

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**Second Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)**



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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Thursday, May 16, 1985/Vaisakha 26,
1907 (SAKA)

Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Rama Rai...not present, next Question...Shri Jadeja.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, Mr. Rama Rai is present and he is putting his Question.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He is not absent, but he is absentminded.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Raising of Capital by Railways for Developmental Activities

*875 SHRI I. RAMA RAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry of Railways propose to raise capital by issuing bonds etc. to meet the demands of developmental activities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). The Railway Ministry cannot issue Bonds on their own for Railway development. However, a proposal to issue a separate series of bonds for Ministry of Railways by the Central Government has been taken up with the Ministry of Finance.

SHRI I. RAMA RAI : Sir, the railways being the cheapest mode of transport, the demand for more and better railways especially in the Southern States like Kerala and Karnataka is high. There is a strong feeling that Centre is not giving due share to the development of railways in Southern States. The Minister in his reply has stated that a proposal to issue a separate series of Bonds for Ministry of Railways by the Central Government has been taken up with the Ministry of Finance. Already the Finance Minister has stated that selected Public Sector Corporations especially in high priority areas like Power and Tele-communications are allowed to float Bonds upto a designated limit. Paucity of funds is the main reason for the stagnation of growth of Railways. In what way the Government is proposing to meet the shortage of funds and the high and legitimate demands of our region ?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : The Ministry is proposing to meet the shortage of funds by asking for some more allocations from the Planning Commission and also by asking permission of the Finance Ministry to float new Railway Bonds.

SHRI I. RAMA RAI : Peoples representatives both at the Central and State levels have been complaining about the poor conditions of Railway stations, coaches, wagons Railway lines, etc. in the South. Sir, I would like to say that due to the high fare and tariff, Kerala people are compelled to pay exorbitant almost penal revenue to Railways. Earlier we are told a coach factory also will be given to Kerala. Now, it looks we are nowhere. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister what concrete proposal or measures he is going to take to meet these grievances.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : The best possible is being attempted under the circumstances.

MR. SPEAKER : I have requested so many times the Hon. Members not to read out questions in the House. While putting supplementary questions, they should not read out prepared ones and put in the House. Nothing should be read out in the House and I would like that you should put straightforward supplementaries which could elicit some good response from the Hon. Ministers.

Discipline in Universities

*876. **SHRI D. P. JADEJA :** Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any guidelines have been issued to States to bring about better discipline in various State Universities ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) The Central Government has not issued any such guidelines to the States.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Sir, most of the educational institutions in the country are financed by the Government. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether he considers having a Code of Conduct to be accepted and implemented by the students.

MR. SPEAKER : That is a good example.

SHRI K. C. PANT : Sir, the question of Code of Conduct should apply not only to students but to teachers, to political parties and to people from outside who are also interested in the University education. Students alone cannot be blamed.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Education Minister also.

AN HON. MEMBER : Parents also.

SHRI D. P. JADEJA : I was trying to refer to all those who are connected with education and the Hon. Minister has also mentioned about the political parties. May I know from him whether he would consider banning political parties' interference and

their influence on students during students' elections by their unions. Will the Government consider putting a ban on such activities by political parties ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : A ban in these matters is not a solution. What is important for all of us is to realise the damage which the student indiscipline is doing to the fabric of our universities. And the important thing is that whenever there is unrest in a university, maybe for legitimate reasons, maybe because the grievances have piled up and the decisions have not been taken quickly, maybe because the facilities are not enough, maybe because there is overcrowding or whatever may be the reasons, then a certain amount of self discipline has to be exercised by political parties to see that they do not exploit the situation and thereby create problems in the university. The students become sometimes victims of such agitations and then other things happen which disturb the life of the university for years to come.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : According to late Shri M. C. Chagla, indiscipline is not a disease, it is only a symptom of the disease. The real disease is moral degradation and this starts not from colleges, but from the high schools itself. I would like to know from the Minister whether he is aware of this basic fact, basic reason of indiscipline. In view of this, will he consider to include in his National Educational Policy moral instructional courses right from the high school along with regular courses for giving greater respect to our culture, our national leaders, our political system etc. so that the students are better suited for the society.

SHRI K. C. PANT : What my Hon. friend has said is an important dimension of education and character building. Imparting of knowledge of the elements of ethics is important and I think that not only the schools, but the home is also contributing to the moral education of children and any lacuna in the home cannot be made up by the school entirely. All of us have to see this problem in its true perspective. But I do not mean to suggest that education does not have a role in this aspect, but I would say that that is not the only reason. That is an important contributory factor, but there are other reasons; there are economic reasons, unemployment and so on. There is a lack

of communication between the teachers and the taught in the universities; there is overcrowding in the universities; there is not that close consultation that there should be in the universities. In many universities, in many courses, teachers and students both seem to have a lot of time at their hands, they loiter about and the right thing would be to have a constant evaluation of the performance of the students, so that the students do not have too much time for other things except legitimate extra curricular activities. This means the teacher taking on a much greater burden on himself. These are aspects of this problem which have also to be taken into account. The grievance procedures must be such that where individual grievances come up, they are sorted out immediately, and the collective grievances also are sorted out through a machinery like JCM which we have for Central Government servants. Participation of students in all aspects of the life of the university should be much more intense than it is today. Therefore, while I concede the importance of your preception of the problem, there are other dimensions also.

