within a month invariably the amount must be deposited and the parties are enable to withdraw the amount, otherwise justice will not be done and we will not be able to reap the benefits that are contemplated under the Act.

Thank you.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL (Erandol) :  
Madam, I welcome this Claims' Tribunal Bill presented by the hon. Minister in this House. This Tribunal which will expedite the claims' cases will not be beneficial to people who get the claim but it will also be beneficial to the Railways because the confidence in Railway goods traffic will increase. With the active and dynamic working of Scindiaji, we have seen that the Railway accidents have been reduced They have come down and the fatal cases were only 66 in the year 1985-86 as compared to about 400 and odd in the year 1981. Of course the claims settled and the amount of compensation given in 1985-86 was about Rs. 2 crores. As my friend has also mentioned that the maximum limit of compensation for the death caused due to accidents is Rs. 1 lakh. I would like to suggest that there should be a minimum limit also. The minimum limit for total disablement can be Rs. 50,000. If it is done then better justice can be given to the person who is the victim of the railway accident. And also, some arrangements should be made on the spot to pay not less than Rs. 10,000 for the bereaved family or the persons who suffered serious injuries. Of course, we hope that the number of accidents, and of fatal accidents will come down because of modernization of signals and the various methods adopted to prevent accidents, and especially the contem-

plated expenditure for replacement of old tracks. About Rs. 9,000 crores are proposed to be spent over the next 15 years by the Railways for the renewal of tracks.

The Claims Tribunal is all the more essential because of the increase in the volume of goods traffic handled, and the increase which is expected by the year 2000 A.D. At present, 258 million tonnes of goods are transported over thousands of kilometres in the country, in one year; and we hope to increase this goods traffic by 114% by the year 2000 A.D. So, the number of claims because of damage to goods, both of cattle and other items will increase. The setting up of this Tribunal and 19 benches will help in expediting the cases.

I think that Railways should view paying of these claims through this Claims Tribunal as one of its social obligations, just as we consider some of the social costs. We have incurred almost Rs. 183 crores of loss by transporting foodgrains, Sugarcane and other essential commodities, during the last year. We incurred Rs. 183 crores of loss because of the concessional rate of freight. But we have paid only Rs. 43 crores as compensation to the claimants who have claimed damages for the loss of goods, or for damage to goods, in the year 1985-86, as compared to Rs. 33 crores during the year preceding that. Apparently, the number of claims has come down from about 7 lakhs over the last 5 or 6 years, to 4 lakhs during the last year. This is not so because the claimants are getting delivery of the goods without loss or damage; but over the years, the pattern of goods transported through Railways has changed. We are becoming the carriers of low-rated bulk commodities. We are not able to increase the percentage of carriage of high profit-yielding commodities. If you settle the claims properly, within a short time and to the satisfaction of the customers, it will be one of the customer services which will help enhance the goods traffic in the Railways, as we are facing competition from the road-carriers. Here also, if you are able to do this properly and expeditiously, and if the Claims Tribunal can help in this

matter, we can get more goods traffic of higher profit-yielding commodities, and the earnings of the Railways will be more

Before concluding, I would like to suggest that through Railways we are getting a greater amount of public utility service, as compared to any other department. Of course, the next department is Communications. By setting up these tribunals and doing service to the public expeditiously, i.e. by settling the claims speedily, I think we will be doing a better service to the public of this sub-continent.

With these words, I support this Bill.

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South): Madam Chairman, I support this Bill. It was nearly a century ago the Indian Railways Act was enacted, i.e. in 1890. This is no doubt an improvement so far as this particular section is concerned. But I do not think it will be all foolproof because there are many lacuna in the provisions of this Act, as already explained by two of my colleagues. I do not want to repeat what they have said.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister how he came to the conclusion that nineteen benches would be sufficient and on what basis he came to the conclusion. Is the Minister going to reduce the crime? Is the Minister going to reduce the accidents? Is he confident of doing that? So, on what basis this figure nineteen was arrived at? If he does reduce the crime or the accident in the Railways then we will be extremely happy. But what is happening now? The accidents in the Railways are increasing. So, this is not a realistic approach. As Mr. Shard Dighe has correctly put it, we have 380 Districts or so and can these nineteen Tribunals replace all the District courts? The Government should seriously ponder over this point.

I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister another point. You have brought this Bill because you wanted to reduce the delay in settlement of claims that was now going on at the Claims Com-

missioner's level or at the level of District Courts. But there is no time limit prescribed. Is it not necessary to include a provision about time limit in the Bill? I think it is very necessary to fix the time limit, because the affected people have to wait for years and years to get the compensation. So, I would urge upon the Minister to see whether it is possible even at this stage to fix the time limit, because there is another court also, that is High Court after this. Therefore, it is necessary that the cases should be disposed of in a prescribed period.

I would like to again ask the hon. Minister as to what steps he is going to take to reduce the accidents in the Railways? Though it is not directly connected with this Bill, the measures which he is going to take, will certainly reflect on the Tribunals also.

I would like to give one or two figures from the Report of the Railway Board for the year 1985-86. In the year 1985-86 out of 717 train accidents 484 i.e. 67.5% were attributed to failure of railway staff i.e. human failure; 66 i.e. 9.2% were attributed due to persons other than railway staff and sabotage is only 0.6%. The hon. Minister has been saying that everything has been modernised. When that is so, how do you account for the failure on account of railway staff? What steps have you taken to see that the railway staff realise its responsibility? The lives of thousands of commuters are in the hands of engine drivers of the Indian Railways. It is very necessary that there should be proper training for them. And very responsible and efficient persons should be appointed as engine drivers.

Similarly with regard to theft in the railways, you say it is not the responsibility of the railways but the responsibility of the Government Railway Police. It is not understandable. The theft has taken place in your train. You are carrying the commuters. You should take responsibility of the safety of the passengers not only against accidents but also thefts. You should see that dacoities and thefts do not take place



[Shri V.S. Krishna Iyer]

in the trains. It is now common that dacoits enter the train, threaten the passengers, loot the property and go away. Something should be done in this regard.

We have got full confidence in the Railways that when we book our consignments, they will reach the destination safely and without any damage. Here I would like to quote one or two figures from this Report. In 1985-86 consignments worth Rs. 376 lakhs were lost. Out of this, the consignment recovered was only Rs. 31.77 lakhs worth. The percentage of recovery was hardly 8 per cent. Similarly, in 1984-85 it is 6%, 83-84 6%. At no time it is more than 13%. So theft is common in the railways and certainly railways are forced to give compensation. What concrete steps the hon. Minister is going to take to see that the thefts in the railways are prevented?

About the safety of the articles booked with the railways, I booked a new sofa set about three or four months back from New Delhi Railway Station to Bangalore. But by the time it reached Bangalore city, it was broken to pieces. I sent my assistant to the railway station and told him not to bring those broken pieces. I claimed compensation. But I got only Rs. 1000 as compensation against Rs. 2,500/- which I paid for that sofa. I am having the bill and the receipt for the same. I asked them on what basis they arrived at this figure. But I did not get a proper reply for that. I got only Rs. 1,000 as a penalty for booking the luggage with the Railways.

There is no doubt that you are an honest and efficient person. But this alone is not sufficient. Unless everybody, right from the level crossing man upto the Chairman of the Railway Board, is conscious of his duties and is honest, the railways cannot do service to the commuters. It is very necessary that you should see how they load and unload consignments. The goods are just thrown away. Even if it is mentioned on the consignment 'Handle with

care', they do not care. In my case I have written in bold letters 'M.P.' 'handle with care'. But they do not seem to distinguish between an MP and an ordinary person. They are very honest socialist.

I again quote from the same Railway report. This question has been asked by Shri Bhattam Srirama Murty also. In 1981-82 due to accidents persons killed 463, injured 652 and compensation paid Rs. 46.13 lakhs. The figures of 1982-83 are 59,325 and Rs. 123.87 lakhs, in 1983-84 68,307 and Rs. 95.94 lakhs, 1984-85 194,490 Rs. 122.75 lakhs and in 1986-87 66,269 and Rs. 220.80 lakhs. According to your rule or convention, you have to pay Rs. 1 lakh to the family of the dead. But I am not able to understand the correlation between the figure of dead persons and the amount of compensation paid in 1986-87. So is the case in 1984-85. Persons killed were 194 and injured 490 and the amount of compensation paid is Rs. 122.75 lakhs. Is it because the cases were not settled in the court? How this anomaly arises I do not know. So, I will request the hon. Minister to explain it while replying to the debate.

I would say that now they are appointing the Tribunal. We welcome this measure. It is certainly an improvement and we hope that the things will improve hereafter and an affected person need not wait for months or years now to get compensation. I know of a number of cases where people became disgusted. They even refused to go to courts. They left it to the lawyers. They thought they could not get the compensation. But now it will not happen. However, my only submission will be that the Minister must see that when he appoints the adequate number of Tribunal's Benches must be created and he should see that only judicial persons are appointed because technical persons will again be from the Railways. That will mean that the judge and the prosecutor will be the same person. It is not correct. Technical man may also become the Chairman of the Bench. So, that is not proper because

natural justice will not be there. Therefore, only judicial persons should be appointed.

