

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Sixth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, March 26, 1993/Chaitra 5, 1915
(Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Export of Rice

[Translation]

*421. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have laid
down any policy for exporting 'Basmati' and
'Non-basmati' rice;

(b) if so, the broad details thereof;

(c) whether the export of 'Non-
basmati' rice has been declining;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Gov-
ernment in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CON-
SUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRI-
BUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI
KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (e). A
statement is laid on the Table of the
House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). The policy is to promote
exports in a manner that it does not com-
promise our food security. Export of basmati
rice is allowed freely subject to a minimum
export price (mep) of US 555 per MT
(FDB). In case of non-basmati rice only
superfine varieties are allowed for export
subject to a minimum export price (mep) of
US \$ 275 per MT.

Export of non-basmati rice since 1989-
90 have been as under:-

(Qty in MTs)
(Value in Rs. Crores)

Year	Quantity	Value
1989-90	26705	16.36
1990-91	313720	187.83
1991-92	525000	32.000
1992-93 (April- Feb)	2,75,743	190.47

(Source: Agricultural & processed Foods Export Development Authority)

(d) and (e). Export of non-basmati rice during the current year has been kept at a level having regard to the overall availability of foodgrains in the country.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the Government policy for exporting 'non-basmati' rice and submit that due to the lack of a clearcut policy of the Government in this regard exporters are in dilemma and the situation has worsened to such an extent that the importing countries have taken it for granted that it will not be possible to import rice from India because it is too late as a result of which our export which was to the tune of Rs. 800 crore one time is showing a downward trend. I want to ask the hon. Minister whether there has been any misunderstanding between the Ministry of Food and the Ministry of Commerce regarding the formulation of policy for exporting 'non-basmati' rice causing delay in formulating any policy. Due to this delay, it has not been possible to export rice. By when a clearcut policy is likely to be announced in this regard?

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: Sir, so far as the export is concerned, it has not declined. There has been shortage of neither 'Basmati' nor 'Non-basmati' rice so far. There is also no misunderstanding between the two Ministries. Their policy is quite clear. Its minimum export prices have been fixed and we have taken a decision to fix the quantity of export as 10 lakh tone. There is no problem at all.

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was being discussed in the House recently that there has been bumper production of paddy and the farmers are not getting even the support price. The farmers' demand is not increasing. The only reason for such a state of affairs is that there is no export policy in this regard. I want to ask, the hon. Minister whether since the support price and the quantity fixed by the Government for export of 'Non-basmati' rice is too low and unjustified, export of 'non-basmati'

rice during 1992-93 declined to half in comparison to 1991-92. It should be clarified as to when suitable action is likely to be taken in this regard.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, I can add to what my honourable colleague has already referred to. We have liberalised the policy and there is no quantitative selling. We are going to monitor the export of non-basmati rice or what we call as superfine non-basmati rice. They are being exported. The only stipulation is that the minimum export price should be US \$ 275 per MT. It would be done. We will monitor it keeping the demand of the internal market and also the demand of the external market. The hon. Member should appreciate the fact that sometimes we should not disclose the total quantum which we are going to export or import because it affects both internal price and external price. External market can have some influence on it. So, commercial judgement says that this figure should not be discussed and should not be quoted. It is of nobody's interest. Now, there is no licencing required; non-basmati rice could be exported freely with the stipulation of the minimum export support. So far as the difference between the two Ministries which the hon. Member has pointed out is concerned, there is no such difference.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Sir, it is from the export point of view and to earn foreign exchange which is very such essential to strengthen our economy, it is good that the quantity of export is on the increase from year to year, and there was a quantum jump from 1991-92 to the next year, 1992-93. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to where does the quantity of export stand compared to the demand of rice to be imported and what is the position that we have exported, compared to the demand? May I know whether we are capable of or whether we are in a position to cope up with the demand? What is the position?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: So far as the import requirement is concerned, sometimes it is being determined through the normal practice of making an assessment of the demand and supply position in the market. But, sometimes it so happens in the international trade that on the same commodity we may both export and we may import. For example, in respect of import of rice, we have imported some rice, from Vietnam, of lesser quality because they had some problem - they were to pay some money to us - they did not have the hard currency so, they wanted to pay in goods. So, it was decided that about 75,000 tonnes of rice will be imported from Vietnam. So, this is the normal practice that sometimes, on the same commodity, we trade on.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: What is the position in respect of the four years that you have mentioned in the reply?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: It is true that compared to 1991-92, the quantum of export has been less for 1992-93 because the assessment of total rice availability from our production point of view was estimated that there may be about two million tonnes less production compared to the previous year.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the statements made by these two hon. Ministers are contradictory and the written reply given here is also contradictory. The export of 'non-basmati' rice during the current year 1992-93, whose figures have been given by him, has definitely declined. But Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question was about the export of 'basmati rice' which has not been answered by the Government.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Uttar Pradesh and in other areas the Government has abolished levy on 'basmati' rice. But its export is not increasing as a result of which the price of 'basmati' rice is decreasing in market and the farmers of Uttar Pradesh are in trouble. I would like to have a clear-

cut answer from the hon. Minister as to what is the position of the export of basmati rice and what measures are being taken to enhance the export. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what action is being taken by the Government of India to compete with the world market especially Pakistan for the export of basmati rice.

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, if the hon. Member reads Part (a) to (c) of the statement, he will get the figure in respect of the position of basmati rice itself, in respect of the export for the year 1991-92. I myself have admitted that from April to February, 1992-93 export of non-basmati rice has gone down. It is 2,75,743 tonnes compared to 5,25,000 tonnes. Coming to the general policy of the export of basmati rice, it is true that Pakistan is exporting more compared to us. In fact, the world demand of basmati rice is roughly about 7 lakh tonnes; and Pakistan is exporting about 5 lakh tonnes and we are exporting about two lakh tonnes. In fact., during 1991-92, Pakistan's export was 5.58 lakh tonnes and our export was 2.35 lakh tonnes.

Here I would like to request the hon. Member to appreciate that our basmati rice is fetching a higher price. In fact, our minimum export price is \$ 555. In 1991-92, we got \$ 749 per tonne. Pakistan realised \$ 413 per tonne. Therefore, our basmati is of quality. According to experts, if you go for high-yielding variety of basmati, the quantum of production may increase but quality will go down. if the quality goes down, then the unit cost realisation would be less. So, it is in the interest of the country even to export a lesser quantity but to get better realisation as far as unit cost is concerned. That is the point. In respect of the problem which has been imposed in regard to Uttar Pradesh basmati rice Producers, we are aware of that and we are taking care of that.

[Translation]

SHRI DAUDAYAL JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Member if

is true that there has been decline in production and export of 'basmati rice'? This time a large quantity of the best quality rice produced in Kota-Bundi district in Rajasthan has been affected by disease and the farmers have been almost ruined. Since the production of Basmati is very less this year, is there any probability of fall in export of Basmati rice as is the case with 'non-basmati rice', if so, the measures likely to be taken in this regard?

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: So far as the disease part is concerned, I will surely pass on the suggestion of the honourable Member to my colleague in the Agriculture Ministry.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Minister has mentioned in his reply that export of non-basmati rice during the current year has been kept at a lower level having regard to the overall availability of foodgrains in the country. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to Bihar Sona-Chur and Sahjeera varieties of rice in Bihar are far better than 'Basmati' rice and their quality too is good. But those varieties of rice are not used in Bihar due to poverty and hence farmers of the state do not produce Sonachur and Sahjeera rice, I to know from the hon. Minister whether he proposes to export Sonachur & Sahjeera rice to encourage farmers and increase the income of farmers and the nation?

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: So far as the export of non-basmati rice is concerned, in reply to an earlier question, I have already mentioned that from 15th January, we have removed the quota system. It has been further liberalised. Naturally, the exporters would like to explore the market.

If the quality of rice which the hon.

Member was referring to, has the export potential, surely, we would like to explore that possibility.

[Translation]

Central Road Fund

+

*422. SHRI MANIKRAO HOIDLYA
GAVIT:
SHRI ANKUSHRAO
RAOSAHEB TOPE:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large amount of money is yet to be released to Maharashtra by the Union Government out of the funds sanctioned from the Central Road Fund:

(b) if so, the details thereof for each of the last two years and the current year and;

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

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). Presumably, the Hon'ble Members are referring to the funds enhanced in accordance with the revised Resolution adopted by the Parliament on 13.5.1988. Since actual augmentation of Central Road Fund is yet to take place, the funds are released to the various States including Maharashtra as per Old Resolution governing the fund. Pending actual augmentation of Central Road Fund., 42 schemes costing Rs. 1770.16 lakhs have been approved in Feb., 1992 in Maharashtra taking into account the accruals upto 31.3.1992 as per Old Resolution, the share under Central Road Fund being restricted to Rs. 1057.64 lakhs, the balance cost as well as excess, if any, being met by the State

Government from their own resources.

The funds released to Maharashtra under Central Road Fund during the last two years and the current year are as under:-

1990-91	Rs. 4.50 lakhs
1991-92	Rs. 90.00 lakhs
1992-93	Rs. 100.00 lakhs

The balance amount of Rs. 880.90 lakhs in respect of works already approved will be released to Maharashtra in a phased manner taking into account the total expenditure incurred by the State Government initially, the demands received from the State Government and provision in the budget.

In addition, a sum of Rs. 596.64 lakhs is further due to the State for approval of new schemes upto the end of March, 1995 against which proposals are awaited from the State Government.

SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been said that a decision was taken on 13.5.1988 to increase the fund by five percent of the basic price on the sale of fuel - both petrol and diesel. It was assured at that time by the Minister that with the revised rate, at least Rs. 40 crores per year will the fund for Maharashtra. That has not been executed so far.

In spite of the resolution in 1988, why has it not been executed so far not only for Maharashtra but also in the case of all the States.

Why have the funds amounting to Rs. 40 crore per year, as per the assurance, not been given to Maharashtra?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I would like to inform the hon. Member that no doubt that the Resolution was approved by both the Houses but the Finance Ministry did not agree on this. So, I had sent a proposal again to the Cabinet. The Cabinet decided

to send it to a Group of Ministers and the Group of Ministers has given their opinion and I think the manner and modalities on the augmentation of this Fund is worked out.

MR. SPEAKER: In spite of the fact that the Resolution was passed by both the Houses, was it not approved too?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: The Law Ministry gave their decision. To be honest with you, Sir, I will be the happiest person if the Resolution is implemented. But the Law Ministry has said that this Resolution is not binding. This is what the Law Ministry has said.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, this is something serious because he is belittling the importance of Parliament. The Finance Minister must be told in specific words. Sir, it is dishonour to the verdict of the Parliament. How can it go on like this? it can never be allowed like this.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to make it clear that if Resolutions are passed by both the Houses, then either you have to come back to the House and get them annulled or you have to implement the Resolutions.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I will inform the House, Sir.

SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE: My second supplementary is this. From 1988-89 upto 1992-93, the demands for grants for maintenance and repairs was Rs. 132.81 lakhs and only Rs. 71.41 lakhs was allotted.

But only Rs. 56.61 lakhs is given. So, compared with allocation of other States, the fund allocated for Maharashtra is very less and so, the representatives of Maharashtra are very unhappy with this. If the traffic in Maharashtra is taken into consideration, then you can find that the condition of national highways is very bad and we cannot maintain and keep up with the present funds. So, whatever is the balance now with the Government of India, that is, with the Ministry, will it be released

immediately. At least, to that extent, an assurance should be given and executed. Moreover, the percentage is very less because the demand is as per the previous ratio. And even that demand is not met out. When will this demand of Rs. 132.81 lakhs be met out? What is the exact balance? Is it correct that Rs. 8.80 lakhs is the balance? But so far as Maharashtra Government is concerned, the balance is about Rs. 40 to Rs. 50 crores. Why is this difference in balance and, whatever is the balance with the Government, when will it be paid exactly?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: As per the old Resolution, for 1990-91, Maharashtra has been given Rs. 4.50 lakhs and for the balance upto March, 1992, Maharashtra's total cost for 42 schemes is Rs. 1770.16 lakhs out of which the Central share is Rs. 1057.64 lakhs. We have already approved those 42 schemes and for the three balances, i.e., for 1990-95, Maharashtra Government has not sent the schemes as yet.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: I would expect from the Minister that at least, before the end of the Session, he will come with a clear-cut assurance that this scheme of 1988 will be implemented. This is my first expectation from the Minister. But I would like to know from him on one point. Only one-fifth of the amount which was due, according to the old scheme, has been allotted to Maharashtra Government.

In addition to that, Rs. 596.64 crore is further due, upto 1995. I would like to know from the Minister what he is going to do about the 4/5th of the amount to be paid and at the same time, this additional amount.. I would like to have a clear cut assurance on both these point.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: For your first point, hon. Speaker has already given... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KAPSE: You come to us before the end of the Session.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Would you

let me answer this question? I said that the hon. Speaker has already given his ruling and this will be conveyed to the concerned Department of the Government.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: Not only conveyed...

MR. SPEAKER: No. Please let me be very specific and clear. If a Resolution is passed by both the Houses, it becomes binding on the Executive. If you have any difficulty in implementing that Resolution, you can come back to the House and explain and get a different ruling. But sitting there in the Executive Committee's room or on the advise that it is not binding, it cannot be kept in abeyance.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: It is all right. Now coming back to the second point...

SHRI RAM KAPSE: It is not all right. You have to come.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Okay. There is no bigger authority than the Lok Sabha....

MR. SPEAKER: They may be having their difficulty. Either they will explain to you or implement the Resolution.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I will convey this to the Cabinet and they will take a decision viz. if the Resolution has to be taken back or see that the ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not meant to embarrass. It is intended to perform certain work.

[English]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Now, I will come back to the most important point. The second part of your question talks about the balance amount of Rs. 880.80 lakh in respect of work which has already been approved. This will be released to the Maharashtra Government as soon as the work is completed. But there is an additional

Rs. 596.64 lakh - not crore- which is further due viz. the schemes which are still to come from the Maharashtra Government.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you. I have come to know that the Nagpur Ring Road Scheme has been referred to the Central Government in connection with the non-payment of the contribution towards the central Road Fund. Crores of rupees are likely to be spent by the State Government and certain other corporations for the construction of this road. I want to ask the hon. Minister of Finance whether the funds likely to be allocated for the Nagpur Ring Road Scheme will be provided? This scheme has been referred to the Government and the Maharashtra Government is ready to pay its contribution. Therefore, funds should be made available for this purpose. Several accidents take place every year in Nagpur and two or three persons die every week because the traffic passes through the city. Therefore, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he will like to sanction the ring road scheme on priority basis or not?

[*English*]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, this scheme is under consideration. If it is not taken up, then it will be brought. I would request also the Maharashtra Government to see that the funds worth Rs. 596.64 lakh are to be included in that.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have rightly pointed out that this Resolution has been passed by both the Houses. Therefore, it must be implemented because the holier than the attitude cannot be applied here. I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Finance as to what were the grounds on the basis of which he refused to release the funds?

MR. SPEAKER: There may be shortage of funds.

[*English*]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, a Group of Ministers had sat and they discussed the whole project. One of the things that was considered by the Cabinet was about the Resolution viz. the cess equal 5 per cent of the basic price of petrol from the existing Customs and Excise Duties for Central Road Fund and bringing diesel also in the category of fuel. They thought that prices would go up. So, it was not feasible. But the Cabinet never took a negative decision. They said that the money has to be given. That is why the Group of Ministers sat and they decided that if the Government cannot give 5 per cent cess on the diesel production, then they should think of another way where the money should be given. That is all.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Let me express my deep gratitude to you for your intervention and ruling.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure, the Government is of the same view. There is no difference of opinion between us and the Government.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: It is a demand of Maharashtra. It satisfies the long-standing demand of the people of Maharashtra.

MR. SPEAKER: We should not interpret these things in a wrong manner.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Basically, when we talk of road infrastructure, we understand that priority must be given to the rural areas, specially hilly and backward areas. But there is a certain defect in the procedure. 42 schemes were approved by the Centre for Rs. 1770 lakhs. But what happens by the time they are approved? All the estimates are overshot making most of the schemes untenable resulting in many of the schemes in hilly and backward areas not being taken up for execution. For example, there is a scheme in my constituency Darista which has not been taken up for execution.

What action is the Central Government taking to ensure that the schemes which are forwarded to the central Government are executed and monitored? And what action is being taken to ensure priority for hilly and backward areas in this country, as far as the central road fund is concerned?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: The central road fund is given to the State Governments to implement the full project and even to monitor it. We give the amount of petrol which is sold. We collect money and give it to the State Government; the State Government sends a project for approval to us and we approve it. So, it is for the State Government to decide which project is to be sent to us.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: I first thank you because in this House two successive Prime Ministers assured that they would see to it. But you have taken the position to implement the decision of the Parliament. Therefore, I express my gratitude to you.

Here, they have said in Maharashtra 42 schemes were sanctioned from 31-3-1992 and the total amount on these schemes was Rs. 1770.16 lakh. Whenever this approval is given, whether the actual money that will be released to the State is taken into consideration. If that is not being taken into consideration or if it is not released on time, the loss due to cost enhancement is undergone by the State. How to meet it?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: The amount of money is always released on time. And what happens sometimes is when the schemes are more than the money which is

due to them, the State Governments look after that amount.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: That is no doubt. But the State Governments are running out of fund. The money does not reach them on time with the result that in many cases many of the schemes could not be implemented. The cost enhancement is there. Who will be responsible for it?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: he has mentioned 42 schemes and the total cost of all those schemes is Rs. 1770.16 lakh. The Centre's share is Rs. 1057.64 lakh. The rest of the money, which is over and above the one which is the Centre's share, the State Government looks after that. ♪

IDBI Loan to Textile Mills

*423. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loan given by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) to the textile mills under the Textile Modernisation Fund Scheme (TMFS) during the last three years; and

(b) the number of textile mills which have been given the loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Details of assistance sanctioned and disbursed by IDBI under the Textile Modernisation Fund Scheme (TMFS) during the last three years are given below:

(Rs. Crores)

	Assistance Sanctioned		Assistance Disbursed
	No. of Units	Amount	Amount
1989-90 (July-March)	50	320	174
1990-91 (April-March)	73	273	141
1991-92 (April-March)	80	45	119

(b). Since the inception of the Scheme in August 1986 upto end July, 1991. 357 units were sanctioned assistance under TMFS.

[Translation]

SHRI MAATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that since I had given notice of the question in Hindi, reply should have also been given in Hindi.... (Interruptions) Though the Hindi version is also there in the answer but it has not been read. In the reply to my question, it has been stated that IDBI started its scheme of modernisation of textile mills and given loans to them in 1986, I would like to know about the number of such mills in our country specially in Gujarat which have been closed and due to which lakhs of labourers have been rendered jobless. Financial assistance was sanctioned for 357 units, out of which how many closed textile mills have resumed production after getting this assistance and how many workers, who were rendered jobless, have got back their jobs.

DR. ABRAR AHMED: This plan had been introduced in 1986. The hon. member has asked about the details of the scheme, I would like to inform her that one hundred and four units have been registered under BIFR, out of these forty units have been provided financial assistance by this agency, then units have not been provided any financial assistance but IDBI has been appointed its circulating agency. 22 units are being revamped and notices of closure have been issued to ten units and 8 units have been asked to return the amount. Cases have been filed against 16 units and remaining are with the BIFR.

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Through you., Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister that details of the last 3 years have been given in the reply. It states that an amount of forty five crore was sanctioned in 1991-92. I would like to know about the reasons for sanctioning such a meager amount. Is it so that those units failed to repay these loans. These loans had been

sanctioned to some units for purchasing machinery, to some units for land. One of the reasons as I have understood is that the owners of the units sold the land after getting loans. I would like to know from the Minister the reasons for sanctioning less amount in the year 1991-1992?

DR. ABRAR AHMED: Regarding the information sought by the hon. member I would like to tell her that this scheme was started in August 1986 and it was withdrawn in the July, 1991. A total amount of Rs. 750 crores was allocated for providing assistance under this scheme. Total 357 units had been provided a total amount of Rs. 1367 crores as assistance. Two types of loans were given under this scheme. First was for modernisation and the other was special loan. Though the hon. Member has not sought information regarding the rate of interest for special loan which was sanctioned for modernisation purposes but I would like to inform her that the rate of interest was 15%, regarding the specific year mentioned by the hon. member and she has asked about the reasons for giving less amount I would like to say that, as I have already told her that this scheme was withdrawn in July, 1991 but the amount of special loan upto that time was Rs. 32 crore whereas the target fixed for that was Rs. 100 crore. Hence, that amount is still being disbursed as assistance.

If the hon. member wants to know the year-wise detail, I have got those data with me that how much amount we have sanctioned and how much have been disbursed. If the hon. Speaker permit me I can read it here otherwise I will send it to the hon. member.

[English]

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, considering the fact that the textile industry has fallen on bad days resulting into large scale unemployment in the country, I would like to know why even the sanctioned amount is not disbursed to the textile units for modernisation. For example, as I see from the figures given in the reply, in 1989-90.,

Rs. 320 crores of assistance was sanctioned and assistance disbursed was only Rs. 174 crores. Similarly, in 1990-91, Rs. 273 crores was sanctioned and disbursed amount was only Rs. 141 crores. I would like to know whether there is any special reason why even the sanctioned amounts were not disbursed to these textile units.

[*Translation*]

DR. ABRAR AHMED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. member has asked a very valid information. The amount sanctioned is disbursed in instalments. Instalments are given in proportion to the targets achieved by the concerned units and the some cases the targets are not achieved and in many places formalities are not completed and in some cases, the required documents are not completed. Due to these reasons the full sanctioned amounts could not be fully disbursed but it is still being disbursed.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether the amount is given for modernisation scheme and if after the closure of the Mill, Assistance is given to the Mill then it cannot function in that normal form in which it was working earlier. Many such problems are there in my constituency, therefore, I would like to know whether it is a fact that even after being sanctioned the amounts are not being disbursed till the Mills are on the verge of closure. In Madhya-Pradesh three such Mills are Sajjan Mill Hira Mill and Rajkumar Mill of Indore. Amounts have been sanctioned for these Mills and approximately eleven crore rupees had been sanctioned for Rajkumar Mill of Indore but till today this amount has not reached the Mill.

MR. SPEAKER: This question has already been answered.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if even after sanctioning the amount it does not reach the Mills then it becomes useless because the machinery

of the Mill gets rusted. Therefore, through you, I would like to know when is Government going to implement these schemes for the three Mills of Madhya Pradesh? Has any chart has been prepared in this regard.

DR. ABRAR AHMED: MR. Speaker, Sir, it was a special scheme and under this scheme the amount is sanctioned and being disbursed. Hon. Member has made three special references. I would definitely look into the matter and see that why these three mills could not get the assistance. If hon. member wants to give any other information in this context she is welcome to do so.

SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: As the hon. Minister has stated that loans have been given to the textile mills, so I would like to know how many employees got employment in the textile mills in Ahmedabad in Gujarat state and now when this scheme has been withdrawn whether all the mills in the country including Gujrat have been modernised.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: The question is disallowed.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If you have a question, please come out quickly.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: There is a large scale sickness in textile industry. So far I understand that the modernisation of schemes prepared by the Industrial Development Bank of India is mainly for the textile mills under private sector. But, there are 144 textile mills under National Textile Corporation, and out of 144 textile mills of National Textile Corporation, there are about 44 chronically sick mills.

These 144 textile mills under NTC were taken over and were subsequently nationalised and there is need for their modernisation. May I know from the hon. Minister whether there is any scheme pre-

pared by IDBI for the modernisation of Forty-two chronically sick textile mills under National Textiles Corporation of India.

[Translation]

DR. ABRAR AHMED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has given the data about the present situation. I have already stated that scheme was withdrawn in July, 1991 and the amount which was to be disbursed is still being disbursed. No new mill will be covered under this scheme.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The hon. Minister has not given complete answer to the question. I have just asked whether the NTC mills are covered under this scheme or not?

DR. ABRAR AHMED: There is no separate scheme for NTC.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Are they covered by this scheme?

[Translation]

DR. ABRAR AHMED: Not under this scheme.

SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THROAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, food, cloth and housing are the three basic necessities of human beings. The textile policy of the Government is not proper. Finance is given to the mills in this country whether it is for modernisation or as project finance but its rate of interest is very high. I would like to know whether Government is formulating any policy under which the rates of interests on advances by IDBI or Financial Institutions will be reduced? If not, when it will be done?

DR. ABRAR AHMED: At present no such proposal is under consideration.

[English]

SHRI MATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Sir, I want to know from the Minister that among

these amounts how much loan was given to West Bengal units, both jute and textile; such use they made of those funds, and in the nationalised sector, whether the Government is thinking to give some assistance to the textile and jute mills of West Bengal.

[Translation]

DR. ABRAR AHMED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member has clearly asked about the assistance given to two states. I don't have state-wise details. We will let you know about the assistance given by the states, later on.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 424.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Sir, the Minister has just now given answer with regard to Madhya Pradesh. Then why not with regard to West Bengal also?

MR. SPEAKER: Now question No. 424.

Exploitation of Beedi Workers

[Translation]

* 424. SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government are aware of the news-item that appeared in Jansatta dated 25th February, 1993 under the caption "Beedi Majdooron ka shoshan aur utpaad shulk ki bhi chori";

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to solve the problems of the beedi workers?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIN-

ISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

No evasion of excise duty of any significance order under Jaipur Collectorate of Central Excise has been noticed by Government. From April, 1990 until February 1993, 21 cases of evasion of excise duty involving an amount of Rs. 7.15 lakhs have been detected under the Jaipur Collectorate of Central Excise and cases have been booked against the defaulting beedi manufactures.

As regards other matters referred to in the news item in Jansatta: No complaint has been received regarding non—supply of threads, rejection of beedis etc. from any Union or industrial beedi workers. There is no provision in the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 to give permanent status to beedi workers who have worked continuously for 3 months. During 1992-93, 9 inspections were carried out under beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act and only 7 establishments were found not complying with certain provisions of the Act. Six establishments subsequently complied with the directives issued by the State Government. Against the remaining one establishment, cases have been filed in the Court under the provisions of the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 and minimum Wages Act, 1948. Three cases are also pending investigation with the Assistant Labour Commissioner, Tonk.

There is no favouritism in the matter of award of scholarship to the school and college going children of beedi workers.

The State Government have reported that all the applications for housing facilities received from beedi workers were forwarded to the State Housing Board, Jaipur. No application has been received from the beedi workers of Rajasthan, including Tonk, un-

der the Build Your Own House Scheme of the Labour Welfare Fund.

The working conditions of the beedi workers are governed by the provisions of the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966. The State Governments have been addressed from time to time for strict implementation of the Act.

A number of Welfare Schemes under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund have been formulated to provide housing, medical, education and recreational facilities to the beedi workers and their families. Recently, a group Insurance Scheme has been introduced with effect from 1st April, 1992 for beedi workers who hold identity cards and who do not subscribe to the Employees Provident Funds Scheme. Under the Group Insurance Scheme beedi workers are insured for Rs. 3,000/- in the case of natural death and Rs. 6,000/- in the case of accidental death.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you go through the news item that appeared in 'Jansatta' dated the 25th February, you will find that it covers issues concerning supply of less quantity and substandard leaves and other material viz. thread etc. required for beedi workers; non-confirmation of workers and non-implementation of welfare schemes for the workers. I read the question and then I will ask my supplementary on the basis of that question. (Interruptions) I have also been the Minister of this department.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You know much more than him.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: During my tenure as the Minister of this department I had enacted a law and issued an order stating that the labourers had been deprived of their rights in the name of substan-

standard beedis and they got nothing. I ordered that the beedis which have been rejected saying that they do not conform to the quality should be returned to the labourers and they would not ask for wages for the same. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what happened to that order and what measures have been taken to check the exploitation of beedi labourers, supply of less quantity and substandard leaves and other materials viz. thread etc. to beedi workers. The rates of wages are displayed on a plate at the gates of the beedi factories. I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to what happened to these two things.

[English]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Sir, the hon. Member, having already been a labour Minister, knows so much about the subject. On going through the records I find that when he was the Minister he took very very keen interest for the welfare of the unorganised labour including beedi workers. In fact, the hon. Member, convened a tripartite committee meeting on the 3rd July, 1990 and on the basis of the deliberations in that particular meeting, he had addressed a letter to all the Labour Ministers of the respective State Governments on the 6th August, 1990. In that letter the hon. Member, as the Labour Minister, had specifically suggested that the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Condition of Employment) Act, 1966 - under which the respective State Governments frame rules - should be amended so that the quantity of beedi leaves rejected saying that they do not conform to the quality, should be returned to the beedi makers. That was the specific suggestion made by Shri Paswan when he was the Minister. Unfortunately there has been no response from the State Governments so far. I assure the House that I will take up the matter and try to collect the latest information in this regard and lay it on the table of the House.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in part (b) of the question I

have asked that the quality of leaf, quantity of tobacco and rate of wages should be displayed on the board. If the hon. Minister answers this part then I shall ask a supplementary question.

[English]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Sir, I have already stated that we have no response from the State Governments.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, H. Hanumanthappa had submitted report of the National Commission on Rural Labour on 31st July, 1992. Chapter 5 of the report contains detailed suggestions to curb exploitation of beedi workers. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government has studied that report? If so, what are the salient features of the report and what action has been taken by Government thereon?

[English]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Sir, the national Commission on Rural Labour has made a number of recommendations covering all sectors of working class in different areas of agriculture, construction workers, bonded labour, beedi workers, child labour etc. There are portions where action has to be taken by the State Governments; there are areas where the Central Government has to take action. So far whatever actions have been taken by the Central Government have been placed on the table of the House. The Report has been placed on the table of the House along with the action taken by the Government. I must mention that whatever action has been taken so far is not adequate. The major recommendations of the national Commission on Rural Labour are yet to be implemented. For example, important recommendations like a Central legislation for the agricultural labour, National Commission for Bonded Labour and others had not been implemented. We are examining all the recommendations. I hope that we will be in a position to implement most

of the recommendations of to the National Commission on Rural labour. It is a question of time. In fact, today in the afternoon, we are discussing a Bill on the agricultural labour and I should be coming out with quite a bit of information on what action has been taken on this Commissions' report. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: A good question and a good answer.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Whether any survey has been conducted or not (*Interruptions*). According to the report no survey has been conducted.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You can have a discussion later on.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, fortunately I am concerned with the beedi industry about which Shri Ram Vilas Paswan has raised an issue. Therefore, kindly listen to my point of view also. (*Interruptions*) Excuse me, the issue is very important. This industry is the most employment oriented industry of India after agriculture and textile sector. About 50 lakh workers are engaged in beedi industry and predominantly they are women. People are engaged in this work in rural areas where there is no other industry or means of employment. Several points have been raised about this industry. Exploitation would certainly be there in such a big industry. I would not like to argue but I would submit that there are separate policies for different sectors i.e. small scale sector, Khadi and villages industry and cottage industry. But this beedi industry has not been covered under any industrial policy. No facilities including loan facility etc. have been provided to this industry by the union Govt. or the State Governments.

Further, the wage policy for beedi

labourers may be one of the reasons for their exploitation. Different wage policies are being implemented in different states. Sangma ji know it because earlier also he had been the Minister of Labour. Representatives of this industry have asked the Union Government to formulate a central wage policy for it. Exploitation would be checked by formulating a control wage policy and disparity in the wages would also be removed. (*Interruptions*) Kindly listen, I am raising an important issue. We have to find out its solution. All of us want the welfare of the labourers. The question is that we have to find out a better solution. Unless there is a central wage policy for beedi workers and this industry gets recognition under any of the industrial policies and assistance is given to the employers, who employ thousands of workers in this industry by providing loan at low rate of interest from bank, the Government cannot work for the welfare of the workers of this industry and for development of this industry. Therefore, my question is whether the Union Government has any proposal to formulate a central wage policy for beedi industry and whether the Union Government has any proposal to recognise this industry under small scale industry or cottage industry or nor?

[*English*]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Sir, Mr. Patel represents the manufacturers and he is also equally knowledgeable about the beedi industry as Mr. Paswan is, though they represent different interests. Mr. Paswan represents the workers' interests and Mr. Patel represents the manufactures' interests.

Sir, the number of beedi workers - I beg to differ with the hon. Member - cannot be compared with the agricultural labour because ... (*Interruptions*)... the number of agricultural labourers in this country is 110 million whereas the number of beedi workers is 4 to 5 millions, so, there is a vast difference, but that does not mean that we should neglect beedi workers. I should say, if we compare what we have done for

agricultural labourers with what we have done for the beedi workers, in spite of the fact that their number is lower, we have done much more for the beedi workers than for the agricultural workers.

Coming to the main question whether there will be a uniform wage policy for beedi workers, Sir, it is true that the minimum wage is fixed according to the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act. Now it ranges from Rs. 17 to Rs. 31. In most of the States the minimum wage is Rs. 17 per thousand beedies, like in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, and Bihar. But in Gujarat the minimum wage is Rs. 31 per thousand beedies.

The question of having a uniform minimum wage not only for beedi industry, but the entire unorganised labour is under discussion, but the State Governments are not agreeing to that. In 1986, when we talked of national minimum wage, there was a thinking to first try with a regional minimum wage, by dividing the country into four or five regions. I myself took a meeting of the Labour Ministers, regionwise, but there has been no unanimity even among the State Governments in the respective regions. Therefore, we may talk about the national uniform wage, but practically it is not going to be easy because the State Governments have different views on that.

[Translation]

SHRI CHOTEY SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are no separate Industries as such, for beedi making. The owners make the beedi workers work in their premises. These owners do not deposit crores of rupees of contributory provident fund deducted from the wages of beedi workers, with the Provident Fund Commission. (Interruptions) You are owner of beedi industry.... (Interruptions) Lakhs of rupees are also deducted from the wages of beedi workers in the name of welfare. Will the hon. Minister tell whether both vital amounts are deposited with the concerned agencies in time? Has the Government appointed any such official from time to time who can make an inquiry whether that amount is deposited

with the concerned agency timely or not?

[English]

MR SPEAKER: It is a good question ,

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: It is a good question, but difficult to answer.

MR. SPEAKER : On this point, I once again would like to say if the provident fund is collected from the workers and is not deposited , then that is not correct.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA; Sir, There are two parts in this question . The first is the question of depositing the amount. The hon. Member is emphasising that a number of beedi workers have not yet been under the scheme.

[Translation]

SHRI CHOTEY SINGH YADAV: Sir, crores of rupees are collected from workers in the form of contributory Provident Fund and the owner has to deposit equivalent amount. But neither share of labourers is being deposited nor the factory owners deposit their share. Similarly crores of rupees are deducted from wages of labourers in the name of welfare . The number of beedi workers is very high in Gursahaganj town, wherefrom I hail to.

MR. SPEAKER: If you want reply of your question from the Minister , Please , sitdown.

[English]

SHRI P.A.SANGMA: Sir, there are at the moment 44 lakh beedi workers in the country out of which only 11 lakh workers have been covered under the Provident Fund Scheme. So, a large number of beedi workers are firstly yet to be covered under the Provident Fund Scheme. As has been rightly pointed out by the hon. Member , there are very few factories which produce beedi in this country . It is a home industry and beedi is manufactured in the respective homes of the people on a contract basis. So

the real manufacturer is not known to the beedi rollers. A contractor comes to them and gives tendu leaves, threads and tobacco.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, the main thrust of his question was the provident fund is collected and it is not deposited. What are going to do for that ?

SHRI P.A.SANGMA: So far, we have no case, subject to correction. But, I do not have any case before me so far, where provident fund has been collected and not deposited, as far as the beedi industry is concerned. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Here I challenge the hon. Minister. I have documents with me. *(Interruptions)*

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us be fair to the hon. Minister.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I think this is a good question. Let us be fair to the hon. Minister. Let him collect the information and if you want, ask for half-an-hour discussion. I will allow. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI V DHANANJAYA KUMAR: What is the role of a contractor ? You have not defined the role of the contractor. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: I must clarify the position. May I inform the hon. Members not to think that I am less concerned about it than any other hon. Member here? *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Don't try to say who are the persons responsible and who are not the persons responsible. The hon. Minister is saying that he will look into it and do everything necessary. You give notice for half-an-hour discussion. I will allow it.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

National Highways in M.P.

*425 SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be please to state:

(a) the details of the Projects submitted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for the development of National Highways in the State during the year 1992-93 and the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of the Projects approved by the Union Government; and

(c) the amount provided therefor, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TUYTLE): (a) and (b). Thirty three projects for development of National Highways in Madhya Pradesh have been submitted by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh upto 22.03.1993 during the year 1992-93 which is the first year of the 8th Five Year Plan. Out of these, seven project consisting of three packages of Jabalpur Bypass, two bridge works one feasibility study and one reconstruction of culvert aggregating to Rs. 1274.01 lakhs have been approved

(c) A provision of Rs. 30.00 lakhs for three packages of habalour Bypass and a provision of Rs. 5.56 lakhs collectively for the remaining four minor works exists in the Demands for Grants 1992-93. *[English]*

Export of Oil Cake and Allied Products

426* DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANBDEYA:
DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be please to state:

(a) the quantity of oil cake and allied

products exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years;

(b) whether any efforts have been made to have an assured market for exporting a larger quantity of oil cake per annum;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether such a large scale export has not been possible for want of loading facilities at ports;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to provide loading facilities at ports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHIR PRANAB MUKERJEE): (a) The relevant export statistics are given in the state-

ment

(b) and (c). The export of de-oiled cakes has increased during the last three years, in volume as well as in value. With steps taken by the Government to promote exports in general and the agricultural exports in particular, and the efforts made by the trade and the industry in improving quality of their products and creating an awareness about positive aspects of their productions in the international market, there is reason to expect to retain not only the existing markets for oil cakes but also to find new ones in future.

(d) to (f). No, Sir, the exports have in fact trebled from 11 lakh MT in 1987 - 88 to nearly 33 lakh MT in the current year. Government has initiated necessary action to further improve and upgrade the facilities at the ports

STATEMENT

Exports of Deoiled Cakes etc, during last 3 Years

Quantity in '000 tonnes)

(Value is FOB value in Rs. Crore)

Items	1990-91		1991-92		1992-93 (Provisional)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>Deoiled Cakes/Extractions</i>						
i) Soyabean	1352.6	473.88	1361.3	569.13	1400.00	800.00
ii) Groundnut	139.6	34.75	206.8	64.68	330.00	115.50
iii) Cottonseed	17.00	3.60	1.9	0.65	11.00	4.00
iv) Rice Bran	455.7	53.49	519.9	77.19	525.00	100.00
v) Rapeseed	531.1	71.57	702.1	96.89	650.00	95.00
vi) Sunflowerseed	92.3	14.21	185.9	31.48	250.00	50.00
vii) Salsseed	43.4	4.78	34.8	6.93	50.00	10.00
viii) Other allied products	24.8	5.14	35.1	10.06	30.00	15.00
Total	2656.5	661.42	3047.8	957.01	3246.00	1189.50

Financial Assistance to Cochin Shipyard

*427. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be please to state:

(a) whether any proposal from Cochin Shipyard for financial assistance is pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYILER) (a) No proposal from Cochin Shipyard Limited regarding financial assistance as such is pending with the Union Government

(b) and (c). Do not arise

Exports Dues with USSR

*428. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be please to state:

(a) whether huge amounts are due from erstwhile USSR for exports made from India by private and Government agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the payment of these old dues were discussed with the high-powered Russian delegation which recently visited India;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKERJEE): (a) and (b). While exact figures are yet to be ascertained, it is a fact that substantial amounts are due to the Indian exporters from importers in the erstwhile USSR and in Russia

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). It was mutually agreed that the payments to Indian exporters who had actually shipped goods to Russia till 31.12.1992 but have not received payment either under the technical credits granted to the erstwhile Soviet Union or to Russia in 1992, may be made out of the repayments by India of the State credit granted by the erstwhile Soviet Union.

Export Promotion Capital Goods

*429. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be please to state:

(a) whether the Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPOG) are facing difficulties due to reduction in import duties on project imports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government so as to facilitate export obligations?

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

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

[*Translation*]

Wages to the Mine Workers

*430. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be please to state:

(a) whether there is any disparity in the wages being paid to the male and females mine workers, particularly in Iron and Mangnese mines;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to remove this disparity and to ensure equal wages to male and female workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (d). There is no disparity in the minimum wages fixed under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 for male and female workers in Iron Ore and Manganese mines. An Occupational Wage Survey was conducted on Iron Ore and Manganese Mines during the period 1986-87. According to the findings of the Survey, there was no disparity in the wage rates of male and female workers in these two types of mines. In order to prevent discrimination on grounds of sex, in matters of recruitment and remuneration, etc. the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 has been enacted. The Government have also notified the enforcement agencies who are required to make regular inspections and prosecute the offenders in case provisions of the Act are found to have been violated.

Central Assistance of States

*431. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI
ASHRAF FATMI:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether the Government have released less amount of Central assistance against the fund allocated to each State;

(b) if so, the details of the amount allocated and released during 1992-93, State-wise;

(c) whether some State Government have requested the Government for release of more funds to overcome the financial crisis faced by them; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Central assistance is released to States

for financing their Annual Plans by way of

(i) normal Central assistance,

(ii) additional Central assistance for externally aided projects, and

(iii) special Central assistance for hill/ border area development programmes

Normal Central assistance is allocated on the basis of a formula approved by the National Development Council and released on a monthly basis. In case of a shortfall in expenditure on earmarked/Minimum Needs Programme schemes of a shortfall in the total plan expenditure, a proportionate cut is made in the normal Central assistance allocated to States.

Additional Central assistance for externally aided projects is released to States on the basis of expenditure incurred by the States, claims filed and reimbursements received from the external agencies on the projects. Similarly, special Central assistance for hill/border area development programme is also released on the basis of expenditure incurred by the States on the programmes covered.

Amounts of Central assistance allocated and released, so far, to the States during 1992-93 are shown in the statement appended hereto. As the financial year 1992-93 is not over, some State Governments have yet to furnish statements of expenditure on their annual plans. There is, therefore, shortfall in released shown in the statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Management of their finance is essentially the responsibility of State Governments. However, Government of India have been helping State to overcome their temporary ways and means difficulties by releasing in advance States' entitlements as also by giving ways and means advances.

STATEMENT

(Rs. crores)

Sl.No.	States	Allocated	Released (as on 24.3.1993)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	873.00	1095.73
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	247.60	246.43
3.	Assam	800.40	732.98
4.	Bihar	909.26	698.05
5.	Goa	53.61	51.36
6.	Gujarat	439.87	530.50
7.	Haryana	208.45	167.09
8.	Himachal Pradesh	355.43	312.80
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	740.50	723.47
10.	Karnataka	620.32	551.45
11.	Kerala	465.16	375.11
12.	Madhya Pradesh	612.22	548.59
13.	Maharashtra	736.01	668.29

Sl.No.	States	Released (as on 24.3.1993)		
		1	2	3
				4
14.	Manipur		193.54	183.28
15.	Meghalaya		172.82	157.54
16.	Mizoram		161.49	159.49
17.	Nagaland		163.88	163.08
18.	Orissa		696.75	428.20
19.	Punjab		799.52	767.40
20.	Rajasthan		567.53	479.72
21.	Sikkim		98.41	98.39
22.	Tamil Nadu		915.27	792.75
23.	Tripura		231.01	191.53
24.	Uttar Pradesh		2448.49	1927.30
25.	West Bengal		794.22	512.00
	Total		14309.76	12562.53

Note: In addition 10% of the allocation of normal Central assistance has been allocated for Special Category States subject to fiscal performance in 1992-93 as recommended by the Rangarajan Committee) The quantum for each State will be worked out on receipt of particulars from all the Special Category States.

[English]

432. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:
DR. D. VENKATESHWARA
RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether the World bank has in its recent two reports outlined new polices for its landing;

(b) if so, the broad details thereof

(c) the sectors which will be given preference by the World Bank for giving financial assistance to the Indian projects; and

(d) the likely impact of these new polices on the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTROF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARA AHMED): (a) to (d). Two reports have been submitted to its Board of Directors by the World bank recently; these are (i) the Report of the Task Force on Portfolio Mangement and (ii) the Report of Deputies on the replenishment of resources of the International Development Association. In these reports, the management of the World Bank has,

while making suggestions for improving the efficiency of its lending procedures, proposed to continue its emphases for lending operations in the areas of poverty alleviation, social sectors and environment. These trends are in con formality with India's development strategies.

Exports to South Asian Countries

*433. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be please to state:

(a) whether India's exports to the South-Asian Countries have gone up during each of the last two years;

(b) if so, the names of countries as well as the volume of exports to each of them; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to further increase the export to these countries?

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

(b) India's exports to Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka have shown an increase in the last two years. The details are give below:

(Value in Rs. Crores)

Country	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
Bangladesh	458.04	547.44	809.44
Nepal	83.32	86.62	196.55
Sri Lanks	97.38	234.90	429.08

(c) Exports have been accorded a high priority in the economic reforms initiated by the Government. A number of incentives, including the full convertibility of the rupee on the trade account rationalisation of tariffs on capital goods and industrial raw material and greater allocation of export credit, have

been given for encouraging exports. The guidelines for Indian investment in overseas joint ventures have also been liberalised. Interaction between our business community and the bunsiness community of pur treading partners is also being encouraged.

Production of Coffee

*434. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be please to state:

(a) the target fixed and achievements made so far in the production of coffee during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the production of coffee both in the traditional and non traditional areas during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the additional hectares of land

brought under coffee plantation in Orissa so far;

(d) the target fixed for the production of coffee in Orissa during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(e) the steps taken to increase coffee plantation in that State?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKERJEE): (a) The targets fixed and achievements made for production of coffee during the last three years are as follows:-

(Qty. in tonnes)
Year- July to June

Year	Target	Achievement
1990-91	1,63,500	1,70,000
1991-92	1,72,500	1,78,000
1992-93	1,85,500	1,61,5000 (As in mid-March, 1993)

(b) Yes, Sir. Increase in production of coffee is sought to be achieved by improvement in productivity. Only a nominal increase of about 10,000 hectares in the traditional areas viz. Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu and 5,000 hectares in non-traditional area including Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and North-Eastern States has been envisaged. No specific production target has been fixed for non-traditional areas.

(c) The position of area under coffee in Orissa during the last three years is as under-

1989-90	-	1365 hectares
1990-91	-	1372 hectares
1991-92	-	1436 hectares

(d) No specific target has been fixed for production of coffee in Orissa State, which is a non-traditional area.

(e) The Coffee Board has established one coffee demonstration farm in Koraput to demonstrate the scientific method of coffee cultivation through technical guidance and advisory support in Orissa State. Improved disease resistant seed materials are being supplied based on their indent to growers in the coffee growing areas. Most of the Coffee plantations in Orissa belong to Soil Conservation Department who are availing of the technical support from the Coffee Board

Cultivation of Vanilla

*435. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be please to state:

(a) whether vanilla cultivation is being encouraged by the Spices Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the average yield expected per year

from this cultivation;

(d) the total production of vanilla during each of the last three years, year-wise:

(e) the support price of vanilla fixed by the Government;

(f) whether any research is also going on for the development of vanilla cultivation;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the steps being taken to set up new research centres on the country?

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

(b) The Board is implementing a pilot scheme for introducing Vanilla in selected localities in Ernakulam and Kozhikode districts (in Kerala State), Nilgiris district (Tamil Nadu) and in South Kanara district (Karnataka State) since 1990/. The target is to cover 75 hectors over a period of 5 years from 1990-91. Planting material is distributed at 50% cost of selected farmers. Besides 50% cost of cultivation is also subsidised by the Board

(c) The expected average yield is 300 Kgs of processed beans per hectare from the 5th year of planting, when the yield stabilises.

(d) There is no significant production as such. Production is expected after 1994 only.

(e) As there is no commercial production of vanilla, no support price is envisaged at present.

(f) to (h). The research Wing of the Spices Board has initiated studies on agro techniques, pests and disease management, plantation and processing of the beans.

Export of Non-Traditional Items

*436. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be please to state:

(a) the volume and Value in terms of rupee and U.S. dollar of exports of non-traditional items during each of the last two years: and

(b) the new programmes and strategies being contemplated in the context of rising protectionism and growing competition from other developing countries to sustain the increase?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Value of non-traditional items of exports for the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 (April-November) are as follows:

	Rs. Crores	US Million
1990-91	23015	12827
1991-92	30589	12408
1992-93	23725	8322

2. Government have launched a Programme of structural reforms in the country encompassing trade, industry, fiscal and monetary sectors which, inter alia, aims at integrating India with the international economy in a multilateral trading system. The Export-Import Policy, is aimed at promoting productivity, modernisation and competitiveness of Indian industry and thereby to enhance its export capabilities in a de-regulated frame-work for foreign trade.

National Highways in Uttar Pradesh

*437. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be please to state:

(a) the details of the projects submitted by the Government of Uttar Pradesh for improving and developing the National Highways in the State during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of the projects cleared by the Union Government; and

(c) the details of the funds earmarked therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Upto 20.3.1993 of the current financial year which is the first year of Eighth Five Year Plan 15 projects each costing more than 50.00 lakhs were received from the Government of U.P. for improvement and development of National Highways. Out of these, five projects (three for roads and two for bridges) have been approved.

(c) an allotment of Rs. 50.25 crores has been made for National Highway (Original) works during 1992-93 including the on going works.

[English]

Settlement Between IBA and Trade Unions

*438 SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether the meetings of 4th Bipartite settlement between Indian Bankers' Association (IBA) and Trade Unions was over by the end of September, 1992;

(b) the outcome of this Bipartite settlement;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up a new Wage Revision (fifth Bipartite Settlement) during the current year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). Presumably, the Hon'ble Member has in mind the 5th Bipartite settlement had expired on 30.6.1987

(c) and (d). In the Banking Industry, wages, i.e. salary structure etc. of the employees are settled by way of Bipartite Settlements signed by the Indian Banks Association (on behalf of the bank managements)

and representatives of the employees unions. Consequent upon the expiry of the 5th Bipartite Settlement on 31.10.1992, the Indian Banks' Association has received Charters of Demands from various unions for the 6th Bipartite Settlement. Three rounds of discussions have already taken place between IBA and representatives of the employees' unions on 6th Bipartite Settlement.