UGC Recognition to Gandhiji University, Kottayam

*877. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Gandhiji University at Kottayam in Kerala has not yet been recognised by the University Grants Commission;

(b) if so, the reasons there of, and

(c) the steps being taken to expedite the recognition of this University ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K.C. PANT) : (a) The Gandhiji University which is functioning under an Act of the Kerala Legislature does not require any recognition from the UGC. However, the University has to be declared fit by the UGC to receive Central assistance under Section 12-B of the UGC Act.

(b) and (c). The Government of Kerala has yet to fulfil the conditions laid down in the rules framed under Section 12-B of the UGC Act. Meanwhile, the commission has communicated to the State Government its

views on the Act under which the Gandhiji University has been established. The State Government has also not sent their reactions to the observations made by the Commission.

I would like to amend it by saying that recently the Education Minister of Kerala was here and he has given some reactions. He has not dealt with all the points raised by the UGC.

SHRI K. MOHANDAS : The University Grants Commission has suggested certain changes in the structure of the Syndicate and Senate. Accordingly these changes were incorporated in the University Act. The Hon. Minister of Education of Kerala has submitted a memorandum in this regard to the Hon. Minister of Education and the Chairman of the UGC. In the light of these, will the Hon. Minister direct the UGC to give recognition to the university so that it becomes eligible for grants ?

MR. SPEAKER : You are again following the same thing which I do not like. You are reading out your supplementary.

SHRI K.C. PANT : As I just mentioned, the Minister of Education of Kerala was here. He met the Chairman of the UGC and he has also met me. He has given a letter and I have had a discussion with the Chairman of the UGC also. Some of the points raised by the UGC have been met and some others are yet to be examined and finally decided upon by the State Government. The only thing I can tell the Hon. Member is that nothing of a minor nature will hold up recognition of the University by the UGC. But in matters of substance, they will have to satisfy the UGC. That is necessary.

SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Gandhiji University is conducting specialised courses like Natural Science, Gandhian Studies and Polymer Chemistry, Basic Medical Science, etc., which have great employment potentiality. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Hon. Minister would give instructions to the UGC to give special assistance to this University to conduct these courses. I would also like to know whether the UGC will give special assistance, if the University takes steps to implement the suggestions made by the UGC with regard to examination reforms and restructuring of courses.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mohandas is allowed to lay the whole statement on the Table, for future reference.

**Aid to Women's Schools and Colleges
in Rural Areas**

***878. SHRI N. DENNIS :** Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme under the consideration of Government to sanction special aid in favour of the women's schools and colleges, particularly to those situated in the rural area; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI K. C. PANT) :** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

A scheme of reimbursement of tuition fee for girls in classes IX to XII to the States/ Union Territories is proposed to be started from 1985-86.

During the Sixth Plan the University Grants Commission has been providing assistance to colleges for developing undergraduate education if the college concerned has at least four departments with a minimum of two teachers in each and a total of at least ten permanent teachers; the overall student-teacher ratio is not more than 30:1 and the college has at least 300 students in degree classes. In the case of women's colleges and colleges located in backward and rural areas, the enrolment requirement was relaxed from 300 to 200.

In addition, for construction of Women's hostels, the Commission has been providing assistance to the extent of 75 per cent of the approved cost against 50 per cent in the case Men's of hostels. The pattern of assistance for colleges in the Seventh Plan is being formulated.

SHRI N. DENNIS : The percentage of literacy in our country as per the 1981 Census is 36.23. Among males, the literacy rate is 46.89 per cent, whereas among females it is 24.82 per cent. Percentage of literacy in rural areas is 29.65. Among males it is 40.79 per cent and for females it is 17.96 per cent. In some States, the percentage of literacy in

females is less than 10 in rural areas. For example, in rural areas of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, the percentage of literacy among women is less than 10 per cent. Sir, it appears that this low rate of enrolment of women in educational institutions in rural areas would hamper the target of universal elementary education by 1990. So, may I know from the Hon. Minister whether there is any proposal for special assistance and enhanced allotment to remove the wide gap and imbalance and to eradicate illiteracy among girls in rural areas ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : I fully agree with the Hon. Member that women's education is lagging behind in certain States; and that when one sees the pattern of illiteracy, there also women figure prominently amongst sections which have fallen behind. Special efforts do need to be made. It is in that context that three of the schemes have been mentioned in the statement : one, that education for girls is being made free, i.e. no tuition fees will be charged between Classes 9 and 12—i.e. upto Class 12, because it is already free upto Class 8. The other thing is with regard to developing under-graduate education in the colleges, it is given in the statement—I need not repeat it.

The third is with regard to women's hostels. All these three are in the statement. Other than this, special assistance is given for recruitment of women teachers in primary schools, because that facilitates the enrolment of girl students. Then special assistance is given for non-formal education centres specially meant for girls. There, the ratio is much more favourable in the case of centres meant only for girls, as compared to mixed centres. These are some of the measures taken.