Once again I say that the Minister should fix up a time limit. If there is no time limit, if the cases are dragged on as before, then the very purpose of this Bill will be defeated. I hope, the hon. Minister will bear this in mind. I once again commend this Bill. I support this Bill and hope that still more progressive amendments will be brought. Anyhow, they will be bringing the Railways Amendment Bill soon. Let it not be delayed. Let us have the honour of passing that Railway Amendment Bill. Don't give it to the next Parliament. Before you have a snap poll, you see that it is passed. Thankyou very much, Sir

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Madam Chairman, I support the Railway Claims Tribunal Bill, 1987 which has been introduced in the house. Just now our friends from Karnataka and Maharashtra spoke on this Bill and particularly pointed out that the Member of the Benches is 19 which is not adequate. I went through the Financial Memorandum very carefully. It envisages that:-

[English]

"To start with, it is proposed to set up 19 Benches at such places as may be specified by the Central Government. It has also been proposed that the Benches may hold their sittings at different stations within their jurisdiction. The number of Benches required will be reviewed from time to time on the basis of workload and experience gained."

[Translation]

It clearly states that with the increase in the quantum of work, the number of Benches will be increased and this is the right course. Therefore, number of the Benches will not remain static, rather these will be increased with the increase in the volume of work. Therefore, there should be no apprehension in the minds of our hon. friends.

Secondly, due care has been taken in setting up the courts in connection with the Railway Claims Tribunal. I appreciate this step. A lot of care has been taken in the qualifications of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and the Members. Care has also been taken that none of the officers, i.e. Chairman, Vice-Chairman or Member should be below the grade of that of a Joint-Secretary. It has also been provided that he should be a Judge of a High Court or an officer of his level. As regards their salary, I would like to say that the salary of the Chairman has been fixed at Rs. 8,000/- and for Vice-Chairman and the Members between Rs. 7,300/- and Rs. 7,600. I feel that this salary is sufficient. It is clear that the Government intends to bring most suitable persons in this tribunal. A technical member will have to be taken in it. It is rather essential. In this connection it has been stated that it is imperative to have a Technical Member, because nowadays when accidents take place, deaths occurred and injuries are also sustained. In such a situation, it is the technical person who can take a correct decision about it. If a technical person is not there, then a judicial person cannot take a correct decision. Therefore a technical person is very essential.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: What will the technical person do?

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: He is also from the Joint Secretary Cadre. He has the administrative experience of the railways and you should know that these technical persons are more intelligent than the I.P.S. and I.A.S. officers. You should be aware of all these things and should not interfere unnecessarily.

Therefore, the decision to keep a technical person as a member is quite right.

I would like to say that various companies and private persons prefer to transport their goods through trucks instead of by rail. Because they always apprehend that there is no safety of their goods sent by rail.

[Shri Viridhi Chander Jain]

There is another point that railway servants indulge in pilferage of the goods sent by rail and no action is taken against them. Had action been taken against them, the goods transportation would have been smooth and people would have been attracted towards it. Although railway freight charges are cheaper, yet people do not prefer it for lack of safety. Efforts should, therefore, be made to provide adequate security to the goods being sent by rail and a foolproof system should be evolved for this purpose.

The tribunal should dispose of the cases speedily. If the cases are not disposed of speedily, the very objective of their setting up tribunal will be defeated. Therefore, as has been pointed out by the hon. Member from Karnataka that a time limit should be fixed for disposal of a case viz a case should be disposed of within a year. This will provide facility and relief to the affected persons. With these words, I support this Bill.

**SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI (Kaliabor):** The purpose of the Railway Claims Tribunal Bill, 1987 is really very good and I support it.

The spirit of the Bill is to avoid the dictum - 'Justice delayed is justice denied'. In civil courts there are a lot of pending cases. Those must be disposed of. Therefore, this special Bill has been brought before this House so as to effect expeditious disposal of the matters in the special court i.e. the Tribunal.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Mr. Tanti, you can continue your speech on Monday. We now take up item No. 13 - Discussion under Rule 193. Dr. Chinta Mohan.

**2.00 hrs.**

#### DISCUSSION RE: RISE IN PRICES OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES

[English]

**DR. CHINTA MOHAN (Tirupati):** Sir, I

raise a discussion under Rule 193 on the rise in prices of essential commodities. Madam, Finance Minister is not in the House during this important discussion.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Hon'ble Minister for Food and Civil Supplies, Shir H.K.L. Bhagat is here. There are other Ministers present here. You can continue.

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT):** I just wanted to make one submission. I would be here for some time now. If you permit me, if the hon. Members agree, for some time I have to go and attend the Business Advisory Committee in the Rajya Sabha. My colleague will take note of the points made in the House. I will come back. But I am still here for some time, a few minutes. Meanwhile, Shrimati Dixit will take notes on my behalf. I will be back after the Business Advisory Committee in the Rajya Sabha is over.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur):** Why not expand the Ministry?

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** I am prepared to become your Minister if you come to this side.

**DR. CHINTA MOHAN:** Madam, if you look at the price list of various consumer items and compare it with the last year price list, it is growing very high and high. As per the Minister's statement, last time the whole-sale price index was about 5 1% rise and today it is about 7 1% rise. Then if you look at the consumer price index, there is a big yawning gap between the Minister's statement and the consumer price index today, that is, the whole-sale price increase to that of the consumer price index. It has reached the double digit figure. It is about 10.2%. Before coming to the House, I happened to go to a Super Bazar, there I enquired about the price of vanaspati last year. They said that vanas-

pati was costing about Rs. 15.75 last year and today it costs Rs 25.75. If you look at the price of sugar, last year it was Rs 4.75 and today it is about Rs 5.75 per kilogram. In the case of wheat, it was costing Rs 2.27 per kilogram last year and today it is costing Rs 3.50 per kilo. Basumati rice was costing at Rs 8 per kilo last year and today it is costing about Rs 11.40 per kilo, right now at 3 O'clock. I am not going into the details. I am only touching the essential commodities here. When compared to all these things, the Government has totally failed to control the price rise. I am not attributing this to one party; all political parties should try to cooperate with the Government and see that the rates should come down. But yet I blame the ruling party for not being able to check the price rise. I therefore request the hon. Minister, Shri Bhagatji to resign for not being able to control the price rise.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Let him do it after debate. Otherwise he will not be able to reply to the debate.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: I am happy to note that it is a very laudable measure taken by the Minister of Food and Civil Supplies, in that he has improved the public distribution system. He has started 19,000 fair price shops in the country.

The new fair price shops have come. He is trying his very best to see that all the essential commodities reach every nook and corner of the country. His target is that at least there should be a fair price shop for every population of 2,000.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: If I am not interrupting Dr. Chinta Mohan, I am giving you an advance notice that in my reply I am going to quote your Chief Minister. This is only for your advance information.

*(Interruptions)*

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, when you look at these things seriously, the price is not the problem of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies, but it is the problem of

the Ministry of Finance. Recently there was a workshop-cum-seminar in Tirupati, i.e., in my constituency, where some economists have suggested about 180 points to control the prices. I am not able to throw light on all these things now, but I would like to select a few points on how to control prices today.

Our main thrust is on industrial production. The industrial production today is mainly concentrating on the public sector. We have so many public sector organisations today, but they are not able to reach the target. When you look at the public sector, steel, cement and other things, they are not able to reach their targets and also some of the Ministers are privately supporting the private sector and publicly supporting the public sector. It is this thing that is happening today. The reason for all these things is that the rich industrial class, the rich industrial organised labour, the rich salaried people and also the rich farming class have formed together as a tunnel with the help of a big political clout in the country enjoying the fruits of freedom, enjoying the fruits of development. *(Interruptions)*.

Whatever fruits of development that are accrued in the 40 years of our Independence, they are mainly going to the rich industrial class, rich farming class, rich salaried people and the political clout. Whatever licences they get, industrial licences, export licences, import licences and what not, everything is going to the 10 per cent of the people, but the 90 per cent of the people are starving today. There are so many starvation deaths in Orissa and also so many starvation deaths in the city of Delhi. This is the thing happening in spite of 40 years of Independence.

*(Interruptions)*

Coming to the agricultural production, today the main thrust is, the farmer is trying to do his best and we have surplus amount of foodgrains in our storages. I am very happy, our farmer is trying his very best to improve the economy of this coun-

[Dr. Chinta Mohan]

try through his agricultural production in spite of droughts and cyclones and other things. The drought has become a very cyclical phenomenon. Some of the ocean scientists say that every four years hon. Member of Parliament, Prof. Dandavateji must be knowing much better than me, the ocean scientists say that every four years we are likely to get a drought in our country. They reason for this, they said, is that the Pacific Ocean is warming up with the result that there is imbalance in the Indian Ocean, with the result that we are getting the drought, we are facing so many problems here in this country. Today we are in 1987, we have the drought and we are likely to get the drought in 1991. It is a very cyclical phenomenon, I wish that the Government will come in contact with the ocean scientists and see that something is done in this connection.

Coming to deficit financing, this has become a very routine phenomenon. In 1986-87 they said the deficit financing is about Rs. 3,349 crores and yet it reached the figure of about Rs. Seven crores finally. But this year the deficit financing is likely to reach about Rs. 14,000 crores. There is no check on this. This is the tragedy of the Government.