[Translation]

Employees of RRBs

*439. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received the report of working Group in regard to the employees of Regional Rural Banks;

(b) whether the Government have taken any decision in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by the Government to implement it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). Government had issued instructions on 22.2.91 to all the Regional Rural banks (RRBs) in pursuance of the acceptance of the Award of the National Industrial Tribunal (NIT) and the recommendations of the Equation Committee granting sponsor bank pay scales and other benefits to the RRB employees. Consequent upon the implementation of the Award and recommendations of the Equation Committee, certain changes were to be brought about in Service Regulations, Recruitment and promotion Policy for the RRBs employees. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development had accordingly constituted a Working Group in September, 1991 with the following terms of reference:

(i) to frame Service Regulations for all categories of RRBs;

(ii) to frame Recruitment and Promotion policies in FRBs; and

(iii) any other matter relating to the implementation the Award of the Tribunal read with the Equation Committee Report.

The Working Group have submitted their report and the recommendations made have been generally accepted. NABARD is taking necessary action to issue instruction for implementations of the recommendations.

[English]

National Highway No.22

*440. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be please to state:

(a) whether Rampur-Indo Tibet border portion of National Highway No.22 in Himachal Pradesh has been damaged by the recent rains;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to get this portion of National Highway grid repaired and make it traffic worthy; and

(c) the funds sanctioned/released by the Union Government for the purpose?

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

(b) Necessary steps have been taken by the State Govt. in repairing the damaged portion and the road is likely to be made traffic worthy by April, 1993.

(c) An amount of Rs. 51.60 lakhs has been sanctioned for the repairs of the stretch in question

[Translation]

Schemes to Improve ITIs in U.P.

4212. SHRI RAM SAGAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be please to state.

(a) whether the Government propose to launch any scheme in Uttar Pradesh with the World Bank assistance to improve the present position of the Industrial Training Institutes and the Technical Education in the state;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount allocated under such Scheme to the State during the last three years?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

The Schemes are already under operation

(b) The scheme under vocational Training Project and Technician Education Projects are being implemented with World Bank assistance to improve and upgrade the Industrial Training Institutes and the Polytechnics in the State. The Vocational Training Project which become operational in 1989 covers 28 States/UTs and includes Uttar Pradesh also. Eleven Schemes are proposed to be implemented under the project. These could help to modernise and expand the training facilities. The States are being given grants for implementation of the project on the pattern of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 50 funding.

The Technician Education Project covers 16 States and 2 Union Territories including Uttar Pradesh. The project aims for modernising and upgrading Technical (Polytechnic) Education. The amount of World Bank assistance to each State will depend upon the actual expenditure incurred on approved project activities and reimbursement claimed by the State.

(c) Under Vocational Training Project, against a total estimated cost of Rs. 48.93 crores for Uttar Pradesh, a sum of Rs.5.63 crores, Rs. 7.45 crores and Rs.9 15 crores, was allocated as central matching Share during the financial years 1990-91, 1991-92 & 1992-93, respectively.

Under the Technician Education Project against the total estimated project cost of Rs. 200 crores, Uttar Pradesh had allocated Rs. 20.13 crores, Rs. 38.91 crores and Rs. 58.18 crores in its budget for the Financial years 1990-91, 1992-92 and 1992-93, respectively.

[English]

Unemployment due to Economic Reforms

4213. SHRI ARVIND TUSLSHIRAM KAMBLE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be please to refer to the answer given to November 27, 1992 to Unstarred Question No. 485 regarding unemployment among labourers and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). An assurance was given in the Lok Sabha on November 27, 1992 in reply to the Unstarred Question No. 785 regarding "unemployment among labourers". It was stated that "information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House

Information on the said question has already been collected and furnished to the House. The same is reproduced in the statement attached

STATEMENT

Information furnished to the House in reply to the Question No. 785 regarding "unemployment among Labourers is reproduced below:-

The 'Mid-Year Review of the Indian Economy (1992-93)' prepared by the National Council of Applied Economic Research has referred to the estimates in paper titled

"The Employment Effects of Stabilisation and Related Policy Changes in India "1992-93 to 1993-94" presented at the Workshop on "Social Dimensions of Structural Adjustments" organised by the International Labour Organisation in Delhi on December 10-11, 1991, wherein it has been observed that "under favorable conditions the Stabilisation programme would result in about 4 million additional unemployed persons each year during the next couple of years." According to the Eighth Plan document the ongoing structural reforms may slow down employment during the initial one or two years of the Plan.

Employment is the thrust areas of the 8th Five Year Plan. The Plan emphasises the need for high rate of economic growth combined with faster growth of sectors, sub-sectors and areas which have relatively high employment potential for enhancing the pace of employment generation. Geographically crop-wise diversified agricultural development, wasteland development and forestry, development of rural non-farm sector and rural infrastructure, faster growth of small and decentralised manufacturing and expansion of housing are the basic elements of the employment-oriented growth strategy envisaged in the plan

The Government has established the National Renewal Fund with the objectives of providing assistance for retraining and redeployment of workers as a result of modernisation, industrial restructuring and for providing funds for employment generation schemes both in the organised and unorganised sectors in order to provide a social safety net for labour needs arising from the consequences of industrial restructuring.

Bidi Workers

4214. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be please to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 702 on February 26, 1993 and state:

(a) the percentage of Bidi workers in each State, who are subscribers to the

Provident Fund Scheme, as on 13-3-1992;

(b) the reasons for the wide disparity in the level of subscription from State to State; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to ensure higher level of subscription, if the scheme is compulsory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) A statement is annexed

(b) and (c). There is no disparity in the rate of subscription to the Employees' Provident Fund from state to state. The rate of subscription for Beedi Industry is uniformly fixed at 8.33% of the wage.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of State/Union Territory	Percentage of Bidi workers who are subscribers of the EPF (As on 31-03-1992)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	47.94
2.	Bihar	0.72
3.	Gujarat	0.21
4.	Karnataka	74.14
5.	Kerala	84.58
6.	Madhya Pradesh	11.64
7.	Maharashtra	47.45
8.	Orissa	3.22
9.	Rajasthan	2.83
10.	Tamilnadu	43.55
11.	Uttar Pradesh	0.39
12.	West Bengal	8.25
13.	Assam & Tripura (Taken together)	5.04

[Translation]

Bypass at Loni in Ghaziabad

4215. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be please to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have

received any proposal from the Uttar Pradesh Government for construction of a bypass (road) at Loni in Ghaziabad district of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

English]

Maize as a Gift From USA

4216 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether U.S.A. has offered some quantity of maize as a gift to India;

(b) if so, the broad features of this offer;

(c) whether the Government have agreed to accept this gift

(d) if so, the quantity to be received therefrom; and

(e) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER
OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIA-
MENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):
(a) No, Sir

(b) to (e). Do not arise

Release Price of Coffee

4217. SHRI PABRASRAM
BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of COM-
MERCE be please to state:

(a) whether the Government have an-
nounced recently the revised minimum re-
lease price of coffee for 1993; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The revised prices are:

For Arabica- Rs. 28.93/Kg.

For Robusta-Rs. 23.48/Kg.

[Translation]

Setting up of Bank Branches in Bihar

4218. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will
the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) the target fixed for Bihar under the
branch extension programme of the
nationalised banks during the Seventh Five
Year Plan;

(b) the number of licences issued dur-
ing this period by the Reserve Bank of India
for setting up new branches of the Regional
Rural Banks; and the details thereof, dis-
trict-wise; and

(c) the per capita investment made by
the commercial banks in Bihar by the end of
Seventh Five Year Plan vis-a-vis the na-
tional average investment during the above
period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER
OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIA-
MENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):
(a) and (b). No specific target for opening
bank branches are fixed by Reserve Bank of
India (RBI). However, during 1985-90 branch
licensing policy co-terminus with Seventh
Five Year Plan, 652 licences were issued to
Commercial Banks for opening branches in
Bihar. Out of these licences, 127 licences
were issued for opening of branches of
Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). District-wise
number of licences issued to RRBs in Bihar
is given at the attached statement

(c) The per capita amount invested by
the end of Seventh Five Year Plan by Com-
mercial Banks in Bihar was Rs. 202/- as
compared to the national average of Rs.
249/-

STATEMENT

District-wise Number of Licences Issued to Regional Rural Banks for Opening Branches in Bihar during the year 1985- 90

<i>Districts</i>	<i>Number of Licences issued</i>
Arurangabad	-
Bagusarai	17
Bhagaipur	14
Bhojpur	2
Darbhange	-
Deoghar	-
Dhanbad	-
Dumka	1
Gaya	9
Jehanabad	2
Giridih	17
Godda	2
Gopaiganj	1
Cumla	4
Hazartbagh	17
Katihar	-
Khagaria	2
Lohardga	1
Madhepura	-
Madhubani	-
Monghyb	2
Muzaffarpur	-

<i>Districts</i>	<i>Number of Licences issued</i>
Nalanda	2
Nawada	2
Palamau	3
Paschim Champaran	-
Patna	16
Purba Champaran	1
Purnia	-
Ranchi	1
Rohtas	5
Saharse	-
Sahebganj	-
Samstipur	1
Saran	2
Singhbhum	3
Sitamarhi	-
Siwan	-
Vaishali	-
Total	127

[English]

“Currency Notes”

4219. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) the total amount of defective, soiled and unserviceable currency notes of various denominations now awaiting destruction in each bank;

(b) the names of the banks and the expenditure required to replace such cur-

rency notes; and

(c) the steps taken for adequate supply of coins of various denominations in various parts of the country to avoid such an expenditure?

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

(a) The Reserve Bank of India have informed that a total of 296 million pieces of defective, soiled and unserviceable currency notes of various denominations are awaiting destruction as in December, 92

(b) These notes are held by RBI at its branches at Ahmadabad, Bangalore, Byculla, Bhubaneswar, Bombay, Chandigarh, Calcutta, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kanpur, Lucknow, Madras, New Delhi, Nagpur, Patna and Thiruvananthapuram. The estimated expenditure to replace these notes will be Rs. 8.93 crores at 1991-92 prices

(c) Government has already taken a decision to coin new notes in the denomination of Rs.1/-, Rs. 2/- and Rs.5/- in a phased manner to be completed by 1997/1998.

Production of Tea In TCI Managed Gardens

4220. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be please to state:

(a) the reasons of gradual declination of production of tea in the Tea Trading Corporation of India managed tea gardens:

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to improve the present position:

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Reasons for decline in production of tea in the gardens managed by Tea Trading Corporation of India are old aged bushes, lack of modern manufacturing equipments. lack of experienced personal; etc.

(b) to (d). With a view to reverse the declining trend of production, rejuvenation, pruning, replacement of bushes as well as installing of certain machines have been carried out. Personnel for garden management have also been recruited

Balance of Payments Position

4221. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether there was a wide fluctuation in balance of payments position in each month during 1992-93;

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

(c) the reasons for such fluctuations; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to correct the imbalance in this regard?

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

(a) No Sir. The overall balance of payments position is reflected in the foreign currency assets held with RBI and this has not shown wide fluctuations each month during 1992-93. The variation from the average of month end levels during April 1992 to February 1993 has remained less than 15 percent.

(b) The level of Month end foreign currency assets held with RBI during the period from April 1992 to February 1993 are as follows:-

<i>Month end</i>		<i>Rs. crores</i>	<i>\$ million</i>
April	1992	14227	5476
May	1992	14163	5458
June	1992	16125	6221
July	1992	16717	6445
August	1992	16357	6309
September	1992	14937	5777
October	1992	14120	5466
November	1992	12586	4852
Decemebr	1992	14297	5461
January	1993	13688	5237
February	1993	13743	5245

(c) The level of foreign currency assests at a given time being the net result of a large number of current account and capital account transaction, it is not feasible to specifically determine the reasons for fluctuations in the same.

(d) Does not arise

Vacancy of Chairman in Financial Institutions

4222. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of FINACNE be please to state:

(a) whether some financial institutions are functioning without any Chairman;

(b) if so, the number of such financial institutions; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to fill up the vacancies?

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

(a) and (b). There is no vacancy at the level of Chairman in the financial institutions, namely, Industrial Development Bank of India, Industrial Finacne Corporation of India, Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India, Life Insurance Corporation of India, General Insurance Corporation and Unit Trust of India

(c) Does not arise

[*Translation*]

Impact of Securities Scam on Equity Market

4223. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether the interests of India have been affected adversely in international bonds and equity market because of securities scam in the country;

(b) if so, upto what extent; and

(c) The steps being taken by the Gov-

ernment to develop the confidence of foreign investors in the country's capital market?

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

(a) to (c). The foreign investment climate is determined by a large number of factors relating to the state of the domestic economy perceptions of the policy framework and direction of policy, the state of the world economy and the political atmosphere in the country. Government's determined efforts at investigating the scandal and determination in taking to task the elements involved in the stock market scandal together with continued efforts at reform of the stock market have instilled confidence in the minds of foreign investors

[English]

Construction of Bridge Across Gauthami River

4224. SR! DHARMABHI KSHAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be please to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a bridge on Gauthami river between Yanma and Yedurulanka;

(b) if so, the length of the bridge and estimated cost thereof; and

(c) by what time it is likely to be constructed?

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

(b) and (c). Do not arise

Riss in Poverty

4225. DR. VASANT PAWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether the World Bank on the

basis of the National Sample Survey Data, has cautioned the Government about rise in poverty in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(a) to (c). The Government has not received any document from the World bank cautioning India about a rise in poverty on the basis of the National Sample survey data. High priority is given to poverty alleviation programmes in the country's developmental strategy.

[Translation]

Urban Cooperative Banks in Bihar

4226. SHRI LATIT ORAON: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) the names of the banks which applied for opening branches of Urban Cooperative Banks in Bihar under Licensing Scheme (1991-94); and

(b) the details of the banks which have been allocated the branches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that out of three Urban Cooperative Banks functioning in Bihar, only Bihar Awami Cooperative Bank Ltd. has applied for allotment of a centre during the Branch Expansion Programme 1991-94. No allocation has been made to the bank for opening its branch as the bank has not achieved the availability norms prescribed for normal functioning of on Urban Cooperative Banks.

Deposits in Banks in Bihar

4227. SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise amount deposited with the nationalised banks functioning in Bihar during the years 1991-92 and 1992-93 so far and the extent of the amount of loans sanctioned by these banks;

(b) whether the amount distributed as loans was in accordance with the targets fixed in this regard;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for making improvement and for increasing the amount of loan?

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

(a) The total amount of outstanding deposits and credits of nationalised banks in Bihar as on the last Friday of March 1992 and September 1992 (latest available) were as under:

(Rs. in crores)

<i>As on</i>	<i>Deposits</i>	<i>Credit</i>
March 1992	5001	2072
September 1992 (latest available)	6005	2132

(b) No State-wise target are fixed by banks for loan disbursements or maintenance of any prescribed credit-deposit ratio. However, a credit-deposit ratio of 60% in rural and semi-urban areas has to be achieved for the bank as a whole on All India basis.

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

(d) The credit deployment in a particular

area depends on various factors like economic activities, entrepreneurship, availability of raw materials and other infrastructural facilities, investment opportunities and also law and order situation in that area. However, the banks have been advised by Reserve Bank of India to ensure that wide regional disparities amongst various States in credit deployment is reduced and steps are taken to increase the flow of credit to all productive and identified viable proposals in different areas.

Bank Branches in Uttar Pradesh during Seventh Plan

4228. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for Uttar Pradesh under the programme of expansion of branches of nationalised banks during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the number of licences issued by the Reserve Banks of India (RBI) to open branches of regional Rural Banks during this period; and

(c) the per capita investment made by the commercial banks in Uttar Pradesh by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan as compared to the national average investment in this regard?

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

(a) and (b). No specific target for opening bank branches are fixed by Reserve Bank of India (RBI). However, during 1985-90 branch licensing policy, co-terminus with Seventh Five Year Plan, 1, 110 licences were issued to Commercial Banks for opening branches in Uttar Pradesh. In addition, 302 licences were allotted to Regional Rural Banks for opening bank branches in Uttar Pradesh during the above period.

(c) The per capita amount invested by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan by Com-

mercial Banks in Uttar Pradesh was Rs. 207/- as compared to the national average of Rs. 249/-

[English]

Development of NHs. In W.B.

4229. SHRI ATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes approved by the Union Government for the development of the National Highways and Bridges in West Bengal during the year 1992-93; and

(b) the funds released therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Eleven number of National Highway works have been approved at a cost of Rs. 99.54 lakhs during 1992-93 so far

(b) An amount of Rs. 22.00 crores has been released during 1992-93 for the ongoing works including works approved during the current year.

Advance by Vaysya Bank

4230. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount advanced by the Vaysya bank during the last three years; and

(b) the share of such advance to priority sector out of the total advances?

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

(a) and (b). According to Vysya Bank Ltd., the total amount advanced by them during the last 3 years and the share of advances to the priority sector out of the same were as under:

(Rs. in Crores)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Advances</i>	<i>Priority Sector Advances</i>	<i>Percentage of Col. (3) to Col. (2)</i>
1990	459.26	185.09	40.30
1991	542.35	220.88	40.72
1992	660.50	264.02	39.97

News International Coffee PACT

4231. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a number of coffee producing countries of the world are considering to form a new international coffee pact in immediate near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the impact likely to be on export of coffee from the country?

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

(b) and (c). ICO had constituted in April, 1992 a negotiating group open to all members of International Coffee Organisation to prepare the draft of a new agreement. Producer and Consumer members of ICO have met several times during the last one year under the auspices of the ICO to negotiate

and finalise a new International Coffee Pact. India which is a producer member of the ICO, has been participating in the meetings and discussions. Several new concepts like selective adjustment of quotas, modified system of controls etc., may have to form part of the new agreement if and when finally concluded. No final consensus has emerged on the terms of the new agreement. Hence it is premature to hazard the impact on Coffee exports from India.

Over bridges in Kerala

4232. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals sent by the Government of Kerala for construction of overbridges in the State; and

(b) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). No proposal for construction of overbridges in Kerala has been received from the State Government of Kerala, during the current year.

Employees Provident Fund Scheme in Goa

4233. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees contributing towards the Employees Provident fund Scheme in Goa as on March 31, 1992 and their total annual contribution;

(b) the manner in which the amount so collected is utilised for productive purposes with optimum returns to the members; and

(c) the details of the structural changes/reforms envisaged under the scheme to make it more beneficial to the employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) As on 31.3.1992, there were 37,497 EPF subscribers in Goa. The amount of contribution received during 1991-92 was Rs. 12.70 crores

(b) and (c). The contributions received in respect of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme are at present invested in Government securities and Special Deposit Account of the Central Govt. Recently it has been decided to make investment in the Banks also so as to allow interest to the subscribers on the basis of their monthly running balance w.e.f. 1.4.1993.

Charges on Export Cargos

4234. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received some requests to end discriminatory charges on export cargos;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Representations have been received from the Northern India Shippers Association and the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts in respect of discriminatory charges on export cargoes on inland movement by rail and ocean freight..

(c) There is no discrimination in respect of either prail freight or port charges for export and import containers. As far as ocean freight is concerned, the Government has no say the matter. The ocean freight is fixed by the Shipping lines on the basis of various considerations like distance, cargo mix, volume of cargo, turn round of vessels, port charges etc. It is therefore, not possible to have uniformity in rates from various Indian Ports to Overseas destinations.

Disbursement by SIDBI in Gujarat

4235. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: the amount sanctioned and actually disbursed by the Small Scale Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for the development of various small and medium scale industries in the Jamnagar and Rajkot districts of Gujarat during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): The assistance sanctioned and disbursed by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) under its refinance scheme to units in Tny and SSI sector located in Jamnagar and Rajkot Districts of Gujarat during the year 1990-91 and 1991-92 is given thereunder:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	Jamnagar		Rajkot	
	Sanctioned	Disbursed	Sanctioned	Disbursed
1990-91	291.25	220.93	1466.46	954.46
1991-92	209.68	185.88	2029.68	1173.2

[Translation]

Drip Scheme

4236. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Rajasthan for inclusion of Kota district in NABARD's Drip Scheme; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). In terms of the announcement made in the Budget Speech of the Finance Minister for the year 1993-94, NABARD are required to take up pilot projects for intensive development of rural industries (Drip) in five selected districts. NABARD have reported that they are in the process of identification of the five selected districts for the purpose.

ESI Scheme

4237. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the employees which are to be covered under ESI Scheme during 1993, sector-wise;

(b) the employees likely to be covered under this Scheme during the next three years; and

(c) the amount likely to be sanctioned by the Government for the purpose for 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) A statement showing area-wise proposed coverage of the ESI Scheme during the 1993 is annexed.

(b) During 1992-93 and 1993-94, 2.92 lakhs additional employees are likely to be covered under the ESI Scheme. The ESI Corporation does not prepare a programme for implementation of the scheme in new

areas for three years at a time.

(c) The ESI Scheme is financed by the

contribution from the employers and the employees. The Central Government does not contribute any amount to the ESI Scheme.

STATEMENT

<i>Name of the Areas/Sectors</i>	<i>No. of employees proposed to be covered.</i>
1. Ibrahimpatnam, Andhra Pradesh	3100
2. Palasa/Kasibugga, Andhra Pradesh	1350
3. Bhimavaram/Undi, Andhra Pradesh.	1050
4. Madhupur, Bihar	2650
5. Tetulmari, Bihar	1550
6. Barauni, Bihar	3900
7. Sattari, Goa	1150
8. Koyali, Gujarat	7000
9. Ankleshwar, Gujarat	14500
10. Atul (Pranara)Gujarat	5500
11. Gandhidam, Gujarat	5700
12. Idar, Gujarat	3050
13. Sidhpur, Gujarat	2250
14. Valsal, Gujarat	8650
15. Chhatral, Gujarat	5000
16. Roz-Ka-Meo (Industrial area of Sohna), Haryana.	1200
17. Babal (Rewari), Haryana	1400
18. Centre Bangalore Suburbs	
(i) Attibele (ii) Doddajala, Karnataka Hunsamaranhalli and Sonnappanhalli etc.	1700
19. Bhadravathi, Karnataka	4300
20. Karkala, Karnataka	1100

<i>Name of the Areas/Sectors</i>	<i>No. of employees proposed to be covered.</i>
21. Karwar (i) Binaga (ii) Majali, Karnataka	2000
22. Vyasankere, Karnataka	1000
23. Bhillai, Madhya Pradesh	8000
24. Urla (Industrial Area Raipur). Madhya Pradesh	2900
25. Jukehi, Madhya Pradesh	1200
26. Makanpur, Madhya Pradesh	2000
27. Maiher, Madhya Pradesh	1400
28. Achalpur, Maharashtra	1900
29. Kanhan Maharashtra	2350
30. Akola (MIDC), Maharashtra	4800
31. Palghar, Maharashtra	8900
32. Tarapur includes Boisar, Maharashtra	7900
33. Bhusawal, Maharashtra	2300
34. Gokul Shirgaon, Maharashtra	1300
35. Angul, Orissa	5000
36. Suratgarh, Rajasthan	1000
37. Sikar, Rajasthan	1040
38. Sirohi Road, Rajasthan	1050
39. Gummidipundi, Tamil Nadu	2600
40. Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu	1700
41. Illampillai, Tamil Nadu	2000
42. Thimaranjanaickanur, Tamil Nadu	2000
43. Yaman, Pondicherry	1080
44. Gangol Raod (Parapur) Uttar Pradesh	3200

<i>Name of the Areas/Sectors</i>	<i>No. of employees proposed to be covered.</i>
45. Modipuram, Uttar Pradesh	4000
46. Rania, Uttar Pradesh	1550
47. Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh	8000
48. Baharampur (Centre Kashimbazar), West Bengal	1150
49. Batanagar, West Bengal	13000
50. Burnapur, West Bengal	5450
51. Farakka, West Bengal	1200
52. Kulti, West Bengal	2200
Grand Total:-	181270

Export of Tinned Vegetables and Processed Food Items

4238. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:
SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increasing demand for tinned vegetables and processed food items in foreign countries:

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for the export of these items; and

(c) the foreign exchanges earned from the export of tinned vegetables and processed food items during each of the last three years, country-wise and item-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI

KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To promote exports of agricultural products, including tinned vegetables and processed food item, Government has taken various steps to create a policy environment. Such measures include exchange rate adjustment, introduction of unified exchange rate, lowering of custom duties in particular those relating to agricultural products, easier availability of credit for exports on softer terms, expansion of the definition "manufacture" in the Exim Policy 1992-97 to include agricultural and allied activities, simplification in pre-shipment procedures etc. Besides, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has taken various steps for boosting exports of processed food items, which include product promotion, quality upgradation improvement in packaging, development of infrastructure, participation in international trade fairs and buyer seller meets. etc.

(c) Exports of canned and processed fruits and vegetables during the last three years are as under:-

		1989-90*		1990-91		1991-92	
Products	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.	
1. Canned vegetables	N.A.	N.A.	2290	476	2391	581	
2. Pickles & Chutneys	8121	1175	8357	1356	11005	2628	
3. Canned & bottled fruits	37471	4464	28819	4167	38472	6752	

Source: 1989-90* Party returns.
1990-91 DGCIS
1991-92 DGCIS

Detailed itemwise and country-wise figures are contained in (i) Foreign Trade Statistics of India (Principal Commodities and Countries) 1987-88 to 1990-91 and March, 1992 and (ii) Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India by countries, March, 1991 and March, 1992 published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Calcutta which are available in the Parliament Library.

[English]

Rubber Plantin is Andaman and Nicobar Islands

4239. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for advancing loans, subsidies and planting materials to growers of the rubber plantation especially in Andaman and Nicobar Islands under the rubber plantation development scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other areas identified for the rubber plantation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE

(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The existing rubber plantation development scheme provides for subsidy and long term loans (the latter through the banks). There is a proposal to plant 125 hectares in the Andaman and Nicobar islands in the 8th plan period.

(c) The other areas identified for rubber plantation are Kamataka, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Maharashtra, Goa and North Eastern Region.

Nabard Assistance to Andhra Pradesh

4240. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has prepared a scheme to extend assistance of Rs. 247 crores for the current financial year for various development programmes in the Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount so far spent under the scheme; and

(d) the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be spent for the develop-

ment of the agricultural sector in the Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR., ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). The National Bank for

Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) had initially targeted a refinance programme of Rs. 24567 lakhs for schematic lending for the State of Andhra Pradesh. The refinance target has since been further stepped up to Rs.27934 lakhs. The Sector-wise details of the target are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sector	Allocation (1992-93)
Minor Irrigation	4339
Rural Electrification Corporation/SPA	3772
Normal energisation programme	2000
Land Development	300
Farm Mechanisation	4561
Dryland ming/wasteland development	50
Plantation/Horticulture	1250
Dairy Development	600
Fisheries	1250
Forestry	365
Bio-gas	30
Poultry-farming	1225
Sheep/Goat/Piggery	400
Integrated Rural Development Programme	6451
Non Farm Sector (NFS)	800
Others	541
Total	27934

(c) and (d). NABARD has reported that as on March 19, 1993, the disbursement under refinance for schematic lending in the

State of Andhra Pradesh were of the order of Rs. 20430 lakhs forming 73.11% of the allocation. The balance amount of the allo-

cation is expected to be utilised by March 31, 1993.

AIDS Cases in Defence Forces

4241. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of HIV positive and AIDS cases have been detected at the Southern Command Hospital in all the three wings of the Defence Forces;

(b) if so, the detail thereof;

(c) the number of HIV positive and AIDS

cases detected at other hospitals of the Defence Services; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLKARJUN): (a) to (c). Command Hospital (Southern Command), Pune, is one of the two Referral Centres (the other Centre being the Military Hospital, Delhi) to which cases from all Commands of the three Services are referred for confirmatory test for HIV positive and AIDS cases. The Service-wise number of such cases, as on 31-1-1993, is as below:-

	<i>HIV Positive cases</i>	<i>Full Blown cases</i>
1. Army	112	3
2. Navy	32	Nil
3. Air Force	04	Nil
Total	148	3

(d) Some of the important measures taken to check the spread of AIDS are:

(i) Blood is obtained only from voluntary donors among the Services personnel. Professional donors are not entertained.

(ii) 9 Centres carry out surveillance for HIV infection in the Armed Forces. Blood donors and high risk cases are screened for HIV infection at these Centres.

(iii) All equipment used for invasive procedure is sterilised or only disposable equipment is used to prevent transmission of HIV.

(iv) Education campaigns against AIDS and its prevention are being carried out vigorously through meetings, panel discussions, symposia

etc. involving personnel of all ranks and their families, including cadets and recruits, to inform them about the cause, mode of spread and preventive measures against HIV.

(v) Service Medical Officers have been deputed to national and international conferences to keep abreast of the developments on the strategies and methods of controlling HIV infection.

(vi) Comprehensive guidelines have been issued covering all aspects of prevention, management and disposal of HIV positive cases to all concerned.

(vii) A centralised AIDS Control Cell has been established in Pune to maintain surveillance provide guidance and recommend correc-

tive action, wherever necessary, in the Armed Forces.

Debt Burden on State Governments

4242. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:
SHRI. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO
VADDE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total debt burden of each State Government so far in terms of market loans, loan from Central Government and loans secured by autonomous organisations;

(b) whether some States have shown inability in repayment of loan and requested an extension in the loan repayment period;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) then step being taken by the Government in view of such requests?

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

Purchase of Shares from Promoters quota

4243. SHRI NIRMAL KANTI
CHATTERJEE:
SHRI PURNA CHANDRA
MALIK:
SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:
SHRI ANIL BASU:
SHRI AMAL DATA:
SHRI SUDARSAN
RAYCHAUDHURI:
SHRIMATI SUSEELA
GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the securities and

Exchange Board of India regarding anomalies in purchase of shares by the Government servants from promoters quota;

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

(c) the action being taken by the Government against the persons who have violated the provisions under promoters quota during locking period and matters connected therewith?

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

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

Licences to Surveyor and Loss Assessors

4244. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons granted licences to act as Surveyor and Loss Assessor by the Controller of Insurance during the last three years; and

(b) the number of licences renewed upto 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) 11657 (For the three year period 1990 to 1992).

(b) 3874, during the said period of three years.

Opening of RRBs in U.P.

4245. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open more Regional Rural Banks in Uttar

Pradesh during 1993-94; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the places where these banks are proposed to be opened?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Exports Through Calcutta Port

4246. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exports through Calcutta Port have been badly affected by the container congestion surcharge levied by Shipping lines on shippers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to boost exports through Calcutta Port?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The container traffic at Calcutta Dock System has increased by about 20% during the period April, 1992 to February, 1993 as compared to the corresponding period of last year.

(c) does not arise.

Exports to Russia

4247. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agreement signed between India and Russia on the rupee-ruble exchange rates will have immense bearing in boosting Indian exports to Russia;

(b) if so, the details of projections for exports during the current year and during the Eighth Plan; and

(c) the commodities likely to get a boost in export as a result of the exchange agreement in general and most favoured items in particular?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). While no projections for exports from India to Russia are possible, the agreement is expected to facilities increase in turnover of Indian exports to Russia

(c) No trade protocol was entered into specifying the quantum of each commodity to be exported. However, it was mutually agreed that funds received from the Indian side in the repayments of State credits granted by the erstwhile Soviet Union shall be utilised by the Russian side for purchase of any goods and services from India that are permissible for export under the Export and Import Policy of the Govt. of India in force from time to time.

Export of Indian Goods

4248. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made of the countries where Indian goods are likely to be exported in 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of actual and estimated exports in terms of rupee and US dollar to the developed and under developing countries in 1992-93 and 1993-94 respectively, countrywise;

(d) the basis of anticipation of acceleration of export growth in the developed countries; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the exports to these countries?

countries?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Besides continuing of increase in exports to General Currency Area (GCA) countries, there are prospects of revival of exports of Rupee Payment Area (RPA) and other East European Countries.

(c) The value of exports in terms of rupee and US\$ during April-November 1992-93 to developed and developing countries is attached at statement I & II respectively. Estimates of exports for 1993-94 have not been made.

(d) and (e). In order to boost exports, the Government have taken major steps for liberalisation of trade which include provision of exports linked imports, reduction of import licensing strengthening of export incentives and removal of procedural irritants through simplification of Policy and Procedures. In 1993-94 Budget, the system of market determined unified exchange rate has been introduced and customs and excise duties on many raw materials and capital goods have been reduced. Besides, 34 commodities have been identified as "Extreme Focus" sectors aimed at value or volume increase of 30% every year, in exports.

STATEMENT-I

India's Exports to Principal Developed Countries During April-November, 1992

<i>Countries</i>	<i>Exports in Rs. Crores</i>	<i>Exports in US \$ Million</i>
Belgium	1150.34	403.51
Denmark	154.30	54.30
France	795.36	278.99
FRG	2500.85	877.23
Greece	77.66	27.24
Ireland	49.84	17.48
Italy	1106.56	388.15
Luxembourg	1.78	0.62
Netherlands	703.34	246.71
Portugal	94.47	33.14
Spain	384.12	134.74
U.K.	2409.66	845.25
Australia	432.19	151.60
Canada	364.34	127.80

<i>Countries</i>	<i>Exports in Rs. Crores</i>	<i>Exports in US \$ Million</i>
Finland	84.02	29.47
Sweden	195.83	68.69
Switzerland	360.26	126.37
Japan	2511.65	881.02
USA	6403.58	2246.21

STATEMENT -II

<i>Countries</i>	<i>Exports in Rs. Crores</i>	<i>Exports in US\$ Million</i>
Afganistan	66.70	23.40
Algeria	20.05	7.03
Argentina	54.74	19.20
Bangladesh	598.08	209.79
Brazil	20.48	7.18
Chia P.R.	163.61	57.39
Egypt	195.84	68.69
Indonesia	238.00	83.48
Iran	20121	70.58
Kuwait	238.09	83.51
Malaysia	365.90	128.35
Mauritius	113.70	39.88
Morocco	29.40	10.31
Nepal	136.88	48.01
Nigeria	257.27	90.24
Oman	142.61	50.02
Pakistan	89.98	31.21

<i>Countries</i>	<i>Exports in Rs. Crores</i>	<i>Exports in US\$ Million</i>
Saudi Arabia	740.00	259.57
Singapore	861.19	302.08
Srilanka	432.54	151.72
Tanzania	142.43	49.96

Licence Free imports

4249. SHRI G.M.C. BALAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the items which are covered under the new simplified Exim Policy permitting licence free import;

(b) the categories of importers which can make the above imports; and

(c) the precautions Government propose to take to prevent misuse of new Exim Policy?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The Export and Import Policy, 1992-97 permits free import of all items by all persons except to the extent such imports are regulated by the Negative List of Imports or any other provisions of this Policy or any other law for the time being in force.

(c) Adequate provisions are available in the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992 to prevent any misuse of the new Exim Policy.

Foreign Loans

4250. SHRI R. JEEVA RATHINAM:
SHRI MOHAN LAL JHIKRAM:
DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL:

SHRI VILASRAO
NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign loans outstanding against the country on March 1, 1993, country/institution-wise;

(b) the amount of loans sanctioned by each of the foreign country/institution during January 1, 1991 to January 31, 1993 for projects in different States, State-wise;

(c) whether the foreign countries/institutions give assistance to the state Governments directly or through the Union Government;

(d) if the assistance is given through the Union Government, the amount of foreign loans disbursed by the Union Government to each State during the above period;

(e) the rate of interest charged by the World Bank on such loans and the rate of interest charged by the Union Government from the State Governments;

(f) the details of the new proposals submitted by each State Government for foreign financial assistance as on March 1, 1993, State-wise; and

(g) the present status of each of these proposals?

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

(a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Information is given in the attached Statement-I.

(c) Foreign assistance is normally channelised through Union Government.

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

(e) The I.B.R.D. charges a variable interest rate revised 6 monthly which is currently 7.4% p.a. on the debt outstanding.

I.D.A. credits are interest free. Government of India charges 11.76% p.a. from the State Government on such loans.

(f) and (g). The proposals received for foreign financial assistance from State Governments are posed to different multilateral and bilateral donor institutions depending upon the donor preferences, and availability of uncommitted aid, and are sometimes turned down by the proposed donors, after which attempts are made for assistance from alternative donors. Therefore, it is not possible to indicate the present status of each individual request from the State Governments, till a formal commitment for acceptance for inclusion in the pipeline projects has been received from a multilateral/bilateral donor in respect of such projects.

STATEMENT - I

(In Million)

Sl.No.	Name of Project	State	Amount
1	2	3	4
1.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural Development	Tamil Nadu	US\$ 112.8
2.	Maharashtra Rural Water Supply	Maharashtra	US\$ 109.9
3.	Maharashtra Forestry	Maharashtra	US\$ 124.0
4.	West Bengal Forestry	West Bengal	US\$ 34.0
5.	Maharashtra Power	Maharashtra	US\$ 350.0
6.	Rajasthan Agriculture	Rajasthan	US\$ 106.0
7.	Bihar Plateau	Bihar	US\$ 117.0
8.	Exploration and Management	Orissa	US\$ 8.097
9.	Andhra Pradesh Tribal Development	Andhra Pradesh	US\$ 6.7
10.	StaticVAR Compensators for UPSEB	Uttar Pradesh	F.F. 96.0
11.	Study Design Implementation & Operation of Pilot Project of Dynamic Regulation Majalgaon		

Sl.No.	Name of Project	State	Amount
1	2	3	4
	Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	F.F 7.3
12.	a) Study of Recycling of Waste Water in Ahmedabad area	Gujarat	F.F 4.47
	b) Study Design Model Testing supply and installation of pilot project Hydroplus fuse gates system on the Wanakbori weir	Gujarat	F.F 7.25 + Rs. 42.50
13.	Anpara 'B' Thermal Power Project	Uttar Pradesh	Yen 49,801
14.	Teesta Canal H.E. Project	West Bengal	Yen 6,222
15.	Afforestation Project	Rajasthan	Yen 7,869
16.	Afforestation Project in Aaravailli Hills	Rajasthan	Yen 8,095
17.	Ajanta Allora Conservation & Tourism Dev. Plan Projects	Maharashtra	Yen 3,745
18.	Srisaillam H.E. Project	Andhra Pradesh	Yen 3,806
19.	Anpara 'B' T.P.P.	Uttar Pradesh	Yen 13,224

STATEMENT - II

Additional Central Assistance released to State Government for externally aided projects during 1.1.1991 to 31.1.1993

Sl.No.	States	Rs. in Crores
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	761.65
2.	Assam	5.69
3.	Bihar	58.08
4.	Gujarat	865.66
5.	Haryana	84.21
6.	Himachal Pradesh	69.84
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	16.97
8.	Karnataka	349.07
9.	Kerala	128.58
10.	Madhya Pradesh	199.34
11.	Maharashtra	555.42
12.	Orissa	186.50

Sl.No.	States	Rs. in Crores
1	2	3
13.	Punjab	67.81
14.	Rajasthan	99.31
15.	Tamil Nadu	527.91
16.	Uttar Pradesh	1588.89
17.	West Bengal	188.57
	Total	5753.50

[*Translation*]**Grants/Loans to Foreign Countries**

4251. SHRI MOHAN LAL JHIKRAM:
SHRI VILASRAO
NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grants, assistance or loans provided to foreign countries during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(b) whether the interest and the principal amount is being repaid by these countries regularly; and

(c) if so, the details thereof during the last three years?

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

[*English*]**Tax Evasion by Multinationals**

4252. SHRI K. THULASIAH VANDAYAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the multinational companies found involved in taxed evasion cases during the last three years;

(b) the amount involved separately in customs and excise duties against each company;

(c) the action taken against such companies; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to check such cases in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARAMURTHY): (a) to (d). As there is no clear universally accepted definition of the term 'Multi-national company', it is not possible for this Ministry to furnish the information sought for.

Employment of Skilled Persons by us and Canada

4253. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether United States and Canada have agreed to remove restrictions on employment of skilled persons from India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b). United States has not imposed any restrictions on employment of skilled persons from India. Information pertaining to Canada is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]**Kuwait International Trade Fair**

4254. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total turn-over in rupees transacted and finalised by India in the recently concluded Kuwait International Trade Fair;

(b) whether any agreement in regard to setting up of joint venture have also been signed between Kuwait and India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI

KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) As reported by the representatives of the participants, business amounting to Rs. 336.50 lakhs was booked in the fair.

(b) and (c). No, Sir.

[English]

Income Tax Raids

4255. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the raids carried out by Income Tax authorities in the last six months;

(b) the value of unaccounted money and other wealth seized; and

(c) the number of persons prosecuted and convicted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). During the last six months from September, 1992 to February, 1993, the Income Tax Department carried out 2,715 searches. In course of these searches the following unaccounted assets were seized:-

Nature of asset	Value of assets seized (Rs. in crores)
(i) Cash	37.55
(ii) Jewellery	40.74
(iii) Other assets	137.38
Total	215.67

(c) In these cases requisite follow up actions have been taken up on the basis of materials found and seized in course of the searches. However, no prosecutions have

been. launched in pursuance of the aforesaid searches.

Canteen Stores Department

4256. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:
PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Canteen Stores Department (CSD) has recently introduced the concept of demanding 100 per cent bank guarantee for new items proposed to be sold through it;

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

(c) whether the small entrepreneurs are facing great hardship as a result thereof;

(d) whether the State Governments, the Public Sector Undertakings and the firms of national repute are permitted to give an undertaking in lieu of a bank guarantee;

(e) if so, the reasons for this discrimination;

(f) the criteria adopted for identifying the firms of national repute; and

(g) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to alleviate the grievances of the small entrepreneurs in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). After August 1992, the Canteen Stores Department (CSD) enhanced the amount of bank guarantee from 75% to 100% for all new items proposed for introduction (except contracted Rum) in CSD, so that unsold inventories remain at a low level and the CSD's risk is minimised. Only such suppliers whose products have been in the CSD's inventory for more than five years, and the total sales turn

over in respect of all of whose items supplied to CSD exceeds Rs. 3 crores per annum, are exempted from furnishing the aforesaid Bank Guarantee. The requirement of a Bank Guarantee, with the aforesaid exception, is applicable to all suppliers, irrespective of their size or repute.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) to (g). Do not arise.

Private Investment Companies

4257. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that many private investment companies have closed their business after collecting huge amounts from the depositors during the last three years;

(b) the total amount of money that these companies have collected from the depositors;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring forward a legislation to prevent such companies from doing business;

(d) the criminal action proposed to be taken by the Government against such companies; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that as per the information available from the Registrar of Companies, 61 private investment companies were liquidated during the last five years. Another 40 companies have been treated as non-functional as they have not been furnishing annual returns and balance sheets for more than 5 years and their whereabouts are not traceable. RBI have also prohibited 3 other private investment companies from accepting

fresh deposits.

(b) As per available information, the 61 companies which were liquidated had aggregate deposits of Rs. 40.15 lakhs.

(c) RBI are considering certain measures to tone up the functioning of non-banking financial companies.

(d) and (e). In the event of dispute between a depositor and a company, the remedy lies in the depositor seeking relief from a Court of Law.

Crisis in Public Sector units

4258. DR. P.R. GANGWAR:
SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited and Central Inland Water Transport Corporation are facing financial crisis; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to revive these units?

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

(b) So far as Hooghly dock and Port Engineers Limited is concerned an Export committee is examining the following aspects:

(i) Various technical, management and financial problems HOPE is facing.

(ii) whether HDPE can be made viable, and

(iii) Various steps that can be taken to make HDPE viable and self-supporting.

The Final report of the Committee is awaited. Meanwhile, Voluntary Retirement Scheme has been introduced in HDPE and

250 employees have sought retirement under this scheme. It is proposed to spend Rs. 4.66 crores during this year for implementing this scheme.

So far as improving the performance and viability of Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited is concerned the following measures have been taken by Government:-

(i) Modernisation of the fleet by acquisition of 63 new vessels at a cost of Rs. 68.80 crores on replacement account was approved by the Government under 7th Plan scheme.

(ii) Modernisation of the ship repair facilities of Rajabagan Dockyard of the Corporation has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 71.34 crores in December, 1992.

(iii) A Voluntary Retirement Scheme has been approved with a view to off load the surplus manpower.

Repair of National Highway No. 47

4259. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Trivandrum-Kanyakumari National Highway No. 47 is not in a traffic worthy conditions; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to repair this portion of National Highway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). No, Sir, National Highway No.47 from Trivandrum to Kanyakumari is being maintained in a traffic worthy condition within the funds available.

Marathe Committee Report

4260. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHARS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be

pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received Marathe Committee report on licensing and other aspects of Urban Co-operative Banks;

(b) if so, the recommendations made therein; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to implement the recommendations?

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

(a) and (b). The Marathe Committee on licensing of new Urban Co-operative Banks was appointed by Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The Committee has since submitted its report to RBI. The main recommendations of the Committee are:-

1. The thrust of future policy should be to actively promote the growth of Urban Co-operative Banking movement in the regions where it has not taken strong roots and to give further impetus to its growth in the Co-operative advanced States by removing the impediments thereto.
2. The "One District, one bank" approach may be given up and organisation of new urban co-operative bank may be permitted on the criteria of need for the institution and the potentials in the proposed centre/area for the mobilisation of deposits and the purveying of credit in order to enable bank to satisfy the standards of viability within a stipulated period.
3. Consequent upon the upward revision of the operational cost and also the emerging economic system which will be characterised by increased competitiveness, the viability and entry point norms may

- be refixed for Urban Co-operative Banks classified in four population Strata.
4. The existing policy regarding Mahila Banks and proposals for organisation of new Urban Co-operative Banks from areas having predominant concentration of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/Weaker sections may be continued.
 5. Banks organised in metropolitan centres/towns should be allowed to cover the urban agglomeration thereof and banks organised in urban/semi-urban centres may be allowed to cover urban, semi-urban and peripheral rural areas in the district of registration for financing non-agricultural credit requirements.
 6. In order to give impetus to urban cooperative banking movement in areas where there is absence of local leadership strong Urban Co-operative Banks from nearby areas/outside the district or even outside the State may be permitted (subject to clearance by the concerned State Government and RBI) to organise new Urban Co-operative Banks.
 7. To encourage Organisation of new Urban Co-operative Banks in less developed and least developed States, certain relaxation in the form of reduced entry point norms, elongated period for achieving of viability may be allowed.
 8. The Primary Credit Societies which attain the revised entry point norms prescribed under standards of viability for Urban Co-operative Banks, before 30th June, 1993 may be considered for inclusion in the list of Primary Co-operative Banks.
 9. Weak un-licensed banks which have been placed under rehabilitation may be given specified time limit to come out of weakness to be eligible for licence, failing which they may be taken up for amalgamation/merger/liquidation.
 10. Banks whose applications for issue of licence have been held up on account of non-compliance with provisions of minimum paid up share capital and reserve may be given specified time limit to comply with requirements to be eligible for licence.
 11. Banks whose applications have been held up on account of overdues exceeding 25 per cent of total loans and advance may be given a period of one year for bringing the level of overdues within the stipulated level.
- (c) The Marathe Committee report is under consideration of RBI.
- Money Market Mutual Fund**
4261. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Reserve Bank of India had permitted nationalised commercial banks, Government financial institutions etc. to operate money market mutual fund;
 - (b) if so, the details of financial institutions, banks etc. operating money market mutual fund and the amount received by each of them in the fund as on January 31, 1993; and
 - (c) the extent to which the aims for which the fund was created has been achieved?
- THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have

reported that a Scheme on Money Market Mutual Funds was introduced by them in April, 1992 with a view to provide an additional short-term avenue to investors and to bring money market instruments within the reach of individuals. So far, only State Bank of Hyderabad has been granted 'in principle' approval by RBI in January, 1993 to set up a money market mutual fund.

Foreign Exchange Leak Due to FERA Reforms

4262. SHRI TARA CHAND
KHANDELWAL:
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the FERA reforms may cause leak in Foreign Exchange as reported in 'Indian Express' dated February 27, 1993;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any assessment in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to prevent such conditions arising out of relaxation of FERA?

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

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

(d) Adequate provisions exist in the

Foreign Regulation Act.