I can assure the Hon. Member that the Government is very conscious of the need to assist in the task of increasing the pace of education amongst women who have not been able to take full advantage of the education system.

SHRI N. DENNIS : The percentage of allocation of funds for education by the Centre is on the decrease, Plan after Plan. The allocation was 7.2 per cent in the first Plan, whereas in the 6th Plan it is 2.6 per cent whereas in the States, on an average 25 per

of the revenue budget is allocated for the purpose of education. These allocations do not meet the purpose. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether an enhanced allotment would be made for popularizing and propagating education among rural girls, and also other socially and educationally disadvantaged sections of the society ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : I am grateful to the Hon. Member for his support. I think he is trying to convert the converted. He knows whom he has to convert. He has to help me.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : The percentage of educated rural women, specially among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is very low. It is only 5 per cent to 6 per cent. What steps is Government going to take to increase the percentage of the educated ? Is Government going to establish any women' university just as in Andhra Pradesh; is Government going to support such of the universities in the rural areas, and is it going to provide amenities to the women's colleges and women's schools, where there are no toilets and other facilities to the girls who are specially facing difficulties in rural areas ?

I want to know from the Hon. Minister what proposals he has got to increase the facilities to the rural women, belonging specially to the SCs and STs.

SHRI K. C. PANT : Government is not proposing to set up any women's universities. Some States have set up women's universities; and they are given assistance in the usual course. But universities are co-educational institutions, by and large. They are meant for girls as well as boys. Girls do take full advantage of education at the university level. I agree with my friend that toilets are also a problem in the schools in rural areas, for girls also. We have a scheme for giving assistance to the States, to make education free up to Class 12 for girls. We have asked those States which will get this money, and which will have something extra, to use that extra money for providing toilets and dresses for girls, etc., in rural areas.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA :
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether he would allocate

special grants to such colleges in the rural areas of Bihar whose number is very small or negligible.

SHRI K. C. PANT : The expenditure on education is met by both the central as well as the State Government and assistance can be provided only within those limits.

[English]

SHRI D. K. NAIKAR : May I know from the Hon. Minister whether he is aware of the manifesto given by the Congress-I Party during the last State Assembly elections in some States in '85 ? In that manifesto, it has been provided that basic education upto third level will be given free by the Government. In view of the increasing illiteracy is he willing to bring some sort of a legislation to implement that promise of giving basic education at all levels free of cost ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : If legislation could achieve this objective, I will gladly bring this legislation. Some Governments have gone in for legislation, but on that account they will not be able to achieve universalisation of the education. It is not a question of intent or will or lack of law; it is a question of the resources and the determination to get this done. All I can assure my Hon. friend is that we are going to seriously try to reach this target by 1990. I have gone into the matter. There are various difficulties. I do not want to minimize or underestimate them. But we will try in all seriousness to tackle this problem; and I will come before the House once we have gone into this matter deeply enough to discuss in the House exactly what are the limitations and how we are trying to overcome them.

Facilities to Passengers

*879. **SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway Reforms Committee in its Report submitted to Government has recommended improving the facilities to passengers;

(b) if so, what are the precise suggestions/recommendations made by the committee in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of suggestions/recommendations have been made relating to :

- (i) Improved Reservation, Enquiry and allied facilities;
- (ii) Setting up of Indian Railway Catering Corporation to improve the standard of catering;
- (iii) Establishing Hotels at important stations;
- (iv) Improvement in the upkeep of the Retiring Rooms;
- (v) Promotion of tourism by running Holiday and Tourist Specials;
- (vi) Introduction of inter-city fast trains and running of commuter services by electric/diesel hauled long trains;
- (vii) Removing congestion on platforms;
- (viii) Provision of water coolers to ensure cool and potable drinking water in the trains;
- (ix) Standardisation of requisition for bed-rolls and their proper laundering arrangements;
- (x) Provision of cushioned seats, berths in second class and more air-conditioned chair car and A.C. Sleepers in future production of coaches;
- (xi) Improvement in the design of the coaches to improve ratio of toilet to passengers, increased water storage facilities and provision of electric water coolers;
- (xii) Improving sub-urban services;
- (xiii) Qualitative improvement at the terminals.

Details of these suggestions/recommendations are given in the Reports of the Railway Reforms Committee, which are placed in the Parliament House Library for the perusal of Hon. Members.

(c) Implementation of suggestions/recommendations made by the Railway Reforms Committee is a continuous process dependent upon the availability of adequate resources. Action has already been initiated to implement the suggestions/recommendations to the extent feasible.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : While replying to the question, the Hon. Minister has stated in part (c) of his reply that—

[English]

“Implementation of suggestions/recommendations made by the Railway Reforms committee is a continuous process.....”

[Translation]

It means that the implementation of the suggestions/recommendations of the Railway Reforms committee is a continuous process, the process of bringing about efficiency and improvement in the catering services. He has said under item (ii) of part (b) of reply to the same question that—

[English]

“Setting up of Indian Railway catering corporation to improve the standard of catering.”