Coming to the trade, we have two main trading organisations today, namely the Mineral and Metal Trading Corporation and the State Trading Corporation. If there is no chairman for the MMTC, there is no chairman for STC. These two organisations are sinking and stinking today. The imports have gone up very high and the exports have tremendously gone down and the deficit has become much more. This is the thing that is happening. I do not know what the Government is doing, what the Commerce Ministry is doing in this direction. There is nobody in these two public sector undertakings to organise these things. This is the six month running and nothing has been done in this direction. I request the Government to see that something should be done in this.

Coming to the credit policy, we have so many public sector banks apart from the private sector banks. A rich industrialist in this country can get Rs. 100 crores within a day. He can give a ring in the morning and see that Rs. 100 crores are flown to his chamber by 2 O'clock. This is the thing that is happening. But a farmer who goes to bank and ask for Rs. 10,000 as loan to cultivate his agricultural farm is asked 10,000 questions and 10,000 mortgages are demanded by the bank. Farmers are today facing a lot of problems for getting some little finance from the public sector banks.

Coming to the tax structure and your tax planning, in 1954, you have appointed the Mathai Commission. You have increased the tax rate by 5% in 1961 and then by 10% in 1972 and in 1981, it had reached 15%. Now it has reached 17% today. At the most, you can increase the tax by 20% extra. But it has reached the stage of stagnation where you cannot tax the people much more. But I congratulate the Ministry of Finance on their trying very best to collect the tax and duties to improve the economy directly or indirectly.

Coming to your expenditure, I am happy that because of the drought, you have said that you have reduced the expenditure by Rs. 600 crores. The other day, my hon. friend, Shri Saifuddin Chowdhary asked the Finance Minister whether one Minister had spent about Rs. 41,000 in one Bombay Hotel when he had offered a dinner to somebody. He had asked a specific question at that time, when the price rise discussion was on last time, but nobody was bothered to reply to that. Why has the Minister spent about Rs. 41,000 for one day, for one dinner?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The amount appears to be big because the prices on food have gone up?

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Last year, you had spent only on advertisement Rs. 60 crores. This year, I heard, you are spend-

ing more than Rs. 180 crores. I want to know, on which advertisements, you are spending Rs. 180 crores. What sort of gain are you going to get out of these advertisements? Why are you not able to reduce your money from the advertisements? I would like to know this categorically from the Finance Minister.

I am not going to touch this ticklish subject of security and foreign trips. But I would like to know how much of money our hon. Ministers are spending on foreign trips. I am not asking about the person who is sitting at the top of them but yet I would like to know how much of money you are spending on your foreign trips. It appears to me, there is no concept at all for you, there is no ideology and because of this, these things are happening.

The Reserve Bank of India has suggested some micro level analysis, micro level survey to improve the economy of the country. But the World Bank says, we have reached the stage of Zero growth in this particular year. I would be glad if the hon. Finance Minister can emphasise and throw a light on the remarks of the World Bank.

Coming to subsidies, last year we spent about Rs. 52 crores out of Rs. 5,025 crores on social subsidies like IRDP and NREP.

Apart from that, you have spent much money on foodgrains, transport and other subjects. I want to know categorically from the hon. Minister how much amount of subsidy is spent on foodgrains, transport and other export subsidies.

I want to know how you are going to give subsidies and how the system of subsidies is working.

I want to go back to the point of industrial production. Since independence, you have started about 8,03,000 industries and out of that, 3,25,000 industries have become sick today and also 2,500 big industries also have become sick I was told that Rs. 20,000 crores was spent on

sick industries. I want to know how you are going to get back that Rs. 20,000 crores or that Rs. 20,000 crores have gone to the Indian Ocean or what. I would like to know about the sick industries and how you are going to collect the money.

I would like to know how much money you are spending on Peace Keeping Force to Sri Lanka and how much money you are spending each day. I heard that some crores of rupees are being spent on Peace Keeping Force.

I would finally like to say that we have reached a stage of no return and of red alert and of erosion in the economy and the economy is in the doldrums today because of your planning which is not correct. Unless there is a structural change in the society and in the Government departments, you cannot achieve the goals of Mahatma Gandhi and Panditji. Unless you have a clear concept in your mind, you cannot achieve the results. Whatever you are doing to control the prices will not help and the prices will go higher and higher and finally the Government comes to the stage that they cannot do anything in this direction.

As the Government has not been able to check the prices, I would like to say that hon. Bhagatji should resign and give place to somebody.

[*Translation*]

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the rise in prices of essential commodities has created a very difficult situation. It has crippled our economy. The graph of rising prices, and inflation appears to be rising unabatedly. I would like to make a strong appeal to the Government that we will have to check inflation. The rate of inflation has reached 7.1 per cent from 5.1 per cent. Now the question is that if it is not checked it will create a disrupting situation. First of all we should go into the reasons of inflation. The rate of inflation is not that high in our country as compared to the rate of

[Prof. Nirmaia Kumari Shaktawat]

inflation in the international market. The second reason is that the country wide drought has affected more than half of the population of our country and consequent upon this situation some rise in prices is nothing but natural. Thirdly, most of the industries in the public sector are running at loss and owing to this, prices of many articles have to be raised. I would like to request the Government that keeping all these factors in view, every effort should be made to check inflation. The prices are fixed on the basis of demand and supply. The Government has no control over demand, but the Government enjoys full control over supply. The Government will have to increase the supply of essential commodities. Then only, prices can be reduced

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the women Members of the Parliament particularly represent the housewives. Today the condition of the middle class and the lower class women is very deplorable. The prices of several essential commodities *viz.* pulses, rice, wheat, oil, vegetables onion etc. are abnormally high. They are five times more than what they were in 1981. Retail and wholesale prices of essential commodities have increased. Due to rise in prices of many household items, the family budget of a housewife upsets. She has to effect cuts in her expenditure. Due to this, her health goes on deteriorating. Consequently mortality rate of women has also increased. This is the most dreadful phenomenon of the price rise.

Inflation is a very sensitive subject. We will have to keep it above party politics. We will have to find as to how it can be checked and how the Government can control it. I would like to make a few suggestions in this regard. First of all the Government has to exercise control over big businessmen. These people exploit both the consumers and the producers. These people purchase the commodities from producers at cheaper rates and sell them to the consumers at exorbitant

rates. It is, therefore, necessary to exercise control over them. Hoarding and black marketing should be checked to achieve this end. Stringent action will have to be taken against hoarders and blackmarket-eers. The Government should not hesitate to amend the rules, if necessary, to take deterrent action against such unscrupulous persons.

Secondly, I would like to make a submission about the public distribution system. This is very good, but the same is limited to big cities only. It is very good in big cities like Delhi, Bombay etc. but it is not functioning properly in rural areas. At present 75 to 80 per cent of our population lives in rural areas. Therefore, I strongly plead that the public distribution system should be extended to rural areas so that it can be streamlined through the co-operative societies and village service co-operative societies.

I would like to make a suggestion about tax evasion. It has become a common feature these days. A sort of parallel economy is coming up into existence due to the practice of tax-evasion. There is a need for strengthening the Governing department to check tax-evasion. The system adopted by the Government last time is a welcome step, but it can further be streamlined.

I would also like to make a suggestion about affecting cuts in the Government expenditure. It is a welcome step that Government have affected a cut of Rs. 600 crores, but there is still sufficient scope for affecting more economy and cut in administrative expenditure will help in curbing inflation and price rise. Similarly, our policies should also be reviewed to meet the new challenges. Deficit economy and deficit Budget give impetus to price rise and inflation. This is a vicious circle which has no end. Therefore, we should review our policies so that the practice of introducing deficit budget could be stopped. There is a need to streamline the working of the public sector undertakings which are running at a loss. Because owing to this the Government has to, though reluc-

tantly, raise the prices of certain commodities. We may further strengthen the public sector so that there could be some improvement in the deficit economy. In this connection I would like to submit that price rise and inflation have affected those areas more adversely where there was drought. I would like to refer to Rajasthan in particular. It has been facing drought for the last 4 successive years. The labourers working in connection with famine relief in that area get Rs. 10 to Rs. 11 only in the form of daily wages, that also on one person one family basis. If a family consisting of 5 members and job being made available to only one member, he cannot purchase essential commodities in these days of inflation with Rs. 10 to Rs. 11. The result is that their hardship is increasing day by day. I would like to request the Government that the Public Distribution System may be further strengthened in the States which have been affected by drought. The people of these States will get some relief from the serious impact of price rise if essential commodities like imported oil, sugar, cloth reach them. Due to occurrence of drought, trees are being felled in Rajasthan, because both are inter-linked. This should be checked in order to control inflation. I would like to submit that you have done a lot and streamlined the public

distribution system as well. There is a reduction in the Government expenditure also. The Government have its own limitations with regard to checking price rise because of international phenomena. Today, particularly middle and lower class families have to bear the brunt of this unprecedented price hike. If Government takes some concrete steps to check this price rise to ameliorate the condition of the poor, then no doubt, it will be great achievement in itself. With these words, I conclude.