[Translation]

Bank Branches in Maharashtra

4263. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of public sector and other banks opened so far in Maharashtra during the current year and the places where these branches have been opened;

(b) whether the Union Government have received any representation to open more branches of these banks in Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):
(a) 28 branches of Commercial Banks have been opened during the year 1992-93 in Maharashtra. The places where these branches have been opened are given at Statement-I

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). The details of the representations received regarding opening of bank branches in Maharashtra and referred to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for their consideration alongwith the action taken by the RBI are indicated in Statement-II

STATEMENT - I

Number of bank branches opened in Maharashtra during the year 1992-93 and locations thereof

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	Name of District	Name of Centre
1	2	3	4
1.	Sangli Bank Ltd.	Kolhapur	Ghotawade
2.	Sangli Bank Ltd.	Kolhapur	Ganeshwadi
3.	United Western Bank Ltd	Nagpur	Godhany Ratiway
4.	Central Bank of India	Nashik	Govardhan
5.	Dena Bank	Raigad	Kalamadi Steel Markot Yard.
6.	Bank of Maharashtra	Solapur	Manjrewadi
7.	Bank of Baroda	Thane	Vashi, New Bombay (APMC Phase II Market II)
8.	State Bank of India	Ahmednagar	Ahmednagar (Burdgaon Road)
9.	Central Bank of India	Aurangabad	Aurangabad (Bajaj Residential Area)
10.	State Bank of Hyderabad	Greater Bombay	Malad (West), Marve Road
11.	Catholic Syrian	Greater Bombay	Mulund (West) T. Ward.
12.	Corporation Bank	Greadder Bombay	Dreamland Colony, Bombay (Overseas Branch)

Sl.No.	Name of the Bank	Name of District	Name of Centre
1	2	3	4
13.	United Bank of India	Greater Bombay	Bombay Overseas Branch
14.	Indian Overseas Bank	Greater Bombay	Juhu Bombay (Upgradation of Extension Counter)
15.	State Bank of India	Greater Bombay	Bombay (International Service Branch)
16.	Dena Bank	Jalgaon	Bhusaval (Ordinance Factory Road)
17.	Central Bank of India	Jalna	Jalna (Industrial Area)
18.	Ganesh Bank of Kurundwad	Kolhapur	Kolhapur Rajaram Road
19.	Punjab National Bank	Nagpur	Nagpur (Across the road at Electronic Zone)
20.	Central Bank of India	Nagpur	Nagpur (Lalgunj Area Ward, Juna Motor Stand)
21.	State Bank of India	Nanded	Nanded (Yeshwant Nagar)
22.	Allahabad Bank	Pune	Pimpri Chinchwad Pune (Primpale Nilakb Phata)
23.	Canare Bank	Pune	Pimpri Chinchwad Pune (Hinjawadi)
24.	State Bank of Hyderabad	Pune	Pune, Kothrud Gandhi Bhawan

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>Name of District</i>	<i>Name of Centre</i>
1	2	3	4
25.	Sangli Bank Ltd.	Pune	Pune (Maharashtra Institute of Technology (upgradation of Extension Counter)
26.	Bank of Maharashtra	Pune	Hadapsar, Pune (Upgradation of Extension Counter)
27.	Central Bank of India	Sangli	Sangli (Kolbapur Road)
28.	Bank of Maharashtra	Solapur	Solapur - Twin Solapur Area

STATEMENT - II

Representations received and referred to Reserve Bank of India for opening of bank branches in Maharashtra in the current year 1992-93

Sl.No.	Representation received from	Particulars of Centres	Remarks
1	2	3	4
1.	Shri Vasant Pawar, M.P.	Sinnar Industrial Estate, District Nashik	Allotted to Dena Bank vide Letter dated 20.5.92
2.	Shri Shantaram Potdukhe - MOS for Finance	Tadafi, Distt. Chandrapur	Govt. advised on 5.8.92 that proposal will be considered if received from Bank through Govt. of Maharashtra and as per our norms.
3.	"	Shifting of SBI Savri to Chimur Distt. Chandarpur	Govt. advised on 29.1.93 that considering volume of business shifting is not considered desirable.
4.	"	Aheri, District Gadchiroli	Govt. advised on 6.11.92 that branch of SBI at Aheri is not considered necessary at present.
5.	Shri A.M. Khan, PS to Minister of State for Finance	Branches of Dena Bank in Vidarbha Region	Govt. advised on 13.11.92. Explained Region our Branch Licensing Policy and specified quotas allotted to Banks for Semi-Urban centres.
6.	Shri Anna Joshi M.P.	SBI at Jaysinghpur, Distt. Kolhapur	Govt. advised on 31.12.92. the Banks have been allotted specified quota for semi-Urban centres. This centre being a Semi-Urban Banks can take decision on their own.

Sl.No.	Representation received from	Particulars of Centres	Remarks
1	2	3	4
7.	Shri Ram Kapse	SBI at Jaysinghpur, Distt. Kolhapur	Govt. advised on 31.12.92 The Banks have been allotted specified quota for Semi-Urban Centres. This centre being a Semi-Urban Banks can take decision on their own.
8.	Shri Subir Sawant, M.P.	Sondai Block, Rajapur	Govt. advised on 21.1.93. Will be considered if proposal received by Bank through Govt. of Maharashtra.
9.	Shri Vadprakash Vaidik, Editor Bhasha Press Trust of India	Tapawan, Nashik	Party is being advised that bank of India has been allowed to open branch within the vicinity of area.

Export of Agro-Based Items

4264. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sufficient possibilities of the export of tea, jute, sugar and coconut oil exist due to their favourable demand and supply position in the country;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage the export of these items;

(c) the possibilities of the export of these items to CIS countries of the erstwhile Soviet Union;

(d) whether new agreements have been signed for the export of tea and sugar to these countries during the year 1993-94; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (e). India has a natural comparative advantage in agricultural exports because of our lower import needs of inputs, our reasonable labour costs and our diverse agro-climatic conditions. Government has, therefore, decided to accord high priority to agricultural exports. With the exchange rate adjustments, the introduction of a unified exchange rate, the lowering of customs duties, easier availability of credit for exports on softer terms, and changes and simplification in the EXIM Policy and Procedures, there is an environment in the country today which is highly conducive for exports. Within this environment, the specific programmes undertaken or proposed to be undertaken for the agricultural sector are expected to substantially step up agricultural exports within the Eighth Plan period.

Possibilities do exist for the export of tea, jute and sugar to the States formerly constituent parts of the Soviet Union. Tea continues to be major item of export to these States. Jute also continues to be exported, through there has been a significant decline in the quantities exported. Sugar has been sporadically exported. Coconut oil, however, is not likely to find an export market in the States formerly constituent parts of the Soviet Union.

Specific items of export to the USSR and subsequently to its constituent Republics, which became independent States, have often been included in the Annual Trade Protocols in the past. This practice of Annual Trade Protocols has now been dispensed with vis-a-vis all those States, and no such Protocol is envisaged for the year 1993-94.

Price of Weapons in Civil Market

4265. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the weapons manufactured by the Ordnance Factories are sold in the civil market;

(b) if so, the details of the weapons and the rate at which these weapons are being sold; and

(c) the details thereof during each of the last two years and in the current year so far?

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

(b) Only 315 sporting rifles and 12 bore double barrel guns are being sold through the civil market. Present prices (excluding taxes) are Rs. 15,750 and Rs. 14,175 respectively.

(c) The details are given below:

Name of the weapon	No. of weapons sold during		
	90-91	91-92 (April 92 to Feb 93)	92-93
.315 sporting rifle	2002	1502	1716
12 bore double barrel gun	1025	1098	682

[English]

Fair Authority made therefrom; and

Organisation of Trade Fairs Exhibitions by Trade Fair Authority of India

4266. SHRI MANJAY LAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Trade Fairs/Exhibitions were organized by Trade Fair Authority of India during each of the last three years in the country and abroad and how much total expenditure was incurred during the above period;

(b) the amount of business done during the above period and how much profit Trade

(c) the steps Government propose to take to reduce expenditure on organising exhibitions/fairs abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The number of fairs organised by India Trade Promotion Organisation (erst-while Trade Fair Authority of India) in India and abroad during last three years vis-a-vis direct expenditure incurred thereon is indicated below:-

Year	Fairs in India No. Expenditure Rs. in lakhs		Foreign Fairs No. Expenditure Rs. in lakhs	
1990-91	6	261.96	38	1198.97
1991-92	8	244.33	38	1370.19
1992-93	9	354.47 (estimated)	43	1311.10 (estimated)

(b) As per the information furnished by the participants the total business booked for Fairs in India and for fairs abroad during last three years is as under:-

Year	Total Business booked	
	For Fairs in India (Rs. in lakhs)	For Fairs in India (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	2.	3.
1990-91	4,865.00	44,170.73
1991-92	13,136.00	43,546.22
1992-93	79,216.00	38,716.90

India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) is not involved in actual trade and therefore, its profit is not related to business booked in the fairs organised by it in India and abroad.

(c) Following steps have been taken to reduce the expenditure on organising fairs and Exhibitions abroad:-

(i) Merger of erstwhile Trade Development Authority (TDA) with erstwhile Trade Fair Authority of India (TFAI) to form a combined organisation in the name of India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) to avoid duplication of efforts.

(ii) Number of officials and number of mandays for supervising trade fairs abroad have been crust to the bare minimum.

(iii) Progressively, larger percentage of expenditure is being borne by participants by reducing the element of subsidy in the form of grants-in-aid.

(iv) Some events are now taken up entirely on the basis of all expenses being met by participants.

Public Sector Banks in Sikkim

4267. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up more branches of public sector banks in Sikkim during the next two financial years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has not fixed any year-wise target for opening bank branches. However, the following centres have been allotted by RBI for opening of branches in Sikkim:-

<i>Centre</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Bank</i>
1. Deorait Bazar	Sikkim East District	State Bank of India Semi-Urban
2. Rumtek	"	State Bank of India Rural
3. Makha	"	" "
4. Penengia	"	" "
5. Kari	North District	" "
6. Lachen	"	" "
7. Lachhna	"	" "
8. Belling	West District	" "
9. Kewzing	South District	" "
10. Manpur	South Sikkim	" "
	(Substituted by centres Sadam)	
11. Naya Bazar	South Sikkim	Central Bank of India Rural

In addition RBI has also allotted a centre at Gangtok to Canara Bank and a Rural Project Centre Ranait Hydroelectric Project (South Sikkim) to SBI.

[*Translation*]

Gross Domestic Saving

4268. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the gross domestic saving for the year 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(b) the per capita expenditure during the year 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(c) whether the capital formation has decreased during this period; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) Gross domestic saving at current prices in 1991-92 amounted to Rs. 148039 crores as against Rs. 125109 crores in 1990-91 as per Quick Estimates of National income, consumption expenditure, saving and capital formation 1990-91.

(b) The per capita Private Final consumption expenditure at current prices was Rs. 4549 in 1991-92 as against Rs. 4003 in 1991-92.

(c) and (d): Gross capital formation at current prices increased from Rs. 139793 crore in 1990-91 to Rs. 155407 crores in 1991-92.

Setting up of Rural Industries by SIDBI

4269. KUMARI VIMLA VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Scale Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has

formulated any scheme to set up rural industries in no industry districts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of such no industry districts; and

(c) the schemes of the bank for no industry districts of Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED): (a) and (b). No specific scheme has been formulated by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for setting up rural industries in 'no industry districts' of the country. However, SIDBI has been providing assistance under its refinance schemes to units in tiny and SSI sectors coming up in backward areas including the 'no industry districts'.

(c) SIDBI has reported that assistance under all its schemes is available to the units in the small scale sector coming up in 'no industry districts' in Madhya Pradesh as well. In addition, SIDBI has launched a Block Adoption Programme at Petlavad Block in Jhabua - a 'no industry district of Madhya Pradesh. Under the programme, in the first year, 33 persons from tribal belt have been trained in activities like leather processing, leather goods and weaving.

Allocation to States

4270. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) The amount reduced in the share given to each State as a result of the proposed reduction in the excise duty on various products as proposed in the Budget for the year 1993-94;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to ensure that States development works are not stopped as a result of the reduction in shares to the States;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefore;

(e) whether amount payable to State Governments from other 'Heads' besides excise duty may also be reduced as a result of budget proposals; and

(f) if so, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) to (f). As the proposals for reduction in excise duties on certain commodities included in the Budget presented to Parliament on 27th February, 1993, are yet to be considered and approved by the Parliament, the final extent of reduction in States' share will be known thereafter only. However, it may be stated that the total amount of States share of central taxes and duties according to the Budget presented to Parliament is placed at Rs. 22049 crores in 1993-94 as compared to States' share of Rs. 20525 crores in 1992-93 showing a net increase of Rs. 1524 crores even after taking into account the impact of Budget proposals.

[*English*]

Contributory Provident Fund

4271. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the central trade unions have demanded to raise the rate of contributory provident fund to 10% in the textile industry; and

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

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

(b) Presently the textile industry is in the process of being restructured. As such it is not considered prudent to increase the PF contribution to 10%.

Suppression of Income by Tourist Car Operators

4272. DR. RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Income Tax Department has unearthed suppression of income from tourist car operators in Madras city in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to effect periodical checks on them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). In one case in Madras survey under section 133A of the Income-tax Act was carried out which led to the assessment of additional income of Rs. 24 lakhs. The assessee had paid tax of Rs. 15.32 lakh on this additional income.

(c) Under the long term survey plan for the financial years 1990-91 to 1993-94, the assessing officers are required to carry out survey under section 133A of the Income-tax Act. Survey operations under other provisions of the Income-tax Act are part of regular annual action plan of the Investigation Wing of the Income-tax Department.

[*Translation*]

Agreement with Foreign Country Regarding Emigration of Labourers

4273. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have entered into agreements with the foreign countries for emigration of Indian workers for Overseas employment on contractual basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of labourers sent to each of these countries so far during the last three years; and

(d) the number of labourers out of them who have since come back?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (d). An agreement and a Memorandum of Understanding for recruitment of workers from India were entered into/signed between the Republic of India and the State of Qatar and the Government of India and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on 11.4.85 and 22.10.88 respectively. These provide *inter alia* for recruitment on the basis of the contracts duly signed between the employer and the employee giving relevant terms and conditions of employment such as wages, duration of employment, accommodation, medical treatment etc. The agreement with Qatar also contains the specimen of the Labour Contract. The Memorandum of Understanding with Jordan, generally provide *inter alia* that the employment contract shall include working conditions together with the obligations and the rights of the workers according to local labour laws/regulations and further that the workers shall benefit from the rights and privileges accorded to the workers of the host country in accordance with the provisions of the Labour and Social Security laws in the concerned country.

2. The figure of the number of labourers to whom emigration clearance was granted for employment in Qatar and Jordan during the last three years is being compiled and will be laid on the table of the House.

3. Statistics of labourers who return from abroad on completion of their term of employment are not maintained by the Ministry of Labour.

Development of N.Hs in Uttar Pradesh

4274. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
SHRI N.K. BALIYAN:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the work done during the last two years for the development and repair of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the project-wise amount spent on these works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The works in progress during the last two years for the development of NHs in U.P. are as under:-

Year	Road improvement works.	Bridge construction/re-construction works.	Mis. works costing less than Rs. 50 lakhs.	Total
1990-91	68	3	94	165
1991-92	60	9	82	151
Total	128	12	176	318

(b) The allocation made for the development and repairs of NHs for U.P. during the last 2 years are as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Development works Rs. in lakhs.</i>	<i>Maintenance Works Rs. in lakhs</i>
1990-91	6500.00	1108.51
1991-92	6025.00	1312.05

I.N.S. Sharda

4275. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether indigenously built patrolling ship I.N.S. Sharda has been inducted into the Indian Navy;

(b) the time taken to construct this ship; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on its construction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). I.N.S. Sharda was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 20th December, 1991. Its construction was completed in 42 months, at a cost of Rs. 28.20 crores.

Export of Fruits and Vegetables

4276. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is a major producer of the fruits and vegetables in the world;

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

(c) whether there is any potentiality for the export of these items;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government for encouraging the export of these items during the year 1992-93; and

(e) the amount of foreign exchange likely to be earned from the export of these items during 1992-93 in comparison to 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. India is the second largest producer of fruits in the world after Brazil with production of 27.83 million tonnes which accounts for around 8% of the world production. India is also the second largest producer of vegetables with production of 50.99 million tonnes after China. This excludes the production of shoots and tubers estimated at 15 million tonnes of potatoes and 3.3 million tonnes of onion.

(c) and (d). To promote exports of agricultural products including fresh fruits and vegetables, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has taken up a number of steps which include increasing production and productivity, promotion of market development, dissemination of market information amongst exporters, development of infrastructural facilities, improvement in packing, improvement in shelf-life etc.

(e) The exports of fruits and vegetables is targeted at Rs. 375 crores in 1992-93 as against Rs. 294 crores in 1991-92.

[English]

Concessions to Vessels by SCICI

4277. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

The number of vessels provided concessions/finance by the Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India Limited (SCICI) during the last three calendar years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): SCICI Limited has reported that it has provided concessions/finance cumulatively to 80,100 and 113 vessels in the years 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 respectively. SCICI Limited does not maintain calendar year-wise information.

Trade between India and Canada

4278. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to increase the trade with Canada; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Trade between India and Canada is in the hands of the business communities of the two countries. The business communities operate within the trade policies of the two governments, which are applicable generally to all countries.

Attractive Advertisements in Newspapers Regarding Fixed Deposits

4279. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of companies give tempting and attractive advertisements in newspapers seeking fixed deposits at better interest rate and are not refunding the same money on its maturity;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints received by the Government during 1992; and

(c) the action being taken to ameliorate the grievances of the public in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). Companies inviting fixed deposits are required to issue advertisements in newspapers in prescribed proforma in pursuance of Rule 4 of the Companies (Acceptance of Deposits) Rules, 1975. Such advertisements are required to give all vital information regarding financial position of the company, management structure, rate of interest etc.

During the calendar year 1992, Department of Company Affairs have received 485 complaints alleging non refund of money by non-banking non-financial companies on maturity of fixed deposits. As regards the number of complaints received by RBI regarding non-banking financial companies, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

If a non-banking non-financial company fails to pay the deposits along with interest on maturity, the depositor can approach the Company Law Board, a quasi judicial body, under Section 58A (9) of the Companies Act, 1956 for redressal of his grievances. In so far as the non-banking financial company are concerned, the existing laws governing the acceptance of deposits by them do not empower RBI to compel such companies to repay deposits. Repayment of deposits in such cases is a matter of contract between the company and the depositor and, in the event of non-payment of deposits by such companies, the remedy open to the depositor is to proceed against the company in a Court of

Law for recovery of his dues.

Foreign Trade

4280. SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) India's rank in exports and imports in the world trade;

(b) the total volume of foreign trade during 1992 and 1993, till date in terms of rupee and goods;

(c) the details of main primary products and raw materials exported, their volume, amount and percentage in relation to finished products;

(d) the increase in terms of volume, rupee and its percentage from the export of cash crops during each of the last three years;

(e) the details of the major importing countries of cash crops; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to increase the exports of cash crops?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) India's rank in exports in the world trade in 1991 was 33rd and 35th respectively. (Source "World Economy and India's Place In It." October 1992, Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy).

(b) Trade statistics are compiled by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta on financial year basis. The total value of exports and

imports for 1991-92 and 1992-93 (April-November), the latest period for which data is available, is as follows:-

Year	(Rs. Crores)	
	Exports	Imports
1991-92	44042	47851
1992-93 (April-November)	33053	41881

The Volume Index (Base 1978-79=100) of exports and imports for 1991-92, the latest period for which such indices are available, are 209 and 228 respectively.

(c) The requisite details of main primary products and raw materials exported in 1991-92 and April-November, 1992-93 are given in Statement-I.

(d) and (e). The requisite details are given in Statement II.

(f) In order to boost exports including those of cash crops, the Government have taken major steps for liberalisation of trade which include provision of export linked imports, reduction of import licensing, strengthening export incentives and removal of procedural irritants through simplification of Policy and procedures. In 1993-94 Budget, the system of market determined unified exchange rate has been introduced and customs and excise duties have been reduced. Besides measures to increase production and productivity, upgrade technology, diversify and promote markets, through buyer-seller meets, participation in exhibitions etc. are also undertaken.

STATEMENT-I

Export of Main Primary Products/Raw Material

Main Primary Product/Raw material	1991-92		1992-93 (Apr-Nov.)		
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Value
1	2	3	4	5	5
Iron Ore	29500	1435	12232	617	617
Other Ores and Minerals	-	806	-	316	316
Mica	34	35	16	14	14
Tobacco unmanufactured	60	314	47	252	252
Coal	135	15	122	14	14
Raw Cotton including Waste	160	305	31	35	35
	29898	2910	12448	1248	1248

The share of these items in the total value of exports was 11% in 1991-92 and 4% in April-November, 1992-93.

STATEMENT - II

Export of Cash Crops

(Qty. in '000 Tons)

(Value in Rs. Crores)

Sl.No.	Principal Cash Crops	1989-90					1990-91					1991-92					1992-93 (April-Nov)					Major Importing Countries
		Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11												
1.	Tea	211	917	199 (-5.7)	1070 (16.7)	201 (1.0)	1212 (13.3)	105 (-14.5)	520 (12.8)											UK, USA, Poland, Iran, Germany		
2.	Coffee	116	347	87 (-25.0)	252 (-27.4)	91 (4.6)	332 (31.7)	79 (-95.5)	230 (29.9)											Germany, Poland, CIS, Italy		
3.	Spices	112	277	103 (-8.0)	234 (-15.5)	149 (44.6)	372 (58.9)	80 (-6.9)	233 (7.3)											USA, UK, Japan, Canada, Sri Lanka		
4.	Natural Rubber	N	N	N	N	3	5	NA	NA											Egypt, Hongkong, Nigeria		
5.	Raw Cotton including Waste	53	128	374 (605.6)	846 (560.9)	101 (-72.9)	305 (63.9)	31 (-80.0)	35 (-87.8)											Spain, USA, Germany, Sri Lanka		

Sl.No.	Principal Cash Crops	1989-90		1990-91		1991-92		1992-93 (April-Nov)		Major Importing Countries
		Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
6.	Tobacco Un-manufactured	57	143	70 (22.8)	193 (34.9)	68 (-2.8)	314 (62.7)	47 (-16.1)	252 (5.4)	UK, Belgium, Egypt, CIS, Netherland
	Total	549	1812	833 (51.7)	2595 (43.2)	613 (-26.4)	2540 (-2.1)	342 (-84.0)	1370 (-16.0)	
	Total Exports		27681	-	32553	-	44042	-	33053	

Note: 1. Figures in bracket indicates the percentage variation over the corresponding previous period.

2. N. Negligible

3. N.A. Not available

[*Translation*]

Schemes under C.R.F. for Uttar Pradesh

4281. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for schemes of Uttar Pradesh under the Central Road Fund (C.R.F.) for the year 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) whether the amount sanctioned has not been released so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which this amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). No scheme has been sanctioned under Central Road Fund in Uttar Pradesh during 1991-92 and 1992-93 as the State Government have already utilised their entire accruals as per old Resolution governing the fund.

[*English*]

Investment in Housing Schemes by LIC

4282. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount proposed to be invested by the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) in housing schemes during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount proposed to be invested in housing schemes in Gujarat;

(c) whether the housing schemes in Adivasi and Backward areas are proposed to be taken up on priority basis; and

(d) if so, the amount likely to be invested thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DRABRARA AHMED): (a) LIC proposes to invest about Rs. 5,500 crores in the Housing Sector throughout the country directly, or indirectly through various agencies, during the Eighth Five Year Plan period subject to the projected mobilisation of domestic savings.

(b) to (d). The investments of the LIC during the next financial year (1993-94) will be decided by July, 1993 after the finalisation of their investment budget as well as the Statewise allocations by the Planning Commission. LIC grants bulk loans to the State Government as per the allocation made by the Planning Commission. It will be for the State Governments to decide about the patterns of investments in different areas.

Visakhapatnam Airport

4283. DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the upgradation of the runway of the Visakhapatnam Airport has been taken up and the work is in progress;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether additional facilities and equipment for safe landing of aircraft is being installed at the airport; and

(d) the plans for protecting the airfield from water stagnation especially during heavy rains and floods at the Visakhapatnam Airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As a short term measure, release of water from Megadhari Dam, when it crosses

the danger-mark, is being regulated to ensure against flooding of the Visakhapatnam Airport. A Board of Officers has also been appointed for suggesting long term measures for prevention of water-stagnation at that Airport.

[*Translation*]

Nationalisation of Peerless General Finance and Investment Company

4284. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any resolution passed by the West Bengal Assembly or any memorandum in connection with the nationalisation of the Finance Peerless General Investment Company, a non-banking company; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). Government and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have not received, in the recent past, any resolution passed by West Bengal Assembly regarding nationalisation of Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Ltd. However, the question of nationalisation of this company has been raised from time to time. Government had received a communication dated 26th July, 1991 signed by about 20 Members of Parliament suggesting nationalisation of Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Ltd. The matter was examined in consultation with RBI and it was not considered necessary to nationalise the company.

[*English*]

Voluntary Retirement Scheme in Visakhapatnam Port Trust

4285. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the

Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 30% of the ex-gratia paid to the retired employees of Visakhapatnam Port Trust under voluntary retirement scheme is withheld by the authorities; and

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes Sir, 30% of the ex-gratia payable to the employees under the voluntary retirement scheme was withheld for Income Tax by Visakhapatnam Port Trust as the Income Tax authority did not grant exemption.

Kozhikode Bye-Pass

4286. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the present stage of work in respect of construction of Kozhikode bye-pass on National Highway No. 17; and

(b) the time by when construction of phase I of the bye-pass is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The work of Kozhikode Bypass is being taken up in 4 phases. Work of land acquisition in phase-I has been completed. In the remaining three phases, work of land acquisition is in progress.

(b) It is too early to indicate the likely date of completion of phase I as the construction work of the bypass is yet to be sanctioned.

Replacement of Old Tankers by SCI

4287. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total strength of oil tanker fleet with the shipping corporation of India;

(b) the number of tankers which are 15 years old;

(c) the number of crude carriers which are old 10 years and 15 years old; and

(d) the plans formulated by the Government to replace these old tankers and crude carriers keeping in view the rising demand for seaworthy vessels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The Shipping Corporation of India has 39 oil tankers in its fleet.

(b) 8 tankers out of these are 15 years old.

(c) 14 crude carriers are over 10 years old, including 10 which are more than 15 years old.

(d) During 8th Plan period the Shipping Corporation of India formulated plans to replace 16 old tankers.

Losses by Public Sector Banks

4288. SHRI MADANLAL KHURANA:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:
DR.C. SILVERA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the public sector banks are expected to suffer heavy losses during 1992-93;

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

(c) whether the Government have held discussions with the chief executives of the public sector banks to find out ways and means to check the losses; and

(d) if so, the outcome of the discussions held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DRABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). The annual accounts of public sector banks for the year ending 31st March, 1993 are yet to be finalised.

(c) and (d). Government and Reserve Bank of India have been taking from time to time such measures as are considered appropriate for improving the performance and profitability of public sector banks.

Cash Benefit Scheme

4289. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH:
Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Employees State Insurance Corporation has introduced a scheme called "Cash Benefit Scheme" for its employees;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme; and

(c) the date since when the scheme has been made effective?

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

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

Appointment of Apprentice Assistants in GIC

4290. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines/norms framed for regular appointment of Apprentice Assistants who have completed their Apprenticeship period in or around December, 1992 under Vocational Course introduced by General Insurance Corporation at 10+2 level of education;

(b) whether all the four subsidiaries of GIC are following the same set of rules in the

matter of appointment of these assistants

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether representations have been received in regard to violation of Recruitment and Conditions Rules by these subsidiaries, particularly by the United India Insurance Corporation;

(e) if so, the broad features of representations; and

(f) the action proposed to be taken to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR ABU RAHMED):

(a) to (c). A two year job linked Vocational Course in General Insurance was introduced by C.B.S.E. and G.I.C. in 1988 on a pilot basis in a few schools in selected cities. Students passing+2 examination with 50% or more marks in the vocational course in general insurance subject to an interview and medical examination, will be eligible for appointment as Apprentice Assistants in the General Insurance Corporation or one of its four subsidiary companies on a stipend basis. After successful completion of apprenticeship, they are absorbed as Assistant (Typist) or Assistant (Clerical) in the general insurance industry.

(d) No representations have been received by the Government in this regard.

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

Claims Received by GIC After Post Ayodhya Disturbances

4291. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
SHRI RAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) number of claims received by the G.I.C. of India after the post-Ayodhya disturbances in various parts of the country, State-wise;

(b) number of claims settled and the amount paid by the GIC, State-wise; and

(c) number of claims pending as on March 31, 1993?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR ABU RAHMED):
(a) The GIC of India received 5184 claims after the post-Ayodhya disturbances. The Statewise details are given in Statement-I

(b) 1712 claims have been settled and an amount of Rs. 1485.92 lakhs has been paid. The details of claims settled and the amount paid in various States are given in Statement II

(c) As on 19.3.1993, 3472 claims were pending.

STATEMENT I

Number of Claims Reported in Various States

State	Claims Reported
Andhra Pradesh	105
Assam	95
Bihar	44
Delhi	17
Gujarat	1584
Karnataka	277
Kerala	52
Maharashtra	2376
Madhya Pradesh	360
Orissa	22
Rajasthan	16
Tamil Nadu	25
Uttar Pradesh	129
West Bengal	82
Total	5184

STATEMENT-II

<i>State</i>	<i>No. of Claims settled</i>	<i>(Amount: Rs. in Lacs) Amount Paid</i>
Andhra Pradesh	15	3.05
Assam	16	8.24
Bihar	1	0.04
Delhi	12	17.72
Gujarat	578	444.07
Karnataka	61	13.27
Kerala	9	1.24
Maharashtra	895	957.58
Madhya Pradesh	100	29.04
Orissa	3	0.14
Rajasthan	Nil	Nil
Tamil Nadu	7	5.80
Uttar Pradesh	10	3.17
West Bengal	5	2.56
Total	1712	Rs. 1485.92

Training to Airmen of Foreign Countries

4292. SHRI MANIKARAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries in which Indian instructors are providing training to the airmen of the respective countries; and

(b) the consideration for which such services are being provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLKARJUN): (a) Botswana.

(b) Such services are usually provided as a part of bilateral cooperation agreements.

Improvement in Tea Quality

4293. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Darjeeling Tea is considered to be the best in quality;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to further improve its quality and increase the quantity of this tea;

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

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

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

(b) to (d). With a view to develop the tea industry in Darjeeling, Tea Board pays on interest subsidy @5.1% p.a. on the bank loans under its Darjeeling Interest Subsidy Scheme. The scheme envisages accelerated development at an estimated outlay of Rs. 43 crores over a period of 10 years. This includes extension planting in 2000 ha, replanting in 4500 ha, rejuvenation and infilling in 3000 ha, modernisation of tea factories, creation of irrigation facilities, adoption of improved cultural methods etc. Since inception of the scheme, 48 gardens have availed of the financial assistance.

Besides, the Darjeeling Tea Research Centre (DTRC), Kurseong under direct supervision of Tea Board, undertakes research in replantation, rejuvenation, young tea management, physiological aspects of tea, soil fertility and nutrition, biochemical aspects of flavour chemistry of tea. DTRC also works in the field of transfer of technology. Tea Research Association is also having one advisory unit located at Darjeeling mainly for the purpose of advisors services.

Corruption Cases Against Excise and Customs Officials

4294. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of corruption and possession of assets disproportionate to known sources of income have been registered/pending against Excise and Customs officials during 1991-92 and 1992-93 so far; and

(b) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Information is being collected will be laid down on the table of the House.

Irrigation Development Bank

4295. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gujarat Government have made several requests for establishment of irrigation development bank at district level in the State:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). Ministry of Water Resources has not received requests for establishment of Irrigation Development Bank at district level in Gujarat State. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) do not have any proposal for setting up of such financial institutions for the said purpose.

[*Translation*]

National Highways in Bihar

4296. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects in Bihar regarding National Highways which were to be completed by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-1990);

(b) the names of the projects completed in scheduled time and names of those still incomplete and the names of those projects not started so far; and

(c) the project-wise details of amount sanctioned and the actual amount spent on the projects so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 190 projects comprising 151 road works and 39 bridge works were to be completed on National Highways in Bihar.

(b) 124 projects got completed in scheduled time. There are no cases, where the works have not started.

(c) Details of amounts allocated for sanctioned road and bridge works on National Highways in Bihar are as under:-

Year	Rs. in lakhs
1985-86	1457.39
1986-87	1685.20
1987-88	1350.00
1988-89	1200.00
1989-90	700.00
Total: Rs.	6392.59 lakhs

	Army		Navy		Air Force	
	Gp. C	Gp. D	Gp. C	Gp. D	Gp. C	Gp. D
1990	50	157	3	-	4	4
1991	64	178	4	-	10	6
1992	57	114	3	2	8	4

A.D.B. Loan for Energy Conservation and Environment Improvement Project

4298. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO

[English]

Employment to dependents of Service personnel

4297. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision for employment to dependents of those Service personnel who die in harness, similar to the one existing for civilian Government servants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of dependents of such Servicemen, separately for Army, Navy and Air Force, who have been so employed during the last three years, year-wise and category/class-wise; and

(d) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d). Sons/daughters/near relatives of the Service personnel who die in harness are considered for compassionate appointments in Group 'C' and 'D' posts as per the policy applicable to the dependants of civilian Government Servants. The number of dependents of such personnel who were given compassionate employment during the last three years is as under:-

DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development

Bank has approved a 147 million loan to India for an Energy Conservation and Environment Improvement Project; and

(b) if so, the details of projects on which this amount is likely to be spent, State-wise?

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

(b) The loan will be utilised for financing 23 sub-projects of four oil refineries viz. **Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.**, **Bharat Petroleum Corporation Refineries Ltd.** located in the States of Gujarat, U.P., Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Maharashtra, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh.

Transaction Between India and Foreign Countries in Free Convertible Currencies

4299. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all commercial and non-commercial transaction between India and a number of countries in free convertible currencies is likely to be increased for the year 1993-94;

(b) if so, details and the names of the countries with whom agreements to this effect have been signed in recent months; and

(c) the specific items identified for the purpose.

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

(b) Government of India have concluded agreements on economic, trade, scientific and technological cooperation with the following foreign countries in recent

months which provide for payments to be made in freely convertible currencies for all commercial and non-commercial transactions.

(1) Russia (2) Ukraine (3) Kazakhstan (4) Kyrgyzstan (5) Turkmenistan (6) Tajikistan (7) Armenia (8) Moldavia (9) Czech Republic and (10) Romania.

(c) The agreements cover all commercial and non-commercial transactions. However, repayments, of India's debt to the former USSR will continue to be made in Indian rupees which will be utilised by the Russian Government to import Indian goods and services.

Enhancement of Wage Ceiling for Coverage Under E.S.I. Schemes

4300. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been growing demand for the enhancement of the wage ceiling for coverage under E.S.I. scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b). There had been a demand for enhancement of the wage ceiling for coverage under the ESI Scheme. Government after considering the demand has since raised the wage ceiling from Rs. 1600/- to Rs. 3000/- per month w.e.f. 1.4.1992. There is no proposal to make any further enhancement in the wage ceiling.

Public Sector Banks in West Bengal

4301. SHRISATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of public sector banks in West Bengal as on December 31, 1992;

(b) the deposits made in these banks and the amount of loan disbursed by them during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the amount of loan disbursed was as per the targets; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken to increase the amount loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DRABRAR AHMED):

(a) The number of branches of public sector banks in West Bengal as at the end of September 1992 (latest available) was 3271.

(b) The aggregate deposits and outstanding advances of public sector banks in West Bengal as on March, 1990, March, 1991 and March, 1992 were as given below:-

(Rs. in crores)

	March 1990	March 1991	March 1992
Deposits	15040	16877	18159
Outstanding Advances	7669	8389	8788

(c) and (d). There are no State-wise targets for lending by banks of maintenance of any prescribed credit-deposit ratios. The banks are under instructions of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for taking continuous steps to increase flow of credit to productive and identified viable proposals. The position is reviewed in the Districts Coordination Committee meeting as well as State Level Bankers' Committee meeting periodically.

Meeting of Indo-Sri Lanka Business Council

4302. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) when the last Indo-Sri Lanka Business Council meeting was held;

(b) the number of times the Indo-Sri Lanka joint business council meeting held during the last one year;

(c) the various resolutions adopted and programmes drawn up by the Indo-Sri Lanka Business Council to promote trade between both the countries; and'

(d) the steps taken to implement those programmes with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The India-Sri Lanka Joint Business Council has met twice during the last one year. The third and the last meeting of the JBC was held in Colombo on March 8-9 1993. The Second meeting was held in New Delhi on 9th March, 1992.

(c) and (d). The Joint Business Council is a forum for inter action between the business community of the two countries. Noting the balance of trade in favour of India, the Council stressed the need for accelerating trade between the two countries through diversification of products, by setting up Joint ventures with buy-back arrangements, and by joint export promotion in mutually agreed sectors. The Council also agreed for taking necessary measures in the areas of shipping services and freight rates. The Council hoped that the recent liberalisation measures introduced by India and the greater role assigned to the private sector would help in greater flow of Indian investment into Sri Lanka.

Export of Granite

4303. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the granite export has suffered due to the recent changes made in the new mineral policy;

(b) whether Japan have decided to reduce the export of granite on account of this; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to overcome this problem?

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

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

Environmental Friendly Integrated Plan

4304. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated an environmental friendly integrated plan for transport in metropolitan towns of the country during the Eighth Five year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated outlays provided for these schemes from all sources, source-wise including financial assistance from international agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The Ministry of Environment and Forests have drawn up a Draft Policy Note on Air Pollution in metropolitan towns wherein certain steps are proposed to be taken. These steps include earmarking natural gas for Transport Sector, promoting public transportation in place of personalised transport, instituting of disincentives for private transport in heavily polluted and congested areas, etc. The

State Departments of Environment have to frame their own guidelines on the basis of this National Policy.

(c) In view of the reply to (a) and (b) above does not arise.

Foreigners Arrested Under Customs Act

4305. SHRI PARASRAMBHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreigners arrested under Customs Act, 1962 during the last three years;

(b) whether any diplomats have also been detained while smuggling during the above period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The number of foreigners arrested under the Customs Act, 1962 during the last three years is given below:-

<i>Years</i>	<i>No. of foreigners arrested</i>
1990	496
1991	236
1992	127

(b) and (c). No diplomat has reportedly been detained under the provisions of the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Act, 1974 during the above period.

Revenue Earned Food Processing Industries

4306. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the excise duty earned from food

processing industries during the first six months of year 1992-93;

(b) whether revenue has increased as compared to the last six months of year 1991-92; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). Chapters 2 to 23 of the Schedule of Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 cover food processing industry and a few other items. The central excise duty realised from all goods falling under these chapters for the first six months of 1992-93 has increased to Rs. 773 crores as against Rs. 717 crores for the last six months of 1991-92.

[*Translation*]

Scheme of Nabard for Small Farmers

4307. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are running any scheme through the National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for the small farmers;

(b) if so, the names of the districts in which the said scheme has been undertaken during the last three years; and

(c) the district-wise number of farmers benefited therefrom during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) of the Government of India is implemented in all the States of the country and it is intended to benefit small/marginal farmers and weaker sections of the community. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

(NABARD) is refinancing banks which advance loans under IRD Programme. Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) also provide loans particularly to small farmers and weaker sections of the community who are the targetted beneficiaries as per the guidelines issued to them.

(c) The data reporting system of NABARD does not generate district-wise information as asked for.

[*English*]

Import of Newsprint

4308. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed the newspaper traders to import newsprint indented with the State Trading Corporation (STC) in 1991-92 waiving the condition of purchase of indigenous newsprint;

(b) what are the norms that have been formulated by the Government for the newspapers to purchase newsprint and whether the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) has entitlement for the issue of some specifying certificate;

(c) what are the details of quota allocated for each newspaper (newspaper-wise) by the Government;

(d) whether the Government have issued any public notice to waive conditions for those left with unserved quantity; and

(e) if so, the what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) (d) and (e). Those newspapers whose indents for imported newsprint in 1991-92 could not be serviced by the State Trading Corporation of India have been allowed to import the

"unserviced" quantities to newsprint relating to 1991-92 without the 2.1 condition prescribed in the Public Notice No. 4-ITC (PN)/92-97 dated 31 March 1992 issued by the Ministry of Commerce governing the policy for the import of newsprint. The Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) shall issue Entitlement Certificates to such newspapers indicating the specific 'Unserviced' quantities of newsprint allowed for import. No entitlement certificate has so far been issued in this regard by the RNI.

(b) As from 1 April 1992, the import of newsprint is governed by the Public Notice No. 4. ITC (PN)/92-97 dated 31 March 1992 issued by the Ministry of Commerce. According to this Public Notice, newspapers consuming more than 200 MTs of newsprint per annum are entitled to import standard newsprint subject to the condition that they can import 1 MT of newsprint for every 2 MTs

of indigenously produced newsprint purchased by them. As long as this condition is fulfilled there is no limitation on the quantity of newsprint that they may import. So far as newspapers consuming less than 200 MTA of newsprint per annum are concerned, the above mentioned condition does not apply, but the Registrar of Newspapers for India will determine the maximum quantity of newsprint that they may import under an annual import entitlement certificate. The guidelines for issuing such entitlement certificates are contained in the Public Notice No. 1 PR-NP/92 dated 5th May, 1992 issued by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

(c) The total number of newspapers to whom the Registrar of Newspapers for India had allocated newsprint during 1991-92 is 2463. The details of the quantity of newsprint allocated are given below:

Category	No. of papers	Glazed	Standard	Total imported	Indigenous	Grand Total
BIG	279	8444.68	86641.76	05086.44	33896.23	8982.67
Medium	334	5489.33	15995.12	21484.45	33886.40	55370.85
Small	1850	1678.15	88208.34	89886.49	9915.74	99802.23
	2463	25612.16	190845.22	216457.38	277698.37	494155.75

[Translation]

Central Assistance to Madhya Pradesh

4309. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the development schemes and construction works in Madhya Pradesh have been adversely affected by financial crises;

(b) if so, the additional amount allocated to the State from the Central Assistance Fund in comparison to the amount due; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to help the State Government to overcome this financial crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The annual Plan of Madhya Pradesh for 1992-93

was approved at Rs. 2400.00 crores after discussions between the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and the Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh were held on 11.1.1992. The plan was fully funded by State's own resources of Rs. 1181.12 crores and Central support of Rs. 1218.88 crores. On the request of the State Government, the Annual Plan has been revised downward from Rs. 2400.00 crores to Rs. 1792.00 crores as there has been shortfall in State's own resources

(b) and (c). Transfers of resources to the States are made on the recommendations of the Finance Commission and the Planning Commission and there is no mechanism for transfer of funds beyond these recommendations. States are expected to mobilise their part of resources as agreed at the Time of Annual Plan formulation so that Plan is fully implemented.

[English]

Setting up of Cashew Board

4310. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Cashew Board; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) There is no proposal at present in the Ministry of Commerce to set up a Cashew Board

(b) Does not arise

More Powers to SEBI

4311. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give more statutory powers to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to regulate more effectively the functioning of the capital market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) and (c). On the basis of experience gained, the details are being finalised in consultation with Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), to implement the decision announced in the Budget Speech of Finance Minister to amend the SEBI Act in order to increase its effectiveness.

Strike by Transporters

4312. SHRI ANNA JOSHI:
SHRI PAWAN KUMAR
BANSAL:
DR. VISWANATHAM
KANNTHI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Motor Transport Congress has issued fresh threat to resume its stir for abolition of 'path kar' and octroi duty;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the action plan prepared by the Government meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. However, the call for resumption of strike by All India Motor Transport Congress from 1st of April, 1993 has since been postponed for three months.

Assistance to North Eastern States

4313. SHRI BALRAM PASSI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total financial assistance provided to North Eastern States by various financial institutions during 1991 and 1992;

(b) whether assistance provided in 1992 to these States was according to the targets fixed;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to remove regional imbalance in regard to the assistance being provided by financial institutions in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that the total financial assistance provided by the All India Term Leasing Financial Institutions to the North-Eastern region during 1990-91 and 1991-92 was Rs.95.3 crores and Rs. 122.6 crores respectively.

(b) and (c). IDBI has reported that the financial institutions fix their targets of business on all India basis and no State-wise allocation is done. However, viable projects are financed within the common pool irre-

spective of their location with priority within the common pool irrespective of their location with priority being accorded to the projects in industrially backward States.

(d) Though Balanced Regional Development has been a major projective of Government policy, some disparities still exist among the backward districts mainly on account of level of resource endowments as also infrastructure development. Therefore, the present thrust of backward area development policy is towards creating the necessary infrastructural framework in certain selected growth centres spread across various States. The All India financial institutions have also agreed to provide some financial assistance for setting up of these growth centres.

Facilities Under Import Licences Scheme

4314. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI G.L. DEVARAYA NAIK:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Federation of Indian Export Organisations to provide more facilities to the Government recognised export houses, trading houses under the Special Import Licence Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government to liberalise the import licence scheme to encourage exports/imports; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (d). Review of the Export and Import policy is a continuous process and changes in the policy are as and when considered necessary.

Branches of Public Sector banks in Andhra Pradesh

4315. SHRI BOILA BULLI
RAMAIAH:
DR. D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of public sector banks in Andhra Pradesh as on February 28, 1993;

(b) the deposit made in these banks and the amount of loan disbursed by them during the last two years;

(c) whether the amount of loan was disbursed as per the target; and

(d) the amount of loan provided to the Small Scale Industries (SSI) units in Andhra Pradesh during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED):
(a) The number of branches of public sector banks in Andhra Pradesh as on 30.9.0.92 (latest available) was 3299.

(b) The aggregate deposits and outstanding advances of public sector banks in Andhra Pradesh as at the end of last Friday of March 1991 and March 1992 were as given below:

(Rs. in crores)

	Deposit	Credit
March 1991	10000	8354
March 1992	10920	8905

(c) No State-wise targets are fixed by banks for loan disbursements or maintenance of any prescribed credit - deposit ratios. However a credit - deposit ratio of 60% in rural and semi-urban areas has to be achieved for the banks as a whole on All India basis.

(d) The amount of loans outstanding of public sector banks to SSI units in Andhra Pradesh as at the end of March 1990 and 1991 were as under:-

(Amount in Rs. crores)

March 1990	910.85
March 1991	1022.08

[Translation]

Tea Exporting countries

4316. SHRI MOHAN LAL JHIKRAM:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the place at which India ranks at present among the tea exporting countries and the name of the countries which produce best quality of tea?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): India is the second largest exporter of tea in the world after Sri Lanka, at present. India is famous for its three distinguished quality teas grown in 3 different tea growing regions of the country namely Darjeeling, Assam and Nilgris. Sri Lanka, Kenya and China also produce quality teas.

Bank Branches in U.P.

4317. DR. LAL BHARDUR RAWAL:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of banks proposed to be opened in Uttar Pradesh as

per target during the last two years and the names of the places where these were to be opened;

(b) the percentage of target achieved in this regard so far; and

(c) the names if the banks branches which have been opened during the above period and the places where these have been opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAEMED):
(a) and (b). No State-wise targets are fixed by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for opening of branches. Under the new branch licens-

ing policy, the banks which have attained the revised capital adequacy norms and prudential accounting standards will be given freedom to set up new branches.

Commercial banks have been allotted 18 centres for opening branches in rural areas in Uttar Pradesh. Locations of these centres are given in the statement -I For urban /metropolitan centers, RBI has allotted 108 licences to banks for opening their branches in Uttar Pradesh. List of such centres is given in the statement- II.

(c) names of Banks opened in Uttar Pradesh during the year 1991 and 1992 and the locations thereof are given in the statement -III,

STATEMENT-I

List of Rural Centres Allotted to Commercial Banks in Uttar Pradesh

S.No.	District	Centre
1.	Hamirpur	Para
2.	Balia	Kaithauli
3.	Bulandshahr	Akbarpur
4.	Bulandshahr	Kamlpur
5.	Bulandshahr	Kudwal
6.	Dehrudun	Bandewali
7.	Shahjahanpur	Narautha
8.	Almora	Daulaghat
9.	Etawah	Mibouli
10.	Etawah	Naugwan
11.	Hardwar	Khanpur

<i>S.No. District</i>	<i>Centre</i>
12. Hardwar	Shyampur
13. Hardwar	Imlikhere
14. Sonbhadra	Chhapka
15. Sonbhadra	Chatra
16. Sonbhadra	Duraval Khurd
17. Barabanki	Sabheman
18. Banda	Bargarh

STATEMENT-II

*List of Centres Allocated in U.P. for
Opening Brnches at Urban/Metroprolitan/
Port Town Centre*

S. No. Centre/Locality

District : Kanpur

1. Babauli
2. Sarai Maswanpur (Panki)
3. Roma (Near Maharajpur)
4. Korahi Road (Surra)
5. Patel Nagar (Between) Ramaderi and Airport
6. Ganga Vihar (Jajman)
7. Tagore Road Cantt.