[Translation]

Is this also a continuous process and have you taken some steps to set up such a corporation and to expand it ?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : The Indian Railways arrange catering service through contractors at about 3,500 places and departmental catering facilities are provided at about 125 stations. The proposal for the setting up of Railway catering corporation is still under the consideration of our Ministry, but we are of the view that a pilot project may be taken up on the basis of a pilot scheme and based on the experience of such a scheme, we shall consider the setting

up of the Railway catering corporation or to expand that catering service. This pilot project has been taken in hand for New Delhi Railway Station and it is expected to be completed by the end of this year. The consultancy in this regard has been given to I.T.D.C.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : The Railway Reforms Committee have also recommended the introduction of inter-city fast trains and you have introduced some fast trains also, but it has been seen that when we compare the two railways – the Central and the Western Railway for instance the trains on the Central Railway running between Delhi and Bombay or from the Hyderabad side to Bombay run always late by an hour or two hours and sometimes even by 6 to 7 hours, whereas, the trains of the Western Railway run on time. I would like to know the reasons for that.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : The reasons are the same and efforts to bring about improvement in this regard continue. There are some restrictions, such as, crossing problem, chain pulling, etc. and these are the reasons which cause late running of trains.

[English]

SHRI A. CHARLES : If I understand correctly the Himsagar Express is the longest distance running train in this country. This train connects Kanyakumari and Kashmir and it can be said to be a symbol of the unity of this country. But quite unfortunately there are no catering facilities in this train. In every bogie there is a notice saying "Less luggage, more comfort, make travel a pleasure". I would like the Railways to give a cup of tea and a meal at the appropriate time, and make the passengers feel more comfortable. May I request the Hon. Minister to start catering facilities in this longest running train ?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : The Himsagar Express, no doubt, is the train running for the longest distance in the country and the Member's suggestion is a good one; it will certainly be noted.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : The Railway Reforms Committee have submitted 21 recommendations and out of them there are 10 recommendations in regard to passenger

amenities. The Hon. Minister has stated that it is a continuous process, that is, the implementation of the suggestions and recommendations is a continuous process. I like to know from the Hon. Minister what are the specific suggestions that have been implemented so far, say No. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 0 so on. Of course, it is really a continuous process but the number of suggestions, they may be two, they may be three or they may be four, out of the ten suggestions regarding passenger amenities. What are those recommendations that have been implemented so far ? I want a categorical answer from the Railway Minister.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : The suggestions that have been implemented are fairly numerous. But I would say that the main suggestions which have been implemented pertain to providing additional staff at reservation counters, special facilities at booking offices, computerisation etc. Computerisation is being started with the Northern Railway as the first project to be taken in hand and I hope that next year we will have computerisation at New Delhi Railway Station, Nizamuddin Railway Station and Old Delhi Railway Station also. There are a number of other such recommendations that have been implemented. I can go through the entire list, but I would suggest that I can communicate these in writing to the Hon. Member.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN PANDEY : Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state the reasons why in spite of the recommendation made by the Railway Reforms Committee long back to provide such facilities pantry car is not being attached to the Jayanti Janata Express which has been running between Barauni and New Delhi and what steps are being taken by Government in this regard ?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : We are badly feeling the absence of the pantry car. Pantry car is first attached to the long distance trains as in the case of Himsagar Express to which an Hon. Member has just referred. More and more pantry cars are attached on the basis of priority, but sufficient number of pantry cars are not available at present.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : I want to know from the Hon. Minister the facilities being considered by Government for being provided to the middle and low income group passengers in view of the recommendations of this Committee ?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the main recommendation of the Railway Reforms Committee was on the lines of pilot projects like the Yatri Niwas which we have just taken up at the New Delhi Railway Station. This is for the middle and low income group passengers and we endeavour to...

[English]

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Is Government taking any steps to see that drinking water is provided during summer ?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Special attention is being given to provide drinking water on the railway platforms and in the trains. (*Interruptions*) In the matter of drinking water not only have we asked to give special attention at the railway stations and on trains with vestibules, but we have said that even the first class AC or first class passengers, a particular category which Madam probably patronises the most; that is why, she is very keen about it, they either carry their own thermos or the facilities are good enough. But where priority must be given is to the second class passengers. Therefore, we have said that on vestibule trains there should be covered buckets or jerry cans with water and an attendant with water facilities.

Completion of Irrigation projects in Maharashtra and Bihar

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*880. **SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:**
DR. G. S. RAJHANS :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some of the Irrigation Projects in States of Maharashtra and Bihar are far behind their schedule;

(b) whether the Governments of both the States have requested the Centre to provide adequate funds for completion of such irrigation projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) to (c). Some of the projects in Maharashtra and Bihar are behind schedule. Central assistance is given in the form of block loans and block grants and is not tied to any particular scheme or sector of development. The States have to plan, fund and implement their own projects and make adequate provision therefor within their over-all plan allocations.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : 22 big and 42 medium projects of Maharashtra are pending for years. The reason is that there is no coordination between the 15 departments of the central Government connected with it. When the State Government sends a proposal to the Central Water Commission, queries are received there from 15 Central Government departments. These queries are not raised at a time. One department wakes up after six months and there is still another who takes action a year later. Thus, the queries regarding the project take many years, leading to a rise in the cost of the project and consequently a revised project estimate needs to be submitted. Like this, this cycle goes on.