\*SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN (Jangipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, today we are discussing the issue of price rise which has affected everybody in the country very adversely particularly those who are below the poverty line. The price of articles of every day necessity have risen so high that it has gone beyond their purchasing capacity and as a result they have to be content with half a meal a day or to starve. In order to understand the depth and gravity of the whole problem I would like to cite some statistics. These are figures which Govt. have furnished about the price of articles of every day necessity in Delhi which fully establishes the fact that the prices have been galloping. The hon. Finance Minister has furnished the following figures:—

Commodity	Year (October)	Price in Rs	Per KG
1	2	3	4
Rice	1984	3 50	"
	1987	4.50	"
Sugar	1984	5 50	"
	1987	7 00	"
Mustard oil	1984	17.00	"
	1987	29.00	"
Fish	1984	16.00	"
	1987	32.00	"

\*The speech was originally delivered in Bengali.



1	2	3	4
Milk	1984	4.50	Per litre
	1987	6.00	Per litre
Potato	1984	2.40	Per Kg.
	1987	3.50	"
Pulse (Arhar)	6.50	"	
	1987	10.35	"
Salt	1984	0.60	"
	1987	2.00	"
Onion	1984	2.50	"
	1987	6.00	"

Sir, these figures do not tally with the realities on the ground because the very commodities cannot be available at the above quoted price when one goes to market to buy them. The situation is not particular to Delhi. In fact it is the situation prevailing all over the country.

Now, the question is why the prices of essential commodities are rising unfettered. A psychology is sought to be created that the price rise is due to the difficult drought situation. It cannot be denied that because of drought there has been a fall in agriculture production and naturally this will no doubt contribute to price rise but what I propose to submit is that drought alone is not the only reason for the price phenomena. The real contributing factor are the faulty policies of the Government. The taxation policy, the price policy the emphasis on deficit financing and the faulty import and export policy. All these are substantially contributing to price rise.

Sir, my predecessor speaker has touched upon the deficit budgeting as being a contributing factor. Supporting his contention I would like to say that every year while presenting a deficit budget. The Govt. gives us an assurance that this will

not lead to inflation, lead to price rise or cause any difficulty to the people. But every year the assurances are belied. If we see the prices before the presentation of 1987-88 budget and compare the same with the post budget prices, then we will find that there has been a price rise. Now, to cover up the deficit we may have to print more currency notes, or impose more taxes or have to take more foreign loan. In any of these cases it will lead to inflation and inflation is another name of price rise. Thus if the Central Govt. does not become cautious of the problem then under no circumstances the price rise can be controlled. Side by side, we have noticed that the Central Govt. have cautioned the State Govts. against the grant of overdrafts but when it comes to Central deficit they take the liberty of printing notes worth thousands of crores which invariably lead to price rise resulting in untold difficulties to the people of the entire country. In other words the State Govts. will have no right to resort to overdrafts to cover their budgetary gap but the Central Govt. through loan, taxation and printing of notes will have all the liberty to bridge the gap and pass on the burden of price rise arising out of it on the people.

Yet another factor for the rise in prices is that Govt. have themselves increased the prices of essential commodities many times over the last few years through exec-

utive order During 1981-86 the price of rice in the public distribution system was raised six times. In 1981 on 1st October the price of ordinary rice was Rs. 1.75 per Kg. This was raised to Rs. 2.39 on October 1, 1986. During the same period (1981-86) the price of wheat was raised 8 times. On 1st April 1981 the price of wheat per quintal was Rs. 145. On 1st May 1987 the price of per quintal of wheat was raised to Rs. 195. During 1980-86 the price of sugar was raised 7 times. On 3rd March 1980, the price of per kg. of sugar was Rs. 2.85. On 15th December 1986 the price of sugar was raised to Rs. 4.85 per kg. During 1981-86 the price of kerosene oil was raised 10 times. On 13th June 1981 per litre of kerosene was costing Rs. 1.60 whereas on 6th February 1986, it was raised to Rs. 2.27 per liter. Moreover the rail freight rate has been going up and side by side the Govt kept on raising prices of petrol and diesel. During 1981-86 the price of petrol and diesel was raised 9 times. As result in 1981 the per litre of petrol was costing Rs. 5.54 and in 1986 it was raised to Rs. 7.60.

In this way by raising the transport cost the Govt themselves are raising the price of essential commodities. Coupled with this, there is the burden of foreign loan that the country has to bear every year. We are paying to a tune of ten thousand crores of rupees per year as interest services on foreign loans. As if it was not enough through indirect taxes, the prices of essential commodities are being raised every year.

Thus for all these factors the prices are rising. The natural calamities could be, as I said earlier is just one cause but if the Govt. had considered the plight of the people arising from price rise then they should have addressed themselves to the task of containing it but there does not appear any serious concern on the Govt. part. Moreover, the unlimited unproductive non plan expenditure has further worsened the situation. To the States, the Centre issues directive that the non-Plan expenditure should be kept to the minimum but then it comes to them they do not feel committed to abide by the advice that they give to the States. During 1986-87 the non-plan

expenditure of the Centre was Rs. 95000 crores. In other words it was 35% of the gross domestic product that was devoted to non-productive expenditure of the Central Govt. It does not lie in the mouth of the Central Government to surmonise the State to effect economy in expenditure when they themselves are indulging in such huge expenditure. Still there are other reasons also contributing to price rise and the important among them are hoarding profiteering, the parallel economy of black money. But from our experience of the last 40 years we are sure that this Govt. would never be able to touch them in any way because we have no substantial proof of Govt's. sustained effort in this direction.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to another significant aspect of the matter. It pertains to erosion of the value of rupee. The hon. Minister of State for Finance in reply to a question in Rajya Sabha has stated that the value of one rupee of 1947 has come down to 9.78 paise in 1987 i.e. less than ten paise. In other words in 1947 what we could purchase for ten paise, in 1987 we are purchasing the same thing for one rupee. Therefore, 40 years after independence the value of rupee has depreciated by 90%.

I do not know while giving this information the hon. Minister was feeling inflated in pride or he had shrunk in shame but no doubt for the entire nation it is a matter of great shame. Conceding that the value of rupee had gone down, the hon. Minister had given the following statistics to show the percentage of this decline:-

1984-85	4.8%
1985-86	8.15%
1986-87	6.96%

Thus during the 40 years the value of rupee has gone down by 90%. It is all the more significant to note that during the last three years when the present Govt is in power, the value of rupee has gone down by nearly 20%. No doubt the Govt can claim it as one of its successes.

In the foreign market also the value of rupee is going down steadily. With 1971 as

[Shri Jainal Abedin]

the base year, the value of one rupee in October 1987 was 57 paise and in November, 1987 it further slid down to 56 paise. I do not know while I say all these in the House, whether there had been a further fall of one paise in the value of our rupee in the foreign market. By way of illustration, 16 years ago we could get one rupee by selling 'X' quantity of goods in foreign market but today we are getting only 56 paise. This only confirms that the value of our goods in foreign market has gone down and this has resulted in adverse balance of trade while our things are selling cheap in foreign market its price in domestic market has been rising unhindered.

Now let us examine what the Govt has done to stop this run away inflation and stop the resultant miseries of the people. (*Interruptions*). The price in West Bengal is less than in other States. Sir, the Govt have set up a Cabinet Sub-Committee which will oversee and monitor the price rise in the country and the Govt has also taken a 5 point programme to contain price rise. But I am afraid these measures are mere cosmetic in their content and will not be able to achieve the objective. Through the 5 point programme the Govt propose to appeal to the conscience of hoarders, profiteers, the industrialists etc to cooperate to see that the prices do not rise. To me it is just as laughable a proposition as to ask a man eater to forget the taste of human blood. In these circumstances I would once again appeal to the Govt to accept our suggestion which we have been making repeatedly that the wholesale trade of essential commodities have to be nationalised and the Govt should distribute these commodities at one fixed price for the entire country through the fair price shops and reach the poor deep into the interior of the country and only through this measure we would be able to contain price rise take away the agony of the people. Along with this, determined steps should be taken to minimise the unproductive non plan expenditure. Sir, with these words, I conclude my speech.

DR.G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was very carefully listening to the views expressed by the Members of the Opposition. There is no doubt that price-rise has increased manifold and one should not be misled by the jugglery of figures. We should not dispute the quantum of increase in prices as each of us may differ on that point. They may say that wholesale price index has increased and we may say that consumer price index has increased. The increase is allround. Wholesale as well as consumer price, both have increased. What is the use of going through all these things. We all know that prices have increased very fast and they are still increasing. There are no two opinions about it and a middle-class poor person has to bear the brunt. There are several cause of the increase in prices. I wish the Finance Minister and Agriculture Minister would have also been here and we might have sit together and found some way out to curb the prices.

There is a very simple rule of economics that when demand is too much and supply is less, then price rise will prevail, nobody can stop it. In our country there has been an unprecedented drought and flood, due to which production has fallen, there is no doubt in it. Here I may also mention that the foodgrain production has fallen not only in India, but in almost all the countries of Asia. Not only India, but all the Asian countries have been affected by this drought and flood.

In Bangladesh people are starving. I do not talk about the riots that are still going on in Dhaka and other places; in Bangladesh. A few months ago there have been riots in Bangladesh for want of food. The people kidnapped and gheraoed the officials supplying ration. The condition in Bangladesh is very bad.