District : Lucknow:

8. Deva Road (Industrial Area)
9. Vikas Nagar

S. No. Centre/Locality

10. Sector 18 Ring Road Indira Nagar
11. Uthrathia, Rae-Bareilly Road
12. Sadatganj
13. Thakurganj (Belaganj Croressing)
14. Babuganj

District: Agra

15. Sikandara
16. Pandav Nagar
17. Rajpur Chung.
18. Hira Bagh Colony

District: Firozabad

19. Suhag Nagar

Distric Aligarh

20. Manas Sarovar
21. Kela Nagar

S. No.	Centre/Locality
22.	Mahendra Nagar <i>District : Allahabad</i>
23.	Kalyani Devi
24.	Khuldabad (Subji(Mandi))
25.	Nayaya Nagar
26.	Govindpur
27.	Naini Industrial Area
28.	Katra
29.	Bans Mandi <i>District: Mirzapur</i>
30.	Shivala Mahant
31.	Muzaffarganj <i>District : Varanasi</i>
32.	Banaras Hindu University Campus
33.	Railway Settlement (DIW)
34.	Brij Enclave
35.	Ardali Bazar
36.	Shivahi Nagar
37.	Gurdham Colony <i>District: Jaunpur</i>
38.	Sipah
39.	Jagdishpur (Varanasi Road) <i>District : Bareilly</i>
40.	Parsa Khera

S. No.	Centre/Locality
41.	Old City/Purana Sahar
42.	Nekpur Budaun Road
43.	Ektanagar
44.	Madi Nath, Nekpur <i>District Rampur</i>
45.	Noor Mahal Awas Vikas Colony
46.	Tarinpur Purana Sitapur
47.	Hempurwa Sahajahanpur Road <i>District : Shahjahanpur</i>
48.	Cantonment
49.	Lodhipur
50.	Bahadurganj
51.	Jalal Nagar <i>District: Dehradun</i>
52.	Jakhan
53.	Arya Nagar
54.	Ballupur (Crossing)
55.	Nehru Colony
56.	Balbir Road
57.	D.L. Road
58.	Guru Road
59.	Race Course
60.	Dhobalwala

S. No. Centre/Locality*District : Sahjahanapur*

61. Dehat Road Crossing
62. Berinbagh
63. Ghowk - New Madhonagar
64. Naveen Nagar
65. Bara Chowk Hamikat Nagar
66. New Avas Vikas Colony

District: Muzaffarmanagar

67. North Civil Lines
67. Anandpuri

District : Etawah

69. Civil Lines (Manipur Road)
70. Chhairaha
71. Mao Darwaja
72. BHolepur, Fatehganj
73. Kachehari Raod, Fatehgarh

District : Bahraich

74. Darganj
75. Basirganj

District ; Moradabad

76. Kanth Raod
78. Mohalla-Lakra Bijnoor Road

District: Jhansi

79. Nandanpura

S. No. Centre/Locality

80. Rafugee Colony (Crossing Jarphar Road, Civil Lines)
81. Kacheri Raod (Sadar Bazar)

District: Gorakhpur

82. Railway Raod, Gorakhpur
83. Ramgarh Tal
84. Maya Bazar
85. Lachhipur
86. Padleganj
87. Bhalotin Market

District : Meerut

88. Shastri Nagar (Hapur Road)

District: Ghaziabad

90. Vasundhara Avas Vikas Colony
91. Vaishali
92. Pratap Vihar
93. Shastri Nagar Sector (C and D)

S. No. Centre/Locality

94. Noida Sector 14, 14, 15 and 15A
95. Nodia Sector 21 and 25 Jalvaya-Vikas
96. Nodia City Centre Sector 25A 32
97. Nodia Sector 22 Phase II

S. No. Centre/Locality*District : Hapur:*

98. Meerut Road (Sardar Industries)
 99. Bulandshact Road (U.P. Avas Vikas Colony)
 110. Delhi Road Near U.P. Agra
 101. Bhoor Chauraha

District: Mathura:

102. Krishan Janma Bhoomi
 103. Bharatpur Gate

District: Faizabad

104. Niwawan
 105. Civil Lines Kutchahari
 106. Deonagar

District: Ghaziabad

107. Kaushasubi
 108. Brij Bihar

*List of Additional Centres Allotted in
 U.P. in 1991 and 1992*

*1991 Centre**District: Pratapgarh*

1. Durgaganj
 2. Raniganj

District: Rampur

3. *Rampur

District Jaunpur

4. Satharia Industrial Estate

S. No. Centre/Locality*District: Pithoragarh*

5. Gunjl

District: Bijnor

6. Noorpur
 1992

District: Maharasjgarj

7. Maharajanj

District: Ghaziabad

8. Ioni

District : Rae Bareilly

9. Rac Baroilly

District: Tehri Galthwal

10. Dhalwale

District: Etawah

11. Pata

District: Moradabad

12. Alipur Chopla
 13. Kanpur- Tegore Road
 14. Etawah - Takiya Azad Gaon
 15. Allahabad-Rajrooppur
 16. Moradabad Pitta Nagri
 17. Saharanpur - Kabari Bazar
 18. Lucknow-Abdul Aziz Road
 19. Jhansi-Station Road
 20. Moradabad- Majhola-Delhi Road
 21. Jajunpur-Shakar Mandi
 22. Mirzapur-Civil Lines

STATEMENT -III

Names of the bank opened during 1991 and 1992 in Uttar Pradesh and the locations thereof

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>District/Name of Bank</i>	<i>Centre</i>
<i>Agra</i>		
1.	<i>Central Bank of India Almora</i>	<i>Almora</i>
2.	<i>Nainital Almora Kshtriya Gramin Bank</i>	<i>Almora</i>
3.	<i>Punjab National Bank (Bahraich)</i>	<i>Marchula</i>
4.	<i>Allahabad Bank</i>	<i>Bahraich</i>
5.	<i>Allahabad Bank</i>	<i>Chak Pihbani</i>
6.	<i>Allahabad Bank</i>	<i>Dayal</i>
7.	<i>Allahabad Bank (Banda)</i>	<i>Gopia</i>
8.	<i>Allahabad Bank Bara Banki</i>	<i>Tlaria Unha</i>
9.	<i>State Bank of India</i>	<i>Bhelsar</i>
10.	<i>Bank of India</i>	<i>Durgapur Naubasta</i>
11.	<i>Bank of India</i>	<i>Makanpur</i>
12.	<i>Bank of India</i>	<i>Nawai Chauraha</i>
13.	<i>Punjab National Bank Basti</i>	<i>Usmanpur</i>
14.	<i>State Bank of India</i>	<i>Badah Chauraha</i>
15.	<i>State Bank of India Bulandshahr</i>	<i>Keshavpur</i>
16.	<i>Hindon Gramin Bank</i>	<i>Bulandshahr</i>

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>District/Name of Bank</i>	<i>Centre</i>
	<i>Chamohiti</i>	
17.	State Bank of India	Chopra
18.	State Bank of India	Kulsari
19.	State Bank of India	Ladoli
	<i>Deoria</i>	
20.	State Bank of India	Narianpur (Block R. Karkha)
21.	State Bank of India	Tarkulwa
22.	Central Bank of India	Vishunpura
	<i>Etawah</i>	
23.	Etawah Kshetrya Gramin Bank	Murhi
	<i>Faizabad</i>	
24.	Bank of Baroda	Faizabad
25.	United Bank of India	Faizabad
	<i>Garhwal</i>	
26.	Punjab National Bank	Chelusdain
27.	Punjab National Bank	Deobiakhai
28.	Punjab National Bank	Ganidakha;
29.	Alaknanda Gramin Bank	Goom
30.	Punjab National Bank	Khandusain
31.	Punjab National Bank	Khirkoo
	<i>Ghaziabad</i>	
32.	Allahabad Bank	Ghaziabad
33.	United Bank of India	Hapur

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>District/Name of Bank</i>	<i>Centre</i>
	<i>Gonda</i>	
34.	Allahabad Bank	Raijapur
35.	Punjab National Bank	Balrampur
36.	Allahabad Bank	Iumaria Dee
37.	Allahabad Bank	Hariharganj
38.	Allahabad Bank	Imilia Banghusra
39.	Punjab National Bank	Jahdaria
40.	State Bank of India	Janakpur
	<i>Gorakhpur</i>	
41.	State Bank of India	Gorakhpur
	<i>Jhansi</i>	
42.	Ulited Bank of India	Jhansi
	<i>Lucknow</i>	
43.	Bank of Baroda	Lucknow
44.	Central Bank of India	Lucknow
	<i>Meerut</i>	
45.	State Bank of India	Meerut
	<i>Moradabad</i>	
46.	Allahabad Bank	Moradabad
47.	Synddicate Bank	Moradabad
48.	Punjab National Bank	Buchha Kheri
49.	Bareilly Corporation Bank Ltd.	Muzaffarnagar
	<i>Pilibhit</i>	
50.	Bank of Baroda	Kainch
51.	State Bank of India	Kampur Mishra

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>District/Name of Bank</i>	<i>Centre</i>
52.	Punjab and Sindh Bank	Ramnagar
53.	Bank of Baroda <i>Pratapgarh</i>	Sidhnagar
54.	New Bank of India	Dugaganj
55.	New Bank of India <i>Saharanpur</i>	Raniganj Dhandupur
56.	Union Bank of India <i>Shahjahnapur</i>	Saharanpur
57.	Bank of Baroda <i>Sidharathangar</i>	Mohanpur Mamrejpur
58.	State Bank of India	Auratai
59.	State Bank of India	Badhya
60.	Central Bank of India	Beiwa
61.	Punjab National Bank	Katahana
62.	State Bank of India	Mannijot
63.	State Bank of India <i>Sitapur</i>	Sikri Bakharia
64.	United Bank of India <i>Tehari Garhwal</i>	Sitapur
65.	State Bank of India	Jakhand
66.	State Bank of India <i>Varanasi</i>	Pratap Nagar
67.	Bank of Baroda	Varanasi

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>District/Name of Bank</i>	<i>Centre</i>
68.	Cental Bank of India	Varanasi
	<i>Agra</i>	
1.	State Bank of India	Agra
	<i>Aligarh</i>	
2.	Punjab National Bank	Aligarh
3.	United Bank of India	Aligarh
	<i>Allahabad</i>	
4.	Bank of Baroda	Allahabad
5.	Bank of Baroda	Allahabad
6.	Dena Bank	Nyaya Nagar
	<i>Bara Banki</i>	
7.	New Bank of India	Barada Bank
	<i>Barailly</i>	
8.	Bank of Baroda	Bareilly
9.	Punjab National Bank	Bareilly
10.	State Bank of India	Ekta Nagar
	<i>Buiandshahar</i>	
11.	Punjab National Bank	Bulandshahr
12.	Bank of Baroda	Kamalpur
13.	Bank of Baroda	Kudbai Banaras
	<i>Dehradun</i>	
14.	State Bank of India	Dehradun
15.	Allahabad Bank	Dehradun

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>District/Name of Bank</i>	<i>Centre</i>
16.	UCO Bank	Dehradun
17.	Union Bank of India	Dehradun
18.	Bareilly Corporation Bank Ltd.	Dehradun
19.	Central Bank of India <i>Farukhabad</i>	Deoria
20.	Bank of Baroda <i>Ferozabad</i>	Farrukhabad-cum Fatehgarh
21.	Punjab National Bank <i>Ghaziabad</i>	Ferozabad
22.	State Bank of Saurashtra	Ghaziabad
23.	State Bank of Patiala	Hapur
24.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	Ioni
25.	Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd. <i>Gorakhpur</i>	Noida
26.	Punjab National Bank	Gorakhpur
27.	Union Bank of India <i>Hamirpur</i>	Gorakhpur
28.	Allahabad Bank <i>Jaunpur</i>	Para (Khera)
29.	Bank of Baroda	Jaunpur
30.	Canara Bank <i>Kanpur City</i>	Jaunpur
31.	State Bank of India'	Kanpur

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>District/Name of Bank</i>	<i>Centre</i>
32.	Bank of Baroda	Kanpur
33.	Bank of Baroda	Kanpur
34.	Central Bank of India	Kanpur
35.	Punjab National Bank <i>Lucknow</i>	Kanpur
36.	State Bank of Indore <i>Maharajganj</i>	Lucknow
37.	Punjab National Bank <i>Manipuri</i>	Maharajganj
38.	Bank of India <i>Mathura</i>	Karhal
39.	State Bank of India <i>Meerut</i>	Mathura
40.	Syndicate Bank	Meerut
41.	Union Bank of India <i>Mirzapur</i>	Meerut
42.	Allahabad Bank	Mirzapur
43.	Bank of Baroda <i>Moradabad</i>	Mirzapur
44.	Punjab National Bank	Amroha
45.	Kashi Nath State Bank Ltd. <i>Pithopragarh</i>	Moradabad
46.	State Bank of India <i>Saharanpur</i>	Gunji
47.	Bank of Baroda	Saharanpur

S.No.	District/Name of Bank	Centre
48.	Bank of Baroda	Saharanpur
49.	Punjab National Bank Shahjahanpur	Saharanpur
50.	State Bank of Patiala Varanasi	Shahahanpur
51.	Bank of Baroda	Varanasi
52.	Punjab national Bank	Varanasi

Loan to Farmers

4319. DR. SUDHIR RAY:
SHRI HARADHAN ROY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the advances disbursed by the public sector banks to small and marginal farmers and for setting up agro based industries, separately during 1991 and 1992, State-wise;

(b) the position of the recovery of above loans; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to extend such loan facilities to more persons during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). As per information available with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), data relating to direct agricultural loans (excluding allied activities) disbursed and outstanding by all scheduled commercial banks to small and marginal farmers for June 1990 and June 1991 (latest available) is as under:

As on last Friday of	Disbursed during the year	Outstanding as on the last Friday.
June 1990	1992.5	5400.0
June 1991	2132.0	5764.0

Data reporting system does not generate desperate data in respect of agro-based industries.

State-wise break up of the above advances as also recovery position in respect of direct agricultural advance as on the last Friday of June 1991 is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House to the extent possible.

(c) Under the Service Area Approach introduced with effect from April, 1, 1989 specific areas has been assigned to each branch in the rural and semi-urban areas. Annual Credit Plans are prepared by each branch for its service area covering number of beneficiaries, after taking into account there sources position, infrastructural facilities available and the potential for the activity. An important aspect of service area approach is the continuons monitoring system of implementation of plans and

ing system of implementation of plans and individual schemes. The approach is also intended to improve the coverage of persons under the credit delivery system.

Rubber Plantation in Orissa

4320. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total hectare of land in Orissa brought under rubber plantation so far;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to bring additional land under rubber plantation in Orissa during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The area brought under Rubber Plantation in Orissa so far is 270 Hectares.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The additional land proposed to be brought under Rubber Plantation during the 8th Plan period is 575 hectares

(d) The Board as a zonal office at Bhubaneswar and two Regional Offices at Berhampur and Barricade to cater to the needs of the intending Rubber Growers.

[*Translation*]

Unemployed in U.P.

4321 SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of LABOURS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed persons in Uttar Pradesh as on December 31, 1992, category-wise; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for providing employment to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) As per the last comprehensive survey on Employment and Unemployment conducted by the national Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in 1987-88, the total number of unemployed by weekly status was 12.18 lakhs in Uttar Pradesh. A person is considered to be unemployed by weekly status if, though available for work, he did not get woke even for one hour during the reference, week. The registration in the Employment Exchanges un U.P. however, shows that the total number of persons, not all of whom are necessarily unemployed, on the live register of Employment Exchanges as on December, 1992 was 25.35 lakhs. Out of this about 66.5 percent were educated. As per the survey carried out in the year 1988 among the persons in the live register of the employment exchanges in U.P. 61.04 percent were unemployed as er weekly status.

(b) Employment is a thrust area of the Eighth Five Year Plan. The Plan emphasis the need for high rate of economic growth, combined with faster growth of sectors, subsectors and areas which have relatively high employment potential for enhancing the pace of employment generation. Details of the strategy envisaged are given in the Plan Document. Besides the sectoral development programmes, Special Employment Programmes like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) scheme for providing Self Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth (SRRUY), etc. being implemented in Uttar Pradesh, will also generate employment in the State.

Development of National Highways in Maharashtra

4322. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH
RAO GUNDEWAR:
SHRI TEJSINGH RAO
BHONSLE:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals sent by the Government of Maharashtra for development of National Highway in the State during the year 1992-93 and Eighth Plan period; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Upto 15.3.1993 of the financial year 1992-93 which is the first year of 8th Five Year Plan, 43 proposals (Seven relating to bridges and thirty six relating to Roads) amounting to Rs. 19.87 crores were received from the Government of Maharashtra for development of National Highways. Of these, 25 proposals amounting to Rs. 10.39 crores have been sanctioned, 3 proposals amounting to Rs. 3.88 crores are under scrutiny and 15 proposals amounting to Rs. 5.93 crores have been returned

[English]

Targets Stipulated by IMF

4323. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have failed to meet some of the monetary targets stipulated by the International monetary Fund

a condition for granting \$ 2.3. billion loan under Stand by Agreement to India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the consequences of this failure; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) to (d). Do not arise

Free Vessels for Inland Water Transport

4324. DR. D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide some vessels free of cost on trial basis to develop inland water transport;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The Government has recently approved a scheme of the Inland Waterways Authority of India for providing 2 self-propelled vessels of 600 T carrying capacity free of cost (bareboat basis) to reputed private operators for operating on experimental -cum-

promotion run for a period of one year in the National Waterway (Ganga) The operating cost including the manning will be borne by the operator. The estimated cost of the scheme is Rs. 84.00 lakhs.

(c) The scheme is to be implemented during the financial year 1993-94

Bank Targets for Upliftment of Persons

4325. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target was fixed by the public sector banks in the country during 1992-93 for the upliftment of the persons living below the private line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the achievements made in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIR (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). The Public Sector Banks are under instructions of the Government and Reserve Bank of India (rbi) to extend financial assistance to the weaker sections and person below the poverty line for their upliftment on an on-going basis. Banks have been advised by RBI to extend at last 10% of their total advances or 25% of their priority sector advances to the weaker sections which comprises small and marginal farmers, land-less labourers, tenant farmers, and share croppers, artisans, villages and cottage industries and scheduled castes/scheduled tribes beneficiaries. Under the DRI Scheme the public sector banks as a whole are required to lend 1% of their total advances as at the end of the previous year to weaker sections. Under Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME) bank loans

are provided to the unemployed or under-employed urban poor living below the poverty line in metropolitan cities, and towns with the population exceeding 10,000 as per 1981 census. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) is the major programme of Government of India to assist selected families of target groups in rural areas to cross the poverty line by taking up self-employment ventures. For the year 1992-93, Ministry of Rural Development which administers IRDP Scheme have allocated a physical target of 18.75 lakhs families to be covered by the various State Governments and Union territories. Under IRDP, in all 13.55 lakhs families have been assisted against the annual target of 18.75 lakhs families till the end of January, 1993 and credit to the tune of Rs. 653.76 crores has been disbursed from financial institutions under the programme.

[*Translation*]

SBI Branches in Gujarat

4326. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of branches of the State Bank of India in Gujarat particularly in Baroda, Bharuch and Panchmahal districts;

(b) the number of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes working as officers in various grades in these branches;

(c) the number of proposals to set up new branches of this Bank in Gujarat pending for approval with the Union Government; and

(d) the number of new branches of the State bank of India proposed to be set up in the State during next year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMATRY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Total number of Stat Bank of India branchbes in Gujarat 429. Out of there

these are 60 branches in Boroda, 25 in Bharuch and 17 in Panchmahal Districts.

(b) Number of SC/ST Officers in Gujarat:

	SC	ST	Total
Grade I	242	93	335
Grade II	51	9	60
Grade III	4	1	5
Grade Iv	-	-	-
Grade V and above	1	-	1
Total	298	103	401

(c) and (d). State Bank of India have 12 authorisations of Reserve Bana of India (RBI) for opening new branches in Gujarat. Out of these 10 are likley to be opened in the next year. Branch opening proposals do not require approval of Government of India and RBI approves such proposals, in accordance with the guidelines laid down by them.

Forcces

4328. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of commissioned officers of Army, Navy and Air Force against whom action has been taken for acts of in discipline and graft during the past three years; and

(b) the details of the action taken so far against each of these offices?

[English]

Effect of Full Convertibility on Exports

4327. DR. VISHWANATH KANITHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the steps taken to boost the exports to annual the effects of full convertibility of rupee?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Introduction of unified market determined exchange rate system is itself a positive step towards boosting exports.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). For acts of Indisciplie and graft, action against 1358 officers of the Army, Navy and Air Force has been taken during he last three years. The action taken varies from censures to dismissal as also rigorous imprisonment in certain cases, depending upon the nature of the offence and culpability of the offender.

Indiscipline and Graft Cases in Armed

Tobacco Exports

Tobacco Exports

4329. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKARESHWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tobacco auctions for the year 1993-94 have already been commenced in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether any agreements have been signed with the foreign countries for the export of tobacco so far;

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

(d) the quantity of tobacco likely to be exported during the year 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No agreement for export of tobacco as such has been signed. However, in some of the Trade Protocols, etc. there are lists of items agreed/indicated for trade, and tobacco is included in those in specified quantities/values

(d) Tobacco Board has projects a target of 84,000 tons of manufactured tobacco for export during 1993-94.

Impact of Convertibility of Rupee on shipping Industry

4330. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the impact of convertibility of rupee on the country's shipping industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). No, Sir. It is too early for a realistic assessment to be made. However, preliminary indications show that the full convertibility of rupee is not likely to have an adverse impact on the profitability of Indian Shipping Industry.

[Translation]

Export of Basmati Rice

4331. SHRIBHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:
SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of Basmati rice exported during the year 1992-93 till date;

(b) the rate at which this rice was exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom: and

(c) the target fixed for export thereof for 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). During April 1992 to February 1993, an estimated quantity of 2,41,775 MTs valued at US\$ 207.70 million has been exported. The unit value works out to be US \$ 860 per MT.

(Source ; APEDA)

(c) No target for export of Basmati rice during 1993-94 has been fixed so far.

Indo-Pak Economic Cooperation

4332. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been signed between India and Pakistan to increase economic cooperation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by both the Government to strengthen trade and economic cooperation between the two countries?

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

(b) Does not arise

(c) The issues are taken up at Indo-Pak joint Commission level.

[English]

Loan to SCs/STs by Public Sector banks in Sikkim

4333. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loan dis'bursed to SCs/STs and other backward classes in Sikkim by the public sector banks during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the loan were disbursed as per the targets during the above period; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIR (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). In terms of Reserve Bank of India's guidelines all public sector banks are required to extend atleast 10% of their total credit to weaker sections, including Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes. No State-wise/ borrower category-wise targets in this regard have been stipulated. However, the outstanding amount of advances of all scheduled commercial banks extended to priority sector, weaker sections and Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in Sikkim as at the end of September 1989, March 1990 and March 1991 (latest available) are given below:

(Amount in Rs. lakhs)

As at the end of	Priority Sector		Weaker Sections		SC/STs	
	Accounts	Amount	Accounts	Amount	Accounts	Amount
September 1989	14839	360	11825	360	4416	100
March 1990	10100	1200	14444	690	6836	250
March 1991	14317	820	10261	426	4100	160

Pending Applications for New Public Issues with SEBI

4334. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of applications are still pending for clearance with Securities and Exchanges Board of India (SEBI) for new public issues by certain companies;

(b) is so, since when these applications are pending with the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by SEBI to clear proposals of these companies expeditiously; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). As on March 15, 1993, the number of offer documents pending with SEBI for clearance is 73, out of which 27 have been submitted only during the preceding 10 days. The remaining 46 documents have already been examined by SEBI and are pending for want of further information from the lead managers.

(c) In respect of the 46 documents, SEBI have already called for additional information from the lead managers. Remaining 27 are under examination of SEBI.

(d) SEBI expects to clear the documents within 10 working days from the date of receipt of full and complete information.

Grant of Licensee for Border Trade with Bangladesh

4335. KUMARI PUSHPAA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any licences has been granted to Mizoram by the Government to start the process of border trade with Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to grant similar licences to some other States;

(d) if so, the number of applications pending with the Government for granting such licences, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in the matter?

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

(b) to (e). Do not arise

Exemption from Labour Laws

4336. DR. C. SILVERA: SHRIMATI VAUSNDHARA RAJE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether some requests have been received from Export Oriented Units for exemption from labour laws;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

Bank Loans under IRDP to Bihar

4337. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families financed under the IRDP in Bihar during 1991-92 with the amount disbursed for the State as a whole, district-wise and bank-wise and the name of the lead bank for each district; and

(b) the corresponding information for the year 1992-93 upto December 1992.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). The number of families assisted under the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) in Bihar during the year 1991-92 and 1992-93 (upto December 1992) and the amount disbursed by all banks functioning in the State as a whole are given below:

Year	No. of families assisted	amount disbursed (Rs. in lakhs)
1991-92	336972	12634
1992-93 (upto December 1992)	129647	5032

The details regarding district-wise and bank-wise performance under IRDP in Bihar are not available, and the Bank of India, the Convenor of State Level bankers Committee of the State is being advised to furnish the same. The details so collected will be laid on the Table of the House

Name of the Lead Banks and districts allotted to them in the State of Bihar are given below:-

Lead Bank	Name of district allotted
Bank of India	Dhanbad, Giridih, Gumla, Hazaribagh, Lohardagga, Ranchi, Singhbhum, Purbisinghbhum, Bokaro and Chaora.
Central Bank of India	East Champaran, West Champaran, Dharbhanga, Gopalganj, Katihar, Madhepura, Madhubani, Muzaffarpur, Purnea, Saharsa, Samastipur, Saran, Sitamarhi, Siwan, Kishali, Kishanganj and Supaul
Punjab National Bank	Aurangabad, Bhojpur, Gaya, Nalanda, Nawadah, Patnam Rohtas, Jehanabad, Bhabua and Buxar.
UCO Bank	Bengusarai, Bhagalpur, Khatwa, Monghyr, Bank and Jamui.
State Bank of India	Deoari, Dumka, Godda, Palamau, Sahabganj, Araria and Garhwa.

[Translation]

National Highways in Bihar

4338. SHRI LALIT ORAON:
SHRI BHUBANHESHWAR
PRASAD META:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise details of the proposals received from the State Government of Bihar during the last three years and 1992-93;

(b) the details of the amount sanctioned/allocated, project-wise and year-wise; and

(c) by what time the remaining amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b).
Year-wise details of the proposals received
from the State Govt., projects sanctioned
and overall year-wise allocation for National
Highway works in Bihar is as under:

Year	Proposals received (Roads & Bridges)	Proposals sanctioned (Roads & Bridges)		Allocation made including on going schemes (Rs. in crores)
		No.	Amount (Rs. in crores)	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1989-90	35	26	27.5740	7.00
1990-91	31	26	17.9968	8.00
1991-92	43	31	18L7398	11.42
1992.93	40	17	3.2469	13.50

(c) This will depend upon the progress
of works and overall availability of resources

[English]

Ezhimala Naval Academy

4339. MAJ. GEN. (RETD).
BHUVAN CHANDRA
KHANDURI:
SHRI MULLAPPALLY
RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be
pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred
Question No. 377 on December 18, 1992
and state;

(a) whether the Master Plan and the
Detailed Project Report for Phase I of the
Ezhimala Naval Academy have since been
prepared;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether tenders have been invited
for the construction work and if so, the
details thereof;

(d) the estimated cost of construction of
the Academy and the amount allocated for
this project for 1993-94; and

(e) the time by which the Academy is
likely to be commissioned?

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

(b) The Detailed Project Report (DPR)
is presently under scrutiny of the Naval
Headquarters and the E-in-C's Branch.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The estimated cost of the Project will be known after finalisation of the DPR. Annual budgetary allocations for this Project will depend on the spread of expenditure.

(e) Depending on the availability of funds, completion and commissioning of the proposed Naval Academy at Ezhimala is expected to take a minimum of 4 years after it is formally sanctioned.

Export of Oil-Meal, Oil-Seed and Minor Oils

4340. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed higher target for the export of oil-meal, oil-seed and minor oils during 1992-93;

(b) if so, to what extent achievement made in the export of these items; and

(c) the steps taken to increase the export of these items during Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALAUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). The target is US \$ 500 million, actual exports ending February, 1993 are US\$ 436 million.

(c) The steps are as under:-

(i) Government has taken a series of measures to boost exports in agricultural items. These measures include the exchange rate adjustments, introduction of a unified exchange rate, simplifications and rationalisation in the Exim Policy and Procedures, adequate availability of credit on

softer terms;

(ii) Aggressive marketing;

(iii) Diversification of markets;

(iv) Promote value addition;

(v) Improvements infrastructural facilities; etc.

Loan to SSI Units in West Bengal

4341. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Small Scale Industrial (SSI) units in West Bengal which have been provided loan by the nationalised banks during the last three years; and

(b) the amount of loan provided during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that loan amounting to Rs.6613.97 lakhs, Rs. 15060.86 lakhs and Rs. 11412.13 lakhs was disburse to 4191, 76204 and 69300 small Scale industrial units in West Bengal, by scheduled commercial banks, as on the last Friday of June, 1989, 1990 and 1991 respectively

Commissioner for NRIs

4342. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to appoint a Commissioner for Non-resident Indians,

(b) if so, the what would be the functions of the Commissioner and

(c) When such a commissioner is likely to be appointed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AH. MED): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The main function of the Chief Commissioner for NRIs would be to serve as the focal point for NRIs and also to be the nodal officer for all NRI matters.

(c) The posting of a suitable person to the post is under consideration of the Government

Trade with Nepal

4343. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified new areas for the development of trade with Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to expand and strengthen Indo-Nepal trade relations during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). During the visit of the Prime Minister to Kathmandu in October, 1992, the following major steps were agreed to in the area of trade in order to improve and simplify the regime for export of Nepalese goods to India:

(i) Goods manufactured in Nepal that have at least 50% Nepalese con-

tent would be allowed access to India free of customs duty and quantitative restrictions. For this purpose, Nepalese content would include not only Nepalese and Indian material content, but also Nepalese labour content. Earlier the minimum limit for Nepalese content was 65% and it did not include the value of Nepalese labour.

(ii) For certifying the Nepalese connect of goods exported to India, the existing program clearness stem will be abolished and will be replaced by a system of Certificate of Origin to be issued by the Nepalese Government itself.

(iii) Movement of Nepalese private communicable vehicles from the Nepalese border to Calcutta, Haldia and back will be allowed, on such vehicles being dully autopsied by the Nepalese government or by the specified Nepalese Undertakings.

(iv) Nepal to Nepal movement of Nep[alsese vehicles and goods through India will be allowed without cash deposit or bond system upon the necessary undertaking given by the Nepalese customs authorities.

(v) Nepal may import goods from India by payment in freely convertible currency, in addition to the existing system of payment in Indian rupees, for the import of such goods as the Nepalese Government may choose. The Indian exporter will be entitled to all the export benefits made available by India for such exports in freely convertible currency

Seafood Exports

4344. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the extent of export potential for seafood in India and how far it is proceed to be harnessed during Eighth Five Year Plan; and]

(b) the details of measures taken / proposed to be taken by the Governed to augament export targets fixed and order of investment anticipated during the Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALAUDDIN AHMED): (a) The Indian EEZ is estimated to have marine resource potential of 3.9 million tonnes. Against this approximately 2 million tonnes fishery resources are presently being exploited. In addition to this about 35,000 tonnes are produced from aquaculture. India exported 0.17 million tonnes of marine products during 1991-92 and in the current year the export is of the order of 0.15 million tonnes from April, 1992 to January, 1993. The export target for the 8th Five Year Plan period are as under :

Year	Quantity (Million tonnes)
1992-93	0.20
1993-94	0.21
1994-95	0.22
1995-96	0.24
1996-97	0.27

(Source : MPEDA)

(b) The following strategies are being adopted to increase export earning for the marine products:

- (i) stepping up export prouction by development of capture fishery;
- (ii) stepping up production by culture fisheries
- (a) by incresing per ha. yield from shrimp farms;
- (b) bringing more area under production of shrimp by culture; and
- (c) by developing production of other exportable items
- (iii) Induction of new technology and value addition;
- (iv) Modernisation of processing facilities, quality upgradation and reducton in waste; and
- (v) aggressive market promotion measuers

No finacial target of investment has been fixed by the Government for achieving the export target from this sector. However, in order to achieve the above mentioned export target the following inputs are required:

- During the 8th Plan period additional 30,000 ha. to be brought under aquaculture.
- Around 100 additional deepsea fishing vessels to be inducted in Indian EEZ.

State-wise statistics on investment and exports are not being maintained

Sick Textile Units in Gujarat

4345. DR.A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have

directed the financial institutions for providing necessary financial assistance to revive the sick textile units in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of sick units in Gujarat to which financial assistance has been provided and the amount of assistance provided to each unit?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that, on the basis of half-yearly financial data as on 31st March, 1991 (latest available), 154, 76 and 6240 non-SSI sick, weak and SSI sick units in Gujarat had Rs. 584.22, Rs. 277.61 and Rs. 211.14 crores outstanding against them. Information relating to the individual constituents of the banks cannot however be divulged, in accordance with the practices and usages customary among banks and in conformity with the provisions of states governing public sector banks.

Economic Reforms

4346 SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:
DR. D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the French Government has urged the Indian Government to have further economic reforms so that trade and

commerce between the two countries will be given further boost;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(b) and (c). Do not arise

Public Sector Projects with Foreign Loans

4347. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Public sector projects in the country which are being implemented with foreign loans aid;

(b) the time limit fixed for completion of these projects; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure speedily implementation of such projects to avoid cost escalation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). A statement of externally aided projects being implemented by public sector organisations & their likely date of completion is attached

(c) Implementation delays in projects

are addressed through strengthening of counterpart resources, close monitoring by Planning Commission and by line Ministries with special emphasis on timely procurement action by project authorities, and sim-

plification of produce in respect of foreign exchange, tender evaluation etc. In addition, projects are being extensively monitored at different levels including the state Governments.

STATEMENT

List of Externally Aided Public Sector Projects

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Project</i>	<i>Ending Agency</i>	<i>Likely closing Date</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	Ind Petrochemicals project (IPCL)	World Bank	31.3.96
2.	Industrial Finance & Technical Assistance project (SAIL)	"	31.12.95
3.	Dudhichua Coal Project	"	31.3.93
4.	Coal Mining & Quality Improvement Project (CIL)	"	30.9.94
5.	Ind Farakka TTP	"	31.12.93
6.	Rihand Power	"	31.12.93
7.	Combined Cycle Power	"	31.12.93
8.	National Capital Power	"	30.6.95
9.	Talcher TTP	"	31.3.96
10.	Naptha Jhakri	"	31.12.97
11.	Northern Region Trans.	"	31.12.96
12.	Power Utilities Eff. Imp.	"	31.12.97

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Ending Agency	Likely closing Date
1	2	3	4
13.	Gas Flaring Reduction	"	31.12.95
14.	Western Gas Dev.	"	30.6.94
15.	Oil India Petroleum	"	30.9.94
16.	Social Safety Net	"	-
17.	Structural Adjustment Ion	"	-
18.	Power Efficiency Project	ADB	31.12.96
19.	Unchaar TPP	"	30.9.95
20.	Hydrocarbon Sector Prog.	"	30.6.95
21.	Gandhar Field Dev.	"	31.3.96
22.	Financial Sector Prog.	"	31.12.95
23.	Energy Conservation & Environment Improvement Project	"	-
24.	Indian Oil Corporation	"	-
25.	Fertilizer Education Phase II	EEC	July, 1983

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Ending Agency	Likely closing Date
1	2	3	4
26.	Kerala Coconut Dev. (Kerafed)	"	March 1993
27.	Cooperative Rural Storage, Bihar (NCDC)	"	May, 1996
28.	Inland Fisheries Development (NCDC)	EEC	-
29.	Alkaline Land Development Prog. (UP & Bihar) (PPCL)	"	-
30.	Mustard Seed Development, Rajasthan (NCDC)	"	May, 1993
31.	Grab Hopper Dredger (Cochin Port Trust)	Netherlands	-
32.	Seminar on Risk Analysis (National Institute of Port Management)	"	-
33.	Hoogly Fairway Dev. Proj. (Dredging Corpn. of India & Cochin Port Trust)	"	-
34.	Indian Human Settlements Prog. Phase II (HUDCO)	"	Jan. 1997
35.	IREDA Phase II	"	-
36.	National Aluminium Proj. (Nalco)	France	-
37.	150 M NALCO	"	-
38.	250 M NALCO	"	-

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Ending Agency	Likely closing Date
1	2	3	4
39.	Helicopter Corpn.	"	-
40.	HBJ Project (GAIL)	"	-
41.	Talcher Power (NTPC)	"	-
42.	NHPC Loan	"	-
43.	Yelahanka Power Proj. (KSEB & PFC)	"	-
44.	Substations Gas Turbine (DESU)	Switzerland	-
45.	Import of Weaving machines and 1 Warping Machine (NTC)		
46.	Import of Equipment for Optic Fibre Project	Denmark	-
47.	NLC II	Germany	31.12.93
48.	Singrauli STPP (NTPC)	"	-
49.	Korba STPP (NTPC)	"	31.12.93
50.	Ramagundam STPP (NTPC)	"	31.3.93
51.	NLC III	"	31.12.93
52.	Supply of Breeding (NDDB)	Germany	-

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Ending Agency	Likely closing Date
1	2	3	4
53.	Farakka STPP (NTPC)	"	31.12.93
54.	Ramagundam Open Cast Mine (SCCL)	"	31.12.95
55.	HUDCO III	"	31.12.95
56.	Dadri Power Proj. (NTPC)	"	31.12.94
57.	Modernization of Rourkela Steel Plant (SAIL)	"	30.12.97
58.	Waste Heat Recovery Plant (Maharashtra State Elec. Broad)	"	30.9.94
59.	Orissa Lift Irrigation Proj.	"	30.12.2000
60.	ONGC Bombay	Italy	28.2.93
61.	Indian Telephone Ind, Bangalore	"	30.6.93
62.	ONGC	Austria	-
63.	URI Hydro Power Proj. (NHPC)	Sweden	1995.
64.	Hindustan Zinc Ltd.	U.K.	31.3.93
65.	Indo-British Fertilizer Education Proj. Phase-II	"	31.3.93

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Ending Agency	Likely closing Date
1	2	3	4
66.	HFC Rainfed Farming Proj.	"	31.3.94
67.	KRIBHCO Rainfed Farming Proj.	"	31.3.98
68.	Coal Sector Grant 1987	"	31.3.93
69.	Malankhanj Copper Expansion Proj. of Hindustan Copper Ltd.	OECE/Japan	12.1.95
70.	Ramagundam Fertilizer Plan Project of FCI	"	20.1.94
71.	Power System Improvement & Small Hydro Proj. of REC	"	5.2.97
72.	Urban City Water Supply Proj of HUDCO	"	30.3.98
73.	Ammonia Plant Replacement Proj of FACT	"	-
74.	Gandhar Gas Based Power Proj. of NTPC	"	27.3.95
75.	Gandhar Gas Based Power Proj. II and Loan	"	30.3.95
76.	Gandhar Gas Based Power Proj. IIIrd Loan	"	-
77.	Kahalgaoon Power Project (NTPC)	Russia	1.4.94
78.	Energy Management Consultation and Training Project	USAID	31.3.97

World Bank Assistance for Revival of Sick Industries

4348. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have since approached the World Bank for special financial assistance for the revival of sick industries; and

(b) if so, the response of the World Bank thereto?

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

(a) Government have sought assistance of World Bank for restructuring and rationalisation of some Public-Sector engineering enterprises.

(b) Discussions with the World Bank are going on in this regard.

New Method of Floating Public Issues

4349. SHRI GEORGE FERNADES:
SHRI SARAT CHANDRA
PATTANAYAK:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a new and innovative method of floating and clearance of public issues to eliminate the problems of delay and absence of refund of investors' money in case of unsuccessful applicants;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRARAHMED): (a) No, Sir. Matters relating to floating and clearance of public issues are governed by SEBI. No new scheme or innovative method for floating and clearance of public issue is under consideration of SEBI. A new investment named "Stockinvest" was introduced at the instance of SEBI as an additional mode of payment of allotment for shares with a view to eliminating the problem of refund to unsuccessful applicants.

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

Decline in Tea Export to Russia

4350. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS:
SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tea export to Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) including Russia has declined during the current year in comparison to each of the last two years;

(b) if so, what steps the Government are taking to increase the tea export as a whole;

(c) whether any trade agreements have also been entered into some of the CIS countries including Russia to boost up the export of tea; and

(d) if so, the details of agreement signed with these countries?

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

(b) Government has been encouraging

diversification of tea export by sponsoring industry delegation to various countries. Other countries are being persuaded to buy higher quantities of Indian tea indicating them the price competitiveness and quality of out tea.

(c) and (d). While no such agreement has been signed specifically for export of tea, India and Russia have mutually agreed that the funds received from India in repayment of state credits granted by the erstwhile Soviet Union shall be utilised by Russia for purchase of any goods and services from India that are permissible for export under the Export and Import Policy of the Government of India in force from time to time.

It is expected that the commodities to be imported by Russia will include substantial amount of tea.

Export Target of State Trading Corporation

4351. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the export targets of state Trading Cooperation for 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) the export targets of State Trading Cooperation for Canalised and non-Canalised items in 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(c) whether the targets have been achieved during 1992-93; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MU'HERJEE): (a) to (c). Export targets of STC for 1992-93 and 1993-94 are given below:

(Rs. crores)

	1992-93	1993-94 (Provisional)
Canalised	13	13
Non-Canalised	358	456
Counter trade	137	285
Off-shore	20	-
	528	754

Against the target of Rs. 528 crores during 1992-93., the actual achievement is expected to be about Rs. 475 crores

(d) The Government have asked the STC to formulate a coherent strategy for boosting non-Canalised export through a commodity focus and an area focus in the context of the liberalised trade regime.

Single Point tax on Materials

4352. DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to implement uniform and/or single point tax on materials, on goods movement and tran-

sitions throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any report on the working of present system of multiple point sales tax has been submitted to the Government; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (c)

Clearance of new Public issues by SEBI

4353. SHRI GRIDHARI LAL BHARAGAVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has cleared some new public issues by certain companies;

(b) if so, the names of such companies which obtained approval from SEBI during the last two years and the current year till date company wise;

(c) whether some companies out of them have not made any invitation for subscription to public;

(d) if so, the details thereof, company-wise and the reasons there for;

(e) whether SEBI has laid down its policy/guidelines particularly in view of that companies who have obtained approval

from SEBI will have come up for their public issues by way of invitation for subscription to public within a schedule time prescribed by SEBI;

(f) if so the time prescribed by SEBI for that purpose and the details of the policy/guidelines in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. SEBI cleared 634 offer documents for public issues during the period from April 1, 1992 to March 15, 1993. Due to the large number, the list is not attached.

(c) and (d). After obtaining clearance by SEBI, companies have to go through certain legal formalities like getting clearance from Registrar of Companies (ROC) etc., before they could open the issue. It is, therefore, possible that some companies have not yet made the public issues.

(e) to (g). Since January, 1993, SEBI has made its acknowledgment card valid for 3 months from the date of issue for the purpose of filling the prospectus with ROC/Stock Exchange. Taking into account the statutory time limit within which issue has to be opened after filing with ROC/Stock Exchange, an issuer can come out white an issue any time within 6 months from the date of acknowledgment card issued by SEBI.

Procurement of Iron-Ore by MMTC for Export Purposes

4354. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of iron-ore procured by Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation from the non-cooperative minds in Orissa and Bihar for export purpose during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the procurement of iron-ore from these States for export purpose reduced from the non-captive mines during 1992-93;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps take by MMTC to increase the procurement in 1993-94 from the non-captive mines in Orissa and Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKERJEE): (a) The quantum of iron ore procured by MMTC from the non-captive mines in Orissa and Bihar for export purposes during each of the last three years was as under:-

Year	Quantity (in lakh tonnes)
1989-90	15.05
1990-91	21.06
1991-92	23.79 (Prov)

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Lower demand for exports of iron ore through Paradip Port and heavy opening stocks with MMTC at the beginning of the year 1992-93 were the main reasons for lower procurement during 1992-93.

(d) Introduction of iron ore through Paradip Port to China and Pakistan in addition to exports to Japan are some of the steps taken to increase procurement of iron ore by MMTC from the non-captive mines in Orissa and Bihar.

Strengthening of Border Roads

4355. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for the strengthening of border roads particularly National Highways which pass through the border of this country;

(b) if so, the details of the border roads and National Highways in the Indo-Pak, Indo-Bangladesh and Indo-Burma borders;

(c) the total length of each of those border roads; and

(d) the steps taken to strengthen those roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JHAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). Presumably, by border roads, the Hon'ble Member has in view the roads including National Highways laying in the proximity of international borders. Portions of national Highway Nos. 1, 1A, 10, 15, 35, 39, 40, 44, 51 and 54 and other State roads lie in the proximity of Indo-Pakistan, Indo-Bangladesh or Indo-Myanmar borders. As the extent of border areas are not clearly defined, the total length of National Highways and other roads in border areas cannot be indicated. Strengthening of road including border roads is a continuous process and is undertaken depending upon the traffic needs, *inter se* priorities, condition of pavement and availability of funds.

Gold Bonds Scheme

4356. SHRI BOILA BULLI RAMAIAH:
SHRI RAJENDRA
AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
SHRI RATILAL VARMA:
DR. D. VENKATESHWARA
RAO:

**DR. D. VENKATESHWARA
RAO:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new gold bond scheme announced by the Government recently has not proved successful;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) to what extent this scheme is likely to bring out the black money;

(d) the details of the incentives offered under the scheme;

(e) whether any further modifications are likely to be made in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). The Gold Bonds Scheme has been introduced only from 15th March, 1993. It is, therefore, too early to measure its success.

(c) The main objective of the scheme is to mobilise idle domestic gold resources to supplement official gold reserves.

(d) to (f). The details of incentives are indicated in the Gold Bonds Scheme 1993 a copy of which was laid in the Table of the Lok Sabha on 26th Feb. 1993. There are no proposals to modify the scheme at present.

Foreign Assistance for Projects in Goa

4357. SHRI HARISH NAYRAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) the details of new projects proposed/identified by the Government of Goa for World Bank/International financial assistance; and

(b) the present status of these projects, project-wise;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and 9b). The Government of Goa has proposed two projects for external assistance with due mandatory clearances. These are a project for Development of Tourism Infrastructure with OECF assistance and inclusion of Goa as a participating state in the World Bank assisted Technical Education project. Both projects have been proposed to the OECF and World Bank respectively.

Trade Among SAARC Countries

4358. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of total trade among the SAARC countries during 1990-91 and 1991-92 and for the period April-December, 1992;

(b) the value of trade of SAARC countries with India during the same periods; and

(c) the value of India's balance of trade with each SAARC country during the corresponding period in US dollars or STEs?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PARANAB MUKHERJEE):

STATEMENT

(a) This Information is not available with the Govt of India.

(b) to (c) The Value of India's trade and India's balance of trade with each SAARC country during 1990-91, 1991-92 and for the period April November, 1992, are given below:-

Country	1990-91			1991-92			1992-93 (Aprl. Nov.)		
	Export	Import	Balance of Rs/\$	Export	Import	Balance Rs/\$	Export	Import	Balance of Rs/\$
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Bangladesh	547.44	31.29	+ 516.15 / 28.90	809.44	14.16	+795.28/32.61	598.08	12.03	+586.05/22.86
Shutan	3.91	1.45	+2.46/0.14	2.96	1.16	+1.80/0.07	4.35	2.66	+1.69/00.66
Nepal	86.62	81.49	+5.13/0.29	196.55	70.11	+126.44/5.18	136.88	45.12	+91.76/3.58
Pakistan	73.60	84.49	-10.89/0.61	98.61	149.98	-51.37/2.11	88.98	323.94	-234.96/9.16
Sri Lanka	234.90	36.72	+198.18/11.10	429.08	28.06	+401.02/16.44	432.54	22.30	+410.24/16.00
Maldives	10.59	0.33	+10.26/0.57	11.77	0.06	+11.71/0.48	15.98	0.19	+15.79/0.62
Total	957.06	235.77	+721.29/40.39	1548.41	263.53	+1284.88/52.67	1276.81	406.24	+870.57/34.56
Average Exchange rate : (Indian rupee one equal to US dollars)									
1990-91	=	0.056							
1991-92	=	0.041							
1992-93	=	0.039							

4359. SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has set out some guidelines for its future lending activities for promoting energy efficiency and conservation in general and in the electric power sector in particular; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b). The World Bank in a study made observations about the need to enhance efficiency in the Utilisation of facilities for electricity supplies through improved co-ordination in operations, rationalizing the structure of bulk electricity tariffs, relaxing fixed shares of central generation, extending facilities for inter-regional trading and through improved commercial incentives for SEBs to trade bulk supplies of power and to ease the remaining technical constraints to improve co-ordination in system operations.

[*Translation*]

Pay Scales of Indian Audit and Accounts Services Accountants

4360. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4792 on December 20, 1991 and state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to revise the pay scale of Senior Auditors and Accountants to bring them at par with the pay scale of Assistants of Central Secretariat service;

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

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the time by which the Government propose to implement the recommendations of Comptroller and Auditor General of India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). The Committee of the National Council (JCM) considered the demand of the Staff Auditors and Accounts to bring them at par with the pay scale of Assistants of the General Secretate at Service in its meeting held on 29.6.92. It was decided not to accept the demand for pay revision. The Report of the Committee will be placed before the National Council (JCM) in its next meeting.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Policy to Publish the List of Companies for New issues in Leading Newspapers

4361. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any policy of the SEBI to publish a list of companies which got approval for new public issues and the likely date and month by which those companies are likely to enter the capital market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the lists published so far during 1992-93;

far during 1992-93;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by SEBI in this regard particularly to safeguard the interest of the investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). SEBI issues a fortnightly press release giving names of companies whose offer documents were cleared during the fortnight.

(c) and (d). SEBI has cleared 634 offer documents for public issues during the period April, 1, 1992 to March 15, 1993.

(e) The actual date of issue opening is left to the issuer to decide in consultation with the lead manager. However, the acknowledgment card issued by SEBI is made veiled only for a period of 3 months from the date of issue for the propose offering with the Registrar of Companies/Stock Exchanges and hence, it is imperative that the issues open within a period of maximum 4 to 6 months from the date of Press Release.

[*Translation*]

Non-Banking Financial Institutions

4362. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints that some non-banking institutions functioning in the district headquarters of Bihar are not making payments in time to the depositors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government

to get the amount paid to the depositors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that they have received 38 complaints during 1992 against non-banking institutions functioning in the district headquarters of Bihar alleging delays in payments

(c) On receiving such complaints, RBI take up the matter with the concerned companies. In some cassette companies have repaid the depositors on maturity or on furnishing necessary documents.

Non-banking financial companies are presently governed by the direction issued by RBI. In case any company is not following RBI directions, an order is issued by RBI prohibiting it from accepting further deposits. However, the existing laws governing the acceptance of deposits by such companies do not empower RBI to compel such companies to repay deposits. Repayment of deposits is a matter of contract between the company and the depositor and in the event of non-payment of deposits by such companies, the remedy open to the depositor is to proceed against the company in a Court of law for recovery of his dues.

[*English*]

Protection of Dividend Repatriation of Foreign Investors

4363. SHRI VIYOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FITPS) has agreed to protect dividend repatriation of some foreign investors in essential areas;

(b) if so the details of such investors;

(c) whether such protection is likely to be extended to other foreign investors in other essential areas also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d). Does not arise

Curtailing of Funds to Public Sector Undertakings

4364. SHRI V. SREENIVASAPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) the amount of savings made in

Government expenditure during 1992-93 by curtailing the inflow of funds to the public sector undertakings;

(b) the representations received from various source during the period for restoration of fund flow to public sector undertakings;

(c) whether the Government have allowed these undertakings to lose their working capital by constant pruning of expenditure and allocated fund flow;

(d) whether some of the undertakings are almost facing closure as a result thereof; and

(e) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (e) The estimates of assistance extended to PSUs is indicated below:

(Rs. in crore)

	B.E.	R.E.	B.E.
	1992-93	1992-93	1993-94
(i) Plan investment	4919	4641	5580
(ii) Non-Plan Loans	445	601	732
(iii) Provision for VRS	146	708	639
(iv) Plan loans of certain Textile Mills as a part of their turn around strategy	-	122	61
Total	5513	6072	7003

The quantum of assistance to PSUs was enhanced during the course of the year, in view of the difficult financial circumstances faced by certain PSUs.