The second reason is paucity of funds. Your Forest Act also comes in the way of these projects. Therefore, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether efforts would be made to complete these projects soon by bringing about coordination between these 15 departments of the Central Government? Secondly, what is the amount of allocation, sought by the Government of Maharashtra and what is the amount sanctioned by the centre ?

[English]

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : The Hon. Member's main grievance seems to be that the projects submitted by the Maharashtra Government for clearance are delayed because, according to him, the various Departments of the Government have no coordination with the Department of Irrigation. I have explained in this House on more than one occasion the reasons for delay. They are:

the plans and projects submitted by the State Governments are not at all complete in all respects in spite of the guidelines given to them by the Central Government. When certain defects are noticed or certain observations are made, they are sent back, and in the meantime, the cost escalates. The State Governments also revise the projects sometimes. On more than one occasion, they revised the scope of the project itself. There are various reasons which the Hon. Member is not aware of and which perhaps are not due the default of the Department of Irrigation or the Central Water Commission... (Interruption).

PROF. N.G. RANGA : He is asking about coordination.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Cooperation and coordination is already there. It is a question of cooperation and coordination between the State and the Centre. The State should give all the details that have been asked for by the Centre.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my important question was how much allocation was sought by the Maharashtra Government and how much was sanctioned by the Centre.

MR. SPEAKER : The vital question is that the more the delay, the more the dislocation. Efforts should be made to obviate delay.

[English]

Delay breeds every damn thing.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, I have answered to the main question that Central assistance is not given to any particular scheme or project, it is given in the form of block grants and block loans. Maharashtra Government had requested for assistance in 1980-81, 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84. In 1980-81, they asked for Rs. 32 crores; in 1981-82, Rs. 20.70 crores; Rs. 22.00 crores in 1982-83 and Rs. 47.06 crores during 1983-84. However, no such additional assistance could be provided by the Government of India.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Sir, the reply of the Hon. Minister leads us nowhere. We

want a specific reply. For example, I want to know the exact position of Western Kosi Canal. It is a project involving two countries Nepal and India, and is being executed by the Government of Bihar. I want to know its exact position and also as to when it will be completed.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, the main question is whether there are any projects in Bihar and Maharashtra which are behind the schedule, and I said, there are some. The reason for this is non-completion of the projects in time for want of funds, for want of technical clearance and for other reasons that I have already given. Bihar has 12 major and 20 medium pre-Sixth Plan projects and 7 medium Sixth Plan schemes spilling into Seventh Plan. Their latest total estimated cost is about Rs. 2,300 crores whereas the rough spill-over cost is about Rs. 1,700 crores. Bihar has not been able to complete these projects in VI Plan because they have taken up many projects for which they cannot provide funds. The thin layers of resources spread over the many projects is the main cause for the non-completion of the various projects.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ram Swaroop Ram.

I am looking towards Ram. If Balram does not look towards Ram, who else would he look to ?

SHRI BALKAVI BAIKAGI : Please see that Nand Ram is not left out in between Ram and Balram.

SHRI RAMSWARCOOP RAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Tilaiya Dadar Irrigation Project and the Muhane Reservoir Project are quite big and important schemes, whose foundation stones had also been laid, but the work has not started on them due to the paucity of funds, although it is now more than a year since the foundation stones were laid. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether arrangements are being made to make available the funds allocated by the Government of India for these two schemes within two or three months, so that the work could start there ?

[English]

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I have already said that the funds are provided by the State Governments. The projects are funded and implemented by the State Governments. The Central assistance is not given to any project.

[Translation]

SHRI C. P. THAKUR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether some action is being taken regarding the Sone Canal Scheme which is pending with the Centre for a long time? The Sone Canal was constructed by the Britishers and it has not been renovated for the last 150 years.

MR. SPEAKER : He will not be in a position to tell us about the project.

[English]

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : Sir, it is a very important question. The canal referred to by the Hon. Member is 120 years old and it provides assured irrigation to two districts Bhojpur-Rohtas and Patna. The scheme was to be funded by the World Bank. All formalities have been completed by the State and it is lying with the Central Government. So, I would like to know what steps the Centre is going to take in this regard.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, we must thank nature that this project is working for the last more than 100 years in Bihar.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : Yes, it is one of the oldest projects in the country. It is more than 100 years old.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : That is what I said. We must thank nature for that.

(Interruptions)

That is the reason why Buddha was born in Bihar.

SHRI C. P. THAKUR : I would like to know what is the Central Government doing in this regard. I would like to have an answer from the Hon. Minister on this question.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Whatever external assistance could be given is being given to Bihar. Without funds no project is completed and there cannot be any moderni-

sation or renovation also without funds. Whatever we could do is being done. Now, it is for the Bihar Government to do the rest.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : Sir, its clearance is awaited. It is a very important thing. Would the Minister consider to take a decision for its early clearance from his end? All the formalities by the State Government have been completed.

MR. SPEAKER : Is it such a thing as clearance ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, we will not delay even for a moment, if all observations are complied with by the Bihar Government.

[Translation]

Complimentary Railway Passes to Freedom Fighters.