There is a shortage of foodgrains in China too. I have been there. There is a serious famine in Indonesia. Such a drought has never taken place for the past two hundred years. Such a furious floods are also unprecedented. I mean to say that

in entire Asian region, somewhere there is drought, at other place flood and this whole region has been ruined because of price rise. We should think that if God forbid, such a drought takes place in the next year, then what will happen?

As I have already stated that the cause of price rise is fall in production and faulty distribution. Fair Price Shops are administered by State Governments, as it should be, as there is no other way out. The bureaucracy, especially at the lower level viz B.D.O. and C.O. should see whether the poor, flood-victims and the drought victims are getting foodgrains at reasonable price which they should? I am not talking about the urban areas. Things are available there, but go to the remote villages and see what is the condition of fair price shops there because of the unfair behaviour of the officials? If people will not be able to get foodgrains at reasonable rate, then it will result in price hike. This tendency is visible not only in towns, but in villages as well.

Another dangerous tendency is developing. The F.A.O. has forecasted that there may be another drought within next 2 to 3 years. The Western Press is publishing it prominently. As a result thereof, private hoarders are hurriedly hoarding goods in undeveloped countries. If hoarding goes on at such a large scale, then the prices of goods will start sky-rocketing.

Then a strange tendency is developing not in India alone, but all over the Third World. There is stagnation. The stagnation means that on one hand the economy is stagnating while on the other hand, prices have started rising. It so happens that when prices rise, then inflation sets in. This situation provides employment opportunities and then prosperity follows. But this strange situation has developed where economy is stagnating and this phenomena has covered the entire Third World. On the other hand inflation is increasing at a very fast pace. We cannot control this price-rise in a single region. We should ensure fair distribution of essential com-

modities. There should be enough production. We have lost the Kharif crop, but we should try to increase the Rabi yield to the maximum. On the other hand we will have to adopt physical economic measures so that there is no further increase in prices. The Government resorted to physical monitoring measures and imposed certain direct taxes on people belonging to the higher class. There cannot be a better step than this. But it may be observed that black-money is ruining our society. In this country there are even such places where people are not sure whether they will be getting something to eat next day or not. Besides, on the other hand we observe so much of black-money in Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay that people change cars and buy new houses every second day. I want to mention one more fact that whenever there is an income-tax raid in posh colonies, the concerned party gets prior information of the forthcoming raid two days in advance. This way the whole exercise proves to be futile. We should make an attempt to remove the disparities existing in our society. Today the rich are getting richer and the poor are being oppressed. We must adopt physical monitoring measures. In order to reduce black-money, raids should be conducted and more taxes should be imposed on those people who produce black-money. After that the money so recovered should be used for welfare purposes. We should ensure that poor people are not oppressed. No purpose will be served by getting confused in jugglery of figures. This inflation and price-rise is a world-wide phenomena. We must prevent it. We all should co-operate to bring down the prices. This cannot be done by the efforts of a single person or the Government alone. Until there is resistance from consumers, prices will not come down. If any commodity costs Rs.5/-, then it should not be purchased until its price comes down to Rs. 1/-. In this task housewives can extend their full co-operation. If we don't buy that commodity for two months, its sale price will automatically come down to Re. 1. It is unfortunate that a consumer movement in our country is not so forceful as it should be. While conclud-

[Shri Jainal Abedni]

ing I would say that we will have to adopt physical monitoring policy, increase the number of fair price shops and strengthen consumer movement and consumer resistance. Only then prices will come down.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South) : Sir, the problem of price rise has created a difficult and unbearable situation. We also discussed about price rise during the last session while discussing about the essential commodities. The situation is now worse than what it was when we discussed during the last session. We thought that Government would take stringent action and see that they would be able to control prices at least some extent but unfortunately, it is beyond their control. They have not been able to control it. Just now, my friend said that the Food Minister, Mr. H.K.L. Bhagat should resign. He alone is not responsible for this. It is the entire Government that is responsible for this mess that has been created. It is the economic policies of the Government which are responsible for the inflation and the price rise and not poor Mr. Bhagat. He is, of course, an honest and efficient Minister. It is the policy laid down by the Finance Minister, the Prime Minister which is responsible for price rise.

Whenever a question on price rise is asked in this House—recently also a question was asked—the Government comes forward with the reply that the wholesale price index has marginally increased or has been static. Who is concerned with the wholesale price index? It has no relationship with the retail prices. We are concerned with the effect of it on the common man, and the poorest of the poor.

The reason for this inflation is Government's resorting to deficit budget. What has happened in the United States, a capitalist country? The dollar has crashed there because of the policies of the Reagan administration. He has resorted to deficit financing and billions and billions of dollars are being spent on defence. What has been the net result? The dollar has crashed

miserably. Similarly, we are facing almost the same situation in our country.

DR.G.S.RAJHANS: There it has failed because of the free economy...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : While the deficit financing was Rs. 9000 crores last year, it is expected to be Rs.6000 crores this year. We do not know where it will stop. Though the Prime Minister said that we would stick to this, but in practice, we do not know what will be the amount of deficit financing at the end of the year.

Then, there is no control on the Government spending. In the year 1986-87, the Government have spent on the non-plan items Rs.95000 crores which is 35 per cent of the gross domestic product as compared to Rs.83,498 crores or 34.5 per cent of the gross domestic product in the year 1985-86. That is one of the reasons why inflation has increased by leaps and bounds and the Government is not able to control it.

One of the reasons that is given for the price rise is drought, but that is not completely true. It is true to some extent. The price rise is because of the several wrong policies of the Government.

Another major and important reason for price rise is the increase in the administered prices of the essential commodities. Last year what happened? The Government increased the prices of petrol, rice, wheat and all important essential items like steel etc.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): The prices of steel were not increased. These were increased only in 1985 and we are not going to increase them now.

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: I advise the Government not to increase the administered prices of the essential articles whatever may be the difficulties of the Government, otherwise the situation will become worse and unbearable and there

will be chaos in the country and a possibility of civil war.

Government say that they have a buffer-stock of 23-24 million tonnes of food-grains. I was surprised to read in the morning that we are importing rice from other countries. We are not able to understand the policy of the Government. What has happened to the bufferstock of food-grains? Has the agricultural production fallen down to such an extent? We know that there is a shortfall in our production on account of drought. We also know that if there is a ten per cent loss in the agricultural production, the rural economy will incur nearly Rs. 9000 crores of loss. Only the other day, the hon. Minister told the other House about the bufferstock of food-grains. I would like the Minister to explain what has happened to your bufferstock? Has it been eaten away by rats? Has it been diverted to drought areas?

**17.00 hrs**

Please take the House into confidence and tell us the exact position. The other important thing which has resulted in the inflation is the debt servicing. The Government has not at any point of time come forward with the figures as to how much is the debt. How much do we owe to the whole world? But according to one of the reports which I have got from the Parliament Library, between 1982 and 1986 you have borrowed more than Rs. 20,000 crores. In addition to that what is the amount borrowed from the IMF. Then you have internal debts also. What is the net result of all this? You have to pay the interest. Have you ever calculated the amount which you are paying as interest for all these things? All these things add to the inflation in the country.

Just now I have explained about the surplus of foodgrains about which, of course, you are boasting that we are also exporting it. But, Sir, I would like to know what has happened to the purchasing capacity of the common man? The value of the rupee has reached to such a level that, according

to the Finance Minister's own statement, its value is only 12 paise or so. So, when the Reserve Bank Governor says: "I promise to pay Rs. 10", the actual value is equal to Rs. 1.25.

SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR: Wherefrom did you get this Rs. 10 note?

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: It is my hard earned money. It is not black money.

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): The value of the rupee is only 12.5 paise. It is your own figure.

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: These are the figures given by you. I cannot get figures from anywhere else either you should give it or I take them from the library. So, this is the position. This is the value of rupee.

Now, what about the people who live below the poverty line? Even if everybody is ensured of two square meal a day there would not be a surplus at all. You would not have created any buffer stock at all. More than 40 to 50 per cent people cannot get even a single square meal per day. That too is your own statement. So, I would like to know what are you going to do for them? Just now my friend from CPI(M) gave some details. I do not want to repeat them. I have got facts and figures to show. When I came to Delhi as MP what were the rates and what are the rates now? There is a price rise of 100 to 300 per cent for various commodities. I go to the vegetable market in Karol Bagh and Goal Market with my wife. For hundred rupee you can buy vegetables in a basket which you or even a small baby can carry without any difficulty. So, you can understand the value of rupee. As a responsible Member I do not want to politicise this issue. It is a national problem and I want the Government to solve this problem. We should put our heads together and solve this problem. So, you must take us into confidence and you must streamline the whole distribution system.

[Shri V.S. Krishna Iyer]

You should see that all the essential articles are sold in the PDS, i.e. through the Fair Price Shops. But, unfortunately what are you giving us? In Karnataka you are giving only 4 items, i.e. rice, wheat, sugar and oil, and that too not regularly and at times of poor quality. Therefore, my humble suggestion is that every poor must be supplied with the controlled articles. I am sure Government will take steps towards that end.

Why do you give subsidized rice and other things to rich people? Many rich people do not care to take these articles from the Ration depots. The ration shop owners simply fill up the forms that such and such person has purchased articles and sell the same in the black market. So, you must stop all these practices. You please see that all those who live below the poverty line should be supplied subsidized rice and other things at subsidized prices just as you are doing for the tribal people. Certain States such as Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka are doing it. We give rice at the rate of Rs. 2 per kilo. Steps should be taken to extend this scheme to every State.