Medical Insurance Scheme

4365. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to introduce Medical Insurance Scheme to help the poor to avail of the benefits of qualitative medical services;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARILAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). A Medial Insurance Scheme known as 'Medicclaim' has already been inttdroded in the country with effect from 3rd November, 1986 by the four subsidiary companies of the General Insurance Corporation of India. The Scheme provides for six categories of benefits ranging from Rs. 13, 600/-to Rs. 96 , 500/- at an annual premium ranging from Rs. 200/0 to Rs. 1, 300/- per person. The minimum age limit under the Scheme for children has been reduced from 5 years to 3 months provided the parents of the concerned children are also covered. The policy is now available to persons above the ager of 70 years also. The total benefit amount is reduced by 10% in respect of persons between the age of 70 years and 75 years and by 20% for the persons above the age of 75 years.

ment Authority by the Union Government during each of the last three years and for 1993-94; and

(b) the purpose for which this amount has been sanctioned and achievements made by the Authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). For taking up various programmes for development of agricultural exports (for items like fresh fruits and vegetable, processed foods, meat and meat products, for floriculture items, etc.) funds provided to APEDA during the last few years and for 1993-94 are as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount (Rs. lakhs)</i>
1990-91	115 (actual Expenditure)
1991-92	189 (actual expenditures)
1992-93	308 (Budget provision)
1993-94	623 (Budget estimates)

As a result of various policy measures taken by Government to promote agricultural exports, and the catalytic role played by AREDA, exports of scheduled products of APEDA during the last three years were as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Scheduled Products (Rs. crores)</i>
1990-91	576
1991-92	922
1992-93	1205 (anticipated)

Agricultural Processed food Export Development Authority

4366. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned to the Agricultural Processed Food Export Develop-

4367. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a demand from foreign investors, specially Japan, to establish a legal framework for the various economic policy change introduced by the Union Government to attract foreign investment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARILAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c). During the Indo-Japanese Trade Talks on September, 30 and October, 1, 1992, the Japanese side had raised the Question of giving legal shape to the notifications issued on economic liberalisation. They were informed that the liberalised foreign investment regime had legal sanction in sas much as it was done within the ambit of FERA.

12.00 hr

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a very important notice. The Shiv Sena Chief has given a threat to some artists in Bombay for their participation in Pakistan Formation Day celebrations. (*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You must speak one by one. I will allow you to speak one by one. Not like this. I will allow you to speak later on, Shri C.K. Kuppuswamy. It will not go on record.

(*Interruptions*)

* Not recorded

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Shiv Sena Chief has given threats to our artists, who have nothing to do with religion. Such artists include Dilip Kumar, Shabana Azami etc. An announcement has been made to boycott all their films simply because they are reported to have participated in a programme in Bombay on the occasion of Pakistan Formation Day.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Pakistan Formation Day was also celebrated in Delhi on the 23rd and I had also attended it. It was also attended by the former Prime Minister, Shri Chandra Shekhar, Vice-President Shri K.R. Narayanan and Shri Murl Manohar Joshi. (*Interruptions*)

All these people had attended it and will attend the same again the next year if it is held. We want to keep India united and do not want to divide it into parts by making religions and Hindu-Muslim issue a bone of contention. I also want to ask whether this is the law and order situation in the country. The mosque was demolished on 6th December and he said openly that he has got it demolished and he will be answerable for it. He was proud of his Shiv Sena workers. The Shiv Sena Chief openly says such things. He openly gives threats that he would not allow pictures featuring Dilip Kumar and Shabana Azami run in theaters. If he has guts let him say that he would not let the Vice-President of India, the former Prime Minister and Mr. Murl Manohar Joshi move about. (*Interruptions*)

I want to say that it was not party issue. The BJP President was present there. A former Prime Minister was present there. The Vice-President was present and so was I. One such programme was also held in Bombay also but if we try to divide the country by making the artists scapegoats in the name of religion, it will spoil not only our relations with the neighbouring country but also the unity and integrity (*Interruptions*) We are dividing our country on party lines. This is a very serious issue and I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister that the

Central Government should take it seriously. There is nobody who is above the constitution, be it Shiv Sena or any one else. The constitution is supreme in the country. Nobody will be permitted to challenge the Constitution. They have already challenged the Constitution once. I urge the Government to take the House into confidence whether it is taking such an attitude towards artistes seriously or not?

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane) Mr. Speaker, Sir, the statement made by the Hon. Minister in the House is supreme for us. The Foreign Minister stated here that the efforts to have the Mammon brothers extradited from Pakistan are continuing and today we read that.

[*English*]

I will read out the news. It has been stated that there has been no formal request from India. (*Interruptions*) I will refer to it. It says:

"There has been no formal request from India. But we have heard of the newspaper reports and we are checking our own reports..."

MR. SPEAKER: You have to rely more upon the statement made by the Minister on the floor of the House. You can ask him again if you want to know whether it is correct.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: He should clarify the position.

MR. SPEAKER: Every now and then, please do not ask for it. I will allow one day for clarification on all the points and not every now and then.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM KAPSE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to make a point in reply to what Shri Paswan said just now, The demand for the formation of Pakistan was made 52 years ago. It is dangerous to celebrate that day in Bombay in the present day context. To be

invited on the occasion of 'Iftar' is a different matter, but Mr. Paswan should know that there is a difference when it is celebrated in Delhi and Bombay. Everybody goes to attend 'Iftar' but to discuss either 'Iftar' party or the demand for the formation of Pakistan which had been made 52 years back, one should keep the present day circumstances in mid. Never before this had such an incident happened in Bombay. Such an incident did never take place during last 52 years. I demand from the Government to make a statement in this regard as to why this thing happened in Bombay this year.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Pakistan Formation Day was celebrated in Delhi which was attended by their President also. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

Translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil.

*SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore) : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, in Coimbatore, on the eve of State level Conference organised by Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, the Conference pandal has been gutted as it has been set fire to by certain miscreants. It is not an accident and it is quite evident that it is by design. Law and order situation in Tamil Nadu faces a threat now. Apart from setting fire to a Conference Pandal where lakhs of people were about to gather, miscreants have also broken a statue of Dr. Ambedkar in Kallakruichi. People strongly believe that this could be the handiwork of AIADMK men. This could lead to a strong threat to law and order situation.

In a democratic set up, a political party has a right to organise Conferences. DMK has been organizing a State Conference in my constituency Coimbatore. It is the responsibility of the State Administration to give adequate protection to the life and property of the people when a Conference of that magnitude is organized. It is widely believed AIADMK men might be involved in it. Likewise, the statue of the leader of

* English Translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil

downtrodden people Dr. Ambedkar's statue has been broken in Kallakurichi. This clearly shows the highhandedness of AIADMK men allowing the disruption of law and order situation to their advantage. I strongly feel it is an attack on democracy itself.

At a time when people fear the involvement of AIADMK men taking law and order in their hands, it is the responsibility of the Centre to intervene.

It is the handiwork of AIADMK men and the BJP men who are on the run and have now sought asylum in Tamil Nadu. The people who have demolished Babri Masjid are behind this also and their rally is permitted in Tamil Nadu while hurdles are put in the way of DMK holding a Conference. I request the Union Government and the Home Minister to come out with a statement before the House to allay the fears of public in my constituency.

English Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

*DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM (Tiruchengode): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while raising the point on law and order situation in Tamil Nadu, the hon. Member Mr. Kuppuswamy did not explain why he is raising it here in this house and he failed to give valid reasons for that. He was merely trying to find fault with AIADMK Government. He was just saying that a pandal went on fire and he wants to hold AIADMK Government responsible for that. He further adds that law and order has been disrupted in Tamil Nadu. Was there a clash or a riot? No, Was there a killing? No. Then how is that he is saying that law and order has been disrupted? Instead, under the able leadership of the Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, even LTTE activities have been curbed in Tamil Nadu. The Union Home Minister Mr. Chavan himself has said that law and order situation in Tamil Nadu is quite satisfactory. But a Member here is trying to point at the fire in a pandal and says that law and order situation has worsened in Tamil Nadu. I would like to say that there should

not be politicking on a stray incident. I strongly condemn his attempt to suggest any AIADMK involvement in this incident. Just a pandal has gone on fire and he can ask for an inquiry, but he is trying to cast aspersions on AIADMK. I strongly condemn this attempt to find fault with AIADMK and the State Administration of Tamil Nadu. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has appeared in newspapers published from Delhi today that the State conference of D.M.K. was to take place and a pavilion and been constructed. About ten lakh people were to participate in it. The pavilion caught fire and as a result thereof the conference could not take place. The honorable Member of the area has alleged that there was no sign of law and order at the site. As it has appeared in news-papers, the D.M.K. is a faction of the National Front and the way the pavilion caught fire just before the conference was to begin, the President of D.M.K., Shri Karunanidhi suspects it to be an act of sabotage or some conspiracy. Reports were published that a burning tyre was thrown on the pavilion which caused fire, under these circumstances we demand from the Central Government that an enquiry be conducted by the C.B.I. into the cause of fire. There should be no ban on the political parties to hold their conference and carry out their other activities. D.M.K. (*Interruptions*) .. Proper security should be provided for its conference.

[*English*]

DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM (Tiruchengode): We are not involved in this. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI B. RAJARAVIVARMA (Pollachi): We are not responsible for this.

DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: There are so many groups in D.M.K. They may have done it. (*Interruptions*) Let them conduct enquiry into the DMK itself. (*Interruptions*)

*English Translation of the Speech Originally delivered in Tamil

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I request the Central Government, through you, to ask the State Government to provide proper security for this conference. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: There is a Stalin Group, there is a Vaigō group and so many other groups. They may be involved in this. Let them conduct enquiry into the DMK group itself and not against the AIADMK Party. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI B. RAJARAVIVARMA: The DMK people must be responsible for this. In fact, we are not responsible for this. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you once again, but rise with great distress. The relatives of all those people occupying high posts write letters regularly. I am pained to raise this issue again... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Why don't you raise it under Rules?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : I knew that you will talk of rules. If you permit me, I would come to your chamber with all the papers. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Not me...

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : You have to give notice to me and to him also.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : I raise it with responsibility and do not raise to embarrass anybody. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : The contractor who took the contract of sleepers for the Central and Southern Railways said that he wanted to shift from that extremists infested area because he was incurring losses... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Are you seeking information on this news item?

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : The company which got this contract was hesitant at first, but the son-in-law of the person who occupies a high post in the Government formed this company. He knows nothing about contractorship nor does his sons, nor any one else. The company was formed overnight and it entered in to this business of taking contracts and got the contract of Rs. 7 crore. All this came in the way those who of were already in this business. The name of that company is Rayalseema Sleeper Construction Company which was not given the contract...

MR. SPEAKER: Are you going to say that what is written is correct or do you want to ask whether it is correct or not?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : The facts are correct to my knowledge.

MR. SPEAKER: This is what you say.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Yes. A person belonging to a village, a farmer comes to Hyderabad, forms a company overnight. He makes his two sons as shareholders in the company and they are given the contract. ... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Sir, this is absolutely wrong. He is just quoting from a

newspaper. Is he speaking on behalf of the other man who did not get the contract? Are you speaking on behalf of the other man? It is absolutely wrong.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Instead of nothing, why can you not come out with a statement on this? Shouting will not do. People cannot hear you with that much of shouting. You have to come out with the facts.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU): You cannot bring the paper and just quote from it. Where is the truth in it?

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): At least the Speaker should be allowed to speak. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

Ministers speak, They put pressure on us. Let them speak. You must express your views. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SASHTRI (SAIDPUR): It would be better if a statement is made on it. (Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN KHURANA (South Delhi)**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Khurana ji, you have to be very careful with your words.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record. He is speaking when I am standing. Again, I will say that only the statements made by those honourable Members whom I have allowed will go on record and nothing else will go on record. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Tytler and

Mr. Kalp Nath were very anguished, I would like to submit that if they say that except the newspaper reports there is no truth in it, I will resign. Are they ready to resign.. (Interruptions) Something has been said... (Interruptions) ..Are they ready? ... Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter that I am raising... (Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Are you ready to resign? Let there be an enquiry into this issue.. (Interruptions)

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Are you talking of submitting resignation? (Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I offer to resign only when I am proved wrong, otherwise you.. (Interruptions) I have proofs for this .. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I very often receive the notices for breach of privilege against the people outside. But, what we do in the House also has to be examined as to whether we are protecting the privilege of the House by doing this.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that it is not a lone case of this type that contract was given. I want to lay emphasis on the point that this new engineering company was given this contract mainly because they are related to powerful people in the Government. This is the only consideration. The old firm put forward all these arguments, but it was not given any relief to transfer its factory. No other facility was provided to it. When they joined and acquired partnership and share in the business, they were given all facilities. Thereafter they received favours from each and every Government department. Their work was done immediately. It is for that consideration only that their relations flourish. After coming to power there have been cases where crores of rupees were involved. They have big families whereas

** Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

the population is exploding. How are they going to plan their families? Mr. Speaker, Sir, the number is so high that all the hon. members had asked them to check pollution growth somehow. The number of their family members is very high. One after the other cases come and people like us will have to really work hard to pursue these cases. As such, I have got a few demands. I want to lay stress on the point that the Government have a responsibility in this House..... (*Interruptions*)

I will conclude in a minute. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to submit to the Government, through you that they should make a statement in regard to this matter and give a clarification regarding certain irregularities pointed out by me about the Rs. 7 crore contract. We will come and meet you in your chamber if you permit...

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. first, you give notice to the concerned person. I have always permitted you to speak. I have always permitted, whenever you wished to speak against big personalities, I allowed you so that nobody complained that he was not permitted to speak against them. It would become difficult for me if everyone wanted to speak against others..

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for that. I did never cross the limit.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. It is not good on your part to repeat it again and again.. You were proceeding on correct lines. Why are you deviating from it.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I have drawn the attention of the Government to the fact that it is their responsibility. I conclude with a request that it would be better if the Government, after receiving the notice and getting acquainted with all the details first pays attention to it. This is essential to cleanse their public life.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Any response from the Government on this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): Sir, on a number of earlier occasions, you have given your considered ruling that such matters should be taken up with extreme care and caution and the Rules of Procedure should be followed properly. Such matter should not be taken up on the floor of the House merely on the basis of Press reports. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : Sir, you have allowed. (*Interruptions*) Chair has allowed. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Let the Rules of Procedure be followed, proper notices be given and we will follow the rules (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : The Railway Minister should come and make a statement. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, what the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister just said carries weight. But I also know that you give permission on only after assessing the gravity of the question. Just as you permitted Sharadji today. I would like to submit to the Government, through you, that if a news-item carrying a grave allegation is published in a prestigious newspaper, the Government refutes it stating the main facts before it was raised in the House. Many grave allegations were levelled during the last few days and they were published in not one but four newspapers. There was an allegation against their 'Gold-Star' and today it was levelled here but the silence maintained by the Government confirms the doubts. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it be-

comes difficult for us to prevent the House from discussing an issue which has become talk of the Town. I would like to draw your attention to the carelessness being shown by the Government. This is not a desirable state where so many serious allegations are levelled and the Parliament continues to function irrespective of the fact that there are no denials from the Government. The public expects us to raise this issue but we are unable to do so. It is not good.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to say that if something has come out in today's newspapers, we can't have denials on the same day. I could come in tomorrow's newspapers. So, if something is published and it was denied publicly, then we can make out something of it. If the charge is against a highly placed person then I give a little more time and then it may be raised for discussion so that nobody complains that some one was not permitted to speak against an influential person. But you can even give notice to the person against whom you are speaking and then raise the issue after a day or two. It is not proper that it was published today and you come prepared to raise the issue today itself. If I do not permit you then you will complain that you are not permitted to speak against a big personality. Rules have been made for you only. Rules are made for your protection and for a smooth functioning. Won't you observe the rules? I have already permitted you. Can you expect more permission from the Rules?

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker Sir, you are right in saying so but last week when the incident of phone tapping was raised we had expected the Government to come out with a clarification but when the matter was raised, they said that an enquiry would be conducted and appropriate action taken and that put an end to the matter. When Shri Arjun Singh levelled a very serious allegation, some discussion took place that day and that closed the chapter. I know this chapter will not be opened again unless someone raises it. I would like to submit that we use the procedural devices to fulfill the expectations of the people from the Parlia-

ment but the case should not be dropped.

MR. SPEAKER: You are absolutely right, but in that regard I would like to say that about that phone-tapping incident, Mr. Home Minister telephoned me today only to say that he would give a reply on it on Monday since this incident needs to be enquired into. I want to say one more thing that the State Minister in the Ministry of Railways had come to me to say that they would get an enquiry conducted to find out the truth. But the notice of that (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. You had given a notice to this effect at 10 A.M. Now since it was in today's newspapers, then how can you expect all the information within a span of four hours as to where the contract was given where did the talks take place, what were the points discussed. How can they come out with a statement without taking care of all these details. It is a big issue raised against a big personality. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDAV ACHARIA: Though this was published in today's newspapers but the Railway Minister must have already known it.

MR. SPEAKER: When you tried to raise an issue in the House, I did not stop you, and in fact, I gave you an opportunity to speak by relaxing the rules. I repeatedly say that such an issue should not be raised against any one in this manner. It does not behove us. You should give them atleast a day to say something. How can you expect a reply from them if you do not even give them a day to think but go on to raise the matter and say that since you have raised the issue you should be given a reply. If they say something against you then you will blame me for allowing them to say it.

SHRI BASUDEV ACHARIA: The Railway Minister already know it. It was published in today's newspapers..... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: So what if it was published in Today's newspapers.

SHRIBASUDEV ACHARIA: He knows about the news-items (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Notice has been given. Why can't they give an assurance as to when a statement will be made? (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to submit that we do not disagree with you and your views. Please tell us, haven't we expressed our views within the limits of decency in the matter for which you gave permission to us to speak.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You could raise it tomorrow instead of today.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: This is too much of you to suggest that we should take it up after a day. I want to submit. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You please give a notice to them and a notice to me.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: There are certain issues of political parities in respect of which delay of 2-3 days or an hour is not advisable.

MR. SPEAKER: As you wish, it is your House. You run it as you please. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Something was published in the news-papers during the stay of the British Prime Minister which was immediately refuted here. Even you must have read what is published in the newspapers but nothing seems to be forthcoming from the Prime Minister of India.

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you want this discussion from me. It would be better if some clarification comes from the Government's side. Why should I start this

discussion when we have men from the External Affairs Ministry and also Hyderabad here (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I want to say exactly the same thing that when the news-papers of Britain published something there during the British Prime Minister's visit here it was immediately refuted here. We are following the British pattern. Why don't we get a denial of something that has been published in our newspapers. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been seeing for the last 15 years that this House has a great convention and the matters are raised here under this convention.

MR. SPEAKER: I give protection to the people of your party also.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I agree what you said. I want to say that it's only the Government which delays it. The Government does not take notice of the issues in the House. I have said today that at least, in this case, the facts are authentic.

MR. SPEAKER: All right.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, how many Members want to speak on this? Let me know about it.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, I have given notice (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He has said that he has brought it to the notice of the Government. Would you like to repeat it again? There are other issues; he wants to say something; the Lady Member wants to say something.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur) Sir, I have an important matter to raise.

12.29 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Yaima Singh Yumnam came and stood on the floor near the table.

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seat. This is very irritating. I have said that I will allow you.

12.29.5 hrs

At this stage, Shri Yaima Singh Yumnam went back to his seat.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) (Bharatpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this year we had a very good Rabi crop in Bhaatpur district of Eastern Rajasthan but it was unfortunate for the farmer that Bharatpur district was hit by heavy hailstorm on 27th February. It rained and there was heavy storm. Similarly on 23rd March also there was a hailstorm which destroyed the standing crops of the farmer. The standing crops were damaged which ruined the farmers. I would like to make a demand from the Government, through you, to come out with a statement waiving off the tax and providing some financial assistance to the farmers.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, your subject is complete. Please take you seat.

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I demand a statement from the Government in this regard.

12.30 hrs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take note of it.

RE: PRODUCING THE SPEAKER OF MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SHRI H. BOROBABU SINGH BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMANAM (Inner Manipur): Sir, I want to mention here in this House that the Speaker of Manipur Legislative Assembly Shri H. Borobabu Singh was produced before the Supreme Court on the 23rd March, at 2.00 p.m. under the instructions of the Union Government. In this respect, I would like to submit to this House that it is a matter which requires serious consideration for the enactment of laws and amendment of the Constitution of India so that the prestige and dignity of the Office of the Speaker can be protected.

Shri Borobabu Singh, the Speaker was airlifted from Imphal under the instructions of the Home Minister of the Central Government. He was kept detained in the Manipur House in Delhi. After that, with the help of a considerable police force, he was produced before the Court. I was very much with the Speaker. I am an eyewitness to it. I verify this.

Sir, I implore the hon. Speaker of Lok Sabha also to see this so that the Constitution of the country can be amended suitably in order also to see that the prestige, dignity of the Office of the Speaker can be protected.

Besides this, there is a struggle for supremacy between the Supreme Court and the Legislature which are a great institutions of the country. It is an unwanted precedent occurred in the State of Manipur. Because it hurts the people very much. Their consideration may be right or wrong, that is a separate matter. But the people there feel that being a small State which is in remote corner of the country- it integrated or merged with the Union some 40 years ago - it has been selected by the Supreme Court. They consider that the Supreme Court can not touch the Speaker of Tamil Nadu, even the Secretary Tamil Nadu and other states because they are big States.

So, it hurt the people there very much there. It will have for reaching consequences in that place.

So, I implore the House to discuss this, to consider it seriously so that it may make sure that the Office of the Speaker is protected. Because of this reason, I decided to mention this in this august House.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the issue that the hon. Member has raised is an issue of great substance. I do not wish to repeat everything that he has stated. I do not also wish to make it an issue of confrontation between the Legislature and the Judiciary. But whatever may be the attended circumstances, the unfortunate manner in which the Speaker of a State Legislative Assembly was made to present himself before the highest Court of judiciary of our land had unfortunately wrought on its way a great deal of controversy.

I will leave just two thoughts with you, Sir, as the principal custodian of parliamentary privileges all across the country. And the reason why I say this is that on account of high office that you hold as the Speaker of our House.

You are also the President of the Conference of the Presiding Officers of the country, also as one of the Presiding Officers of the country of which Conference you are the President has had to go through admittedly a very unusual procedure by which he was presented to the highest court of the land. That is one aspect of it which I urge you as the President of the Conference of the Presiding Officers to take into account. I do not wish to exacerbate the controversy that has already arisen.

The second aspect, which is of great significance is the aspect to which again the Speaker has voiced and which has been earlier given voice, is the aspect of the geographical distance of the State of Manipur from, say, the seat of the Capital of the country. Now this geographical distance and the size of the State of Manipur and

perhaps the two contributory factors why the Speaker of that Assembly has had to suffer the indignity that he has suffered. This geographical distance has resulted in the entire north-east a feeling a sense of separation from the heart of the country. This is not a happy development.

I share the anguish of my hon. Member. And the second aspect which he has cited is that because Manipur is a small State, therefore, this could happen to Manipur. Had it been a larger State of the Union, this would not have happened is also an unhappy impression.

I do not wish to comment more than what I have said on this issue. But, I do urge your consideration of this matter in the Conference of the Presiding Officers.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue raised by Shri Jaswant Singh and the hon. Member from Manipur had already been discussed in the House several times in the past. The Lok Sabha has got a healthy convention of redirecting to the Ministry of Law all the notices sent to the Hon. Speaker by the courts, as per the rules, instead of taking any notice of them.

I am sure that this would have definitely disturbed you a lot. Even in the Presiding Officers Conference at Ahmedabad, the well founded approach was adopted, probably because the issue of possible confrontation between the judiciary and the Manipur Assembly Speaker was before the presiding Officers, who made very attempt to resolve it amicably. Had this issue not arisen it would have been better for the democracy, the country and the constitutional structure of the country. However, all these happenings should in no way have any bearing on the Parliament.

[English]

We should zealously safeguard our interest of the house and the

interest of the legislatures.

[*Translation*]

I think this has caused some abrasion. It is quite probable that the Lok Sabha might have to denove decide that there should be perfect dichotomy between the judiciary and the legislature. This is the first occasion after the constitution came into effect as there is clearcut division of powers. Had this been avoided, it would have been better.

I would like to submit to you that a debate on this issue should be allowed so that there is proper division of power between the legislature and the judiciary with no scope being left for any interference. Therefore debate on this should be allowed during the Budget session itself.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Supreme Court, in 1964, in *Keshav Singh versus Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly* case had clearly defined and demarcated the power and duties of the judiciary and the legislature. As against this, the act of forcibly taking into custody and bringing the Speaker of the Manipur Assembly by a B.S.F. plane to Delhi is a direct attack on the supremacy of the legislature. Therefore, I associate myself, with all seriousness, with the issue raised by the hon. Member that on a number of occasions in the past, the leaders of all the parties in the House appealed to the Hon. Speaker against presenting himself in the Supreme Court and to ignore the summons from the apex court. The Supreme Court in its judgement, had itself clearly demarcated the powers of the judiciary and the legislature. This convention is being followed in the country. I do not want to comment on this issue but definitely the question of producing the Speaker of the Manipur Assembly is against the spirit of the demarcation of powers and responsibilities. You are the 'Presiding Officer' of the House. Sir, you are yourself no exception to it. With this, a new convention has been evolved. This has directly questioned the supremacy of the House. Therefore, the Speaker of one legislature should not think himself to be different from the

other. This House will support him too in this hour of crisis. Such a message need be sent by the house to the Speaker of the Manipur Assembly. In the Presiding Officers Conference scheduled to be held next month, a concrete decision need be taken in this regard that what should be the stand of the Speaker in case the Summons are issued by the Supreme Court, the High Courts and other courts and their stand need be guided by the normal procedure of the Lok Sabha and the State Legislatures? This is my submission.

[*English*]

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not an isolated incident of a Manipur Speaker. There have always been attempts, unfortunately, by the judiciary to erode the supremacy of the Legislature and this is a very serious matter which has taken place where the supremacy of the Legislature has been seriously eroded in this case. We should not take this lying down but stand up for establishing the supremacy of the Legislature in this matter.

Sir, the case of *Keshav Singh*, to which a reference has been made, arose in 1965; a reference was made to the Supreme Court for opinion. There also even through, in another way the Supreme Court stated that it had power to go through the decisions of the Legislature, that decision at that time also was never honoured by the Uttar Pradesh Assembly and they went ahead with the privilege matter which was before them, in spite of the opinion given by the Supreme Court. So, today the fact of the matter is that the Legislature is supreme in its own sphere. These are two different spheres and one should not trespass on the sphere of the other. Therefore, to summon a Speaker and make him remain present in the Supreme Court, has been a trespass on the supremacy of the legislature as such.

In England also, for several centuries this fight took place and ultimately it is an understanding that the Judiciary does not interfere in the supremacy of the Legisla-

ture and vice-versa. And that understanding is going on for the last 150 years and, therefore, no confrontation arises. But, unfortunately, in India, the judiciary has taken the stand of interfering with the supremacy of the legislature and we should not take this lying down. Some method should be found out by which at least a Resolution should be passed by this House, by discussing and by having a consensus of all the political parties on this issue and along with that several legislatures will also stand up to this. If possible in the All-India Speakers Conference also some Resolution will have to be passed.

When I was the Speaker of Maharashtra Assembly, there was an All India Conference of Speakers in Bombay. There also this matter was discussed and a Resolution was passed to the effect that we are supreme as far as the privileges of the house are concerned and there is no power for the judiciary to review our decisions as far as the legal position is concerned. Therefore, that should be pursued further. I will urge upon you, Sir, to pursue this matter. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: What is the role of the Central Government?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, though there has been a universal expression of a feeling of relief over the incident, the other day, I join all the other hon. Members in expressing my feeling of anguish particularly over the way the matter came to an end at the Supreme Court. I do not also want to even remotely cast any aspersion on the conduct of the Supreme Court but I feel that they very fact that on being told that the hon. Speaker of Manipur Assembly was in the court, the judges dropped the proceedings,

.. ..

We would have welcomed if the matter was, in fact, discussed even in the apex court to find out whether the hon. Speaker had in any remote manner committed of court.

**Expunged as ordered by the chair.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know what I should do with what you have said on the floor of the House.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I am very consciously saying so. I am very consciously expressing my views.

MR. SPEAKER: I will apply my mind to it very carefully.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I express my views on this with a sense of responsibility. Whether it is the judiciary; whether it is the executive; whether it is the legislature, we are all creatures of the Constitution. It has been very aptly and in a very clear manner put by the other hon. Members, who spoke before me, that all these three limbs of our society have to function within their limitations and parameters. This case can open floodgates of conflict in the further. This was the case in which the Presiding Officer of the Legislative Assembly acted as the supreme head. It was entirely his prerogative to decide the matter. One could understand if the hon. Supreme Court decided to give its view or judgement on a particular provision of the Law. But taking it to the extent that the hon. Speaker committed contempt and then forcing his presence in the court, if extended further, could even mean that the court can ask the President of India also to appear before the court.

So, we have to be very cautious about this. May be by enacting law, may be your taking initiative in the matter, convening a meeting of the Council of Presiding Officers, may be by amending the Constitution, may be by amending the Contempt of court, Act, but, once for all this question has to be decided that as far as the Presiding Officer of any Legislative Assembly is concerned, he is supreme; has decisions may be challenged in the court, but the court will not have the jurisdiction to require his presence in a matter dealing with contempt. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Sir, I will not be able to say that

the issues are so absolutely clear as my hon. colleagues have stated to be. The division of powers and the balance between the three wings is very fine. One does not know where really is the line when one is considered to be a trespasser in the realm of the other. In this particular case, one aspect has not been mentioned. It is not just a question of Judiciary and the Legislature, the Executive also was involved. According to the wishes of the Judiciary, the Executive acted in a particular manner in bringing the Speaker of the Manipur Legislature to the court. The court expressed its satisfaction about the presence of the Speaker in the court, and the Speaker later indicated that he was really forced to be present in the Supreme Court. Therefore, it does seem that the conflict concerns all the three wings of the country.

In a certain sense - I do not know; I am not a legal practitioner - the responsibility of interpreting the Constitution as it is, devolves on the Supreme Court. The relationship is this. It is within the power of the Parliament to modify the Constitution and even take away some of the powers of the Supreme Court also. This is the other aspect of the finely poised balance between the three wings. I, therefore, suggest that let us not move in a hasty manner. It is absolutely necessary because the feeling, is, as has been expressed by Digheji also, that in the sphere of each, each one is supreme. The debate starts as to the boundaries of the sphere itself. Where is the delimitation where one crosses the boundary and goes into the realm of the other? I, therefore suggest that there should be, firstly a though discussion amongst ourselves also about really to what extent we can, as sharply as possible, define the realm of the supremacy of the Parliament and, secondly, a dialogue is necessary, because these are the three wings and each of the three wings is responsible for a very important part of the life of the country. So, a dialogue has to ensue between the three wings also to discover the limits beyond which it would be construed as trespassing. I, therefore, feel, unlike my colleague on that side, that no work of condemnation be im-

mediately passed. We stick to our position. that within our area .. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nobody has said that.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:
Not exactly.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us not bring it on record.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:
O.K. But even then what I am suggesting is that let us discuss all this not only to assert that in this particular case a violation of our territory has taken place but to find out whether it is so, and then some demc should be formulated by which the three wings can confer and find out where one should be limited by its own volition so that others do not consider it to be trespassing. I do not know what the procedure should be but this is what we should ponder about in this House. That is all that I want to submit before you.

13.00 hrs.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, I just wanted to say what Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee said that the Executive is also important. I will not repeat what he has said. What I feel is that this is a triangle - Executive, Legislature and Judiciary. This triangle has to be completed and it has to work under the Constitution. We are the major part in that.

I suggest that you should arrange - after discussion among the Legislatures - a round-table conference of the three limbs - I would say - of the Constitution and that will bring the result. That initiative should be taken by the Speaker.

This is what I wanted to say. Thank you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not see this issue from the point of view of conflict between the judiciary and the legislature. People of India have given to themselves this Constitution

which has three wings—judiciary, executive and legislature - and all these three wings work under this very Constitution for the wellbeing of the people of India. In this episode, a dismissed officer approached the Supreme Court, but the question is whether the apex court has the power of redressal of such a grievance. I do not think that any one has questioned the authority of the apex Court in this matter. The Supreme Court ordered his reinstatement. Therefore, whether the apex court has the authority for the same or not? The Supreme Court order for his reinstatement was not implemented. That's why I would like to submit that this issue should be seriously pondered over, before being raised in the House, for finding a permanent solution of this issue. Conformation must be avoided as it will not lead any where.

A new situation for the integration of the three wings under the Constitution has come before us and for finding a permanent solution of it, we must seriously ponder over this issue. All efforts need be made for finding a solution of it after extensive discussion with the leaders of all the parties. My only submission is that nothing should be done in haste.

[English]

SHRI D.K. NAIKAR (Dharwad North): Sir, the supremacy of the Legislature has been accepted by Dr. Ambedkar in the Constitution debate itself. I am only reminding of the hon. Members of what has happened in the Constitution debate. The issue before the Constituent Assembly was about the interpretation of the provisions of the Constitution. There Dr. Ambedkar has said that it is the right and privilege of the highest court of the land to interpret the law. But if the decision given on such interpretation is coming in the way of achieving the objects under the Constitution, the objectives intended under the Constitution are not achieved by such a judgement of the Supreme Court, then the duty is cast on Parliament to amend the Constitution where it comes in the way.

Therefore, the duty is cast on Parliament itself to amend the Constitution under Article 368. Similarly when the Constitution power has been given to Parliament, you take the power provided under Article 368. The power now vested under the Constitution in judiciary can be withdrawn and other body can be created created and entrusted with that. That is also the competency of the Legislature.

You can withdraw the power entrusted to any other independent authority by way of an amendment of the Constitution. There the requirement is that a minimum of half of the States have to ratify the amendment. That is the power given to Parliament also. The judiciary cannot disturb the power of the Legislature. Judiciary cannot change the power of the Legislature.

Therefore, the supremacy has been accepted and the Speaker is all the more supreme. Even I can quote the statement of former Justice Gajendra Gadkar where he himself has said the validity of the enactment passed by Parliament can be questioned in a court of law on the ground

MR. SPEAKER: That is a different thing. It is an administrative matter.

SHRI D.K. NAIKAR: I am only quoting. Supremacy is not given. Therefore, they cannot interfere like this.

SHRI INDERARJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is one aspect of this interesting and controversial case which has come up and which will also require to be clarified and gone into.

As far as the judiciary and the supremacy of the Legislature and the Parliament are concerned, there are no two opinions about it and many times in the past we have had occasions to go into this matter. But in some new context, some kind of new instances have come up all the time which require to be further clarified. Now, the functions of the Speaker in my opinion are two-fold. One is the function as the Presiding Officer in the House and as far as that is

concerned, he is absolutely supreme. There can be no question about it and no judiciary or the highest Court of the land can interfere with that

Then there is another aspect of the Speaker's function, i.e., his function as the Head of the Administration, that is, the Parliament Secretariat or Administration or whatever you like to call it, where a large number of staff, employees and officials and so on are working within the parliamentary structure and the Speaker is the Head of that whole structure. I think no Speaker — I do not know, but perhaps certainly you, Sir, I am sure — would not interpret to mean that the Speaker in matters relating the Administration cannot take the advice or suggestion of the other people and that he is supreme and a sort of a dictator. For example, recently, everybody recalls that there was a question about the revision of the salaries, emoluments etc. of the staff. Well, the hon. Speaker or the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha could have done whatever they liked in the matter, but they did in their wisdom refer this matter to Committees, i.e., Committees consisting of Members of the House and those Committees were asked to go into the whole matter and submit a report along with their recommendations, and it was only on that basis then that the Speaker acted. So, in this particular case which has come up now, it is reported I do not know the exact facts, if I am wrong, it should be corrected — that the whole matter arose out of the fact that the Speaker had taken action against a particular official. It is not in his function as Presiding Officer. He took action for whatever reason, maybe justified, I do not know, against a particular official who was dismissed or his services were terminated. That official chose to go in appeal against this Order of the Speaker to the Court. Now the question arises whether, as somebody said just now, the Court should entertain any such appeal at all since it is flowing from a decision taken by the Speaker, administrative decision no doubt, or whether that particular official who is aggrieved has or has not the right to approach the court. This question will have

to be cleared up because he is not only an official in the parliament, he is also a citizen of this country and is entitled to certain rights under the Constitution. In this particular case it appears that the official went in appeal to the Court, the Court has reinstated him, that means, in effect it has upset the decision of the Speaker of that Assembly and ordered that this official should be reinstated. Then the whole trouble arose because the Speaker there refused to be bound by this Court's decision and therefore, he was charged with contempt of court. Now, what is to be done in a case like this, Sir? We should go into this and clarify the matter more if we can do it possibly, I do not know how you will set about it. But I am worried about this matter that on the one hand there is no doubt that the Speaker is supreme and certainly within the administrative sphere also, he is supreme. But suppose he takes some action which infringes practically I should say, upon the fundamental right of an official. Is that official entitled to go to the court or not and is the court entitled or not to hear his appeal?

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central) : No.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: You are saying 'no' Mr. Dhghe, but I do not know; I would like some clarity on this matter. In this case, I feel, we must devise some way. More cases may come up in future, which may have some slightly different connotation or in a different context. All the time, perhaps, it is a continuing process when this relationship between the judiciary and the legislature will require further clarification so that aush cases of conflict may be minimised in future. But, in this particular case, we should go into the facts and then make up our minds and decide. The question of principle which I am finally raising and on which I would like to be clarified is, whether it is possible in such matters to demarcate or distinguish between the two aspect of the Speaker's function, one as the Presiding Officer and the other as the administrative head of the Secretariat over which he presides.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, much restraint has been maintained from both sides so as to avoid any confrontation between the judiciary and the legislature. Such a controversy has never arisen in this country before. I would like to quote an example. In the Ninth Legislative Assembly of Bihar, the leader of opposition late Shri Karpoori Thakur had been removed by the Speaker of the Assembly from the office of the leader of opposition. So far as the question of his powers as the Presiding Officer is concerned, it was discussed with the Speaker of Maharashtra and Speaker of Lok Sabha and throughout the media it was highlighted that it was a wrong action. But when Shri Karpoori Thakur filed a petition in the High Court, it was not entertained by the Court. The Court has never admitted any petition challenging the ruling of the Speaker. Shri Indrajeet Gupta has said that Speaker is responsible in two ways; firstly he owns a constitutional responsibility and secondly he has responsibilities as a Presiding Officer. Moreover being the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, he enjoys administrative powers of the Secretariat also. This is a very sensitive matter, therefore we must be very caution while dealing with it. A debate should be held on his role as the guardian of the Constitution and when he performs his duty exercising administrated powers. Executives is in a very difficult position in such a situation. If a dispute arises between the Judiciary and the Legislature the responsibility of implementing the orders lies with the Executive and the specific case which is before us is about the Manipur Legislative Assembly. The Speaker of the Manipur Legislative Assembly was intentionally ignoring the orders of the Judiciary and the Supreme Court was passing orders for the Executive. Here Executive has its own role to play. Executive should have taken initiative in another way by finding out how to avoid this confrontation. But instead of averting this confrontation, executive just made a cover up exercise. As the Speaker of the Manipur Legislative Assembly has given a statement, the matter could take another turn since Manipur is a north-eastern state

and a comparative small state so the Speaker stated that since he was the Speaker of such a small state he had to face such a situation. Had it been the Speaker of a State like Tamilnadu, such things could not have been possible. We should see that people should not feel this way, that Manipur is a small and a far flung state. Executive had also made it a point of argument he was brought to the Supreme Court in a plane of BSF, loaded as goods. It is also clear that the Supreme Court also took a different view and he was not made to stand but only on the information that he was present in the court all the proceedings of the Court were dropped. So Supreme Court had also done its best to avoid confrontation. It had become a question of prestige that at all costs Speaker should appear before the Court. Executive should have made efforts to resolve this conflict in consultation with the Presiding officers, legal experts, Chief Justice of Supreme Court and Speaker of Lok Sabha, Chairman of Rajya Sabha and other parliamentarians. But the Union Government has not acted in the desired manner and has tried to avoid its responsibility. It is not good. It has conveyed a wrong message to the state of the Manipur and other far flung states. Since it is a very sensitive matter, it should be taken into consideration that Speaker is free in his judicial and administrative functions. He is free to run his secretariat as he wishes. Rules have been framed and he is free and there is no scope for interference by Supreme Court and High Court. This point should be seriously contemplated and at all costs the rights and privileges of judiciary and legislature should be maintained and no fresh conflict should be allowed to arise between the two.

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL (Godda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of great concern that a controversy has arisen between the judiciary and the Legislature. As hon. Rabi Ray has stated that this has happened for the first time in the history of India, we also feel that such persons are coming on the top who are responsible for creating such conditions. Shri Nitish Kumar has cited the example of Bihar Vidhan Sabha, I would also like to quote an example..

MR. SPEAKER: All Speakers spoke with great responsibility. Do not viciate the matter.

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: Rules have been framed to guide the officials as to that come sunder their purview and what not.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall invite you in my chamber and discuss this matter.

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: I am not talking any thing new.

MR. SPEAKER: You are deviating.

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: I would seek your protection. I would only like to submit that if a person is suspended from the service he is first served with a chargesheet but when a Member is declared disqualified or his name is removed from the party-list, it is done without serving any notice.

MR. SPEAKER: Do not go into the details, no such matter is before us.

[English]

Please understand that this is a complicated matter. Better you don't speak on it.

[Translation]

If any mistake is committed, some authority should have the right to correct it. It should be done under your guidance. They should have a right to file a petition or mercy petition.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHRY (Katwa): We can understand that the feelings of the hon. member of Manipur who raised this issue and of the Members of Manipur Assembly and of all of us are hurt over this issue. But there may be one salace that this has really given rise to an important controversy. That has to be clinched properly. I agree with Shri Indrajit Guptaji that the role of the Hon. Speaker is two-fold; as an Administrator and as a Presiding Officer,

and we have to decide whether issues connected with the administration can be taken to the court. That is one point that he has raised. But there is another point. We have passed the Anti-Defection Law. On that the final decision to disqualify a Member rested with the Speaker. Now, that has been going to the Court also. It was going to the Court even before we amended the law itself in the Bouse. It is not only that administration matters but whether other matters. There what those matters will be? It is a very interesting problem. It is not that we discuss this matter with an attitude of confrontation. We all know what are the conventions and principles laid down in order not to reaps into each other's area and domain. But certain things do come now and then. This unhappy impression about the supremacy, ego clash and all that should not come into the discussion that takes place about the relationship between the two pillars of our democracy. That is why, with a rationale and balanced approach this matter has to be looked into. I lend our support to this kind of a disension. I hope that this kind of a confrontation will never take place in future, I do hope that this is the last incident of this kind of confrontation.

SHRI INDERJIT (Darjeeling): Sir, I join our other friends in expressing grave concern over the developments that have taken place in regard to the Office of the Speaker in Manipur. I recall the words of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who had once said that the prestige and dignity of the Speaker is the prestige and dignity of the House. I think, we have to strive very hard and we have to ensure that this prestige and dignity of the House is never compromised in any possible way. Therefore, I think we will have to give adequate thought to the problem that these come up and ensure that the Speaker is not exposed to a situation in which his dignity is compromised; his prestige is compromised because the compromise of either would be the compromise of the dignity and prestige of the House.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Sir, apart from the other aspects of the problem that have been raised, I think in the

immediate incident the core of the problem is whether the Speaker should be made to present himself before the Court. On that, I think there is ample scope on the basis of the precedents etc. to give statutory sanction that the Speaker should not be subjected to this indignity. As Shri Inderjit has said, there are two functions. But both the functions are by virtue of the fact that he is a Speaker. Whether he is an administrator or whether he is a Presiding Officer of the House, both are by virtue of the fact that he is a Speaker. I do not think anyone would say that the Supreme Court has no right to dispense justice if there is a case of injustice. No one has said that. The core of this controversy in the present case is whether the Speaker should be made to suffer the indignity of presenting himself to the Court. I think it should be possible on the basis of a consensus of all parties, among all the Presiding Officers to ensure statutorily that no Presiding officer should cover his head to be subjected himself to this indignity.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to repeat the views expressed by Shri Advani. Speaker performs several administrative functions. He can go to court in order to get justice. The question is whether the speaker should go to the court or not? Can I ask if the speaker can be compelled to appear before the court? In my view, Speaker can authorise some person to present the version of the Speaker in the court on his behalf, but to summon a speaker to the court, I think in the parliamentary democracy it is to downgrade the prestige of legislature. Since Speaker is not merely a Speaker, he is the supreme head of the House so he should have the right to go to the court but courts should not have the right to summon him to present himself in the courts. It is unjustified.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Views have been expressed from all sides. These views are very valuable. Various aspects of the matter have been put in a very objective manner. Since

the matter is delicate, I would like to call a meeting of the leaders and, if necessary, I would like to increase the ambit of the discussion with others concerned also. I would like the statements made by the Members to be carefully examined by the Government. I would like to hear the view of the Government also on this point, not at the spur of the moment, but a considered view on that also. I think, if it were not necessary for us to discuss this matter in the House it would have been better. I am still doubtful whether judgment or decision given by a judge or the court can be discussed in the House or whether this can be discussed in a conference also. But if we do not discuss also, then complications can arise. We should discuss it but discuss it in a manner which we have done it, a very careful manner without alleging things against anybody, at the same time, with a view to see that all the wings of the Government work in a manner which allows them to protect the dignity and prestige of every wing, at the same time, it does not create any problems.

The problem appears to have arisen and the ingenuity lies in solving this problem by taking a stand and not taking a stand at the spur of the moment without considering all the aspects. We will try to deal with it in a cautious, careful manner. Thank you.

13.27 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Audit Report of the Coffee Board, Bangalore FOR 1989-90 and statement showing reasons for delay in laying this papers and demands for grants of the Minister of commerce for 1993-94

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): On Behalf of Shri Pranab Mukherjee, I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy of the Audit Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Pool Fund Accounts of the Coffee Board, Bangalore for the year 1989-90.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 3717/93]

(3) A copy of Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Commerce for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 3718/93]

**Annual Report of the employees
Provident Fund Organisations, New
Delhi for 1991-92**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): I beg to lay in the Table A copy of the annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the employees' Provident Fund Organisation, New Delhi for the year 1991-92.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 3719/93]

**Annual Report, Audited Accounts
and Review of the working of the
National Ship Design and Research
Centre Vishakhapatnam for 1991-92
etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Ship Design and Research Centre, Vishakhapatnam, for the year

1991-92, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Ship Design and Research Centre, Vishakhapatnam, for the year 1991-92

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

Placed in Library. See No. LT. 3720/93]

(3) A copy each of following papers (Hindi and English versions) under subsection (2) of section 103 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963:-

(i) Annual Accounts of the Cochin Port Trust for the year 1991-92 together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Cochin Port Trust for the year 1991-92

(4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 3721/93]

(5) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 57 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th January, 1993, declaring Kurmool-Chitr Road via Nandyal-euddapah in Andhra Pradesh as a new National Highway issued under sub-section (2) of section 2 of the National Highways Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 3722/93]

**Notification under banking companies
(Acquisition and Transfer of undertakings) Act, 1970**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V.
CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): I beg to
lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 19 Of the banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970:-

- (i) The Union bank of India Officer Employees' Conduct) (amendment) Regulations, 1992, published in Notification No. OCR. 3 in Gazette of India dated the 12th December, 1992.
- (ii) The Dena Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) (Amendment) Regulations, 1992, published in Notification No. IR; 5496 in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 1992.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 3723/93]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Industrial Finance Corporation of India for the year 1991-92 alongwith a statement of Assets and Liabilities and Profit and Loss Accounts of the Corporation, under sub-section (3) of section 35 of the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Industrial Finance Corporation of India for the year 1991-92.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 3724/93]

13.28 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 23rd March, 1993, agreed without any amendment to the National Thermal Power Corporation Limited, the national Hydroelectric power Corporation Limited and the North Eastern Electric Power corporation Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Power Transmission Systems) Bill, 1993 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 16 th March, 1993."
- (ii) In accordance with the Provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 23rd March, 1993, agreed without any amendment to the Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Amendment Bill, 1993 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 17th March, 1993."
- (iii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 3rd March, 1993, agreed without any amendment to the interest on De-

laid Payments to Small Scale and Ancillary Industrial Undertakings Bill, 1993 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 18th March, 1993."

(iv) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 23rd March, 1993, agreed without any amendment to the Gold Bonds (Immunities and Exemptions) Bill, 1993 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th March, 1993."

(v) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 24th March, 1993, agreed without any amendment to the Industrial Finance Coproation (Transfer of Undertaking and Repeal) Bill, 1993 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 22nd March, 1993."

(vi) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 24th March, 1993, agreed without any amendment to the Foreign Exchange Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 1993 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 23rd March, 1993."

(vii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in

the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 24th March, 1993 agreed without any amendment to the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 1993 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 22nd March, 1993."

(viii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 24th March, 1993, agreed without any amendment to the Dentists (Amendment) Bill, 1993 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 22nd March, 1993."

(ix) "In accordance with the provision of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Oilfieds (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill, 1993, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 22nd March, 1993, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

(x) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 24th March, 1993, agreed without any amendment to the Wild life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 1993 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th March, 1993."

13.29 hrs

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

(I) National Welfare Board for Seafarers

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Rule 4 (i) of the National Welfare Board for Seafarers Rules 1963, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one member from among themselves to serve as a member of the National Welfare Board for Seafarers, subject to other provisions of the said Rules."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Rules 4(i) of the National Welfare Board for Seafarers Rules, 1963, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one member from among themselves to serve as a member of the National Welfare Board for Seafarers, subject to other provisions of the said Rules."