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*882 **SHRI VISHNU MODI** :
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a scheme was prepared for extending first class pass facility to the freedom fighters for 'Bharat Darshan';

(b) if so, how many freedom fighters have availed of this facility;

(c) whether this facility has recently been withdrawn;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government have received any memorandum in this regard from freedom fighters;

(f) if so, whether Government propose to restore this facility; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS :
(**SHRI BANSI LAL**) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 136 first class all India Complimentary Card Passes were issued to the freedom fighters by the Railways. Out of these, the number who actually availed of the travel facility is not known.

(c) The facility has been held in abeyance.

(d) The matter is under examination of the Government.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The matter is under consideration.

(g) Does not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHNU MODI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the Hon. Minister the reasons for withdrawing the facility of first class pass granted to the freedom fighters for 'Bharat Darshan' ? Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state the number of States whose freedom fighters had not been informed that they could avail of this facility and who were consequently deprived of its benefits and the details in this regard ?

MR. SPEAKER : You are a young man. What was the need to read it ? You could have spoken straight away.

[English]

I want to tell this House, if an Hon. Member reads certain things in the House or reads certain questions or prepared statement, the reflection outside goes that we are being coached by somebody. I do not want to let that thing prevail in the House. We must be on our own and at no cost we should degrade the prestige of the House.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : But there are some Members who are not able to formulate their supplementary then and there and put them.

MR. SPEAKER : They can have points, but not read the whole script like that. It is not good. There is time for the next session. Now, it is only a day or so for the present session. So, we must prepare ourself for that and put up a good show in the next session.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : These instructions should be for the other side also.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : They have to take notes, which they are allowed. You can also

take notes, but no verbatim reading is allowed, that is irrespective of any one.

(Interruptions)

Prepared statement is something else.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : It shows their performance.

(Interruptions).

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, your ruling also should not be in writing.

[Translation]

SHRI BANSI LAL ; This matter was referred to the Home Ministry. Their reply is awaited.

SHRI VISHNU MODI : I had asked for the reasons for withdrawing it.

SHRI BANSI LAL : The reason is that it involves an expenditure of about Rs. 100 crores; Who will bear it ? The welfare of the freedom fighters is the responsibility of the Home Ministry and that is why we have referred it to them.

SHRI VISHNU MODI : What was the number of persons who applied for passes and of those who were issued passes ? What were the reasons for not issuing these passes to some of them.

SHRI BANSI LAL : There is no record of the number of persons who applied for passes, but as I have already told, these passes were given to 136 persons.

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Whenever we speak, particularly we people who are in politics, refer to the freedom fighters and their sacrifice in our speeches...

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : We are happy to be here and it is because of their sacrifices.

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : It is true that we are sitting here due to them and the credit for this goes to them. But, when we talk about giving them facilities, many hindrances come in the way. Recently, during the inauguration of the Congress Centenary Celebrations, our Prime Minister made a very good announcement according to which their pension was raised from Rs. 300 to Rs. 500. This, indeed,

is a very bold step, but so far as the railways are concerned, the Hon. Minister has just now replied that first class passes had been issued to 136 persons. In this connection, I want to know whether there is any criterion for giving these passes? Were only these persons entitled to these passes and not others? Many of our freedom fighters are living in the villages and the information relating to the facilities being given by the railways do not reach them. Therefore, I want to know whether some arrangements would be made whereby the information regarding the facilities being given by the railways could reach them?

SHRI BANSI LAL : There are about 400,000 people who are entitled to the passes out of which 1,29,000 get pension from the central Government and 2,75,000 or 3,00,000 persons get pension from the State Governments. Therefore, the department which grants them pension will have to bear the fare on this account. This case has been referred to the Home Ministry. The freedom fighters have not been refused this facility. The matter is still under consideration.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I had raised this question initially, Shri Sethi did not agree to it at that time. At that time, the then Prime Minister, late Shrimati Indira Gandhi had said that there were only a very few freedom fighters alive now and that we should give this benefit to them, so that they could see how much the country had progressed. Are we waiting for the day when even some of these handful of persons may also depart from here?

SHRI BANSI LAL : We are not waiting for that. A decision will soon be taken in this regard.

[English]

Hospitals for Children Suffering from Polio etc.

*884. **DR. T. KALPANA DEVI :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that one out of every 4,000 children below the age of 9 years is suffering from polio and about 2,70,000 such cases of polio are reported annually;

(b) whether Government have any positive plans to prevent the incidence of polio and also the incidence of diphtheria, pertussis, tuberculosis and typhoid fever; and

(c) whether Government propose to start special hospitals for children only?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Precise estimates of current incidence of polio in the country are not available. During 1983 the State Health Authorities reported about 21 thousand cases to Central Bureau of Health Intelligence.

(b) Immunization services against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, tuberculosis and typhoid fever are being provided under the Expanded Programme on Immunization.

(c) There is no such proposal in the Central Sector.

SHRI D.N. REDDY : Sir, recently the polio vaccine supplied by some of the foreign countries has been found to be ineffective in substance. There were reports that many eminent doctors had found them ineffective and also reported this fact to the Government. More-over, there is no sufficient cold storage to keep the vaccine in all the hospitals. Sufficient quantity is also not improved with the result there is a dearth of not only polio vaccines but also Triple Antigen vaccines in rural areas. It is very important that these important drugs are supplied to the rural hospitals where the incidence of polio is frighteningly very large.