I am sure that the Government would come forward with concrete proposals about what they are going to do, how they are going to control the price rise and so on. I hope a favourable, very positive and satisfactory reply from the hon. Minister. Otherwise things will continue in the same fashion. We come here, shout about the price rise and go home and people continue to suffer.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the price rise is the greatest problem in the country today. We are also in trouble due to this. After the discussion on price rise in the last session in the House and the points raised at that time, the Government have taken certain steps. The Government have released 4

lakh tonnes of foodgrains to meet the shortage owing to floods and drought and the Government has effected budgetary cut also. The Government have also opened 3,000 new distribution shops and Fair Price Shops to deal with the drought situation and started 219 mobile vans to provide essential commodities to the public. Our Prime Minister has said:

[*English*]

"Nobody in this country should be allowed to die for want of food."

[*Translation*]

It is a fact that a lot of work is being done in this direction.

[*English*]

"Since August, 1987, 32681 raids have been conducted in different States; 1487 persons have been arrested; 1554 prosecutions have been launched, and goods valued at Rs. 15.75 crores have been seized".

[*Translation*]

The Government has done it, but we want to know as to how many marketeers and hoarders have been arrested. The Central Government has furnished All India figures, but the State-wise break up of figures has not been given. Had the State-wise break up of figures been given, it would have helped us and we could have known as to how many black marketeers and hoarders have been arrested in a particular State. It is the responsibility of the Central Government to bring down the prices, but State Governments should also pay their attention to check price, rise, because Public Distribution System is under the Control of the States and the Central Government only monitors it. It has to be examined as to how the Public Distribution System is functioning in the State. We just deliver speeches, but we have also to think about those people who do not get ration or do not get food to eat.

What was the rate of mustard oil two months back and what is its price today. The rate of inflation was 11 per cent in 1984-85 and it declined to 6 per cent in 1985-86, but it has risen this year again. The price of vegetables rose by 14.66 per cent in 1979-80, 18.50 per cent in 1985-86 and by 22.2 per cent in 1986-87....(Interruptions)

The Marxists need not comment on what they have done or what they have not done.

17.09 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I want to tell the truth. Our Government have paid attention towards this aspect, but I mean to say that more attention should be paid towards this in order to solve the problems of the public. This is not the party issue. The oilseeds prices have risen manifold. The price rise was 31.77 per cent last year, but this year the prices have risen by 32.85 per cent. The price of mustard oil has gone up by 48.92 per cent. We want to speak about it. Just now Rajhansji and many other hon. Members have said that there has been less production due to drought and floods and this has been one of the reasons for price rise and it is a fact also. During the regime of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, green revolution was brought about and we have a large stock of foodgrains. It is now being reported in the press that stock of foodgrains is diminishing. I would like to ask the Government in this connection that if our stock of foodgrains is reduced, would the people not face a lot of difficulties? The Government should, therefore, clarify this point. It is absolutely proper that at time of natural calamities, the Government provides foodgrains to the people facing scarcity and it is a right step also. If a minor child falls sick in a family, arrangements have to be made for his or her treatment, even if money has to be borrowed. The Central Government is also behaving in the same way.

The Government should observe whether distribution system is functioning properly or not. It should not happen that mustard oil is sold at the rate of Rs. 25 per Kg. in one State and it is sold at the rate of Rs. 100 Kg. in another State.  
(Interruptions)

Mustard Oil is available at the rate of Rs 25 per kg. in Bihar, whereas it is not available in our State even at the rate of Rs. 100 per kg. Our Chief Minister argues that this situation has developed as Rapeseed oil has not been released by the Central Government. I want that the Central Government should clarify the situation whether Rapeseed oil has not actually been released by the Central Government or the State Government has not been able to distribute it properly. Just now hon. Member, Shri Zainal Abedin was speaking and I was expecting that he would speak about Bengal, but he did not do so. Today mustard oil issue has assumed great importance, therefore, the Government must clarify the situation in this regard. Today, the life of a person has been linked to the line in Bengal. A person in West Bengal has to stand in a queue of Mother Dairy in the morning, in the noon he has to wait for mustard oil in a queue and in the evening he waits in a queue for Kerosene oil. The unemployed can afford to stand in the queues, but even the employed persons have to stand in the queues ignoring their jobs and business. In this way life has been linked to the line. Therefore, if Rapeseed oil has not been released, it must be released at the earliest and if it has been released and if distribution is not being done properly, the State Government should be asked to ensure proper distribution. There is problem in the entire country due to drought and floods, but there is a little bit more acute problem in our State and that is why I am speaking so much. There are two grand daughters of our Chief Minister-Koyal and Doyal. Now the problem of edible oil is so acute that people are calling Koyal, Doyal and Rapeseed oil. It is not a political issue. We should, therefore, give serious thought to it.(Interruptions)With regard to the prices of Rapeseed oil, I would like to say that its



[Kumari Mamta Banerjee]

price varies from State to State. I would like to submit to the Government that if there is price rise, there should be uniform price in every State. It should not be Rs. 25 on one State, Rs.30 in another State and Rs. 100 in yet another State. Everyone should bear equal burden. There should be uniform price throughout the Country. There should be uniformity in the Distribution system also. The people cannot derive full advantage of the system if uniformity is not there. I would like to submit in this connection that provision has been made to supply many articles through Fair Price Shops, but whenever a consumer goes to a Fair Price Shop, if rice is available, oil is not available and if sugar is available, rice is not available. This should also be checked. The Government should monitor the distribution of the items which are supplied to the Fair Price Shops for distribution. The Government should ensure the distribution of these items to the consumers. The Price list prepared by the Government should be displayed on every shop. Only then people would be able to know as to what is the price of mustard oil, rapeseed oil and Baby food etc. Businessmen have the vested interests and they would work in that direction. If there is no uniform system in the country, this situation would continue. *(Interruptions)*... The Government should also pay attention towards fiscal policy and there should also be procurement. The production of the items which could not be produced in the country due to drought and floods should be increased. There should be adequate stock of foodgrains and there must be long term planning. Floods and drought generally take place in our country and therefore, we should make efforts to make full utilisation of natural resources. Flood and Drought Control Board should be set up, otherwise people would continue to face difficulties every year due to drought and floods. The Government should also see to it that the law passed by the Government for protection of consumer is implemented. The Government had assured that National Commission would be set up in every State,

but it has not been done. Attention should also be paid for the implementation of law meant for consumer protection. If consumer movement is not strengthened, the people would not be able to know as to what is the Essential Commodities Act or the law meant for consumer protection? The Government should pay maximum attention towards this. Edible oil and sugar should be released for the public in additional quantity. If it is done, people would get a lot of relief. I do not want to speak much. No political issue is involved in it. The problem of Price rise is not only our concern, it is the concern of all. Therefore, the Central Government and the State Governments would have to sit together and find a way out that the problems of the people in southern part of our country could also be solved. With these words. I conclude.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, price rise is a matter of concern for all of us irrespective of our party affiliation. During last few days the Government took some steps to control the situation. Just now Shri Krishna Iyer was telling that it has been published in the newspapers that the Government is thinking of importing rice. In order to ensure that there may not be shortage of any food article or any other essential commodity the Government should make import of rice and other useful commodities so that unscrupulous elements may not take undue advantage of the situation. Broadly speaking I am not in favour of import. But under the prevailing circumstances, the Government should not hesitate in the resorting to import, because it will have indirect effect on prices. The prices of edible oils have been increased during the last few days. It was due to the reason that the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies announced that there will be no import of edible oils under any circumstances. The manufacturers of Vegetable oils took undue advantage of this situation and raised the prices of edible oils. Later the Ministry realised their mistake, but by that time the prices had gone so high that even though the prices were reduced later to some extent, the people had to bear

the burden of rising prices. The hon. Minister should see that only the required quantity of commodities is released to States every month. If availability of any commodity is released beyond its requirement, it will indirectly contribute towards price rise. If we release the full stock of any items whether it is of wheat, rice, sugar or cloth, the profiteers will take undue advantage of this situation and raise the prices. It is difficult to reduce the price of a commodity once it is increased. Now the situation is that prices of commodities of daily use of a common man have increased manifold. The prices of certain commodities have gone up by more than 60 per cent. it is a matter of concern for every one. The hon. Minister of Food and Civil supplies should take effective steps in this regard urgently so that action could be taken against those people who raise the prices by taking advantage of the situation. The Government has since taken some steps in this regard. It raised the stock limit and also released goods in excess and conducted raids at some places. The effects of raids are short-lived. The profiteers again start raising prices as soon as the effects of raids are over. The price rise is a continuous process in farflung areas where raids are not conducted.