The motion was adopted

(ii) National Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Section 12 (1) (i) of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may di-

rect, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 12 (1) (i) of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Advisory Committee for the national Cadet Corps, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted

13.30 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to ensure more central investment in industrial Sector in Kerala

[Translation]

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Sir, I wish to raise the following matter under Rule 377.

Kerala is an industrially backward State. The traditional industrial which have been providing , employment to lakhs of people are facing ruin. The central investment in the industrial sector of the State has been declining over the years. The central investment which was 3.27 per cent in 1974 has declined to 1.5 per cent in 1991. The State Government which is facing economic crisis is not in a position to make any significant investment in the industrial sector.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to help Kerala State which is be-

[Sh. V.S. Vijayaraghavan]

coming more and more backward. The tax holiday scheme announced in the Budget speech by the hon. Finance Minister should be extended to the State of Kerala also. Such a step will give an impetus to private capital investment and thus will ensure the industrial development of the State.

(ii) Need to initiate Accelerated Rural water supply scheme and Urban water supply and Mangement scheme in Bolangir district, Orissa

[English]

SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK (Bolangir): Sir, I wish to raise the following matter under Rule 377.

Sir, the people of Bolangir Parliamentary constituency in Orissa depend on the rivers and village ponds for drinking water. Due to erratic rainfall, the streams dry up and people as well as animals are left to nature's mercy for survival. The ground water level in this region is inaccessible and due to lack of any initiatives, the area is the worst sufferer in respect of drinking water.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to initiate Accelerated Rural Water Supply Scheme (ARWSS) in the blocks of Bolangir district and Urban Water Supply and Mangement Scheme in towns of the Bolangir district to early

(iii) Need to direct the Government of Orissa to present the country of liquor in scheduled Areas of Orissa

SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur): Sir, I wish to raise the following matter under Rule 377.

As per article 47 of the Constitution of India there is a provision to implement prohibition in the country to raise the level of nutrition and improve the health conditions of the people. This Article is more relevant in case of tribals who are the worst affected people in the country due to their acute

poverty and ill-health. The State Governments and the Government of India are unanimous that the use of country liquor by the tribals have caused the degradation of the economy of the tribals as it is proved that it is a serious health hazard. The Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes recommended to Ministry of Welfare to discontinue sale of country liquor on the revenue consideration as an accepted policy of both Government of India and State Government. But the State Government of Orissa have taken up the country liquor business in large scale in Scheduled Areas in defiance of the instructions issued by the Ministry of welfare at the cost of the tribals.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to direct the Government of Orissa to take immediate steps to prevent the sale of country liquor in these areas.

(iv) Need to set up statutory Development Boards for Vidarbha Harathwada and Konkan regions in Maharashtra.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, I wish to raise the following matter under Rule 377.

There is long outstanding demand from the people of Maharashtra that in order to have balanced economic development of different backward regions of Maharashtra State, separate Development Boards should be constituted. Accordingly the Maharashtra State Legislature have unanimously passed resolution to have Development Boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada and Konkan regions. The State Government have forwarded these proposals to the Government of India. The State Government of Maharashtra along with MPs from Maharashtra have also discussed this issue with the Minister of Home Affairs and the Prime Minister.

The Constitution of India provides for establishment of Statutory Development Boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada and the rest of Maharashtra as per Article 371 (2).

In spite of the provisions of the Constitution and also the unanimous demand by the Maharashtra State Legislature, the Union Government have not yet taken action for the formation of Statutory Development Boards. This has resulted in unrest in Maharashtra and demand for separate Vidarbha State has both voiced by the People. I, therefore, request that the Central Government should take immediate steps for fulfilling the demand of the people.

**(v) Need to order probe into the securing
incident rail accidents**

SHRI DATTATRYA BANDARU (Secunderabad): There is a spurt in the railway accidents during the last few years. The frequency with which, the railway accidents have been accruing throughout the country is really mind-boggling. I would like to know what steps the Government have taken to improve the position.

About 13 accidents have occurred during the last ten mouths this in which about 160 passengers were killed and more than 475 were injured. The number of accidents was more in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

I therefore urge upon the Union Government to order thorough probe into the support of rail accidents and take remedial measures to instill confidence among the traveling public. I also demand that the ex-gratia amount paid to those killed be increased to Rs. 3 lakhs and Rs. 75, 000 to those who are injured.

13.35 1/2 hrs.

**PETITION RE. ENACTMENT OF
CENTRAL LAW IMPOSING BAN ON
COW SLAUGHTER**

[Translation]

SHRI LALIT ORAON (Lohardaga): Sir, I beg to move a petition regarding enactment of a Central Law imposing ban on cow slaughter, signed by Swami Jandaran Dev, Udaseen Ashram, Sidhi Ghat, Patna City, Patna (Bihar) and four other persons.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House stand adjourned to meet again at 2.30 p.m.

13.36 hrs

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch
till thirty minutes past Fourteen of the
Clock*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch
at thirty seven minutes past Fourteen of
the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

**NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR BACK-
WARD CLASSES BILL**

As passed by Ra ya Sabha -Contd

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have specially come to the Chamber to request you to see that this Bill is passed because you were not there on that day. We did not allow anything to go on and no discussions could take place. If you do not pass it today, then we cannot take up the Railway Budget and then we have to pass the State Budgets also.

Now, there are very long lists given to me by the whips. Are you really interested in putting up these names of Members?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): In order to pass this Bill today itself, we can rearrange the list. There will not be any problem in it.

MR. SPEAKER: One or two Members can speak.

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: We can do that

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you Mr. Ram

Vilas Paswan.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the National Commission for Backward Classes Bill, 1993. I would also like to offer some suggestions in this regard. As you have said that right now we should not discuss the condition of the backward classes and criteria of declaring creamy layer, instead we should confine our discussion to this Commission only. Now, we have a limited issue, as to how to form the National Commission for Backward Classes. The Bill moved by the Government in this regard provides formation of a committee comprising five members, one of them will be the chairman, another will be a sociologist, and two of them will be persons having special knowledge relating to backward classes and the fifth person will be its Member Secretary, who will be a serving or retired Government official of the Secretary rank in the Government of India. Whatever he has said about the service conditions, I have objection about it. He has said in this regard that Central Government.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Sir Ram Vilas ji, we have to conclude it before 3.30 P.M. Therefore, you should speak in brief.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I will conclude myself in 3-4 minutes time.

SHRI SANTOSH KUAMR GANGWAR (Bareilly): It can also be taken up after Private Members Business.

MR. SPEAKER: No we have to finish it by 3.30 P.M.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: That the condition laid down in the Bill that if the Central Government in its opinion finds that the chairman or its any of the members is misusing their authority in the manner which warrants his removal from the post in the public interest. I think, this clause makes this Backward Classes Commission a puppet in

the hands of the Government. The Government should seriously think in this regard that when it has formed this commission, the Commission should be given full independence to work on its own. It should not be like that we have just seen in creamy layer that in the name of interest of Backward classes, on the question of Creamy Layer, the way they have compelled that a small farmer having 65 percent irrigated land of total ceiling, he also has been excluded in the name of creamy Layer, so this shows the intention of the Government.

Everytime, I reiterate that Government should have a clear intention towards the Backward classes and unless it does so I do not think that the aims of forming the Commission, which you are going to set up under the orders of Supreme Court and that of the Creamy layer expert committee which you have already constituted, will be fulfilled. I want to tell the Government that the issue of preparing a list of Backward Classes is an important one. This question is so important that unless you have a political will and Government have a clear intention, I think the orders of Supreme Court regarding immediately implementing the reservation for backward classes cannot be implemented.

I once again want to tell the Government that as you are going to set up this Commission, have you fixed any time limit to prepare the list of the backward classes. Some States do not have list of backward classes. We have discussed with Kesari ji about the main aim of this Commission and come to some conclusions. One of them is that the Expert Committee has created three categories of Creamy layer, they are Advanced backward and Most Backward, and you have fixed a criterion that these are the people who might have come in Advanced backward classes and they will not get the benefits of the reservation. It also have an important aspect, the people who have still not been included in the backward classes, suppose the list in question has not been prepared in Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal, then what these Governments are going to do? What will be the role of the Commission there? In Bihar,

Uttar Pradesh and in Southern states, the castes which are included in backward classes and now they are in advanced cartage, about whom the creamy. Layer expert committee has given its report to cast them out of the backward classes and not to give them the reservation benefits. What steps are being taken by the State Government, in which the identification work in regard to, these classes has not been completed, will these castes be included in backward classes or not? We have gone through your Bill regarding this commission but it is not clear about this aspect.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to state that during our Government we made a declaration on 7th August and our Government issued a Notification in this regard on 13th August and after 2-3 days, may be on 15th August, I do not remember precisely but we immediately sent 14 joint Secretaries to the various States to prepare a common list of the castes which come under Mandal Commission and the State's lists of backward castes so that common list was declared immediately. In addition to it, we had also stated that we would review the position after a period of 10 years and the States which do not have a list of backward classes, an expert committee would go there and we have decided to set up an expert committee for the points left out from the list. The whole Bill does not say clearly anything about it. Therefore, time and again I am repeating that I have every doubt about the very intention of the Government. The way, the Government entwined this case in the Supreme court and attempted to delay it and immediately accepting the report of the expert Committee deprived the genuine people in backward classes of their rights. The Bill being moved by the Government is partly supported by us. This Bill is in line with the verdict of the Supreme Court therefore we do not oppose it. Janta Dal do not oppose it but we want the Government to give a clarification that what steps are being taken to include those caste in the backward classes which so far not have been included in the same? Through you, I want to know from the Government that by when the

reservation policy regarding backward classes will be implemented?

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

14.46 hrs.

With these words I want that the Government should remove the defects from this Bill and give more powers to the Commission.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri D.K. Naikar.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): Before him, Shri Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri was speaking. Then the Speaker ruled that after him one hon. Member from this side will speak. Now you have called again one more member from the ruling party. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI D.K. NAIKAR (Dharwad North): As a matter of fact, the body created by this Bill will not help the backward class people. The Bill created a National Commission for backward classes. If you look at the functions and powers of this body you will find that there is nothing more to say about the implantation of the backward classes' demands. The duty is according to the Bill, to include and exclude any caste on the basis of an enquiry conducted by this Commission and then give advice to the Government of India. It is just like an advisory body and nothing more than that. What the body has to do is that this caste list should be examined by this body; and those castes should be excluded or included. In the Bill itself, the definition says, what is meant by backward classes, and who is to prepare a list, according to this Bill? Only the Central Government can prepare a list. I don't think there is any power left with the Government of India to prepare such a list. It is only a constitutional body that is appointed under Article 340.

(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: (Madhepura): If the people from treasury benches will speak then how this Bill will be passed. If the members from the opposition speak then it will be passed in no time. Tell the members from the treasury benches not to do so, otherwise it will not be possible to pass this Bill in time.

[English]

SHRI D.K. NAIKAR: Unless the Commission is appointed under Article 340, which is to investigate and prepare a list of those who are coming under the purview of the backward classes advantage, nobody is competent to prepare a list. But I do not know on what basis the Government has taken power to prepare a list, as has been stated in the Bill itself.

The National Commission is a statutory body; whereas the Commission of Backward Classes appointed under Article 340 is a constitutional body. How is it possible that a constitutional body should prepare a list and that be eliminated by this statutory body? Can such a power be vested in that? Therefore, I don't think this is properly done.

As per the direction of the Supreme Court, the caste criterion has been accepted, but, unfortunately, this creamy layer has been introduced.

I do not know what made them introduce this 'creamy layer'. This creamy layer has entirely destroyed the interests of backward classes.

The expert committee has been appointed now and it has examined the criteria or the basis on which the socially advanced people should be eliminated. They have given four categories.

The first category is of service people. That means, the children of the gazetted officers of Class I and II rank, are not eligible.

Then coming to the land holding people, even the people who are holding land up to ascertain limit in their respective States, they are also not entitled to the benefit.

Then people having an income up to a certain ceiling limit they are not eligible for the benefits.

AN HON. MEMBER: I will come to the Commission I. (Interruptions)

SHRI D.K. NAIKAR: I Will come to the Commission later.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The time is short. We have to pass this Bill by 3.30 p.m.

SHRI D.R. NAIKAR: Then the professionals, lawyers, doctors and business people, they are also not entitled. Their children are also deprived of the benefits. If we eliminate all these people of these four categories do not think that any backward class person will be able to compete in the competitive examination and come up. Because, there must be something to help their children. If the people are not capable of giving education to their children, come up to the level of the qualifying examination, who can help them.

I will explain it. Take a lecturer's post. The requirement for a lecturer's post is M.A. II Class. If the children of the backward class people are not coming to that level, then the post necessarily goes to another person on the ground that the candidates are not available. That is what exactly happens in the case of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Therefore, until and unless educational facilities are given under Article 15 (4), and unless this creamy layer is taken out, nothing would be left for the backward classes. Otherwise, it will only be an eye wash for the backward classes. That is what I say.

Then another thing is I will take only two minutes more- the basic approach to the

subject is wrong. according to my understanding. Because, the Constitutional provisions, under Article 16 (4) says, that if the State is of the opinion that there are backward classes of people, socially backward people who are not adequately represented in the services, under the State then the reservation should be made, Otherwise, there is no reservation at all.

Take the case of the advanced people. They have got a sufficient quota in the Jobs. Why should there be reservation be for them? Those who are not represented adequately they have got reservation. The reservation should be made on caste basis. Because their education improve, they are in a different atmosphere. The upper classes will have better facilities than those of the backward classes. Thus the backward class people cannot compete in the competitive examination with the people of the upper classes. Until and unless there are reservations on the basis of casts, one of them will get a single job. Whereas, when the previous Government was there this subject was approached as a question of solving the unemployment problem. It is not a question of solving the unemployment problem. It is only a question of sharing power.

Thus if there are 4000 Classes | posts in the States, 3000 should be given to the upper classes and the remaining 1000 should be given to the backward class people.

There are 52 per cent backward class people in our State. what is happening today? I am also coming to the reservation given to the Scheduled Castes or other classes. Why is it so? Fifty two percent of the total population will get only 27 per cent. Is it not a reservation for others in stead of backward class? How do you say that reservation should be only 50 per cent on the basis of efficiency? What do you mean by efficiency/ I would like to know whether the marks obtained in the qualifying examination is considered as an efficiency. It is not an efficiency. According to my presumption, the efficiency should be an honest discharge of function, not otherwise. For example, if I am placed, in the same circum-

stances in which the upper class people are placed. I will be more capable to compete with upper class. That is why I say that reservation should be made on caste basis. That is why it has become inevitable for the Supreme court to give a Judgement on caste basis. But the Government have introduced a creamy layer here. It is nothing but killing the interests of the backward calls people. Nobody will get any job. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister, who is sitting here, to eliminate this creamy layer.

I will make a sincere request to the Government that action should be taken alongwith this recommendation to give educational facilities under Article 15 (4). They did not take action. under Article 15(4). Therefore, my sinners request to the hon. Minister is to take immediate action in this regard. even to implement Article 15 (4)

With these words, I conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RUDRASEN CHAUDHARY (Bharach): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the intention behind the reservation facilities for backward classes has been to give them a respectable position in the society. It has also been the intention of the constitution and probably that of the Government as well to come forward with this Bill today. The august Supper court has also given its verdict with this very objective and this Bill has been introduced here to materialise it., But the sections of this Bill in their present form have been causing apprehension that it will not be possible to achieve this objective. At the time of appointment of the Mandal Commission i.e. in 1979, there was only 4.69 per cent representation of backward classes in class one services and only 10.63 per cent representation in class two services. So long as they do not have their share in the Government and do not have their say in the administration, they won't be able to get a respectable place in society. In view of this situation since the Government is going to appoint a Commission and going ahead to implement it, I would like to have a clear cut information. The percentage of representa-

[Sh. Rudrasen Chaudhary]

tion of backward classes in class one and class two services at this moment and the tune by which the first batch of these classes will join th services after the implication of the reservation policy.

[SRI TARA SINGH *in the Chair*]

Secondly as per the concept and social and economic criterion of cream layer as laid down in the Prasad Committee's report the people falling in this category will be definitely excluded from the category of the Backward classes. With the isolation of these people who are awakened and who can struggle and stand in competition we will not be able to stand up to our resolution to provide them social justice. Therefore, it should be provided in the Bill itself that at any cost the said 27 per cent reserved quote of posts should definitely be filled up with the people belonging to the Backward classes only. It should also be ensured that the commission appointed for the purpose should be duly empowered to enable it to have a watch on and act in the cases of laxity in its implementation so as to ensure the upliftment and development of the backward among he backward ones. While taking a decision in respect of the "creamy layer" the Government should taken into account the fact that as per the economic norms suggested for it, there are also such categoris of people in the society who may be called affluent to some extent, yet they do not have a respectable positions in the society. If such crteories of people is excluded, how many of them will be left out to be benefitted with this provision. It is something worth consideration. It has been suggested that the Government should fix the leandcelling at 65 per cent. It means that the farmer are intended to be deprived of this facility on economic ground. Myself being a farmer, I can as it with surety that with the fixation of land-ceiling at 65 per cent a farmer solely dependent on cultivation for has source of income without any other side business, cannot earn enough money to enable him to send his children for education to a Public School and join services after

having qualified in the competitive examination. This criteria on should be essentially reviewed.

I would also like to submit that unless the Bill itself contains th provisions to ensure that his Commission is duly empowered, we will not be able to do complete social justice to the people of the backward classes. I am of the opinion that this Bill should contain the provisions to that effect so as to include all such sections of people and to give full powers, to the commission with these words, I support this Bill.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura):
Mr. Chairman, Sir while supporting this Bill, I would like to make out certain points. We have been debating this issue for the last 50 years and the suggestions of the people given by them in writing have not been taken care of to this date. The old practive is still continuing. The people think that the Government was asked to appoint two commissions. One of then was the Prasad Commission. Which came out with the concept of creamy layer. It meant that the socially and economically well off people of these classes should be excluded. After a long deliberation on these issues the hon hudgets of the Supreme Court observed that have emphatically if a person has developed socially and not economically, he should be covered under the "creamy layer". To identify this very 'creamy layer', this commission was appointed and it has given report and the Government has accepted its report. Just now Shriil Chaudhary was rightly saying I have forgot the name of that hon. congress Member. In other words the farmers too have been excluded from it. The facilities provided under the Constitutional provision for the backward class people are in fact, meant for the socially and economically backward people. From that angle, the farmers also fall under that category of backward classes. The order of the Supreme Court sought to exclude the people who have been socially uplifted. It meant that the people whose education has been completed may be excluded from it, but today it may be see that the 90 per cent of the farmers are educationally backward and

come under the land ceiling. They are innocent people, and for no fault, their children have been deprived of this reservation facility. Even the education people have been excluded. By laying down four criteria, the Prasad Committee has proved that ultimately it is the line of the Congress party that will be followed. The Chairman and members of this Commission, will act as per the whims and fancies of the Congress. It will determine the future course of action. We do not oppose the appointment of this commission. But his commission should not be an instrument to wipe out all their rights. This commission should act impartially and rise above any controversy because it is with a great difficulty that we have come to have a consensus. The final verdict of the Supreme Court should not be reversed, because in the name of the 'creamy layer' this Government can do justice or the injustice. If injustice is done in this regard it will not be a right thing and this Commission also will meet the same fate as the Prasad Commission have met. It has swept off the Mandal Commission. The Prasad Commission report is going to deprive the people of backward classes of all their rights.

Even the illiterate people have not been included in it and the Government has accepted the report which is pulling these people into the category of "creamy layer". However, inclusion and exclusion of castes in the category of backward class should not be done arbitrarily. I feel that from the very beginning the Government attitude has been to post-pone the issue. This is the Government of those people who have degenerated education, trade, wealth, dignity and every thing in their country. So it is not possible that these people will be given their rights. However it is our duty to make you caution by our submission. The Government had appointed a commission and have accepted its report. Now it is appointing another commission which will be a permanent one. Therefore, only the people of unquestionable integrity with a sympathetic feeling and familiar with the backward classes' sufferings, should be inducted in the commission. If it is not done so, the downtrodden will again rise with an agitated

mood. The Government then will not be able to check it. Therefore, there should be no complexity and manipulation in this regard.

Through the Prasad Commission the Government has turned down all the suggestions and recommendation of the Mandal Commission. This commission should not be treated in the same manner. The Government should appoint only such people as Chairman and members of the commission who want to work with a dedication. Therefore, even after putting it off for 50 year the Government should be determined to implement the report of Mandal Commission.

[English]

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome this Bill because after 45 years of independence, the socially, educationally backward class people are getting the reservations. Though in the Constitution Article 16 (4) provides reservation for employment, this Bill mainly provides for employment reservations. My submission is that it is pending since long.

In 1950 the Kaka Kalyekar Commission was constituted; in 1953 it gave its report and in 1956 the report was also laid on the table of Parliament. From 1956 to 1977 Congress government was in ruling. And during the 21 years of that period, the Congress could not think of the backward classes people at that time. And from 1980 to 1989 also, the Ruling Party was the Congress and even during the nine years, the Congress could not think of even any reservations for the backward classes people. That is why we doubt the intentions and motives behind the implementation. So, I strongly plead with the Government because as BJP, we want that the reservation of 27 per cent which the Mandal Commission gave, must be implemented in respect of all the B.Cs. The recently appointed Expert Committee has given its Report that there will be a 'creamy layer'. A number of apprehensions have been created by that Committee's Report. Whether the quota of 27 per cent maybe fulfilled or not is the main apprehension in the minds of the

[Sh. Dattaraya Bandaru]

masses of the B.Cs. and other in general. That is why I request that this House should discuss thoroughly the 'creamy layer' conception because as BJP we want the poorest of the poor must get the benefit among the B.Cs. because we want that categorisation to take place. It is because I know that many of the B.Cs., those who are living in the AC rooms should not get the reservation. That is my view, Sir. B.Cs. should get 25 per cent quota of reservations according to the Mandal Commission Report also. But many of the B.Cs. among the upper strata also get the benefit of reservation because I know that in Bihar the upper strata of many communities are enjoying the fruits of reservation given to others. I know many of the instances of this which I will definitely give, where many people are getting reservations.

[Translation]

SHRINITISHKUMAR: In Bihar, there is Anexure to Annexure classification

[English]

SHRIDATTATRYABANDARU: I know. Even the Janata Dal want to take political advantage out of it. But I want that if the Janata Dal is also since, they should accept not only the elite people, but also the poorest of the poor among the B.Cs. Even I speak to the Janta Dal Members about it, Sir.

I am now telling about the intentions of the Government. I appeal to the Government. Sir, that in the Constitution Article 15 (4) is there which provides the educational reservation for the B.Cs. also. Unless you make the B.Cs. sufficiently educated, they cannot stand the competition, they will not come out successful in the competition, they will not get into the other fields because in many of the Central Universities, in many of the medical institutions, in many of the Engineering Colleges and in many other places, they are not finding their place. Even in Andhra Pradesh, there are only two IAS

officers belonging to the B.Cs. In IAS recruitment also BCs could not come up. That is why my earnest appeal, Sir, is that if at all really you want to implement Article 16 (4) of the Constitution in respect of reservations to B.Cs., you must also ensure that Article 15 (4) of the Constitution which has given the educational reservation, is fulfilled. Otherwise the meaning of Article 16 (4) will be disastrous, it will be totally useless. That is why I demand that educational reservations also must be provided particularly to the B.Cs.

I want to highlight other important factors also. One is 'inclusion' and the other is 'exclusions'. I know that this Bill is going to come up with a Committee. In the States, according to this bill, on the opinion of the High Court, or on the opinion of the Supreme Court, the State Government also can form a Committee and the Committee can also make some inclusion. I come from Andhra Pradesh. I belong to a very poorest of the poor backward class community. I know that in Andhra Pradesh there are a number of inclusions that took place. Archakas, those who are supposed to be Brahmins, have been included in the Backward Classes list. Those who are Reddys have been included in the Backward Classes list. Those who are Reddys have been included in the Backward Classes list. That is why you must put an end to such type of people, those who are taking extra advantage of this inclusion.

On 13th August 1990 the V.P. Singh Government issued one G.O. and again the Congress Government in September 1991 issued another G.O. and the State Governments also prepared some lists and the Supreme Court also upheld the decisions as contained in the G.Os. I appeal to the hon. Minister to take the common list. The list of the common men of the caste should be provided; immediately within one month the process of reservation should be started. In the Bill also they mentioned 'the Commission will go for the details of the reservations'. Even within these 45 years, they have not agreed for making reservation for BCs on caste lines. At last, on the Supreme Court decision, now all the parties-no Party has

come out against the Mandal Commission decision are agreed on this. I want to make a specific reference to this.

I welcome this Bill.

I also recommend that particularly the hon. Minister concerned should come with the reservation.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Mr. Chairman I wish to share the feelings of the House and support the step which has been pending since long for justice to be meted out to socially and educationally backward classes. This has been the root of the dissatisfaction for many years. I share what my colleague Shri Sharad Yadav has said that it has been a long-awaited decision and I am happy that our Government has initiated the step to move in that direction. They had been talking about it. They had been politically blaming each other on political lines.

I am also happy that today the whole House is agreed that we must go in the direction of giving them justice.

Shri Sharad Yadavji has shown apprehension. I assure him that we have the same feelings and there need not be any apprehension on this account. The Commission is being constituted with the sole intention of meting out justice and it has clear and honest intentions.

You recollect that there had been discussion during the last four or five years. In 1989, I was not a Member of the House when discussions took place at great length.

15.17 hrs

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

We had held discussions in our Party also. It is a commitment made in the Congress Party manifesto that we will see that justice is done to the backwards classes. Some of us had reservations on it. But as some of the hon. Members said today, we thought that if this reservation benefit can-

not go to the deserving ones, then we will be failing in our duty to uplift that sector or that section of society for which we are all are fighting. But I agree with Shri Sharad Yadavji that we cannot really put some Clauses here and there to get the benefit for the particular section of the society. I am sure my colleague Shri Thangkabalalu himself comes from backward classes. This intention will be kept in mind but let me share one feeling. When this reservation of backward classes started, different parties had different views and ultimately we have reached one decision that this must be given this criterion. I said that day in some forum that when I was in the backward classes society, I took scholarship. But may be my son does not need it today it could go to my another brother or sister of backward class who is deserving today. That intention was there in the making of our party and that is what late Shri Rajiv Gandhi fought. Today the best advantage of this reservation must go to the deserving ones. But these if and but Clauses should not be brought into the Commission. I totally share this view.

Whatever views have been expressed on this subject during this debate and on various occasions and on various forums. I can assure the House on behalf of the Government that we have very very honest and sincere intention to see that all these concessions and this reservation should reach the deserving classes and the backward classes. There would not be any apprehension in this matter.

Of course my colleague will deal with this matter in detail

I once again congratulate the Department. I request that it should be time-bound and it should move in the time-bound programme. Not that a Commission is set up and it moves in that direction for a few months. Again people will lose faith and they start going to the court. This should not happen.

With these words. I support this Commission and request my colleagues to take quick decision in this regard.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am fully aware that this shall have to be passed at 3.30 PM. Time is very short. I request the hon. members to speak for one minute only. Of course, literally it is a technical one. You just concentrate on the technical aspect of it.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Government has come forward with this Bill in pursuance of the Supreme Court's decision which has upheld the recommendations of the Mandal Commission. Supreme Court has also upheld the notification issued by the V.P. Singh Government for implementation of these recommendations, and with a view to achieve that objective Supreme Court has issued some directions to the Government. One of their directions was to set up a permanent Commission for the purpose, as it has been provided in this Bill-

[English]

It is under functions and powers of the Commission. It says:

"The Commission shall examine requests for inclusion of any class of citizens as a backward class in the lists and hear complaints of over-inclusion or under-inclusion of any backward class in such lists and tender such advice to the Central Government as it deems appropriate.."

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, following that direction of the Supreme Court the Government has brought this Bill. There is nothing objectionable in it. Government had to brought this Bill but the way in which it has been drafted shows that intention of the Government on this point is not clear. Mr. Rajesh Pilot may say that Government has sincere and honest intention. His own personal intention may be honest, as we have seen just now a Prithish Nandi show which has shown that the (Rajesh Pilot) has progressed a lot and from the position of a door to door milk vendor he rise to his present

high position when he is provided with a buglow and all other things symbolical of high social statutes. We are proud of him. We can understand his feelings and we have nothing to doubt his personal intentions regarding this but as regards the intention of this Government, his assurances won't do. Truth will be known when the Government actually acts in this regard. In this Bill itself the Government has specified the manner in which the Chairman and members of the Backward Class Commission, will be nominated. The Bill has a categorical provision that Government can remove any member at any time. It is altogether a different thing that only such member who has become insane, bankrupt or like that could be removed from the Commission. It is right because in such situations when a man has no the right to vote, how can he continue to become member or chairman of this Commission but the most dangerous clause of the Bill is the following one:

[English]

" (f) has, in the opinion of the Central Government, so abused the position of chairperson or Member as to render that person's continuance in office detrimental to the interests of backward classes or the public interest.."

[Translation]

Whenever the Government feels that some member is exceeding its brief he (the member) will be removed from the commission in the plea that his continuance is no longer in the public interest. so just one sentence will do. Just now a report of the expert committee has been mentioned here. It has excluded farmers from the category of beneficiaries on the pretext of creamy layer and has put the things in such a way that none will be able to get the benefits of reservation. Just now one honorable member was talking of Bihar where, according to him, only a particular section of people were getting the benefits of reservation. But he does not know that in Bihar they have such a classification where the extent of benefit of reservation commensurate with the back-

wardness of the individual and it does not benefit anybody at the cost of others. In principle the concept of creamy layer is correct and in this context we should go according to the verdict of the Supreme Court. While on one hand the farmers have been denied the benefit of reservation, on the other hand M.Ps, M.L.As, Ministers and Governors come under the category of beneficiaries of this provisions. It will disrepute the political persons and it will convey a message to the masses that political people have come to provide the benefit of reservation for their words and farmers have been denied the benefit of reservations.

Now no one can speak in this point because the people of backward classes will say that the Government has sought reservation for the children of political leaders. It also shows the intention of the government in its true colour. The Committee which gives a report as per their wishes they approve it where on the other hand it has been provided that those who do not work as per their directions they are removed. This tell indierster your intentions and that is also not honest. I had been a minister of State and I consider them important but for this serious matter a Cabinet minister should have been present here in this House. This indicates how serious is the Government in this issue.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir through you I would like to point out that there is a common list of backward casts according to the Mandal Commission and, at the time of inclusion of a particular caste for the purpose of reservation, Government will influence the commission politically to exclude the castes which have not cast their vote in favour of the Government. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir they will do like that. They will try to exclude Yadavs, Kurmis and Kushvahs because the people belonging to these castes in north India did not cast their vote in the favour of the ruling party. This type of political blackmailing has already set in and it will go on like this even in future. If a member of the Commission says that a particular step is against the public interest and against backward classes, then

these people will either remove him or pressurise him. through you I would like to suggest that there are a number of castes among the farmers who are no better than backward classes. These castes should included in the list of backward classes. I would like to appeal in this august House that Jats, Kurmis of Madhya Pradesh, Marathas, Patels, Chases and Khandyats of Orissa should also be included in this list because all these castes to farmers are backward socially and educationally.

This Bill has been brought forward with a malafiede intention. Prasad Committee has harmed the interests of the backward classes and in furture also if you keep on clinging to that line of action, that will create a massive revolt and if it so happens, the Government will not be able to stay any longer. With these words I conclude.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our party also has not been given time to make out its point

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I has been agreed that his shall have to be classed by 3.30 p.m. Kindly cooperate wit us. It is an extr-ordinary circumstances. As far as other occasions are concerned, you are at liberty to speak beyond th allotted time.

DR. RAMCHANDRA DOME (Birbhum):
Mr. Deputy -Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill- the national Commission for Backward Classes Bill, 1993. After so many years of acrimony within the citizens of India, at last, the dreams of all backward classes in our society those whore socially and educationally backward, their dreams and their hopes are being materialised. This Commission is being constituted on the bais of the Judgement of the Supreme court given recently on 15th November, 1992. This was a historic judgment and the whole nation welcomed the judgment. In view of that judgment now, the Government has come forward to constitute the said Commission. I have one thing to suggest (*Inter-rptions*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please wind up. You have understood the death of time.

DR. RAM CAHNDRA DOME: There are so many commissions appointed by the Government after independence. But I have to suggest them that they need the political will to implement it to give the social justice to the down-trodden and backward sections of society. Now they need the political will to implement this.

With this, I conclude and support this Bill. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Please extend the time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is no question of extension. This happened to be a very extra-ordinary situation. On many circumstances, time is being extended. This is an extra-ordinary thing. Could you not cooperate with us?

Tej Narayanji, please conclude in one minute. Literally one minute.

[Translation]

SHRI TEJ NAYAYAN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak on this subject. I party support this Bill and party oppose it. The truth is that the knowledge which Dr. Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar had about the backward classes, other people don't have that much knowledge and therefore, he made provision in the Constitution for that purpose. I think that they should get reservation according to these provisions *(Interruptions)*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Private Members' Busi-

ness would start at 3.30 p.m. May I make a request that at least till the voting on this Bill, may we keep the Private Members' Business aside for ten minutes?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is it the desire of the House, to extend the time by ten minutes, to debate on this Bill?

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): I will suggest one thing. The Minister will have to reply to this Bill properly. I suggest that those who want to move the Private Members' Bills, they should be allowed to move them and then the debate can continue for five or ten minutes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We shall do one thing. We shall extend the timings by ten minutes, since this happens to be an extraordinary case. Shri Tej Narain, you are welcoming the Bill. Now Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar to speak.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, though three hours have been allocated for discussion on this subject, yet we are now being asked to conclude it soon. Therefore, I would like to say two-three points *(Interruptions)*

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I should also be allowed to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your speech has been concluded.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Now it has not been concluded. You have not allowed me to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are welcoming the Bill.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH : I was speaking but the hon. Minister intervened in between.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All right. You may speak.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH : Baba Bhimrao Ambedkar had much more knowledge in this regard and he made provisions in the Constitution that reservation should be provided to socially and educationally backward people. Now a new problem has arisen due to which development of backward classes could not be materialised. The development of backward classes could have taken place by implementation of Mandal Commissions Report but now I think that provisions about the 'Creamlayer' would not help in their development - rather it would be detrimental to their interests. The intentions of the Bill introduced here are not right. Therefore, only those persons should be appointed in this Commission, who are pro-reservationists. These persons, Anti-reservationists, should not be given any place in this commission. If the anti-reservationists would find place in this commission, it would certainly defeat its purpose. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the castes were identified by the Supreme Court and the Mandal Commission. That list was never objected to from any quarter. Inclusion and exclusion of these castes by appointing a commission is an incomplete process. It clearly reveals the intention of the Government. It is the third commission which is being constituted in this regard since 1950 and it will also do limited work. It had been clearly stated in the Mandal Commissions report that

[English]

It is not at all our contention that by offering a few thousand jobs to the other backward candidates, we should be able to make 52 per cent of the Indian population forward. "

[Translation]

We constitute 52 per cent of the population and it has been said that we should be

made forward. I would like that a separate discussion should be held on the report of Prasad Committee and the hon. Minister should immediately implement this thing according to Karpoori Thakur formula for the most backward classes. Hon. Minister should declare that the reservations will be made in the appointments and the same will be mentioned in the advertisements of the posts.

I would like that the hon. Minister should declare clearly that the decision will be taken on the report of Prasad Committee after holding a separate discussion on it in the House.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank all the Members who have participated in the debate and made their invaluable contributions.

On the whole, I find that his Bill has the approval of the august House in its totality. This Bill is not simply a dry attempt to comply with the direction of Supreme Court but a foundation on for an overall strategy for the development of SEECs.

Sir, for me personally, this is a moment of glory and a sense of great satisfaction of my life. As a person hailing from a Backward Class, I have longed for this kind of a beginning ever since my initiation into the political career.

Sir, I must also on this occasion place on record my deep sense of gratitude on behalf of this august House and also on behalf of the millions of our countrymen, who represent 52 per cent, to the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narasimha Rao Ji, for his tireless quest for translating the guarantees granted under our Constitution into concrete programmes for the upliftment of SEECs.

This is also a victorious occasion for the congress party which surmounted several

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obstacles in redeeming the pledge made by the Congress party to the people of India. With this Bill, another era of socio-economic development has dawned upon this country.

Sir, I must on this occasion, would like the House to recall an historic fact which laid the foundation for reservation to the underprivileged in the society. Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru tabled a resolution in the Constituent Assembly on 13th December, 1946 in which it was stated that they would frame such a Constitution as would provide adequate security to the minorities, backward classes, tribals and the Scheduled Castes. The importance of this resolution was underlined by Pandit Ji himself. He said and I quote :

"But, at this time, even in the present state, it is desirable that we, for ourselves, for those who have been expectantly looking at this assembly, for millions of countrymen whose eyes are upon us and for the entire world, give some indications as to what we intend doing, what we want to do and where we are going. For this purpose, I have tabled this resolution before the House. It is not just a resolution but it is more than a resolution. It is a manifesto. It is our firm determination. It is a promise and a commitment and I hope that it is a script of dedication for all of us".

This is what Pandit Ji said.

Sir, it is essential that in this context, I must trace briefly the history of reservations in the country. It was for the first time in 1950, the Government passed a resolution indicating its intention to reserve a fixed quota of the total available vacancies in one year for SC&ST candidates exclusively.

The present reservation in services for the SCs and STs owes its origin to this resolution of 1950. However, such reservation for the socially and educationally backward classes was long overdue.

The First Backward Classes Commis-

sion called the Kaka Kalekar Commission was set up by the Presidential Order under Article 340 of the Constitution of India on 29.1.1953 and it submitted its report on 30.3.1955. After a detailed examination of the Commission's Report, the Government laid the Report together with the Memorandum of Action Taken before each House of the Parliament on 3.9.1956 in compliance with Article 340 (3) of the Constitution.

Unfortunately, the Chairman of the Commission turned hostile and while sending the report to the President took a U-turn on the recommendations contained in the Report. In view of the difficulty in working out a rational criterion for identification of backward classes, the Government ultimately took a decision that an all India list of backward classes need not be drawn up. The Home Ministry addressed all the state Governments stating that the state Governments have the discretion to choose their own criteria for defining the backwardness and for drawing up their own lists. The State Governments were asked to prepare their own lists.

Then came the Mandal Commission, the report of which was submitted to the Government in 1980. The Mandal Commission had identified 3743 classes in all the States as backward.

The Office Memorandum of 13th August, 1990 was based on the recommendations of the Mandal Commission. The supreme court while upholding the Office Memorandum of 13th August 1990 directed the Central Government to constitute a permanent Backward Classes Commission. This Bill is in compliance with the Supreme court direction. Many of the state Governments have also constituted Backward Classes Commission as per direction of the Supreme Court. I may mention the states, but due to paucity of time, I will go ahead with that.

Let me now say a few words about the provisions in the Bill. Many hon. Members expressed apprehensions about the Bill. I would like to emphasise one or two points.

One of the main features of the Bill is that it would be a permanent body with the Members holding office for a term of three years. The body would examine the requests for inclusion and hear complaints of over-inclusion and under-inclusion of any class in the backward classes list and also tender advice to the Central Government on these matters.

Section 11 of the Bill - many Members mentioned about this very clearly - makes it mandatory for the central Government to undertake revision of backward classes list at every ten years without fail. This power does not prohibit the Central Government from undertaking such revision as and when the Central Government considers necessary. So, this is amply clear that there will not be any problem for the backward community in future.

The Commission, to have teeth, is sought to be vested with the powers of the civil court so that no obstacles are placed before the Commission.

The advice tendered by the Commission is ordinarily binding on the Government. Where the Government disagrees with the Commission, the reasons for such disagreement will have to be recorded and submitted to the Parliament while the Annual Report of the Commission is laid.

With these statutory provisions, I believe that the Commission would be able to discharge its functions efficiently.

Some of the hon. Members raised certain doubts about Creamy Layer Committee and also about the educational reservation. I would like to mention one or two points here. This is very necessary. The Government earnestly desires that social justice through reservations for the socially and educationally backward classes must reach the needy among the backward classes.

I must quote the late lamented leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi in this connection :

"It is not just a question of taking one item. Both of them, whether it is the Kalekar Commission or the Mandal Commission, they talk of wide ranging sweeping action that needs to be taken. We must remember that. The Congress is for such assistance to socially and educationally backward classes. That is what the Constitution has said....But I would like to emphasise....that such measures go to those groups of people within the SEBCs, who deserve such help most. We are not in favour of having such measures being cornered by one particular group within the SEBCs."

This is what Mr. Rajiv Gandhi said. This is in accordance with our election manifesto. We are maintaining that.

The Supreme Court, accordingly, while upholding the basic principle of reservation in favour of SEBCs, directed the Government to determine the criteria for excluding the socially advanced from the benefits of reservation.

The Government had accordingly constituted an expert Committee for recommending the criteria. The report of the Committee had already been laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament.

The Government has accepted the recommendations of the Committee and soon the government would take appropriate action to amend the office memorandum, dated 13th August, 1990 for the purpose of implementing reservation in favour of SEBCs as guaranteed under the constitution and in accordance with Supreme Court judgment.

Since the Government is committed to implement the order for reservation in favour of SEBCs in services, the Government was very fast in constituting the Expert Committee and accepting its recommendations. I must add that those who oppose the Expert committee's recommendations appear to have an oblique objective of blocking the implementation of the order for reservation

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in favour of SEBCs.

Many Members mentioned that Creamy Layer Committee's report should not have been accepted. I humbly submit that we have accepted that Committee's report because we have to comply with the Supreme Court's order. In, we have a very open mind. However, case any difficulty arises in implementation, certainly, we would look into this. Particularly, the Government is open to suggestions from all quarters and if found valid, certainly the appropriate measures will be taken in future for implementing this order.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, don't talk of bell please. He is quoting Rajiv Gandhi, who had spoken in this House for three hours against Mandal Commission. He is quoting him.

[English]

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Sir, I would like to reiterate the assurance given by my senior colleague, honourable Kesriji.

I must lastly add, Sir, that in the annals of Indian Social History, this Bill would go down as an epoch-making measure. However, I must say that in the series of several social measures towards upliftment of the SEBCs, this Bill only makes an humble beginning. This is not an end. The journey would continue.

Finally, Sir, we shall see that in the shortest possible time, we should be able to implement the Office Memorandum dated 18.8.90 with suitable amendments for providing reservation for the SEBCs in central services.

We shall also see that an all-pervasive strategy is evolved for the overall socio-economic development of the SEBCs so that the most cherished goal of Shri Rajiv

Gandhi of taking this country to the next century becomes a bounden reality.

I also mention that the suggestions made by the hon. Members will be taken care of while implementing the reservation policy. The Government and the Prime Minister is very anxious to implement this 27 per cent reservation policy.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has made provision in this Bill for the removal of any Member of the Commission after three years. The Government may remove them whenever it likes. In such a situation, no Member can work, freely. They will always be apprehending that they may be removed anytime, if they don't act according to the will of the ruling party. So this provision should be repealed.

[English]

All members will continue for three years. They will not be removed in between.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : This is a permanent Commission. But the office of the Chariman and members are only for three years. Subsequently, new members will be appointed and there will be no problem. There will be a change in composition of commission for every three years.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to constitute a National Commission for Backward Classes other than the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up Clause-by-Clause consid-

eration of the Bill.

The question is:

"Clauses 2 to 19 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 19 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is:

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formal and the Long title stand part of the Bill"

The motions was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: I move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

15.49 hrs

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Eighteenth Report

[*English*]

SHRI P.P. KALIAPERUMAL (Cuddalore) : I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Eighteenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 24th March, 1993."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Eighteenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 24th March, 1993."

The motion was adopted.

15.50 hrs

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(*Amendment of Section 30, etc.*)

By Shri Yashwantrao Patil

[*English*]

SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL (Ahmednagar): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the people Act, 1951."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.50 1/2 hrs

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(*Amendment of Article 371*)

by Shri Yashwantrao Patil

[*English*]

SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL (Ahmednagar) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India".

The motion was adopted.

SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.51. hrs

CATTLE INSURANCE SCHEME BILL*

by Shri Yashwantrao Patil

[English]

SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL (Ahmednagar): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for cattle insurance in the country and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for cattle insurance in the country and for matters connected therewith".

The motion was adopted.

SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.51 1/2 hrs.

FARMERS' CREDIT SCHEME BILL*

by Shri Yashwantrao Patil

[English]

SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL (Ahmednagar): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for credit facilities to farmers through banks.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The ques-

tion is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for credit facilities to farmers through banks.

The motion was adopted.

SHRI YASHWANTARAO PATIL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.52 hrs

DEPOSITE INSURANCE AND CREDIT GUARANTEE CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL* (Amendment of Section 16) by Shri Ram Naik:

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act, 1961.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act, 1961".

The Motion was adopted

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.52 1/2 hrs

SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES (RESERVATION OF VACANCIES IN POSTS AND SERVICES) BILL* BY SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for reservation of vacancies for the Members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in post and Services under the control of the Government of India or of a state and in all statutory authorities and autonomous bodies receiving monies from the Government of India or of a state

and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for reservation of vacancies for the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in posts and services under the control of the Government of India or of a State and in all statutory authorities and autonomous bodies receiving moneys from the Government of India or of a state and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.53 hrs

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*
(AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES 84 AND
173)

by Dr. B.G. Jawala

[English]

DR. B.G. JAWALI (Gulbarga): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India"

The motion was adopted.

DR. B.G. JAWALI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

✓ RAILWAY PROTECTION FORCE
(AMENDMENT) BILL
(Substitution of new long title for long title,
etc.)

By Shri Basudeb Acharia
(CONTD.)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Basudeb Acharia on the 27th November, 1992, namely:-

"That the Bill further to amend the Railway Protection Force Act, 1957, be taken into consideration."

Shri Sriballav Panigrahi may please continue his speech.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : MR. Deputy-Speaker, last time I was on my legs when this Railway Protection Force (Amendment) Bill, 1991 was being discussed. It was brought forward to consider an Amendment to the Railway Protection Force Act, 1957.

In 1985 there was a provision, which was also sought to be amended. Anyway, this Bill distinctly has two aspects viz. first, with regard to the formation of Association and subsequently its recognition etc.; second, is about delegation of some powers to the RPF enabling them to investigate into crimes etc. There cannot be any dispute with regard to the second aspect. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Sir, I am guilty of not introducing my Bills. I have to introduce two Bills.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let him complete, then you can introduce your Bills.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : So, Sir, the RPF has been assigned the job of protecting the railway property and dealing with crimes relating to that.

The RPF is under the exclusive control

[Sh. Sriballav Panigllav]

of the railway authorities whereas, the other agency viz. Government Railway Police (GRP) is under the control of the respective state Governments. The GRP is also assigned the job of maintaining law and order and related crimes. Therefore, sometime there is also confusion in respect of the functioning of both the wings and more often there is lack of coordination, as a result the functioning of the railways, particularly, with regard to both maintenance of law and order and protection of railway property is adversely affected. There is also no clear cut demarcation. It is very difficult to draw a clear cut demarcating line.

16.00 hrs

It is always a thin line. So many committees have gone into this aspect and they have also come out with recommendations that some powers of investigation, etc. should be given to the RPF to make it more effective. That is a welcome feature in this Bill and I wholeheartedly support it.

You know that the Indian Railways, which was hitherto the second largest railway in the world is now the largest railway in the world. After the Soviet system collapsed; now, there is no Soviet Union. The railways of the Soviet Union was the largest in the world; but after the collapse of that system, the Indian Railway is the largest railway in the world; it is No. 1 in terms of size. (Interruptions) That you decide; both the Communists sitting together should decide what is the outcome, what is the result, what is the merit and what is the demerit.

Railway is also the greatest public sector undertaking. It is now the largest railway in the world; and coming to India, it is the largest public sector undertaking; it is also the biggest employer, employing about 16 lakh employees who are serving the Indian Railways; and out of them, 74,000 come under the Railway Protection Force. On the one hand, we talk that it is the largest railway in the world, on the other hand, in respect of

law and order, in the matter of providing security to the travelling passengers, I think there is much to be desired. There is a funny thing about it. The Railway Minister is present here. I would not name anybody. In one zonal railway, DG or IG of police is deputed to that zone as incharge of security, etc. His daughter was travelling in the train.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): You invite Shri Basudeb Acharia to occupy the Chair so that he can regulate the time of his own Bill.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: It is possible in the communist system where Bill is there. He may be asked to regulate the time.

The daughter of the highest authority incharge of law and order, security, etc. of a zonal railway was travelling.

At one station, she was robbed off. All her belongings were taken away. What I mean to say is what will happen to the confidence of common passengers in that case. We all know that pistols, etc. of some senior police officials have been snatched away. This is all happening in the trains. This is not a good thing.

RPF is not responsible. GRP is under the state Government's control. Is not it? What I say is that there is much to be desired in the matter of providing security and the right type of climate has got to be built. Passengers, particularly in some sections, do not feel safe and secure. There are some sections where it is risky to travel during night and passengers just cannot avoid night journey because of long distance. What I mean to say is that there should be proper integration, there should be proper coordination between all these forces, i.e. RPF, GRP, etc.

Some orientation programme should be there for them. RPF, as you know, was converted from watch & Ward service. People have been upgraded to this police force. So periodically they should be organised to update with the latest developments.

In the light of the experience gained from the Railways and also on the basis of the recommendations of different committees or Commissions, this amendment has come, i.e. vesting powers of investigation, etc. Therefore, I support this.

16.08 hrs.

(SHRI NITISH KUMAR *in the chair*)

As regards the other portion, i.e., the formation of association and its recognition etc., no doubt it is a somewhat complicated matter.

This Act dates back to 1957. In the early '60s RPF employees got themselves organised. They formed an association and they also got recognition for this. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, please allow him to complete his speech.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Such disturbances are of course very pleasant.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Even from the Minister who has to reply.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You give all this information when you reply.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: For over a decade the association enjoyed the recognition.

I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that when he replies to the debate he should deal with this. What has happened is that they were given certain facilities, certain privileges, certain rights, etc. And you know, in our system, good or bad, if you give certain rights or privileges and later on if you realise that it should not have been given then it is very difficult to withdraw. You can improve upon but it is difficult to withdraw.

Therefore, when certain privileges are

given, after due and careful consideration such concessions should be allowed. But once the concessions are allowed, then it is very difficult to withdraw them. So, I would like to request the hon. Minister to tell us what happened in between. Because they are like the Armed Forces, and as the Armed Forces cannot form an association that restriction is being extended to these people also.

I would like to know one thing. From the record what I find is that they have got a duty to protect the railway property but they are not generally given law and order duties. Secondly, they are also not charged with the responsibility of the security of the boarder of the country. Nor are they given the duty of maintenance of law and order or public order. Therefore, the RPF men are neither men of Armed Forces - Military, Navy or Air Force - nor of the Police Force. The RPF men are not doing those jobs.

Under Article 33 of the Constitution they are entitled to enjoy the Fundamental Right to form an association for their service. At one point of time it was considered that they could form an association under Article 43 or so, this was a Fundamental Right and it should not be contravened. Nothing should be done to snatch away that Fundamental Right. Again this is a very important matter and I will draw the attention of the hon. Minister.

I would request Shri Subhash not to disturb the Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Everywhere there is noise.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: I would like to mention that this is an acid test. It is a pivotal point in this Bill. How does he consider them? Are they treated as members of the Armed Forces? Generally, what is the definition 'Armed Forces'? What are the privileges or benefits enjoyed by the Armed Forces? In this case are all those privileges and benefits given to them? That is the acid test, if these people are considered comparable to the Armed Forces. If

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

that is so all the benefits that accrue to them should be given to these people also. They should fall in line with the discipline of the Armed Forces, and the rights, privileges and restrictions everything applicable to them should be applicable to these people also. Just giving them the rights alone is not possible. Rights, privileges and restrictions, everything applicable to them should be applicable to these people also. Just giving them the rights alone is not possible. Rights, privileges and restrictions, all go together. But as it seems, palpably, they are not members of the Armed Forces. They are not as such members of the Armed Forces. But when IPS officers and Police Inspectors have got their associations, these people also should get the right to form an association. Otherwise, why should those innocent people be deprived of those privileges ?

We have also something to say against the RPF people or the GRP people. They are also accused of some things. Without the connivance of the RPF the crimes involving the law and order and railway property cannot go on increasing like this.

The speedy increase in respect of crime, relating to law and order, security of passengers and also security of railways property cannot be there. There should be discipline. A strict view should be taken against those who are guilty and they should be punished. Stringent action should be taken. But about giving them right to form associations etc. , I am of the view that if other sections of police are getting it, why to debar these people. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Trichur) : The hon. Member was citing an example that various officers of the rank of sub-inspectors and other senior police officers are allowed to form unions. Are you aware that Dharmaveera Commission has recommended that the armed forces including the police personnel can form their own unions? According to this Commission's report, it is not only the officers who are permitted to form associations but the police personnel

or the armed forces members are also permitted to form their associations. I would like to know whether the hon. Members is aware of this and, if so, will he support this? *(Interruptions)*.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order. I seek your clarification and ruling on this. Can an individual Member be subjected to any question and answer by another individual Member in this very House? Normally, in the Question Hour, questions are asked by any individual Member to the Ministers. But, is there any convention in this House that an individual Member can ask a question from another individual Member? *(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sriballav Panigrahi has yielded.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : According to the rules, one Member can ask a question formally from another Member. That is provided in the rules.

MR. CHAIRMAN : So, there is no point in point of order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : MR. Chairman, Sir, luckily you have become the Chairman and my friend, hon. Shri P.M. Sayeed has become the Minister. Earlier, he was sitting in the Chair. He is an Ex-Chairman. *(Interruptions)*. I agree because that is in line with my argument.

When other sections of police forces have formed associations/trade unions, why should these people be debarred, particularly when they are not equivalent, are not comparable with armed forces in terms of duties, privileges, facilities etc. I urge upon the Government to have an open mind so far as this issue is concerned. You know that the bureaucracy is very strong in India.

In India, the bureaucracy has taken still deeper roots. As we also smell, there is some difference between the regular RPF people and those who are coming from police services on deputation at senior level - IPS officers, etc. Naturally, these people, for better promotion prospects, etc. are opposed to such large-scale deputations at higher level and they want these posts to be filled up by way of promotion from among themselves. So, these senior officers have a hand in bringing in such restrictions. Therefore, the Government should reconsider this with an open mind.

In a democracy, things are changing. In some circumstances on certain understanding, we do something and later on we come to realise that the situation needs a review. There should be a review and there should not be any hesitation to do that.

I was saying it the other day also that in our property law, etc., there are provisions that even those who unauthorised occupy certain places for more than twelve years uninterrupted, individual private property by way of adverse possession, some sort of right or title flows even to such encroachers. Here, these people have got this benefit of association, etc. for more than ten-twelve years. So, in one stroke, this facility should not be snatched away from them and there should be an impartial dispassionate review or study with an open mind.

With these words, I conclude by saying that the Bill has two aspects. One is, as I told you, about delegation or vesting of powers. That is a very good provision and I welcome that. About the rest I would say that it needs greater and careful study or re-consideration.

16.24 hrs

ONE-PERSON ONE-JOB NORM BILL*

By Shri Bhogardro Jha

[English]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani)
: Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a

Bill to ensure one-person one-job norm by providing employment or for means and resources for selfemployment to all adult citizens of the country.

MR. CRAIRMAN/ : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to ensure one-person one-job norm by providing employment or for means and resources for selfemployment to all adult citizens of the country."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : I introduce the Bill.

26.24 1/2 hrs

PROMOTION AND MAINTENANCE OF
COMMUNAL

AND CASTE HARMONY BILL*

By Shri Bhogendra Jha

[English]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the promotion, maintenance and strengthening of communal and caste harmony amongst the people of the country and for matters connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the promotion, maintenance and strengthening of communal and caste harmony amongst the people of the country and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted

SHRI BHOGENMDRA JHA : I introduce the Bill.

16.25 hrs

**RAILWAY PROTECTION FORCE
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 1991**

(Substitution of new long title for long title etc.)

By Shri Basudeb Acharia -

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE (Raiganj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir I fully support the Bill introduced by Shri Basudeb Acharia. The RPF has been assigned the job of protecting the property of railways and their right to form an association is nothing new. They were enjoying this right to form an association is nothing new. They were enjoying this right earlier also but in 1985 it was withdrawn and the reason given was its nature of work is similar to that of military and para-military forces. But the nature of work of RPF is in no way comparable to military or para-military forces. It is simply a force which protects the railway property.

The right to form an association is a democratic right now and such a democratic right cannot be withdrawn. Therefore, it is very essential to restore this right. When Shri George Fernandes was the Minister of Railways, the matter was taken up with him and he assured that this right will be restored.

Today the hon. Minister Shri Kumaramangalam also raised the issue and expressed his opinion in favour of the recognition of its association. The entire House is of the view their right for forming an association should be restored. Both S/Shri George Fernandes and Janeshwar Mishra have made their statements in the House in favour of the restoration their right to form an association. I too demand for recognition of its association. With these words I conclude.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands). Mr. Chair-

man, Sir, I support the Bill presented in the House. This issue has been raised a number of time earlier also in this august House and hon. Members from both the sides of the House expressed their desire for tackling this issue particularly those aspects which are concerned with the Government at the earliest. I am thankful to Shri Acharia and especially to Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal who have brought this motion before the House. The question is under what category the RPF should be classified whether it is comparable to Active Force, Police Force, para-Military Force, or it is mere a watch and ward organisation, responsible for protecting the railway property.

The RPF Act, dates back to 1957. It was enacted with the sole objective of providing a watch and ward organisation for the protection of railway property. Today this Force is not vested with the powers of investigation or prosecute someone. The Railway protection Force have no powers under the law. The Railways have millions of acres of land in the country. Their land adjoining railway stations have been encroached upon. Since the Railway Protection Force does not have any power under the law the Department of Railways is unable to get back possession of their land from encroachers. While replying, the hon. Minister should deal with this. Why are they not being provided with the powers as have been given to the state police or to the para-Military Forces? Many Acts have been amended since Independence but why no amendment was made to this Act so far. The hon. Minister must come out with reasons for it in his reply. The Railway Protection Force should be accorded the same status as has been given to other forces in the country. They should be given similar facilities. What is the need of formulating separate rules for them? I feel there is no requirement of framing separate rules for them. Many important points have been mentioned by the hon members. The Police Force has been given right to form an association. Just now my hon. colleague pointed out that the Dharmaveer Commission has recommended that the armed forces can form their associations. It appears that the Government is backing out. They must be

given their minimum rights. We will be very happy if Government accepts their demand. If an assurance from the Government is given to the force comprising of seventy thousand personnel, it will be a matter of gratitude for them. In such a situation, they can be asked to prove worthy of their work. The responsibility of protecting the railway property lies upon them. The pilferage of railway property can be checked to a large extent.

The hon. Minister of state in the Ministry of Railways Shri K.C.Lenka looks after the welfare of the people and has great sympathy for them and the interest of weaker section is supreme for him. He is always actively concerned with the welfare and interest of Railway employees too. At times he keeps silent and does not express his views. Through you, I would like to request him that rising above all these considerations he should state the truth and should also give this right to others. In this bureaucracy, there are some high level bureaucrats, who do not want to get this job done. It would go against their position. This august House is supporting you, so you should fight against them. In this parliamentary democracy, Lok-Sabha is Supreme so you need not have any sense of fear because in respect of all the directions from the administration, the Government will have the support of Lok Sabha. You can take it for granted.

If the Members of the ruling party and he Members of opposition think that this is wrong, then you should given them this right. I would like to know whether the decision in this regard had been taken by the ministers of the previous government without discussing the matter with the officers and whether such orders had been issued without a discussion? This is not possible. So while replying to the debate, kindly make it clear as to at what level and on what dates these discussions were held to come to a conclusion and what were the reasons that the Government had gone back on their decision. The minister should kindly enlighten us on this point so that we are able to understand as to what was the reason for

which on this one topic there had been a lot of heated discussion by members of all the parties in the House. Responding to the demand of all sections of this House, the Government came forward with a Bill on which we are having a discussion for the third consecutive day today. If some action is not taken on it then it would again come up for discussion. So we would like to know as to what has been the policy and intention of the Government in this matter.

Shri Panigrahi and other Members have also raised this issue and through you I would also like to know under which rule the officers have been conferred the right to form their association. They can form association and put forth their demands but why has the Government denied this right to the low level officers? Why have all these things been allowed to the higher level officers and denied to the low-level officers? It does not seem justified. I hope that you would enlighten us on this point.

The personnel of R.P.F. have complained that at times some corrupt officers help the people engaged in pilferages of railway property and obstruct the persons who have been entrusted to check such cases. When the Railway Protection personnel do not pay any heed to those corrupt officers, they think that they can pressurise them only when some such law is there which may prevent them from forming an association. I think it is something wrong. The hon. Minister should enlighten us.

I would also like to inform you that in the recent past, many people have been dismissed from service on one or the other charge. I hope you would furnish the details of such cases giving the number the place of work and the allegations levelled against such persons which formed the basis of their dismissed from the service. I would also like to know about the number of such persons who have been reinstated alongwith the dates of their reinstatement and those who have not been yet reinstated. A detailed account thereof should be presented in the House.

[Sh. Manoranjan Bhakta]

Again I would like to request the Government not to make it a prestige issue because Railway Protection Force have a work force of seventy thousand persons. They are the citizens of this country and also our brethren. If any atrocity has been committed on them the Government should come out with there stand on it in the House. If some wrong action is taken against a person, it comes in the knowledge of the Government and they give relief to the person against whom that wrong action has been taken. Such a message should reach the masses and Government should not make it a prestige issue. All the Officers of the Railways are not bad. Some of them are very good and work quite efficiently. They also take care of the interests of the forces as well. I praise them for their goodness. But there are some people who bring bad name to their department through their wrong deeds done for their selfish ends. Here I would like to state that this is a question of a principle or a rule and not that of prestige. So the Government should make it clear whether they would give them this right to form their association. I think, we should give them the right at all costs. And if any wrong action has been taken against them, that thing should be corrected and proper compensation should be given to the aggrieved person.

I would also like to submit that the personnel of Railway Protection Force should take action against a person who is found engaged in pilferage's of railway property or misusing the Railway Property. This House lends its support to government for any legal measure to be taken by them. I would like to request the hon. Minister to approve of this Bill and not to make it a prestige issue.

With these words I conclude.

MAJOR D.D. ,KHANORIA (Kangra) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I am here to support the Bill introduced by Shri Acharya in respect of Railway Protection Force. At the same time I would like to make out some

points before the Minister so that he may clarify it during his reply to the debate.

At present, there are seventy five thousand persons who have been working in the Railway Protection Force and the Railway police. People working in the R.P.F. take care of the Railway property. Though they are expected to function as a force they have not been well equipped for that purpose. Responsibility of protection of all sorts of railway property, be it a railway station, railway track or any other place or thing belonging to railways lies with the Railway Protection Force. Even for night patrolling duty, they have not been provided any weapon or even a stick. I think these personnel should be given arms as in the case of paramilitary forces so that they are able to protect Railway property as well as their own life. Some such cases have come to light when in case of an attempt on their life, they had to run away from the place of their duty and the Railway property was looted by the gangsters.

I would request the Minister to express his views in this regard because it is a matter pertaining to seventy five thousand personnel of the railway force. It is the bounded duty of the Government to provide arms to the people so that they are able to defend themselves. RPF people have not been given any power under the law to punish anyone or to file a suit against anyone. I would like the Government to provide them with such powers. It has been said here that in 1972, RPF used to have an association but due to certain reasons, its recognition was withdrawn in 1986. At present in all the parts of the country, in all departments, the employees have their associations to ventilate their grievances, to take care of their welfare, to ensure betterment of service conditions of their members and to get their demands conceded by the Government. I have not been able to understand the reasons of granting recognition to the RPF Association in 1972 and then withdrawing the same in 1986. I would like the Government to allow the RPF to form their association so that those seventy five thousand people of this force could bring their de-

mands to the notice of the Government and get the facilities of welfare of their family members and better service conditions for themselves. Their service conditions are also very poor. Their service conditions should be improved so as to encourage them to work in future. I think that the Government should concede their demands on humanitarian grounds and should not make it a prestige issue so that we may also protect the interests of these people.

Sir, there is almost 200-km long railway track in my constituency and there are several stores of railway at various places. Railway wagons are lying at the railway stations. So far as I know that generally personnels of Railway Protection force do not go there to discharge their duties on those hilly areas due to spread of terrorism there as they have not been given arms. I would like that they should be provided arms for their protection so that they may protect Government property. With these words I thank you very much. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Its time is over. If the House is willing, its time can be extended.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Its time should be extended.

MR. CHAIRMAN : How much An hour?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI (Saidpur) : Its time should be extended by two hours.....(*Interruptions*)

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): If the hon. Minister is ready to reply, we may stop discussion (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) : There are several Members yet to speak. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you extend time

now, then should it be extended by two hours?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, it should be extended by two hours. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. The R.P.F. and the GRP are the only two departmetns which protect railways all over the country. There is no other department in the country except these two, which is entrusted the responsibility of protecting the railways.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, earlier the personnel of these two departments had the right to form their unions and to fight for their rights but later on this right was withdrawn through an amendment in this law, and this Bill has been brought to restore this right to them. If this Bill is adopted, children of poor people who work in these departments will hve a right to put their grievances before the Government.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, 90 per cent of the employees in this departmetn are those whose parents work in fields. The Government should not have imposed ban on the right to form union of these departemtns. But it seems that the Government wanted that poor people should not have right to raise their voice, therefore, the law was amended to withdraw that right.

Right to form Union is a constitutional right.

According to the provisions of the constitution, a citizen of the country has right to raise his voice if his rights are violated but this right was withdrawn by this law and hon. Acharia has introduced this Bill to restore it so, I would like to thank him for this.

This Government calls itself a socialist Government but the fact is that this Government only talks of socialism and does not implement its principles. Before it, Shri George Fernandes was the Minister of Railways and after him Mishra Ji had held this

[Sh. Tej Narayan Singh]

office. Both these persons were of the view that the Bill against the right to form union, should have not introduced and passed. These people give slogan of socialism, fight for it, and agreed with these things, so, there is no question of their criticism. This criticism is of those people who talk of bringing socialism in this country, to give rights to the poor but do not want to change or amend this law, they do not want to amend it so that poor people cannot ask for their rights.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to inform that these people used to discharge their duty round the clock and protect valuable railway property. Today criminals have acquired various types of sophisticated arms but nothing else has been provided to them except 303 rifles. They can't face modern sophisticated arms by this rifle. They have also not been given enough power to enable them to take legal action against the criminals. They try to check crimes with the few power given to them and try their best to protect railway property. The important issue is that they are not able to curb corruption in railways because of the fact that the Railway officials are generally themselves involved in the railway thefts and they are not vested with sufficient power to take action against the culprits. If such powers are vested with them, I think that the railways running in loss, will not remain in the red. There is a saying in Bhojpuri that god is mighty but the protector is very weak. Therefore, in spite of RPF and GRP, the railways are not running in profit which weakens the economy of the country. If the RPF and the GRP are given full powers the loss will be reduced in the Railways - Approximately 70 thousand employees working in these forces, protect railway property. They are not vested with the power which they should have and this is the reason that they are not in a position to discharge their duty of protecting railways to the extent which they should do. The objects and reasons given in the Bill are that they should be given the right to form union, which has been withdrawn earlier. I also agree with it that both the Railway Protection Force and the GRP should be given the

right to form union. There is no organisation in the country which has not the right to form the union.

Teacher's unions, as well as the employees unions have also right to raise their demands. We can also form a union to raise our points and if the government does not concede to our demands, we can also stage demonstrations and dharna against the Government. But these personnel have not this right, therefore, they cannot raise their voice for their dress, boots and to her facilities. There was British rule in the country before independence but after independence, there is our own Government in the country and in spite of that these people have not been given right to raise their voice. The Government should adopt the Bill introduced by Shri Basudeb Acharia. If there is any defect in it, Government can bring a Comprehensive Bill in order to give them right to form union.

With these words, I support this Bill.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI (Saidpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on the subject. First of all, I would like to congratulate Shri Basudeb Acharia for introducing this Bill and I welcome it. Indeed as some of my colleagues said that there are only two organisations in Railways i.e. GRP and RPF which are entrusted with the responsibility to protect the railway property, the RPF is directly related to the Railways and the G.R.P. is related to the State Governments.

Sir, before saying about the GRP I would like to say something about the R.P.F. Earlier the R.P.F. was known as Watch and Ward Staff. Its employees were working since it was started with the name of Watch and Ward. With passage of time, its name was changed and it is known as RPF. In 1973, According to Article 19 of the Constitution they are.....

17.00 hrs

They were given the right to form an

Association and their Association came into being. Thus the RPF personnel got organised. Thereafter an amendment was made in 1985 and their right to form an association was withdrawn. It is a matter of regret that such a thing happened in case of R.P.F. personnel. It is clearly stated in our Constitution that everybody has a right of freedom of expression and one can put forth ones demand in Gandhian way to get back his right. People can form associations and they have freedom of expression. But, Nobody knows who were the people who thought it better to withdraw their right and why did such a thing strike them but as a consequence thereof in 1985 they were denied of this right.

Sir, at present there is another organisation in Railways which is known by the name of G.R.P. I do not want to criticise it but the hon. Members present in the House will agree with me that G.R.P. is playing a very strange role in comparison to R.P.F. The hon. Minister is sitting here. If the crimes taking place in railways, are investigated in depth, one will come to know that 10 to 20 percent culprits have support of G.R.P. I will just narrate an incident in this connections.

Sir, a few days ago I had gone to Lucknow by train in second class. One shoe shiners came into the compartment I gave him my shoes for polishing. When he finished I put my hand into the pocket to make the payment. I realised that somebody had picked my pocket. I was just wondering now what to do by chance I met one of my acquaintance there who paid Rs. 2 to that boy. I was not able to decide whether to continue with the journey or not. Somehow, I reached Lucknow. From there I went to Varansi. I called one G.R.P. inspector and told him that somebody picked my pocket on way to Lucknow. I called the R.P.F. people too but they remained mum. After meeting G.R.P. personnel I become hopeful that I will get back the money but at the same time felt sad about the prevailing state of affairs. After one week, I got the exact amount back. I asked them to prove that this was my money because it was quite

possible that after knowing that I am an M.P. they may be paying the money from their own side. I told them that my purse may also be returned to me and the very next day my purse was handed over to me by G.R.P. I was very much surprised.

Incidents of thefts are quite common at Railway stations. Sir, 3-4 days ago, a man while travelling with his wife lost all his wife's jewellery, the jewellery was kept in a box. The box was stolen and he was waiting at the station. In 1981, Shri Balram Jakhar of the Lok Sabha then Speaker had gone to Jaipur. While he was being garlanded at the station he was pick-pocketed. This incident is on the record. Probably, the G.R.P. people had a hand in it. In another incident the wife of our former Prime Minister Shri V.P. Singh lost her suitcase while travelling by pair which contained jewellery worth lakhs of rupees.

Sir, this is a general feeling that G.R.P. personnel are hand in glove with the culprits. If they wish such incidents can be avoided and they can easily apprehend the culprits. The G.R.P. is unable to provide security to the crores of people travelling in our country by train. R.P.F. is comparatively a better organisation than G.R.P. To give it a better shape it was given the right to form an association but on withdrawal this right and disbanding of this association at later stage is something which is beyond comprehension.

Sir, the R.P.F. has been demanding for a long time that they should be given the right to form an Association. It should be accepted within the framework of rules as there is no harm in it. If an organisation strengthen itself by way of forming an Association on a regular basis then nobody can project to it as they are doing it in accordance with the rules of the constitution.

Sir, a Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Ram Subhag. It thoroughly reviewed the service conditions of R.P.F. The Committee in its report, commented that it was a good organisation

[Sh. Rajnath Sonkar Shastri]

which is providing better security to the property of Railways and is discharging its duties efficiently, therefore, they should be given the right form their own association. There is no harm in it. The Ram Subhag Singh Committee recommended for this right in its report but thereafter no need was paid to this recommendation and it was thrown into dustbin by our Government and no action was taken on it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, everybody has a right to form an association and one can exercise this right. As I have already stated that nobody should have any objection to it. I do not want to go into the details as to how our former Minister of Railways Shri Bansi Lal Ji had denied them of their right and nor I have much information in this regard but the manner in which they were denied of their rights was a clear violation of section 33 of the constitution. I want the Government to give it a serious thought that as to how this section 33 is being violated and why they are not being given right of forming an Association.

Sir, when Janta Dal was in power, the then Railway Minister Shri George Fernandes also looked into the matter and as has been stated here my other esteemed colleagues that he had almost decided to give this right to them, for which he deserves appreciation but then this Government went out of power. Later on Shri Janeshwar Mishra took charge of the Ministry of Railways. He also gave an assurance in this regard. Subsequently an agitation was resorted to and picketing was done but he pacified one and all. Everybody was of this opinion that they should be given this right but that Government also did not remain in power for long and the right of these people could not be restored. They have been demanding for a long time for this right.

Sir, the seriousness with which you are listening to this discussion and the manner in which this issue is being discussed gives me a ray of hope. You have a soft corner for the poor. And as my many colleagues

have mentioned that generally the persons belonging to poor agriculturists families join R.P.F. The Government should show its magnanimity towards these people as the members of weaker sections mostly comprise the lower ranks. They should give them an opportunity to form an Association. It should not be made a prestige issue, on the contrary the Government should take keen interest in it. The Government should have declared before the commencement of discussion on this Bill, that it whole heartedly by welcomes the Bill moved by Shri Basudeb Acharia. if it was felt there were some shortcomings in the Bill Shri Basuded Acharia could have been consulted and in consultation with him and other member a better bill could have been presented in the House.

I once again urge that a mere reply to this Bill will not serve the purpose. Whether you support the Bill or speak against this Bill mere reply is not sufficient. But I would like you to review their service and other conditions and thereafter a clear and unambiguous Bill should be presented in the House so that their fundamental rights could be protected. With these words I think Shri basudeb Acharia for drawing the attention of the House towards such an important issue.

[English]

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai): Mr. Chariman Sir, the Railway Protection Force (Amendment) Bill has been moved by Shri Besudeb Acharia and Shri Pavan Kumar Bansal. The Bill seeks to empower the Railway Protection Force will the Authority of investigation as regards the crimes committed on the Railway track. In the course of their activity, they should be empowered to protect, the railway property.

They have raised one more point. It is a fact that the Railway Protection Force and the Government Railway Police are two agencies. The Railway Protection Force deserves the right to form unions and associations. These two aspects are the main contents of the Bill.

As regards the first part, take the example of an incident of crime. The baggage of one of the passengers is stolen and the Railway Protection Force has to look into it because they are entrusted with the duty of protecting the said property. In this situation if the Railway Protection Force is not empowered to make an investigation on the spot, just after the pilferage has taken place and if this power or authority is given to the Government Railway Police for investigation, then there will be conflict and as a result chaos will prevail. I say this because while the responsibility of protecting the property is given to a particular agency, in the name of law and order, investigating authority is not given to them; Then, naturally there is going to be chaos. So, this should be done away with as soon as possible. I would, therefore, request the Government to ponder over the matter and give the power or authority of investigation to the Railway Protection Force. Otherwise, the work relating to protection of railway property etc. will not be carried out as efficiently as we demand it from them.

As regards the second part, Sir, we have to speak a lot. After a long battle with the British imperialism, our great leaders, our great people have achieved the rights. During the reign of the British certain fundamental rights were denied to the individuals. Against those activities of the British imperialist forces, our heroic people fought bravely and after achieving freedom, we had enshrined in our Constitution the fundamental rights.

It may be remembered, Sir, during the pre-independence movement our Leaders promised to the people that on achievement of freedom, our people would be in a position to enjoy those rights which are fundamental to them in development of their environment and so on. Those are the fundamental rights.

In Chapter III of the Constitution those fundamental rights have been put down. Under those rights, Article (1) (C) is vocal.

"Every citizen shall have the right to

form an Association and Union".

Every Indian citizen has got this right. Though this provision is there, there are some exceptions.

Article 19 (4) has provided "that in the interest of public order or morality and in keeping the sovereignty of the Indian Union, certain rights viz. the right to form Union and Association may be denied to a citizen." There comes the question of maintaining sovereignty of our country. The Railway Protection Force is not going to do any damage to the sovereignty of India. If they form their Association or Union, they would get certain bargaining power and not more than this. In Article 33 of the Constitution, it is provided that the Indian Parliament is empowered to consider who will not be given those rights enshrined under Chapter III of the Constitution.

Sir, there has been a mention of armed forces and certain other forces and that the rights may not be given to them. There has not been any indication of the RPF or GRP. So, Article 19 (1) (4) and Article 33, if they are read together we find that the Railway Protection Force and the Government Railway Police are definitely not contravening the Constitutional provision. They are in a position to enjoy those rights. So, if the Government of India or Parliament does not give them such powers to express, to manifest their internal qualities, then we think we shall be responsible to the nation as a whole because we represent the people; we have a moral right; we have a moral responsibility to respond their rights. If the Parliament fails in its duty, We think we are failing in our duty. So, I would appeal to all the hon. members including Members who form the treasury benches to see that these fundamental rights should not be denied to the RPF.

When our heroic people were fighting against the British regime, they, in unequivocal terms, told to the people of India that India would be a nation and such a nation would definitely give to their citizens the right to enjoy property as well as other

[Sh. Sudhir Giri]

rights; and those inherent rights are with the people after their birth. So, we cannot deny them these fundamental rights, fundamental in the sense that without those rights, the development of an individual, the development of an individual - self will not be made possible at all. Under all such circumstances, it is necessary that the fundamental rights should be given to all the citizens of India.

I think that, if in consideration of the fact that they are forces, they are entrusted with the right of protecting the railway property, they are entrusted with the right of protecting the passengers' property, who are travelling by rail, then we think they should be given the right to form their own association, because without forming an association, they would not be in a position to express their grievances, to give vent to their grievances.

1722. hrs.

(SHRI PETER G MARBANIANG - *in the Chair*)

If an individual cannot express his grievances, if an individual is not given an environment to express his individual-self, then, I think all sorts of grievances will be gathered and those heaped up grievances will lead to a situation, where outburst volcano will take place. So, to avoid such a situation, we must, as responsible representatives of the Indian people, think that it should be our duty, without delay that they should be given the right in tune with the constitutional provisions as contained in Article 19(1) (c); even the restricting provision under clause 4 to Article 19 may be taken into consideration.

Our freedom struggle represented the aspirations of the Indian people for the freedom of their Mother land from the rule of the foreigners; not only this, we also fought, our forefathers also fought for the emancipation of our emotions, for the freedom of ourselves in order to give vent to our griev-

ances, and to manifest ourselves, develop ourselves in all respects. So having regard to all these promises made by our freedom fighters and our heroic people in those days, we should without delay enshrine in our Statute Book the right to form an association and union. It should be given to the Railway Protection Force.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Trichur): Thank you Mr, Chairman. Sir, this is a Bill brought to this House by Shri Basudeb Acharia, it is a Private member's Bill. Normally the Ruling Party Members are about to oppose the Bill moved by an opposition member, especially a Bill moved by Shri Basudeb Acharia.

Supporting that Bill in the normal circumstances is a very difficult exercise. If Mr. Basudeb Acharia were sitting in my position, on this side, I am sure he would have definitely opposed it. But this Congress party has got a tradition of not opposing good things and supporting good things, whether it has been brought to this House even by Shri Basudeb Acharia.

I think, Shri Acharia is very lucky in bringing this legitimate demand of Railway Protection Force before the notice of this House.

This has got a long history. I support the demand raised by Shri Acharia in this Bill because this has got a long history and that history is something which everyone should study not one but twice because the background is so interesting.

This is a point, how democratic system is functioning. How unnecessary and unwelcomed things are being cut into our legislation. Everytime this Bill or this issue is being taken up by successive Railway Ministers, the successive Railway Ministers were either to resign or their Governments were dissolved. So there is some bad men in this association with this who's issue.

I remember, last week when we were discussing this issue, the hon. Shri George Fernandes, as usual, was very very

voiceferous. At the hight of his voice, he was arguing for the Railway Protection Force. I can very well appreciate it and his eloquence I have to accept. But at the same time when Shri George Fernandes was the Minister of Railways, this issue came up once but Shri Fernandes could not help it. I am not saying that Shri Fernandes was against this, especially, when he is not here. I do not want to go much on that but it is a fact. The fact remains that Shri Acharia was pointing out about Shri Pawan Kumar bansal and Shri Harish Rawat.

I am sure Shri Acharia is aware of the experience Shri Bansal and Shri Rawat received or they had when they took up this matter and when they represented this matter before Shri George Fernandes.

What I want to highlight is that even Shri Fernandes when he was sitting in the Chair could not resolve this problem, with much reluctance, with the normal usual advice or the pressure from bureaucracy. All the socialists and communists when they come to the seat of power they behave like any other democratic party. We have seen that many times in this country. Because of the compulsions of the bureaucracy they were also dilly-dallying.

You can very well blame Congress. Congress is always at the receiving end. Whether it is Shri K.C. Lenka or Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief, it is very easy to phrase allegations against them. But, Sir, many Ministers from Shri Fernandes to Shri Janeshwar Mishra, whoever has touched this subject reluetantly, unwillingly were to go out.

So, I wish that what has happened to their predecessors des not happen to Shri K.C. Lenka and Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief, for both of whom I have got great regard and who are my very good friends. I would expect them to approach this issue with an open mind. I hope that the hon. House goes further into this subject.

This is not merely a subject of giving recognition to RPF alone. The RPF men

are being treated as an Armed Force. That itself is a question of dispute, whether it is an Armed force at all. Shri Basudeb Acharia had explained it. That other hon. Members also had explained it in detail. Merely because they are uniformed men they need not be treated as an Armed Force.

I came from the State of Kerala where the Police personnel are given the privilege to form an association. When I was in the Government in 1980, our Government in face of criticism from all the parties gave the sanction for the Police personnel to form an association. What is wrong with that? I do not understand it. This is the democratic contribution of our forefathers. This is an organisation which is 106 years old and which has sacrificed for the freedom of this country, and has contributed a system which is unequal in the world. That means, there should be democratic freedom not only for a section of the people, not only for a section of the Government employees, but also to everyone. Whoever is denying this fundamental right to them is doing them an injustice. Pandit Nehru has taught us this and the great Indian National Congress also had taught us this democratic functioning and therefore they should not be denied this freedom.

There are some dubious factors behind this. As we all know the service conditions of these RPF people are very poor. They are very poorly paid people. They are not better off compared to many other services and forces. But the bureaucrats ruling this Railway Protection Force, as it was mentioned in the House are the privileged deputationists, the IPS officers who are responsible for this. So, we cannot subject the faith and the future of 70,000 men of RPF to the whims and fancies of these IPS bureaucrats. I think that this is a issue which the Government has to decide. I am sure that Shri Lenka must have been reasonably convinced of this need by now after all the hon. Members have expressed their opinion.

I am sure that this Government is not rigid on matters like this. Our hon. Prime

[Sh. P.C. Chacko]

Minister has said in this House that it would like to work on consensus. So, I believe that the Government will view this matter with an open mind. This is a right issue which the Government has to consider. Here the controversy is that they are not an Armed Force. So, it is held that they are not given the right to form an association. The question is whether they are an Armed Force at all.

That question is still in dispute.

When Shri Panigrahi was talking I wanted to mention that events he Armed Forces are trying to form their association. I can cite the example of Kerala State where the Police associations have been formed. Not only Sub-Inspector, not only senior Police Officers but others are also forming associations. it is not merely as association. I do not understand why whichever association is there, it could not be given the right. Even zonal associations are there. But they are being sanctioned permission to form an association on one condition, that it should not have political affiliations. I do not understand the logic behind this. This force had contributed in an uninterrupted manner for more than 14 years and I do not know why this force should not be allowed to form an association. No. they never had. Then, the amendment came in 1985 contrary to the wishes of the 7000 men of the forces, not only against their wishes but the wishes of freedom loving people of this country. I do not know how these draconian laws are creeping into our system. It is the wish of all sections of this House that this law should be repealed. This association of the armed forces or the police personal which was being recommended by the Dharmaveera Commission is accepted by the Government of India. I am sure that Shri Basudeb Acharia and my hon. friends from West Bengal remember who Shri Dharmaveera was? Shri Dharmaveera was a very senior IPS officer, for some time the Administrator of West Bengal and the Governor of West Bengal also. he was appointed as the Commission by the Government of India to

look into this very basic question. The Dharmaveera Commission report is available. Have the Government gone into this question? I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether this Government, in this context, has gone into this particular question, because this is going to come up before us in some form or the other, even tomorrow also, if not in the RPF issue, in some other issue. So, the question is that one this issue was olinched, a detiled study was made into this subject and Dharmaveera had recommended categorically that the police and police personal can form their associations and unions. After Kerala in 1980, in many States subsequently the freedom of association, the liberty to form their unions is being granted to the armed forces also. Then, where do the logic stands that they are armed forces, so they cannot form a union.

I would like to go a little deep into the background of PRF functioning itself. But, I think, I may deviate from the subject, so I am not trying to do that.

I request the hon. Minister that we should discuss about the very set up of the RPF. Certain things are happening not consciously but conscientiously. Is it sufficient? Is the working of the RPF sufficient? The protection of the railway property is the duty of somebody. The law and order maintenance, even inside the compartment or on the railway platform or on the railway property is the duty of somebody else.

Many hon. Members have raised a question here about the thefts in the compartments and things like that. The dual functioning is creating a lot of problem. In a railway station itself or in a train, the law and order is under the jurisdiction of one branch and the protection of the railway property alone is under the charge of somebody else. This dual responsibility is creating a problem. How many years are we to live with it? Have we ever applied our mind to this question. Now, we are here with very great vigour and we can say that they cannot form the association.

There are many more burning issues before the PRF men. There are many burning issues, more important issues before the people of this country; before the travelling people of this country for which the Government have to burn the midnight oil. I am not on these trivial matters.

I am sure that the hon. Member, Shri Basudeb Acharia will discuss with the Government not in the form of a Bill but we have to find a solution for this because it is not always the hide and seek game which should guide the democracy, but is an understanding. The Prime Minister has said that it is the consensus and understanding which should guide our democratic functioning. It is not merely putting a Bill and the hon. member is lucky in the ballot and he is piloting it. He knows the views, the opinions of the ruling party Members also on this matter. So, there is unanimity, there is consensus on the basic subject. So, we have to find out a way as to how we can resolve this issue. When the association recognition was withdrawn after 14 years, in the amendment in 1985 and the subsequent rules which were framed in 1987, their powers were taken away.

The agitation was made illegal and they were just retrenched. So, that issue is still hanging fire. That matter is still agitating the minds of the people who are associated with that. But that is to be settled. We have to find a way out. We have to find a way out. We have to help them. It is not an issue on which we have to fight each other politically. This year also this issue has come up. I have never heard Mr. Jaffar Sharief saying no to this issue while answering the questions on a number of occasions from Shri Basudeb Acharia, Shri Somnath Chatterjee and other friends. That is why I am supporting this issue which is raised here because this Government the Congress Party, stands committed to this issue. So, we cannot afford to say no. We have said what we shall be considering it favourably. There should be a reasonable time frame for a favourable consideration of this issue. The Congress Party is for fully supporting this cause. I think it is the responsibility of the hon. Member and all

those who support this motion, to find an amicable way out. Merely defeating the Government or merely getting a Resolution passed, is not the question. This is only a beginning. We have to have an understanding.

As we all know, in the emerging political scenario in this country, probably there are people who are ignoring the development of this country, who are forgetting the hardships to the people of this country, we are running after temples and mosques. But my leftist friends know that we have to have more understanding in this country. These are matters which should unite us, these are not matters which should divide us. We have to have joint action, joint attitude on many of these issues.

I do not want to prolong my speech, but while congratulating Shri Basudeb Acharia for bringing this issue to the notice of the House, I most honestly support the issue being raised by him. Everyone knows what is the commitment of our party on this issue. But this issue is being raised in one particular form. That probably may not be very convenient, and the inconvenience needs no explanation. I am sure that Shri Basudeb Acharia is wise enough to find out an amicable settlement on this score. The hundreds of railwaymen who were subjected to torture. Who were subjected to retransformation, they should be helped and this association, which was functioning as a model association for fourteen years, should get back its recognition. To achieve this noble cause, let us have an atmosphere of unit.

With these words, I once again tell Shri Basudeb Acharia that this is our common cause.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the G.R.P. and R.P.F. Amendment Bill, presented by Hon. Acharya Ji.

[Prof. Prem Dhupal]

[English]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, G.R.P. and R.P.F. are the two organisations which have been established to protect Railways' property, maintain law and order and to deal with offences committed in the Railways. R.P.F. and G.R.P., both the organisations have shortcomings in their functioning resulting in their being unsuccessful in controlling crimes in the Railways. In spite of all these things, their service conditions should be improved, they should be given fundamental right of formation of a Union which should be recognised by the Government. Majority of the Hon. Members must be aware of the working of R.P.F. and G.R.P. and will agree that these have many lacunae, which should be essentially plugged. I remember that during discussion in this House, one hon. Member had said that R.P.F. means Roti, Pani Free. Corruption has increased. But there cannot be two opinions about allowing them to form association one of their Fundamental Right, which should be recognised by the Government.

Hon. P.C. Chacko was referring to the time when Shri George Fernandes was the Minister of Railways and after him Sh. Janeswar Mishra became the Minister of Railways. Mr. George had been Railway Minister for less than one year and Shri Janeswar Mishra had held the post for a few months only. At that time, the Congress Party was supporting the Chandra Shekhar Government. I have a letter with me. I would like to tell Mr. P.C. Chacko the reasons for which Mr. George and Mishraji were unable to get it done. But what your Minister is doing now and what was the attitude of your party when it was in opposition. This letter was written by the then Railway Minister Shri Janeswar Mishra ji to Shri P.R. Kumaramangalam on 27th February, 1991 who was pressing for recognition to R.P.F. Union. Shri Kumaramangalam had threatened that he would start fast unto death from 27th February at 11 A.M. if the Union is not recognised. Mr. Janeswar Mishra had written to him in this letter.

"Please refer to your letter dated 25th February, 1991 regarding an indefinite hunger fast on the 27th February, 1991 at 11 A.M. for the restoration of recognition to the R.P.F. Association. As you are already aware, during discussions with you, I have indicated the Government's sincere concern about the demand of the said association."

The next line is underlined. I quote:

"It has been decided to grant recognition to the association subject to the prescribed formalities".

I continue to quote:

"In view of this decision, you will agree that there is no need to go on any fast as contemplated. I would, therefore, request to kindly cooperate with us in the matter.

With regards.

Yours sincerely,

(Janeswar Mishra)

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this letter has initials of hon. Kumaramangalam, which was received by him at 10.59. Shri Kumaramangalamji was to start the fast unto death at 11 A.M. but he had received this letter at 10.59. He was satisfied with the reply of the Minister and this decision of fast unto death was abandoned. As you know this was a decision taken on 27th February but on 9-10 March, the Congress Party had withdrawn the support from the Chandra Shekhar Government and on 13th March, Government had fallen and Lok Sabha was dissolved. I would like to say that your policy should be clear and firm whether you are in power or not. It should not change with your party's position in Parliament. You are of the view that in spite of all lacunae, consti-

tution of India has given fundamental right to R.P.F. and G.R.P. to form an association and that should be given to them. It should be kept in mind that persons, who are now Ministers were ready to take fast unto death for this purpose when they were in opposition. This proposal is quite good and should be accepted. If there is any lacuna in it, that may be removed. R.P.F. and G.R.P. should be given their due fundamental rights. They had enjoyed this right from 1957 to 1985. In 1985, when this fundamental right was withdrawn your party was in power and kumaramangalam was an hon. Member of Parliament of your party. After that he had threatened to go on fast unto death and now he is again in the Cabinet. I would, therefore, like to say that get this proposal accepted. Shri Kumaramangalam has come. I would like the Minister to announce the acceptance of the proposal presented by Shri Basudeb Acharya, as it is related to the employees; fundamental right. I think all the hon. Members who spoke here have spoken in support of this proposal and when all the hon. Members are supporting it, the same should be accepted and passed so that Railways' Security Organisations could be provided their due rights and their service conditions could be improved. Although, their working system has a lot of shortcomings and there is lack of discipline also yet for that, they can not be denied the fundamental right of forming association.

With these words, I support this Bill.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Railway Protection Force (Amendment) Bill, 1993 introduced by Shri Basudeb Acharya. I am supporting this Bill not just because of this fact that I am a Member of an opposition party.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the first and the foremost point is related to the fundamental rights. There is nothing special in it. In a democratic set up, every person should be given his rights. In this case their rights were also given earlier but were withdrawn by the Government in 1985. It was very important. If the people working in the

Railway Protection Forces do not get their fundamental right of forming their own association, they would not be working with the promptitude because without association, they will be deprived of a platform to make out their points and ventilate their grievances to the Government. It is therefore, the foremost duty of the Government to give their fundamental right to the personnel of this force who have been entrusted with so much of responsibilities. Now what is important is that the RPF people did enjoy the same right earlier.

Secondly, a Committee had been appointed to examine this issue. It has now submitted its report. But its recommendations have not been accepted. If the Government was not to accept its recommendations, they should not have wasted a large amount of public money on its working. It seems that intention and policy of the Government is not good. All the Members of this august House, be it belonging to the ruling party or to the opposition or the then Ministers like Shri George Fernandes and Shri Janeshwar Mishra, were in favour of recognition to this association. It has been the general tendency that when these hon. Members were in opposition they raised a voice for it but when they came to power, they did not take care of it. Infact the lust for power is so great that those who come to power, want to stick to it. These were the Ministers who were sitting on fast in those days when they were in opposition. But now when they have come to power, they are no more bothered about it. How strange it is. Such are the ways of politics.

My second submission is that under the present set up, the responsibility of the protection of Railway goods and property lies with the two Governments. It shows lack of wisdom on the part of the management. This system is coming down to this day. At present some powers have been given to the GRP while some others have been given to the Railway Protection Force. RPF is under the control of the Central Government whereas the GRP is under the control of the State Government. It is causing tremendous harm. The hon. members

[Sh. Ramashray Prasad Singh]

[English]

have pointed out that it would have been better if all these powers were given to the Railway Protection Force. The Central Government merely seeks the assistance of the State Governments. So now when the Central Government itself bears the entire expenditure on this arrangement, then why the Railway department should not given all the rights? Does the hon. Minister feel that there is any harm in doing that. The State police takes care of the property and other things pertaining to a railway station which falls under its jurisdiction. The result is that due to the involvement of two Governments, generally the situation of uncertainty about their jurisdiction or areas of operations prevails. I think that the Government should, first of all, do away with this dual security arrangement and give all the powers to the RPF. They have power to deal with all the cases. Similarly judicial powers should also be given to them so as to bring down the rate of crimes and check the extravagance and wastage of money. It is most essential. Provision of two Police forces by the two Governments at the same time and place should not be there.

Thirdly, this force must be given at least its fundamental rights so that they may ventilate without a hitch their grievances such as the undue pressures put up on them by the senior officers and other cases of atrocities committed on them, through a body and discuss the matter with the administration. The Government should also consider their demands with an open mind. Though corruption prevailing in this regard is also an important aspect, yet at this moment we are concerned only about their fundamental rights. As regards the point of corruption, we will have a discussion on it whenever a bill to that effect comes before us. However, at present I support the Bill regarding the demand for their fundamental rights and would urge upon the Government to consider this issue with an open mind, discuss the matter with their leaders and to give recognition to the RPF association at the earliest. With these words I conclude.

PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY (Howrah): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Bill moved by hon. Member Shri Basudeb Acharia.

The history of RPF dates back to the year, 1957 when the watch & ward Section of Railway was converted into the Railway Protection Force. The Government of the time, after considering it in all its entirety, thought it fit not to treat it as an armed force. Actually, for all practical purposes, the Railway Protection Force was treated as other railway staff only with the duty to protect the railway property and to see that the passengers travelling in railways are not unnecessarily harassed and their property is not stolen. All these functions were allotted to them.

18.00 hrs.

Now, Article 35 of the Constitution whereby they could be treated as an Armed Force was never applied to them. It is not that it was not considered in this House. It was, indeed, considered. But this House, then, in its wisdom, decided not to treat the Railway Protection Force as an Armed Force. So, for all practical purposes, they are Railway personnel. If all other railwaymen have the right to form their associations, I do not know why these people should be deprived of their rights. So, the Bill is actually related to the basic question of guaranteeing the Fundamental Right to a section of the people of our country.

Sir, it is pleasing to note that the Members of the Treasury Banches today feel that this should have been given. Some of them have criticised some of the Members. They urge of unity of thought and unity of action. But the basic purpose for which the association is formed, we should bear it in mind. The purpose is not only to wage a battle, it is not only to wage a struggle but also all the trade unions have certain welfare activities. So, if these people are denied of forming the association, of enjoy-

ing the fundamental rights; then not only that they will be deprived of waging a united battle but also they will be deprived of the opportunity to develop their own fate, to develop their working conditions, to develop their welfare activities like housing, Reversion etc.

Sir, in the year 1973, these people formed the association. But in 1985, in a hurry, the then Minister Shri Bansilal decided to withdraw it and the order was given by the Railway Board that it would not continue to operate. Once a right was enjoyed by a certain section of the people when this did not have any adverse impact on the morals of the Armed Force of our country, then, all on a sudden, if the Government or if the party in power feel that this should be discontinued, then, surely we have every reason to doubt, every reason to question the motive behind it. I do not know what the motive then was. But now the Members on my left say that they also think it fit to grant the bill moved by Shri Basudeb Acharia. It is good. But, side by side, another aspect of the thing should be considered. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Chakraborty, please continue.

AN HON. MEMBER: How long the House will sit?

MR CHAIRMAN: We shall take up the Government Business at 6.20 P.M. We will continue with this till 6.20 P.M. It has already been decided. The time of the House has been extended.

PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY: The second aspect of the matter is about the GRP. The GRP is under the jurisdiction of the State authority. But the people belonging to the RPF may feel that they have not got the authority to deal with the matter in its entirety. The GRP comes in. In case of a contradiction between the GRP and the RPF. What shall we do? Does it not affect the morals of the people?

The question of deputation of officers has been long discussed. The officers from outside get promotion. The RPF people

waged battle against it. They have expressed their displeasure against it.

It is because of this movement, probably, on various occasions, demands from the outside officers, outside police personnel have been raised and its compass has been enlarged. In a country like ours, in this situation of crisis, we cannot allow things to happen in this way.

Thirdly, there is the basic question of Fundamental Right. Have we decided ever that the right to form association will not be given to a section of the people? It is certainly in exceptional circumstances, so where the question of sovereignty of the country is related. But it is not so in this case. In many States, in a good number of States, police have been given the right to form their association. The Railway Protection Force who are in other sense the railway employees, who ought to see that the property of the railway is guaranteed if they are to function properly, their demand, their psychology and their feeling of deprivations should be considered, should be given a due thought. So, I urge upon the hon. Minister to be reasonable and I urge upon him not to make it a prestige issue.

I do not know what my hon. friend on the other side means when he suggests that some other form may be evolved. I do not know that. If we all agree, why do we not pass the Bill. Why do you not ask the Minister to accept it? I do not know what is the harm in it. Anyway, it is good that all of us are agreeing on both these scores that they should be given the proper right, the proper power. And on this score that their right to form the association should not be denied and the thing which has been taken away from them should be given back to them, with this I conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI (Shimla): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill moved by Shri Basudeb Acharia. As per my information, the total strength of RPF in the country is about 75,000 and these

[Sh. Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri]

people should not be denied their right to form their union in this democracy. Therefore, I feel it necessary that the Government should give this right to them.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the most important thing that needs mention, in this regard is that the officers appointed on deputation basis in the Railways are given a number of facilities but the class-IV employees engaged in the protection of Railway and having long duty hours have not been given their rights. Moreover, no action can be taken if they register a case of damage to or loss of Railway property. This is not justified. Therefore, I would like these workers to be given their rights in this democracy so that they may have their say.