The hon. Minister should look into these things. A legislation was passed in this House during the last session wherein it was proposed to set up a Consumer Protection Committee and bring some amendments. But the benefits likely to be accrued from the proposed committees for which hon. Members belonging to both the sides offered full co-operation and the work expected from the committees, and the amendments could not be achieved to the desired extent. The Ministry should make efforts to remove these shortcomings. The State Governments should also extend their full co-operation in it so that the committees could discharge their duties more efficiently. They are required to work more efficiently under the prevailing circumstances. In this connection I would like to suggest that the Government should take a decision to distribute other items of daily

use also through Fair Price Shops in the same way as it decided to make distribution of edible oil. The items of daily use may consist of cheap cloth and soaps etc. Essential Commodities should be distributed through fair price shops. Until and unless a decision to this effect is taken by the Government, these commodities will remain beyond the reach of a common man. Rich and affluent people are no way affected by price rise. Only those people who have limited income, whether they are M.Ps or Ministers find it difficult to purchase articles of their daily use. The prices of vegetables, milk, bread have already gone up. They go on increasing after every 15-20 days or a month. Every item costs 40 to 50 paise per Kg more after a month. It has become a common feature these days. If a consumer tries to say something about this situation, the shopkeepers ridicule him. The Government will have to take stringent action to control this situation. It is true that institutions like NAFED supply items of daily use to the people through their mobile vans in big cities like Delhi etc. but the poor localities of Delhi itself and other rural areas and small places of the country do not get any such relief. They have no other way, but to purchase the items at higher rates. Earlier people used to get atleast vegetables in the rural areas, but this time the drought situation has deprived them of even vegetables. The Government should pay attention towards this aspect so that items of daily use could be supplied to the people of rural areas through Fair Price Shops of foodgrains etc. The NAFED and other such agencies should make an effort to make onion, garlic, potato and other such items of daily use available to people in rural areas.

Besides, public distribution system has been discussed in this House several times. During the last few days the Government undertook a drive and opened Fair Price Shops in some states to supply foodgrains etc. Though shops were opened, the quality of items like wheat, rice and other things being distributed through these shops is very poor. A few days back I had visited my

[Shri Harish Rawat]

constituency. The people of the area showed me the samples of items being distributed through these shops. Actually the standard of cereals was very low and the same was unfit for human consumption. Perhaps century old rotten stock of rice was being distributed to the people through these shops. This creates a sort of artificial scarcity among people. There are certain people who take undue advantage of such a situation and actively participate in creating such a phenomena. It becomes a tendency with the common men who try to accumulate more and more stock in his house. There is a need to keep watch on this artificial scarcity. Therefore, all the agencies viz. the F.C.I., the NAFED, etc. dealing with supply of consumer goods should keep a watch and make quality goods available to the people. There are also complaints that some of the State Governments do not lift the quota allotted to them. I do not refer to West Bengal or any other State in particular, but it is certain that there are some State Governments who do not lift their quota in time. I therefore request the hon. Minister through you, Sir, that he should make it incumbent upon the States that they should lift their quota in time so that situation of artificial scarcity is not created in any State. It is necessary to ensure that the State Governments lift their quota of wheat, sugar etc. It is only when we make concerted efforts in this direction that we shall be able to control the price rise, otherwise it would be imaginary to expect reduction in prices. The prices can definitely be controlled with the concerted efforts and cooperation of all of us. Then only we will be successful in creating a healthy atmosphere in our country. No individual or party should try to make a political gain out of this situation. Because this is not the time of making a political gain, rather it should be our combined efforts to derive ways and means to provide relief to the common man.

\*SHRI SODE RAMAIAH (Bhadrachalam): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, every one of

us know very well that essential commodities like rice, edible oil, kerosene and wheat etc. are being distributed through fair price shops throughout the country. But because of certain drawbacks in the public distribution system, the essential items are not reaching the common man. People especially the poor and the down trodden are being subjected to many hardships due to the non availability of essential commodities in time.

Sir, the people living in our rural and tribal areas are generally very ignorant. Since they do not have sufficient knowledge of what is going on around, they are being exploited by unscrupulous elements. Quality foodgrains and edible oil are not being supplied to them. Above all, the weights and measures used are not standard weights and measures. Hence they get lesser quantities through the outlets of public distribution. As though this is not sufficient, the policies of Food and Civil Supplies Department of the Govt of Andhra Pradesh are contributing to the limitless sufferings of the people. The condition that only the head of the family in whose name the ration card is issued should personally go to the fair price shop to receive the ration is just one example to show how the people are subjected to hardships in the State. Such an impracticable condition is useful to no one.

Similarly, Tribal Development Corporation is purchasing products like Tamarind, sikakai, honey and flowers which are used for brewery etc. at throw away prices. Not only that that *standard weights* are not being used while purchasing commodities in bulk, the same items will be sold to others by these Corporations at exorbitant prices. Thus these agencies are exploiting the poor gullible tribal people. This sort of exploitation should come to an end. The State and Central Govt should take appropriate steps to end the exploitation of tribal people. Sir, the Govt of Andhra Pradesh is at present paying only 25 paise for a bundle of 100 Tunika leaves. The minimum rate should be at least one rupee per bundle of 100 leaves.

\*The speech was originally delivered in Telugu.

Sir, the poor and middle class people depend on public distribution system for their essential commodities. Hence it is necessary to see that control rates of these commodities are within the reach of every one. The quality of these items has to be maintained. The Govt must also see that only standard weights and measures are used. The Govt should ensure that the commodities are sold only to the customers and not to the big traders. The black marketing which is now going on everywhere should come to an end. The fair price shop owners quietly pass on the commodities to the big traders and hang "No stock" boards outside. The Govt should take steps to put an end to this practice. The public distribution system should be strengthened in rural and tribal areas. It should be implemented with all honesty in these areas. I hope, the Govt would take all these steps to strengthen the public distribution system in the country.

Sir, I conclude my speech. Thanking you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Sharad Dighe.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : Please allow me to speak, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can speak on Monday. What to do? Only half an hour is left now.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : He has to go, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is all right. On every discussion I cannot allow one speaker to go on speaking. On every Bill he is speaking. Let him give chance to others also.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : I have not spoken for the last three days, Sir.

SHRI G.L. DOGRA (Udhampur) : Sir, Mr. Namgyal's name was much earlier. Why he

is being pushed back? He comes from a very backward area and a very backward State.

[Translation]

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : Two lists are prepared here. One is effective and other one is ineffective and my name is included in the ineffective one.

[English]

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the problem of price rise has been discussed for the last one and a half hours and many of the points have been brought in by the speakers on both the sides. According to me, the measures which are to be taken are not merely confined to the Food and Civil Supplies Department only, but the real remedy lies in the fiscal policies which the Government ought to follow. The seriousness of the problem has already been put before this House. During the last six months ending October 17, 1987, the Wholesale Price Index has risen by 7.1 per cent as against an increase of 5.7 per cent last year. As far as the wholesale price is concerned, again it does not reflect the increase in the Consumer Price Index. That is far more than the Wholesale Price Index. Therefore, the consumer price index has shoot up by 10.2 per cent during the twelve-month period ending September last. Again, the Consumer Price Index also is from the package of certain commodities taken together. Whereas certain commodities in that package shoot up very high suddenly, such as, the usual consumer commodities, some of the commodities, namely, manufactured goods do not shoot up like that or sometimes there is decline in their prices also. Therefore, the total Consumer Price Index which is shown, does not really reflect the agony of the common people as far as the price rise is concerned. Therefore, we must very seriously consider this problem. We should not only go by the figures which are appearing in the Press, but the real agony of the common man is still much worse as far as the prices are concerned.

[Shri Sharad Dighe]

Now what are the remedies? As I said, we should not merely look at this as a supply problem. We import goods and flood the market. We have fair price shops and have anti-hoarding measures taken. These are necessary. But really speaking fiscal policy of the Government has to be re-checked, re-examined. We have to find out what are the changes which Government ought to make in fiscal measures. Really speaking, still the drought situation has not had its full effect. After some months it will have the effect and we shall have serious problem as far as price rise is concerned. Therefore, my submission is that we should re-examine our fiscal policy and matters regarding liberal import policy. So far as deficit financing is concerned we must reduce non-plan expenditure which is also going up day by day. In the last Budget speech deficit was shown. An assurance was given that deficit will not increase and Cabinet Sub Committee will be appointed to contain non-plan expenditure. No doubt, the Committee has been appointed. But we do not know what is the real effect and whether non-plan expenditure has gone down. Again, I would also submit, it is high time for the Government that the price policy is fixed by the Government—some price policy which indicates the cost price, what should be the profit thereon of the producer and what is the percentage of profit that should be charged by the seller so that the consumer should not suffer thereby. I would urge upon the Government that they should consider for having National Price Policy. That is the only way to control this situation. It is no use merely controlling the consumers shops, giving some encouragement to the consumer's movement and taking anti-hoarding measures, etc. I say, it is necessary but really speaking fiscal policy and price policy should be determined by the Government. With these words, I conclude my speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri P. Namgyal.

[Translation]

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to submit some points on the problem of price-rise which is under discussion at present. Many of my respected colleagues have stated and it is a fact that price-rise is a world-wide phenomena and naturally our country is also affected. The economy of our country is dependent on agriculture. The decrease in agricultural production has led to considerable price-rise.