1809. hrs.

(SHRI NITISH KUMAR *in the Chair*)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, moreover, I would like to submit that under the prevailing circumstances, the exploitation of the RPF personnel or Railway workers should be stopped herewith. I would also like to submit that some such cases have been lying pending in the Bengal Highcourt in Calcutta. These cases should be settled at the earliest so that these workers may get justice.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it has been stated here that I had urged upon the former Minister to give those rights to the Railway personnel. However the fact is that despite repeated assurances, these persons have been subjected to exploitation.

In the Railways, right from the engine coal man to the Chairman of the Railway Board, all have got this right. They have right to appeal. But this force is not given any opportunity to raise its voice. I understand that while replying to it, the hon. Minister will keep this in mind.

This Bill has been moved by Shri Acharia. It is a Private members' Bill. But I understand that the hon. Minister will try to fulfil his genuine demands.

It has been asked here to remove the shortcomings in Section 15 of the Railway Protection Act, 1957. If the Government does not give them the right to form their union, they should be given those rights which are at par with those of police, army and navy.

I want to submit that Shri Fernandes had even tried to instigate the workers. He had invited them to launch a violent agitation. In order to collect subscription, all and sundry form trade unions but nobody talks about the welfare of the workers. Shri Acharia is worthy of congratulations for bringing this Bill. He has raised the voice of workers in this august House. If we are interested in their welfare, we should ensure that their genuine demands are considered.

The railway land is often illegally occupied. It can be checked completely only when these RPF and GPR are given powers. They should have the power to challan also like the police and other officials.

Many recommendations were made in the report of the Ram Subhag Singh Committee. No attention was paid to them. The constructive recommendations should have been accepted. The shortcomings in the Resolution should be mended and action should be taken in this regard.

I thank you very much for the time given to me to express my views. Many hon. Members have spoken on this issue. If the Government is really concerned, Shri Acharia should be asked whether he wants to withdraw it or not. If the Government proposes to bring such a Bill in a better way and the hon. Minister assures us in this regard, I think it should be far better. If he does not do so, Shri Acharia's Bill is very good and it should be passed.

With these words I conclude.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjanpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Bill introduced by Shri Acharia. I also want to thank him for brining this Bill in the House. This Bill is out and out in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. It has been clearly mentioned in the Article 19 (c) of the Constitution.

[English]

"All citizens shall have the right to form association or unions."

[Translation]

The hon. Members expressed their respective views in this Bill here. I remember that while Shri Chandra Shekhar was Prime Minister, Shri Kumaramangalam had raised a strong voice here that the R.P.F. and the G.R.P. should be given the right to form an association. It is very strange how a person after coming in power changes his outlook. We are taken a back to find as to how one changes one's commitment, outlook and mentality all of a sudden.

It is an important issue. Be we in Government or in opposition, all should be given their fundamental rights. The right to form an association was withdrawn from the R.P.F. and the G.R.P. in 1985. This was not justified. On October 31, 1990, the then hon. Minister of Railways, Shri George Fernandes had started in no uncertain terms that their right to form association would be restored. But unfortunately, his Government fell. After him, Shri Janeshwar Mishra became the Railways Minister. He too pronounced to implement that principle. This issue was raised very vehemently at that time also. The people of the ruling side want to traingress the limit of propriety and significance of this august House. It appears from their views expressed by the hon. Members of the ruling party today that they support this Bill, and want to give full right to the R.P.F. and the G.R.P. Then what

is the hurdle in giving it a final touch? Why this Government is trying to suppress democracy? The people in power today were raising this issue when they were in opposition at that time. Now why they took a somersault of a sudden?

One of the pillars of governance is bureaucracy. When bureaucracy has an upper hand, the entire system and administration follow, its track. If a horse rider is unskilled and the rein is weak, the horse rider loses control over his speed and direction, similarly, if people in Government are weak, their hold on the Government will be loose and in such a situation, bureaucracy will lead them in its own direction.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shir Yadavji will continue next time. The time for Private Members' Bill is over.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, let this Bill continue. (Interruptions)

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOLI: Rule does not permit. (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTEMNT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Mr. Chairman, Sir, with regard to official business, I would request that the four delaegated legislation Bills may be taken up - they have already been moved - and passed. Therefore, at least we can do one of the State budgets of Himachal Pradesh, if possible the Rajasthan budget. A lot of business has piled up. I would be obliged if the House could take that up.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Some decisions were taken in BAC - Himachal Pradesh is to be taken up first.

[English]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: We were discussing. Unfortunately, the present situation is that already the four delegated legislations have been moved yesterday. That being so, I think, if they have no objection, we can take it up and finish that and do the State budgets.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is mentioned in the List of Business for the day that further discussion on the motion moved by Shri S.B. Chavan on 24th March, 1993 i.e.:-

"That the Bill to confer on the President the power of the Legislature of the State of Uttar Pradesh to make laws, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

It had already been decided upon. Therefore, it will be nice if the motion to take up the afore mentioned is moved later on in the House. Afterwards the Budget of Himachal Pradesh can be taken up. Otherwise, this will be taken up first and Himachal Pradesh will be taken up later on.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: I too have made a similar suggestion that first this should be taken and later on Himach Pradesh can be taken up.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: If you want the discussion on it to be held later on then move a motion in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This issue was discussed in Business Advisory Committee. A decision in this regard was arrived at in BAC and we are doing it accordingly.

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI (Robertsganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order that there is no quorum in the House. The House cannot simply be run like this. Please ensure quorum.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Quorum bell is being

rung.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now the House enjoys quorum.

18.26 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MR. SPEAKER: We will take up the Budget first because we were told that the Budget has to be passed here; then it has to go to the other House and then it has to go to the President.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: But I had moved all together the other day.

MR. SPEAKER: We will take it up after this.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Would we do it today itself?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. If possible, we will do today itself. But we will now take up the Budget of Himachal Pradesh. They have agreed; we had a discussion with them. If possible, the delegation of powers can be taken up together. It should not be difficult because we will be saving some time by this.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Sir, if you please allot the time for this... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We will definitely allot the time for this. I am requesting the House to take up the Budget of Himachal Pradesh and delegation of legislative powers to H.E. the President of India, which is totally an uncontroversial issue. If the An hon. Members want to speak for more time then there is no hitch.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Even if both are taken up then time will be no constraint.

(Interruptions)

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Sir, my submission is that 2-3 minutes should be given to each of us.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will definitely give you time but first the Budget and the delegation of powers issue be passed in the House.

[*English*]

If the the House agrees, there should not be any difficulty.

[*Translation*]

Let there be second..... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You will be definitely given time to speak on the other subject. This is the constitutional duty and the House is prepared for the same.

[*English*]

We are thankful to you for cooperating with us.

[*Translation*]

let the Budget of another state be passed.

(*Interruptions*)

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: I have made this submission because the hon. Members of my party, scheduled to speak, are not present in the House. Shri Lodha and Shri Jaswant Singh scheduled to speak, are not present in the House....

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Madhya Pradesh is there. You please speak later on.

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up combined discussion on Items Nos. 23, 36, 37 and 38 in today's list of business.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Only after the Budget of Himachal Pradesh is passed.

[*English*]

Then we will take up the discussion on Madhya Pradesh.

18.29 hrs.

HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE LEGISLATURE (DELEGATION OF POWERS) BILL

As passed by Rajya Sabha - *Contd.*

HIMACHAL PRADESH BUDGET 1993-94
GENERAL DISCUSSION

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS ON ACCOUNTS HIMACHAL PRADESH
1993-94.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (HIMACHAL PRADESH),
1992-93

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

(i) " That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Third column of the order Paper, be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Himachal Pradesh, on account, for or towards defraying the charges during the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1994, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against demand Nos. 1 to 31."

(ii) " That the Supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Ac-

count and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President our of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Himachal Pradesh to defray the charges that will come in course

of payment during the financial year ending the 31st day of March, 1993, in respect of heads of demands entered in the second column there of against Demand Nos. 1,4,5,7 to 12, 14 to 25 and 28 to 31".

STATEMENT

Demands for Grants on Account (Himachal Pradesh) 1993-94 submitted to the vote of Voted by the Lok Sabha

Sl.No.	No. and Name of Demnd	Amount of Demand for grant on Account submitted to the vote of the House.	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3	4
1.	Vidhan Sabha and Election	1,30,57,000	-
2.	Governor and Council of Minister	64,92,000	-
3.	Administration of Justice	3,43,94,000	-
4.	General Administration	28,22,10,000	15,48,000
5.	Land Revenue	20,09,50,000	5,45,000
6.	Excise and taxation	3,50,54,000	-
7.	Police and Allied Organisations	30,18,90,000	-
8.	Education, Sports, Arts and Culture	142,26,52,000	3,48,25,000
9.	Health and Family Welfare	51,26,71,000	2,47,10,000
10.	Public Works	26,80,25,000	1,78,50,000
11.	Agriculture	23,37,72,000	7,77,13,000
12.	Irrigation and Flood Control	12,31,33,000	5,60,10,000

Amount of Demand for grant on Account submitted to the vote of the House.

Sl.No.	No. and Name of Demnd	Revenue		Capital
		Rs.	3	Rs.
1	2		3	4
13.	Soil and Water Conservation	5,87,16,000		23,75,000
14.	Animal Husbandary and dairy Development	9,47,87,000		12,00,000
15.	Fisheries	1,02,41,000		24,25,000
16.	Forest and Wild Life	33,34,23,000		1,09,44,000
17.	Roads and Bridges	16,78,21,000		29,04,27,000
18.	Supplies, Industries and Minerals	5,99,69,000		2,61,20,000
19.	Social Security and Welfare (Incl. Nutrition)	11,91,99,000		46,51,000
20.	Rural Development	16,16,39,000		7,42,000
21.	Cooperation	4,10,16,000		5,56,49,000
22.	Food and Warehousing	7,71,85,000		11,94,29,000
23.	Water and Power Development	51,000		41,36,50,000
24.	Stationery and Printing	2,34,76,000		7,50,000

Amount of Demand for grant on Account submitted to the vote of the House.

Sl.No.	No. and Name of Demnd	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3	4
25.	Road, Water Transport and Civil Aviation	2,69,45,000	1,63,84,000
26.	Tourism and Hospitality Organisation	1,03,10,000	92,75,000
27.	Labour and Employment	3,81,41,000	45,74,000
28.	Water Supply, Sanitation, Housing & URb. Dev.	37,46,40,000	15,60,65,000
29.	Finance	44,56,32,000	
30.	Loand to Government Servants	-	2,23,00,000
31.	Tribal Development	34,93,42,000	10,85,33,000

STATEMENT

Supplementary Demands for Grants on Account (Himachal Pradesh) 1992-93 submitted to the vote of Voted by the Lok Sabha

Amount of Demand for grant on Account submitted to the vote of the House.

Sl.No.	No. and Name of Demnd	Revenue		Capital	
		Rs.	3	Rs.	4
1.	Vidhan Sabha and Election	33,60,000		-	
4.	General/Administration	3,50,000		-	
5.	Land Revenue	1,00,00,000		10,00,000	
7.	Police and Allied Organisations	5,01,39,000		-	
8.	Education, Sports, Arts and Culture	4,07,86,000		1,04,28,226	
9.	Health and Family Welfare	1,63,61,000		1,000	
10.	Public Works	-		5,39,15,000	
11.	Agriculture	1,73,61,000		1,20,37,570	
12.	Irrigation and Flood Control	1,81,29,000		-	
14.	Animal Husbandary and dairy Development	20,00,000		-	
15.	Fisheries	-		33,000	

Amount of Demand for grant on Account submitted to the vote of the House.

S.No	No. and Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for grant on Account submitted to the vote of the House.	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3	4
16.	Forest and Wild Life	1,74,32,000	1,56,47,000
17.	Roads and Bridges	4,39,49,000	29,88,000
18.	Supplies, Industries and Minerals	1,80,21,000	7,00,000
19.	Social Security and Welfare (Incl. Nutrition)	1,75,79,000	25,00,000
20.	Rural Development	12,41,21,000	-
21.	Cooperation	51,85,000	14,54,000
22.	Food and Warehousing	-	9,30,00,000
23.	Water and Power Development	5,00,00,000	2,01,70,000
24.	Stationery and Printing	40,000	-
25.	Road, Water Transport and Civil Aviation	10,00,00,000	-
28.	Water Supply, Sanitation, Housing & Urb. Dev.	16,21,92,000	41,79,49,000
29.	Finance	4,000	-
30.	Loans to Government Servants	-	22,87,000
31.	Initial Development	1,10,40,000	92,84,000

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Prem Dhumal and Major Khanoria how tabled cut motions on Demands for grants on Account in respect of the Budget of Himachal Pradesh. Are you making your cut motions?

[English]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL : I beg to move:-

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the head Vidhan Sabha and Election be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to make provision of funds for immediate Assembly elections in Himachal Pradesh.](1)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the head Governor and Council of Minister be reduced by Rs. 100"

[Need to devise the ways and means to reduce the wasteful expenditure] (2)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Administration of Justice be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide proper library facilities to the Judges](3)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Administration of Justice be reduced by Rs. 100".

[Need to provide free legal aid to the poor in Himachal Pradesh.] (4)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head General Administration be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for reduction in non-planned expenditure in the State of Himachal Pradesh. Rs.](5)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Land Revenue be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to give relief to those farmers

whose crops have been damaged.](6)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Excise and Taxation be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to reduce the prices of liquor in Himachal Pradesh] (7)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Police and allied Organisations be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to raise more police battalions to meet law and order problems in the state of Himachal Pradesh.](9)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Education, Sports and Arts & Culture be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide more funds for the promotion of education, sports, arts and culture in the State](10)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Health and Family Welfare be reduced by Rs. 100"

[Need to provide adequate funds for medicines, life saving drugs and ambulances in the hospitals in Himachal Pradesh. (11)

"That the demand for Grants on Account under the Head Public works be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide more funds for construction of new roads and metalling of the old roads in Himachal Pradesh.] (12)

"That the demand for Grants on Account under the Head Agriculture be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to solve the problems of the small and marginal farmers](13)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Irrigation and Flood control be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to take effective steps to solve the problems of irrigation and control of floods in the State.](15)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head soil and Water conservation be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to take steps for stopping of soil-erosion and conservation of water in Himachal Pradesh.](16)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to establish more veterinary dispensaries/hospitals in the State.](17)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Fisheries be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for proper development of fisheries in the State of Himachal Pradesh.](18)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Forest and Wild Life be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide more funds for afforestation.](19)

"That the demands for Grant on Account under the Head roads and Bridges be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide adequate funds for building and maintenance of roads and bridges.](20)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Social Security and Welfare be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide adequate ways and means to improve social security and welfare including nutrition in the state.](21)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Rural Development be re-

duced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide funds for-r the proper development of rural areas in Himachal Pradesh.](22)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Cooperation be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for strengthening the cooperative movement in the State of Himachal Pradesh.] (23)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Food and Warehousing be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve upon the warehousing facilities in the State.](24)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Water and Power Development be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to take steps to augment the Hydro-electric power generation in the State.](25)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Stationery and Printing be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for checking of unnecessary publications in the State Government Departments.](26)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head road water Transport and Civil Aviation be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to take steps to improve upon the facilities of road, water transport and civil aviation in the State of Himachal Pradesh.] (27)

"That the demands for Grant on Account under the Head Tourism and Hospitality Organisation be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to take steps for proper development of tourism in Himachal Pradesh.](29)

[Prof. Prem Dhupal]

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide more funds for labour welfare and generation of more employment opportunities in the State of Himachal Pradesh.](30)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Water Supply Sanitation, Housing & URB. DEV. be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide adequate funds for installing drinking water taps in every house and for providing other civic amenities.](31)

"That the demand for Grant on Account under the Head Tribal Development be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide funds for the development of tribal people in the State of Himachal Pradesh.](32)

[*Translation*]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I raise to speak on Himachal Pradesh State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Bill, 1993 and Himachal Pradesh Budget, 1993-94. First I would like to speak on the issue of delegation of powers.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, President's rule was imposed in Himachal Pradesh after dismissing the popular Government enjoying two-thirds majority, engaged there in public welfare for no valid reasons out of the feeling of vendetta. Not only the Government was dismissed but also the Legislative Assembly was dissolved.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, provisions of Article 356 of the constitution need to be resorted to only under emergency and in Himachal Pradesh there was no such situation. No untoward incidents took place in the State after the incidence of 6th December, no-

where section 144 was clamped, but even then the President's rule was imposed after dismissing the popular Government out of political vendetta by the Centre. In 1953, at the time of imposition of President's rule in PERSU Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Chairman of the Constitution Drafting Committee, commented that such an impression should not be created that the Centre has dismissed the State Government of the opposition party for political gains. While participating in the debate in Rajya Sabha he also commented that the day this thing happens it will tantamount to the rape of the Constitution. Mr. Speaker, Sir, by dismissing the Government of Himachal Pradesh on 15th December, 1992 this Government has committed that very outrageous act.

This is totally an inefficient Government at the centre and it is unable to discharge its duties and has been unable to fix discussion on the Budget till date. It has taken over the extra responsibilities of the State Governments by dismissing them. I oppose the move on the part of the centre that all the powers vested in the President can be delegated by him to any one under article 357 of the Constitution. The Government is setting the wrong precedent. I oppose this motion because dismissal of the Government of Himachal Pradesh is gross misuse of article 357.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit that in Himachal Pradesh a procedure used to be followed before the formulation of the Budget. All the MPs and MLAs used to be invited for discussions so that priorities can be fixed to the various schemes. However, this year the Governor and his council, as the state is under President's rule and the Legislature has been dissolved, did not think it proper to at least invite the MPs of Himachal Pradesh. In contrast when there used to be State Legislature the Government of the State even used to invite MPs besides MLAs for discussion on the Budget.

The priorities of the plans were used to be decided. But the present administration in the state does not consider it necessary

to seek the advice of the public representatives. No programmes have been mentioned in the Budget. It is a matter of high surprise that this Budget is a deficit Budget and no steps have been proposed to make it up. There is no mention about it as to how the resources would be mobilised, whether some new taxes would be imposed or some special grants will be paid by the Central Government.

The Ninth Finance Commission did great injustice in 1989 with Himachal Pradesh. Prior to that Himachal Pradesh had been put in a special category. The Members of the Ninth Finance Commission had gone to Simla. It is not known as to what dispute took place between the members of the Ninth Finance Commission and the then Congress Government of Himachal Pradesh. As a result Himachal Pradesh lost its status of special category. Prior to that the deficit was used to be made up through the special grants. The Ninth Finance Commission made its recommendations. Since the Himachal Pradesh has lost its special Status, it has been facing an acute financial crisis.

There are frequent news papers reports that Banks do not honour the cheques issued by the Government of Himachal Pradesh as per orders of the Reserve Bank. I saw the Finance Minister a day before yesterday. I submitted that now there was President's rule in the state so the Central Government had direct administrative responsibility and even then the cheques are not being honoured. He was of the opinion that he had great appreciation for the efforts made by Shri Shanta Kumar to mobilise the resources and savings and that is why he was then ready to provide some assistance. But it is a matter of surprise that nothing of that sort is now being done during the President's Rule, therefore he refused to provide any financial assistance. If no overdraft is cleared from the Reserve Bank, how would the projects be completed in the state? Most of the financial resources in Himachal Pradesh are exhausted on the salaries of its employees. The Financial Crisis is so grave that the Government has

no funds even to pay the salaries to its employees. The State Government would be unable to pay salaries to its employees unless overdraft is cleared by the Central Government.

'Antoyodya' Programme had been introduced in Himachal Pradesh keeping in view the economic criterion and some most poor persons were selected for this programme without any consideration of caste etc. One lakh people had been selected for the purpose and they had been provided of wheat at the rate of Rs. 1.50 p. per kg, rice at Rs. 2.00 per kg and salt at 25p. per kg. Such a large number of people were getting relief in a population of fifty lakh. You would be surprised to know that the rate of the ration provided to the beneficiaries of the programme was increased alongwith the dissolution of the popular Government and the imposition of President's Rule, Second phase of the 'Antoyodya' programme had to be launched and one lakh more families were to be selected as the beneficiaries of this programme but the Government took such a decision as has hampered the said programme and now the programme has been completely in a state of paralysed. In the last Budget, a separate provision had been made for 'Antoyodya' programme. But no such provision has been made in this present budget. Will the Government state whether it would provide relief to the said families: if so, how many families would get the benefit of this relief; whether the ration would be available to them on cheaper rates. All these points have not been mentioned in this budget. It is a surprising new gift of the President's rule to the people of Himachal Pradesh.

Due to paucity of resources in Himachal Pradesh, the Government of Bhartiya Janta Party took new schemes in its hands so that the cooperation of the people may be sought and the progress may be made in the State. Even the World Bank Praised these schemes. The name of the one scheme was 'Gaon Bhi Apna, Kaam Bhi Apna'. People used to collect thirty percent of the funds required for the construction of build-

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ings of public welfare schemes such as schools, Hospitals or roads and deposited in the office of the District Administration. Rest seventy percent of the funds was used to be provided by the State Government in the form of grants. During the last two years thousands of rooms in schools and hospitals and a number of roads had been constructed. But during the President's Rule, first of all the name of the scheme was changed because the programme was associated with Bhartiya Janta Party. Now it was renamed as "Lok Karyon main Jan Sahyog." Now the ratio of the funds which was previously 30:70 is being changed and it is being raised to 40:60. It means that the people would have to pay 10% more. Even then the people have deposited their share but the Government has not paid its due share, I am surprised to note that no reference has been made in the Budget in this regard. It does not matter as to what is the name of the scheme but the fact is that the people has shown a great enthusiasm to yards these programmes and they were thinking that the buildings, schools and hospitals would be constructed with the cooperation of the Government. Some works took a material shape also but now these too have been stopped. There is no mention about it as to what provision has been made for this scheme.

It is very much essential to make available the pure drinking water in hilly areas. Last year, this job had been given priority. But this year no reference has been made regarding this in the Budget. there is no reference at all in the Budget whether the special funds being provided in the last years would be allocated to the state or not. There is no proposal as to how the deficit shown in the budget would be made up.

We had introduced another scheme "Van Lagao, Rozi Kamao". You are well aware of it so I do not want to repeat as to who is responsible for the deforestation in Himachal Pradesh. Again the Government introduced another scheme to protect and

conserve the trees properly and the work on this scheme was started by providing financial assistance under the scheme named "Van Lagao, Rozi Kamao, and the Central Government also gave its clearance to this scheme. Seventy five thousand people had to be given employment under this scheme. But the scheme was withdrawn. Poor people of villages were working under that scheme and the poor families and Antoyadaya families were being given priority, under that scheme. (*Interruptions*)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: That is not going on record.

[*Translation*]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: All development activities are lying still Himachal Pradesh has a total capacity of generating twenty thousand Megawatt of Hydro electricity. In view of the paucity of funds with the State Government and the reluctance of the Central Government in providing funds, Shri Shanta Kumar decided to invite private sector for this purpose. Many offers were received. Some contracts were also signed. But now the decisions taken by the popular Government are being altered and the Budget is a mirror of the action of the Central Government. Moreover the statements of of the Government too are the evidence of it. There were plans of setting up four big cement industries to provide employment to people. But the Central Government made an announcement that no more cement industries would be set up there now.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, limestone is available there. According to the declared policy of the Central Government, in rural and hilly areas the excise duty was to be levied on producing 330 tonnes for Mini Cement Plants and now this limit has been reduced to 185 tonnes. Apparently, there is no logic in doing so. Government does not want to set up mini cement plants because it causes pollution of environment but all agreements clearly makes the provision that steps would

*Not recorded.

be taken to prevent pollution, whenever any such problem arises, the plants would be closed, but these have been closed even before the creation of any such condition.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was referring to the hydroelectric project. The whole project is lying dead. On the plea that there is no funds for the project. Since the condition of law and order has been deteriorated in Jammu and Kashmir, the scope of tourism in Himachal Pradesh has tremendously increased but I see that the Government does not have either any plan or worry in this regard, under the present Budget. Contrarily, the Government money is being spent extravagantly. All developmental activities are lying dead. After the imposition of President's Rule, the Government had promised to set up a popular Government in the State as early as possible but now a full stop has been put to it. Mr. Speaker, Sir, imposition of President's Rule is like a stop-gap arrangement. Today the hon. Minister of Finance and the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance are present here who have presented the Budget. I would like to submit that I have quite bitter experiences during the last few years on this particular issue i.e. imposition of President's rule in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir while participating in the debates regarding Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir budgets presented by the Central Government, it always declares that it is just a matter of six months.

[English]

Within six months we are going to hold elections.

[Translation]

Then they submit that the law and order condition is not good.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): This time it is not being said...

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: I would like that he should say this time. We have to pass vote on account within six months. Therefore, election should be held before

15th June. Weather will also be fine at that time. The hon. Home Minister is present here. He will get an opportunity to visit hilly areas when he will go there for electioneering. I would like that hon. Minister declare today itself about holding of elections before 15th of June. Though there is conflict in his party, some of them say that the election should be held now and some of them say that it should not be held now. Hold the election in May. It is a better opportunity. It is your constitutional responsibility of the Government. You have to make declaration about elections in Himachal Pradesh as you have dismissed the State Government by misusing your authority. The Government should. Hold the elections within a stipulated time frame so that a popular Government may come in power and it may change and frame its policies or at least may fix its priorities after holding discussion with people's representatives.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, matters as to what policy should be adopted about Hydro-electric projects how to develop tourism, whether cement industry should be set up or not, implementation of plant trees and earn livelihood scheme "(Van Lagao, Roji Kamao scheme)" is to be launched or not can be considered only by the people's representatives of the state. Policies should not be imposed by the centre and popular policies should not be changed. The administration should not engage only in as to which officer is to be transferred today or which officer is suitable to the interests of a certain party, so transfer him to a certain district. A clear policy was framed about the transfers that transfers would be made in some fixed months of the year and would be made after a fixed time. Neither it is being kept in mind by the officers nor it is useful now but its usefulness is being considered from the point of view of the party.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if I will say something more, you may expunge them from the record. I would not like to say anything about any particular individual. I would not like to trouble you that you have to expunge it from record. But I would like to tell the hon. Home Minister that the people of the whole state

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want elections to be held early and now your own intelligence agency is also working there, I would like to know whether any adverse report regarding law and order situation in the state has been received by the Government? The law and order situation is normal there. People want elections. In this regard surveys have also appeared in the newspapers. Therefore, hold election there so that popular Government is formed and the budget is prepared by the said Government in accordance with people's aspirations and needs and various schemes are implemented to improve the condition of the people.

Because there is paucity of time while concluding once again demand immediate elections and oppose the budget proposals of the Government .

SHRI RAM NAIK: (Bombay North) : I am on a point of information, because all the hon. Members from our side will be criticising the Governor.

MR. SPEAKER: You say 'the Government' instead of 'Governor'.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Ultimately, the Budget would come through the governor. So, when we are criticising him, we will be criticising the authority. *(Interruptions)*

One minute, I will not take long.

We will be criticising him since the the Budget has come through him. This is another example where a clarification can be given.

Prof. Dhupal was the Member of the Himachal Pradesh University Executive Committee there as an M.P. from there. Now he has been removed from that post by the Governor and another M.P. has been nominated by the Governor who is not even a matriculate. We want to criticise it. Naturally the criticism will be directed against the Governor.

MR. SPEAKER: You can say, " the present Government's actions" Because, of you want to criticise the high dignitaries in the country you have to follow a particular procedure. You can do the same thing by using a different word.

SRI RAM NAIK: Ultimately the Governor is responsible.

MR . SPEAKER: It is not allowed. Why quarrel on this?

DR. LAXMINARYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, discussion will certainly take place when all the powers are vested with the Governor during the Presidents rule and in such situation he discharges all those functions and appoints advisors unconstitutionally..*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Why quarrel on this? You criticise. Nobody says that you should not criticise. Shri K.D. Sultuanpuri.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTAN PURI (Shimla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the budget presented by the hon. Home Minister on behalf of the hon. Governor of Himachal Pradesh. I think that memory of the black day is still viewed in the minds of the people of Himachal Pradesh when the BJP Government was formed in the state by giving false assurances to the poor and the harijans and the manner in which rules were flouted. Today people know it well that the BJP Government in Himachal Pradesh come into power by humbug by exploiting sentiment of the people in the name of the Lord Rama. I would like to tell my colleagues of that side who call themselves intellectual. Is it in a proof of their intellect that the Chief Minister of the State had shown a deficit of Rs. 200 crores i the budget of the State. In this budget speech he made false statements in the House. You should know that how that Government committed atrocities on the farmers of Himachal Pradesh and apple growers of the state who were brutally murdered. Their Government resorted firing on the farmers, Government employees

and the students. There was bloodshed for almost about one month in Himachal Pradesh. The Government of their party was an inactive one but now they are criticizing the Governor of the state and leveling charges that he has appointed Sultanpuri as member of the Executive Council of the state and dropped intellectuals from the same. I would like to inform you that I have been a Member of Lok Sabha for the last 20 years. If we have to appoint professors in the councils of the assembly and Panchayat etc, then there are several professors in our colleges. We don't need you.

I would like to tell you about mismanagement in the administration including the university of the State created by the Government of their party I would also like to tell you as to now people were exploited by their party rule and the treatment is meted to the Government employees during their rule. The future will show as to how Government of their party worked in Himachal Pradesh. Elections are likely to be held but our party is not afraid of elections rather our party is also supporter of early elections. They are taking of two factions of our party in the State, but I would like to tell them that there is only one faction of our party in the state which has faith in Shri Narasimha Rao and, which is representative of the Congress there. I would like to tell them to mend their own house which is ridden with factionalism. Time will tell as to where Shri Shanta Kumar stands in the groupism of their party there.

Now I would like to speak on the budget. A mention has been made here about the Ninth Finance Commission. I would also like to say that the Ninth Finance Commission appointed by the Government of India has done injustice to Himachal Pradesh. I myself accept that injustice has been done because the fund received earlier in the form of subsidy and grants from the Union Government has been stopped. Therefore, I also demand but the charges leveled against the Congress by the Members of the BJP are false. They say that Dr. Manmohan Singh praised Shanta Kumarji but I am also

elected from the same state. I also represent lakhs of people of the state and I think that a lot of atrocities were committed by the BJP Government in the state. Thousands of Kilometres long roads have been constructed in the state during the Congress rule. The Congress Government did not suppress the agitation of the employees and even faced lathis of the public but their Government murdered democracy in the State. The democracy has been murdered in Himachal Pradesh during their party rule.

I would like to tell you that the BJP Government deserved the quota meant for harijans and adivasis in Shimla and Solan districts. The previous Government appointed their own men in lieu of. I would like to ask the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to make an inquiry of into it because under rule it is necessary to fillup the backlog quota of SC/ST they have appointed activists of their own party from Punjab and other places and thus done injustice to the people belonging to Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes. Himachal Pradesh will never tolerate treatment meted by your party. Our party organised a rally there, they have applied their full force to fail that rally. Now, they say as to why the Governor has dismissed their Government but what was done there in the name of Ayodhya and R.S.S. which is banned organisation. The Ministers of the BJP Government openly said that they are proud of being activists of R.S.S. and they openly threw challenge to the Government of India. But we have never done any wrong thing rather restored democracy there. And in this act we don't care lest the Government of our own party should be dismissed. Any Government which does not work for democracy must be dismissed. Our leaders and party learnt from Mahatma Gandhi but they have murdered democracy in the country.

Activists of their party demolished Babri Mosque structure. They did not abide by the affidavit given by them in the Supreme Court. But none they say that we have murdered democracy in Himachal Pradesh. I would like that before speaking anything consider all these things and never utter such worse because of anybody has murdered

[Sh. Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri]

democracy that is the BJP. Their party has destroyed law and order situation there. The Government of BJP has created such a situation in Himachal Pradesh which weakened the whole nation.

I would like to know the names of the persons, who set up cement rectories in Himachal Pradesh during their party's rule. Only such persons were allowed to set up cement factories who gave money to them. Now they are feeling pinch because now the Congress Government is in power there. We would also like that the elections should be held there. Elections should be held in a democratic manner.

19.00 hrs

By posing yourself as the democratic party you exploited the people in the name of Lord Ram. How long will the people be exploited in the name of Ram? You are not going to get votes that way. People have now come to know your real intentions. People of the country have come to know your design and they know how loyal you are to lord Ram. The actions that you performed by wearing Saffron coloured dress were never witnessed by us in the past.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now our colleague from, that side said that the Congress Party had indulged in descriminary actions. I say that the greatest descrimination was done by their party itself. I had requested to Shri Shanta Kumar for the transfer of the son in-law of my brother. I did also request for the same to Shri Dhupal as also to the State President of that Party. But they did not pay any heed to my requests and he was transfered to Bilaspur where he died. They are responsible for that. All their actions were done with the motive of retaliation and yet they accuse us of indulging into retaliative actions. It is entirely wrong.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, their Government undertook programmes like 'Daridranarayan Kosh', Antyodaya Karyakaram and 'Apna Gaon Apna Kam' in which they included

only such persons whose monthly income was upto rupees three thousand. That way, they selected one lakh families. They chose only such people to provide the items who were indulged in exploitation of Himachal Pradesh.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, they have alleged that the Governor is acting at the instructions of the Congressmen. I say that the Central Government has done the most commendable work by appointing the Governor there. The Governor is going only those things in a non-partisan manner that are required to run the nation and the State. The Governor is doing quite well and that is what irks people like them. They want that the Governor should also act with the same feeling retaliation and descrimination as they were doing theselves. When Governor refused to dance to their tune, he befaoe unacceptable to them.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are not afraid of facing elections. We are, rather, in favour of holding elections there. Then only they will come to know where they stand. You know the decision of the electorate of Shimla where 20 seats went to the Congress Party. The people here, the propogandists are not aware as to what is the main concern of the Congress Party. I say that they should learn something from the Congress Party, but i know they are least bothered about learning something from us. They are interested in making noises only. The Congress Party wants the progress of this country. So far Rao Sahaba has been listening to them all, but now he has also come to knows to how they go back on their words. Henceforth he will also not pay attention to what they say.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when Punjab and Himachal Pradesh were made two separate states, at that time an agreement was reached with us, according to which Himachal Pradesh had to get the royalty of 7.19 percent on generated from Bhakhara dam, whatever may be over resources. The amount of rolyality was, however, only 2.19 percent instead of 7.19 percent, I would therefore, like to submit to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that Himachal Pradesh

should get its due share of the hydroelectricity being provided by it. Similarly, Himachal Pradesh should get its share of 90 percent that was allocated by the Ninth Finance Commission so that the progress of the people of that state may be ensured. All their problems will be overcome and they will attain prosperity. The State has the installed capacity of 20 thousand megawatt of electricity. When we will get more money in the field of power generation our neighbouring states including Delhi would also get the benefit of electricity.

Farmers of our State grow potato, orange, malt and other fruits but they do not get a profit. I would like to submit that if the economic condition of Himachal Pradesh has to be improved, then the farmers there should be given the support price. In case the farmer get good price in the market, then the Government may not have to procure these fruits at the support price.

Moreover, the services of the Government employees that were terminated by the then State Government should be reinstated.

With these words I strongly support the budget.

PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY (Howrah): Mr. Speaker, sir, after so much of fire by hon. Shri Ssultan Puriji, I fear whether I shall be able to impress the House.

We have to consider two things - firstly the Bill to confer on the President the powers of the State Legislature of Himachal Pradesh and secondly the Budget of Himachal Pradesh.

The state of Himachal Pradesh's economy is very under-developed. We all know that the economy of this State depends upon travellers and upon apple-growing and potato-growing. Now the apple growers have not received any good treatment from the Government that there was to be. They used to receive support prices which stopped Now, in order to strengthen the economy of Himachal Pradesh, what I

propose is that a support prices to the apple growers should be given and the Budget of Himachal Pradesh should include that. It is not clear to me whether that has been taken into consideration by the hon. Finance Minister.

The second thing is that because the economy, to a large extent depends on the number of travellers, it is the imperative need for the Government to improve its roads, bridges, communication and transport systems. The provision that has been made in the Budget on these accounts is too meagre. Because the State has not much revenue and has not the ability to collect much revenue, everything depends upon the Centre. Now that at this juncture the rule of the Government rests with the President of India, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to consider these points.

Thirdly, what I say is that it is a fact that the Government of Himachal Pradesh, when it was under the rule of the B.J.P., did not receive the attention that was due to it. The education and culture of the people of this peace-loving State of Himachal Pradesh were not given any due consideration. The only thing that the BJP Government was interested in doing is that they tried to create a feeling of communalism in the State. That was the situation, I do not want to go into details, you all know it. That was the situation which compelled the Government of India to apply Article 356 there and the Government is now under the President's Rule. Sir, as a Party we are opposed to it. Even today we oppose it, But with a heavy heart we have to accept the position that no Government in this country can be allowed to communalise the people, to communalise the politics. It is from that point of view that we supported the action of the Central Government and so there is President's Rule there. But, Sir, as a Party we want that the elected Government should be there as soon as possible. Such a situation should be created as soon as possible. Now, two things should be done. The economy of Himachal Pradesh must be improved and people must be given the basic minimum. Now there is a Central rule there. We shall

[Prof. Susanta Chakraborty]

have to avail of this opportunity, we shall have to take all the courses that are needed to pacify the situation, to see that terrorist activities do not take place there, to see that peace prevails there, to see that the peace-loving people of the State are given their due.

The second thing is we all agree that this thing cannot continue for long and so it is for the Government of India, it is for the Ruling Party to see that a congenial atmosphere for holding elections is created as soon as possible.

So, Sir, again I support the State Legislature's Delegation of Power Bill and its Budget and request the Government to look into the interest of the economy in the general interest of the people.

SHRI BHOGENERAJHA (Madhubani)
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the proposal of giving the right to the hon. President. There is no other alternative, since Assembly is no more in existence there. The Assembly was dissolved following the deteriorating situation there. That action of the Central Government was supported by many political parties. There was, however, no justification for that, because apparently there was no allegation against them. But such has been our tradition.

Whatever happened in Ayodhya on 6th of December was totally unexpected. Fortunately Advaniji is present here, to whom also the incident of 6th December was totally unexpected as has been said by him. The incident is a slur to the dignity, history and culture of the country. Promises were not kept. I know the facts personally. Tulsidasji has said:-

"Raghukul Reet Sada Chahi Ay,
Pran Jaye per Vachan na Jaye."

That promise was broken. None of those who made promise came forward to say that they would prefer death rather than breaking their promises. They should have done

that. On such occasions such action is need of the hour even if it is against the wishes of the people. Had this been the case, the plight of the country would have been different. But this did not happen. The then Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh and his other colleagues had supported the incident that occurred in the name of 'kar seva'. But besides these things, if the incident that I am going to describe takes place, then that is obviously painful. I can not repeat what was said by Sultanpurji that the dissolution of the Assembly was a right step and that it should remain dissolved. This is such a disease in which you have got to take medicine as you take quinine when you suffer from malaria. But quinine cannot be our food. In such a situation I would like to say that Himachal Pradesh is the crown of our country, and if Himachal Pradesh is developed in the field of hydroelectricity, then it would become Switzerland of India. I wish that the State should get that status. In this context, I would like to submit that the Cement and other industries that should not be stopped for any reason, otherwise it would have dangerous consequences. This should not happen. When the Central Government is taking the charge of the state, we would like that the development works that were already in progress should be expedited so that the people may feel that there is rapid progress in the development works under President's rule. Nevertheless, the Government of Himachal Pradesh was also following the policy of the Central Government by giving protection to the black marketeers and by helping price hike instead of containing it. Therefore the present policies and the policies of the dismissed State Government were one and the same. There can be no two opinions on this issue. It will be better if some progress is made in this regard. If some thing new is done we will think that a better thing has been done. Mr. Speaker, Sir, on this issue an all party Consultative Committee comprising M.Ps should definitely be set up. The Committee should be set up because in a democracy there is a wide scope for consultations and discussions. Consultative Committees should be set up for all the States which are under President' Rule and in case of

Himachal Pradesh, the State under discussion, it should be set up immediately. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs should make an announcement right here today itself (*Interruptions*) This is essential to establish a proper coordination between the officials and the public and for the speedy redressal of the grievances of the latter by the former.

Sir, I would like to dwell on elections too. If it is difficult to hold elections simultaneously then elections in Himachal Pradesh at least be conducted because there is no problem as such in holding the elections in the State. Even if half of what Shri Sultanpuri said is correct then elections should be announced today itself. Democracy is both the objective and the means. It is very clear that as and when the elections are conducted in Himachal Pradesh my party can not form the Government. (*Interruptions*) Democracy is both the objective and the means. Therefore this opportunity must be given to the people. That is why elections must be held before the onset of monsoon. Election process can be set rolling from Himachal Pradesh, which is altogether a different State. In Uttar Pradesh the situation is different and Madhya Pradesh is a big State. Riots also took place in Jaipur in Rajasthan. A beginning could be made from Himachal Pradesh which is totally a different State. I would like to submit to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that similarly in Kashmir also democratic process can be begun by holding of the elections to the Gram Panchayats. Whosoever wins elections by honest means should be allowed to do so. Elections to the Legislative Assemblies in the States under the President's Rule should be conducted immediately and in case of Himachal Pradesh the announcement should be made forthwith by the Government. It is highly improper to think about the election results in advance. Whatever may be the outcome, the people should be given an opportunity. People will take some lessons from the tragic incident of Ayodhya. The people who supported that Government will also take a lesson. It will increase our faith in democracy.

I hope the elections will be announced I today itself and an all party committee comprising M.Ps will be set up. This committee will accomplish all the tasks that will be assigned to it. This type of committees should be formed for all the States and in cases of Himachal Pradesh it should be set up today itself, since the State is under discussion in the House. With this I would like to support it, definitely but under compulsion, because there is no other option left. I support this.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Bill serves a very limited purpose. After applying President's Rule and after having been ratified in both the Houses of Parliament, I do not propose to dilate on this issue whether it was proper and in what circumstances it was done. I think that stage is over. We have discussed that at great length at that time when the Resolution was discussed on the floor of both the Rajya Sabha as well as Lok Sabha. This imposition of President's Rule has been ratified by both the Houses of Parliament. Therefore, under Article 357, the powers which used to be exercised by the State Legislature are going to be exercisable by the President.

Sir, I fully agree with the hon. Member Shri Bhogendra Jha when he says that there must be some element of population representation being given in the matter. We propose to appoint a Consultative Committee of 15 Members wherein Members of Lok Sabha can be nominated by the Speaker and five Members will have to be nominated from Rajya Sabha. So, 15 Members will be available and this will be the Consultative Committee. If the House could discuss all the issues, there was nothing like it. But, as things stand today, we find it extremely difficult even to transact the other regular business that we have to do not get the time. That is why it becomes rather difficult. Therefore, some Ordinances have been issued already by the President. Unless these powers are given, even for the future, it will be difficult. It will be in consultation with

[Sh. S.B. Chavan]

the Consultative Committee that the powers will be exercised by the President.

I think there is only one point left and that is about having elections in that area. So, in four States the President's Rule was imposed. While imposing the President's Rule, there was a particular condition prevailing in all the four States. I have not been quite able to understand as to why is it that there have been some basic changes made. That shows how the State Governments under the BJP were working. That is why, before we announce the elections, first of all, we will have to make sure that things are all right and as a sequel of 6th December, if anything has been done which needs to be corrected, that thing will have to be corrected. We cannot allow this to be communalised and the entire fraternity to suffer the damages of this communalisation. So, we will have to go deep into the matter and try to find out, to the extent it is possible; try to correct the same. But I can assure the House that it will be the effort of the Government to see that the elections are being held as early as possible. If all the four States cannot be taken together, we can even think in terms of having elections in particular areas where we find that the conditions are ripe and we can possibly hold the elections. That can also be considered by the Government. But at this stage, I cannot possibly give any particular date that by this date we will be able to hold the elections. As soon as the Government comes to this conclusion that things have normalised; we can possibly hold the elections, we will hold the elections.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the consideration Motion to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That the Bill to confer on the President the power of the Legislature of the State of Himachal Pradesh to make laws, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That Clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and '3 were added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 1, the Enacting formula and the Long title stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title were added to the Bill.

[English]

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: I beg to move:

MR. SPEAKER; Motion moved:

"That the Bill be passed."

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that under Article 356 of the Constitution any State Government can be dismissed and under article 357 of the Constitution the President is empowered to delegate powers. However, in practice it is observed that after assuming power all unconstitutional acts are done. I would like to submit that the Government should ensure that these powers are not misused.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, under the President's Rule the powers delegated to the Governors.....*..... and as per the provisions of the Ordinance a Committee of 20 or 30

Members was to be constituted but it is yet to be done. I would like to know the time by which this committee will be set up as per the provisions of the Ordinance.

MR. SPEAKER: No, this will not go on record.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Promise to hold elections within six months was made and I want early fulfillment of that promise. An elected Government after assuming power can discharge its duties effectively. I favour early holding of elections there and installation of democratically elected Government. Even the Government had praised the functioning of the State Government but even then it was dismissed. I would like to submit that the people should not be deprived of a democratically elected Government.

I would not like to dwell much on the Constitutional provisions but the Government should guarantee that these will not be misused. Elections must be conducted early.

[English]

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: About this point, if anything is brought to the Government, notice that anything illegal or unconstitutional has been done by anyone, certainly the Government would like to go into the matter.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members who have participated in the discussion. I will restrict my reply only to the Budget and the financial statements. The annual plan approved for 1993 is at Rs. 550 crores in comparison to the approved plan of Rs. 486 crores for the year 1992-93 with an increase of 13.17 per cent. Also the share, the central taxes have

gone up from Rs. 287.23 crores to Rs. 311.48 crores, that is, an increase of 8.4 per cent. The central grants have also increased of from Rs. 512.73 crores to Rs. 539.71 crores. Even the central assistance in 1993 is of the order of Rs. 405.83 as compared to the previous year figure of Rs. 350.93 crores with an increase of 15.64 per cent. And also, there has been an increase of Rs. 10 crores for the allocation of agriculture and allied activities; Rs. 3.4 crores for rural development and Rs. 35 crores for energy sector. Major thrust areas in the plan are power, agriculture, transport, population control, health care and literacy. With all this, the current year is expected to close with a deficit of Rs. 332.20 crores.

Sir, the hon. Member, Shri Dhupal has pointed out that Himachal Pradesh was one of the special category States and because of the recommendation of the Ninth Finance Commission, its economy is adversely affected. To mitigate the financial hardships of the special category States, the Government of India has constituted the Regarajan Committee, to find out a durable solution to their problems and the recommendation of the Committee, as far as its implementation is concerned, has been accepted in full. And it is now for the States like Himachal Pradesh to take certain measures like reduction in non-plan expenditure, close monitoring of salaries to staff and to bridge the non-plan gap. You can well imagine Sir that the state during the popular Government's rule in the year 1992-93 has taken the overdraft thirty times. This shows the financial indiscipline of the State. Sometimes, even the Reserve Bank of India had stopped the payments.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: It has not stopped even now when the President's Rule is there.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: I wish to add and tell now that the problem is not there. Now the State is not taking any overdrafts.

Sir, about the programmes initiated by the popular Government, some of the Members alleged that they have been stopped

[Sh M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy]

now. It is not really so. Shri Dhupal has pointed out for example the *Antyodaya* programme, which he said has been totally stopped. It is not correct. This is one of the programmes under the IRDP, that is, Integrated Rural Development Programme. More than that, the present Government...

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I said that under the 'Antyodaya' programme reaction at cheap rates used to be made available to the poor but under the President's Rule the prices of these commodities have been increased and the second phase of identification which was to be started is yet to begin.

[English]

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEK. ARA MURTHY: Sir, I have some other information to be given to this House. As I said, the *Antyodaya* programme is covered under the IRDP programme. The other programmes which were enunciated and started by the earlier popular Government are, *van lagao rozi kamao* and the employment programme, that is, *Gopal Yojana*. They were started by the popular Government, they have pointed out. These programmes started earlier by the popular Government have not reached the deserving one's. That is why, these two programmes are being evaluated by the present Government under the President's Rule.

As pointed out by Shri Chakravarthy, a fifteen per cent increased allocations has been made for the transport sector and even for agriculture and power, we have allocated more funds.

With these words, I appeal to the hon. Members, who have moved their cut motions to withdraw and to pass this Vote on Account.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put all the cut motions moved to Demands for Grants

on Account (Himachal Pradesh) for 1993-94 to vote together unless the hon. Member desires that any of his cut motions may be put separately.

I shall now put all the cut motions to the vote of the House together.

All the cut motions were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the Demands for Grants on Account (Himachal Pradesh) for 1993-94 to vote.

The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Himachal Pradesh, on account, for or towards defraying the charges during the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1994, in respect of the heads of demand entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 31".

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Himachal Pradesh) for 1992-93 to vote.

The question is:

"That the Supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Himachal Pradesh to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the financial year ending the 31st day of March, 1993, in respect of heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1, 4,5,7 to 12, 14 to 25 and 28 to 31".

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister may now introduce Himachal Pradesh Appropriation Bill.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) : I am on a point of order.

There is no quorum in the House.

19.37 hrs

MR. SPEAKER: The bell is being rung-

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If the quorum is not there, the House will not continue to work. There will be one more bell. Let the bell be rung for the second time.

The bell is being rung.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): No need for one more bell.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us try again.

I had specifically said that they are cooperating. you should keep the quorum.

Well, you should not take Parliament too lightly please. We are passing the budget.

MR. SPEAKER: The second bell is also over. Since there is no quorum, the House stands adjourned to meet again on Monday, the 29th March 1993 at 11 AM.

19.45 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, March 29, 1993/Phalgun 24, 1914 (Saka).