This year unfortunately due to the untimely rains and hailstorms in the 5 states of Northern India, namely Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and U.P., the area comprising of these States is called the grain-bowl of the country which means granary of our country—but the entire crop of this area has been ruined. According to the assessment of the Government barring U.P., in the rest of the 4 states of Haryana, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh, 22 million tonnes of foodgrain crops have been destroyed. In U.P. 10 per cent of the total production has been damaged. In the Eastern, Sector, due to ravaging floods large scale damage has been caused. It has affected the prices of agricultural commodities and also dairy products. The drought conditions have also led to considerable hike in prices. However, I want to congratulate the hon. Minister for having made proper provision for supplies in the Union Territories. The number of Fair Price Shops and mobile vans have also been increased. The stocks position has also been made better. It has greatly benefited the people. You are aware that whatever happens in the urban areas affect the rural areas as well. Whatever steps the hon. Minister is taking in this direction are commendable. The State Governments are responsible for implementation of the schemes and Centre cannot intervene in that. However, there are many states where acute shortage of essential commodities is being felt. In Jammu and Kashmir, that is, where-I hail from, lists showing items of everyday use and their

prices are not displayed. The shopkeepers hike the rates arbitrarily. If an item costs Rs. 10 one day, it may cost Rs. 12 then next day and this price may also increase to Rs. 15 on the third day. There is nobody to question them. The Central Government should give strict directions to every State Government to ensure that price-lists of items available in the shop are displayed by every shopkeeper. Inspections should also be held from time to time in this regard. If you do not keep vigilance, the shopkeepers will charge whatever they want. Government must pay attention to all this.

Take for example, edible oils. Edible oil is consumed by every section of society. It has become so expensive that poor people are unable to buy it. You should reduce its prices. Rapeseed or other edible oils are not available in the far flung areas, the hill areas and the tribal areas. We should ensure that these items are supplied there. Such items reach the urban areas, but not the far flung areas. You should direct every State to ensure that supplies reach the far-flung, tribal and hilly areas. Government should pay attention towards this aspect of the problem.

I want to make some points about my constituency. I come from Ladakh. You are aware that roads are blocked for 7 to 8 months there. Unfortunately roads were closed one and a half months in advance this year. Although, roads were opened to traffic sometime later, yet supplies did not reach these areas properly. The private transporters who use to charge Rs. 73 per quintal for transportation for Srinagar to Leh....

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : I would just like to be guided by the hon. Member with regard to one respect—only his help and guidance in the matter. I would like to know from him, because I have told my officials that in distant places

arrangements should be made to see that at least three months' stock remains all the time. The point is whether this will do in the case of Ladakh or not. If this is implemented, three months' stock always in addition to what is issued should remain available in Ladakh. The point is whether that will help or not.

[Translation]

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Sir, we have to maintain stock for eight months, because roads are blocked for at least six months and last year it remained closed for eight months. However the idea of hon'ble Minister is very laudable.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : How many months' stock should be there?

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : For eight months.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : It is alright.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : The roads were blocked earlier this year and subsequently the State Government....

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : I will refer to Ladakh in my reply. When roads are open, eight months' stock should be supplied there. I will look into the space etc. available for storing them and then discuss the matter with the hon'ble Member.

[Translation]

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Many thanks to you. So, I was saying that the rate was Rs. 73/- per quintal, transportation charges for one truck load was Rs. 4380/-, but when the roads were opened for the second time, the freight was increased to Rs. 12,000 or Rs. 14,000, that means the private traders increased the freight to Rs. 240 or Rs. 280 per quintal from Srinagar to Leh. We brought it to the notice of the Government too in time, but they could not do anything. Therefore, I request you to kindly make some arrangements for this area. There is Government transport, there is R.T.C. in the State, we suggested that if

[Shri P. Namgyal]

the private transporters charge more, then they should not be utilised there, but neither they could control them nor they could provide the Government transport. There our people had to do their shopping by paying more freight.

Besides there are some other remote areas too, which are cut off even from Leh and Kargil, like Janskar. No, supply has reached there. Not even a 'Chhatank' edible oil has reached there. Flour and rice etc. has reached the sub-divisional and district head quarters, but in the remote areas where the distance used be of four-five days journey, there the way has completely been blocked because of early snowfall before the usual time and the supply could not reach there. Even the harvested crops are still lying under the snow. The fodder collected there for winters too has been buried under the snow. At present the situation is this—I am not talking about all the areas—the two-three such pockets as Janskar area; Lingshet area are such areas which are cut off from district headquarters for the last one and a half month, so I request the Government that there should be arrangements for dropping essential commodities by air in such areas. Besides, cattle fodder is also not available there. Although our people keep cattle only in a limited number and do maintain a stock of fodder for them but this year they have not been able to do so. It has also been learnt that many cattle have already died.

I will request the hon. Minister to kindly take up some steps with regard to these points. Now I want to give you some suggestion so that you may be able to check the prices. My first suggestion is that Government should take a strict action against the hoarders and profiteers, and the Government should fix the rates of essential commodities. It should be mandatory to attach price tags on all the articles. There should be more and more fair-price-shops in the rural areas and there should be steady supply of goods to

reach the common man. One of my suggestions is that the farmers living near big cities should be encouraged to grow vegetables and other things. You see the prices of vegetable today, it is beyond the reach of the middle-class to purchase even vegetables. The same is the case with pulses too. The small farmers living near big cities should be helped to sink tube-wells for irrigation in order to maintain regular supply of vegetables to the cities. They should be given financial assistance also. A small farmers' co-operative vegetables society should be formed and be provided with some place in the cities so that they may sell the vegetables at reasonable rates.

In the end I want to request that we should encourage the consumer movement. This is the duty of one and all to form a committee in every 'Mohalla' for keeping a watch and protest against people charging unreasonable prices for goods, and this should be brought to the notice of the Government.

With these words I am thankful to you for giving me time to speak.

**SHRI SAIFUDDIN AHMED (Mangaldai):** Sir, I cannot blame either the Central Government or the State Government because it is the responsibility of both the Central and State Governments to maintain the price level. It is not only the responsibility of the Central Government because of its fiscal policy but also it is the duty of the State Government to see that the price rise is curbed. I submit before you that in the year 1986, there was a high price of mustard oil in West Bengal and West Bengal tried its level best to lower the price but it failed. At last the Government of West Bengal promulgated an ordinance and fixed the price of mustard oil at Rs. 22 a kg. whereas at that time, the price was at the rate of Rs. 32 to 33. Therefore, it is not only the responsibility of the Central Government but also the responsibility of the State Government to curb the price rise, if they want to protect the interests of the actual consumers.

I will place only two points, price, situation rice and mustard oil before the House. In Assam, drought and floods have affected us as they affected various parts of the country. It is expected that about 20 million tonnes of foodgrains will be lost during this year in the country. But in this connection, I beg to submit that in Assam, a major part of the crop has been damaged due to flood and the rest of the crop has been damaged by the pest. But it could not be saved by the Department of Agriculture due to lack of knowledge. This lack of knowledge is not only on the part of the Central Government but it is on the part of the State Agriculture Department. There is acute food shortage of rice in Assam. If one goes to the villages, he will see that paddy is being sold at the rate of Rs. 105/110 per maund.

Sir, this is the harvest time. In this time, paddy is sold at the rate of Rs. 105/110 per maund. Earlier in this time of the year it was sold at Rs. 50 per maund. Therefore, there is acute food shortage in Assam. If proper step is not taken in time by the Central Government then there will occur famine in Assam. Moreover, the reserve foodgrain stock of the Assam Government has already exhausted during the time of floods. Therefore, I request the Central Government to allot foodgrains from the foodgrains stock of the Central Government to the Government of Assam to save the people of Assam because there is acute shortage of food in the rural areas of Assam. We are speaking here regarding the price-rise in Delhi or Bombay or Calcutta or for that matter Guwahati. But we are not considering the price rise in the rural areas where there is sharp rise of foodgrains prices. I would like to submit about the rise in price of mustard oil in Assam. Mustard crops did not grow this year because the area in which this crop is being grown is still under water. Even now, it is not free from waters. Therefore, crops will not be grown in those areas. There would be a fall in production as far as mustard is concerned in our place. Now

mustard-oil is being sold in the villages at the rate of Rs. 37-40 per kg. Due to this price rise, about 80 per cent of the villagers have abandoned consumption of mustard-oil. Hence, I request the Government of India to allot some quantity of the edible oil to Assam so that the village people would be benefited. In this regard, I once again beg to submit that prices of mustard-oil should be fixed. It is very essential. In allotting state quota of edible oil condition should be attached for fixation of price of mustard-oil so that the villagers will be benefited. Moreover, the Consumers Protection Act, 1986 was passed but it is not being implemented upto now. This Act has not been given effect to so far. Therefore, I request the Central Government to see to it that this Act is given effect to, immediately by establishing District and State forums, establishing consumer forums so that the consumers can be benefited.

Lastly, I would again request the Central Government to take note of the prevailing conditions of the Assamese people who are living in the rural areas and make necessary arrangements so that the people of Assam cannot die out of starvation. At present, there is acute scarcity of rice in the villages of Assam. I have gone and seen in the villages. I have seen that it has risen to a very great level in Assam. Therefore, I again request the Central Government to divert at least some quantity of foodgrains to Assam to augment the stock position of the Government of Assam. This is my submission.

Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only one minute is left.....

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore): Sir, let Bhagatji reply to a clarification. Are you going to import rice? Please tell the House.

(Interruptions)



MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at Eleven of the Clock on Friday, November 27, 1987.

**18.00 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, November 27, 1987/Agrahayana 6, 1909 (Saka).*



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