Regarding part (c) of the Question, special health service is absolutely necessary in schools to safeguard the health of school going children. Especially in Andhra Pradesh, the services are available only in big hospitals in Vizag and Hyderabad. I will request the Hon. Minister to see whether he is able to extend the services to at least up to district centre level.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : The services are available not only at the district level but they are up to the primary health Centre level because at the PHC, there is a freezer and at the district level, there is a deep freezer. So, we store the vaccines at the district level and then pass them on to the

primary health centres where again they are kept in the cold storage for a number of days. And then, the vaccine goes to the sub-centre and at the village level. Therefore, there is a network of the sub-centre, primary health centre, district hospital and referral centre which are supplying vaccines.

Regarding the complaint made by the Hon. Member, we have not come across any such case where the vaccine was found ineffective. It may be the case where proper doses are not given at the proper time because it has to be given at certain intervals and if it is not done, it may prove ineffective also.

SHRI D.N. REDDY : As a doctor, I know that. (*Interruptions.*) Unless the polio vaccine is kept in refrigeration or cold storage, the vaccine becomes useless. Even if it is exposed in the room temperature for a few minutes, it becomes ineffective. There is no point in supplying vaccine which is not effective or useful.

More-over, it is important to import the vaccine in sufficient quantity and keep them in cold storage even in the village sub-centre. The plea that it has to be transported from one hospital to another and therefore the vaccine becomes ineffective is not valid. It cannot be a sufficient reason for supplying ineffective polio vaccines.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Sir, it has been done. In the Seventh Plan, we are going to give these vaccines to all the children. There will be immunization programme.

As I have said, cold storage facility is available at the district level and at the primary health-centre level because there is a refrigerator. So, it can be preserved there. It has to be preserved in a cold atmosphere and that facility is available at the primary health centre. Every primary health centre is located where the population is of 5,000.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : There is no cold storage.

DR. V. VENKATESH : Sir, prevention is better than cure. These diseases are dangerous and they are causing permanent disability to children in the society. Has the Government got any idea of preventing the

diseases by providing proper sanitation, safe drinking water etc. ? In rural areas, people are still going for open defecation and there are no proper conditions in the area. Even drinking water is not available. In order to prevent these diseases which are going to cause permanent disability in the rural population, has the Government of India formulated any scheme for the preventive measures ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA; Sir, our National Health Policy is very clear. Firstly it talks about the prevention of disease and then, if necessary, treatment and cure also. But this is a State programme and the Government of India is giving them assistance by way of aid and advice to the States. We give finance as well as technical guidance. Other things are also provided by the Government of India. But the primary work, the implementation, is being done by the State Governments. The Hon. Member has rightly said that rural water supply also has some connection with this because if pure potable water is available, then many of the diseases can be avoided and Government is working on these schemes with the PWD and other concerned Departments.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Just now the Hon. Minister has said that in all the primary health centres the refrigeration system is there to preserve the preventive medicines for children's diseases.

May I know whether the Hon. Minister stands by the accuracy of his statement ? Has the Hon. Minister enquired into the matter ? At least, in my knowledge, not a single primary health centre in West Bengal has got the refrigeration system to preserve the preventive medicines. Is it not the fault of the Government ?

I think the Hon. Minister is not accurate in his facts and by saying this, the Hon. Minister is again provoking the people to demonstrate.

Will the Hon. Minister correct his statement or will the Hon. Minister enquire into the matter ?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Let us hear the Hon. Minister.

(Translation)

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : They are not there anywhere in U. P.... ..

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have heard you.

[English]

Let us hear him. Beware of your answers.

{Translation}

I have, therefore, cautioned also.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : The Hon. Minister's answer is misleading.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : There is no question of misleading...

(Interruptions)

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Will you please hear me ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Beware of your officers, Mr. Minister.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : There is no question of misleading of the Ministers by the Officers. I said in the beginning that health is a State subject and Government of India can provide only funds. It is for the State Government to implement it. In a particular State.....

(Interruptions)

In some States, if it is not done, what can we do ? We can provide funds and we can request the State Governments to do it...

(Interruptions)

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : That is the only thing and they can bring it to the notice of the State Government.

Electrification of Rail Lines

*885. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the State-wise break-up of electrification of rail lines ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh has been most neglected area in this regard ; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) A Statement is laid on the table of the Sabha.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement		
States	Already electrified as on 31.03. 1985 Route Kilometres	Electrification in progress/ sanctioned Route Kilometres
Andhra Pradesh	608	611
Bihar	877	611
Gujarat	524	93
Haryana	74	...
Karnataka	...	92
Maharashtra	789	889
Madhya Pradesh	473	1,965
Orissa	376	...
Rajasthan	22	557
Tamil Nadu	426	104
Uttar Pradesh	942	309
West Bengal	1,240	...
Union Territory of Delhi	89	...
Total	6,440	5,231

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : In Andhra Pradesh, Vijaywada-Balarsha line is pending electrification for the past so many years.

Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to say whether this line will be completed by the end of this year. The Hon. Minister has given a list of some of the railway lines which are being electrified this year. I would like to know whether Vijaywada-Balarsha railway line is included in this list ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Which is the railway line which you are referring to ?

SHRI H.A. DORA : Balasa is my native place. The Minister mentioned about the Vijayawada-Balasa railway line in his Budget speech.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot do like this. Please take your seat. Don't you know the name of the railway line ?

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : It is Vijayawada-Balarsha line, not Vijayawada-Balasa line. My friend is mistaken.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : The saying of an uninvited guest forcing the host to offer hospitality fits well here.

SHRI BANSI LAL : The work on the Vijayawada-Balarsha line is in progress.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Government be in a position and be able to finish it by the end of this year ?

SHRI BANSI LAL : It will be finished by 1987-88.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : As far as Hyderabad is concerned, it is a growing city. Its population is growing.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Everybody knows it.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Government take up electrification of the railway line connecting the suburbs of the city by electric trains ?

SHRI BANSI LAL : I have not been able to follow. (Interruptions).

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Birla Mills Delhi

2. SHRI LALIT MAKEN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that not even a single meter of cloth has been produced in Birla Mills of Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that thousands of workers of the said Mills have not received even a single penny during the last three years; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that thousands of workers have been forcibly retired ?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) According to Delhi Administration, no cloth is being produced as Weaving and Allied Sections of the Birla Mills remain closed.

(b) We are not aware and are verifying from the Delhi Administration the position regarding non-payment of wages to the workers.

(c) According to the Delhi Administration, 244 workers have been retired during the last three years. Besides, 721 permanent workers are being paid lay off compensation while 255 badli workers are being provided work for 11 days in a month. Report from the Delhi Administration about the remaining workers, if any, affected by the closure of the Weaving and Allied Departments is awaited. Separately, Government is verifying the details from the CPFC and ESIC Organisations and appropriate action will be taken.

[Translation]

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am happy to note that the Hon. Minister has admitted at least one fact that not a single yard of cloth has been manufactured in the Birla Mill for the last three years. Before I put my question, I want to thank the Hon. Labour Minister and the Hon. Minister of Works and Housing that they have saved 6000 workers of the D.C.M. whom the owner of the mill wanted to finish in one stroke. But, this problem of the Birla Mill is more serious than that of the D.C.M. This is so because the owner of the mill wants to finish the workers through the method of slow torture. The owner of the Birla Mill sometimes severs their hands, sometimes their feet and sometimes their heads.

MR. SPEAKER : Do you think that anybody can survive after he is beheaded ?

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : Now they are as good as dead. I want to tell you why

they have reached such a sad state. Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the last two years, such conditions were created in which two thousand workers have been retrenched. In the beginning, the weaving department was closed down, thereafter other departments were closed down, as a result of which three thousand workers have been rendered jobless for the last three years. Not a single paisa has been paid to these workers. The Hon. Minister has himself admitted that he is not aware of it. Not a single paisa has been paid to thousands of workers for the last two years.

MR. SPEAKER : You put your question.

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : I am putting my question. Unless I narrate the conditions prevailing there, the Hon Minister would not be able to reply to my question. My question that not a single paisa has been paid to the workers for the last three years has not been replied to ? How many workers were beaten up there during the last three years ? One worker was lifted up and thrown into the boiler. The departments were closed down one after the other. Now, other departments are also being closed down. We had demonstrations, agitations and hunger strikes and demonstrated outside the Parliament House a number of times during the last three years. But, I am sorry to say that the Commerce Ministry did not take action about the Birla Mill even once.

MR. SPEAKER : You put your question.

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : I am coming to the questions.

Is it not a fact that two years ago, Shri Jagraves Chandra, the leader of the House in the Delhi Metropolitan Council who is also the Chief Executive Councillor had tabled a resolution in the House that the Management of the Birla Mill was not interested in running the Mill and, therefore, the Mill should be taken over ?

MR. SPEAKER : You put only one question.

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : I am clubbing it with the question. Is it not a fact that the Labour Commissioner of Delhi had issued instructions that they should run all the

departments and that employment should be given to the three thousand workers who had been rendered jobless, but these instructions were not headed to and the Delhi Administration filed a suit against the Birla Mill ? Is it not a fact that three departments have been closed down as recently as last week ? I want to know the reasons why Birla Mill cannot be taken over when Tata's Mill and the D.C.M. can be taken over.

SHRI T. ANJIAH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Delhi Administration have so far taken action on 6 counts against the management. The first is that they have been prosecuted for closing down the weaving section, secondly, a court of enquiry has been instituted, thirdly, the matter has been referred to the Department of Industries. The Delhi Administration had not in any way given permission to close down the weaving section. The Management closed down this section disregarding the court and the law. We are disturbed over this development and are taking action in this regard. Today, everywhere the management wants to close down the old factory and set up a new one in its place. There are about 825 textile industries in the country and this is the tendency of most of the mill-owners. Consultations in this regard are going on with the Textile Ministry and we shall think about taking action on its report, which is likely to be submitted soon. We shall think about its take over and shall also study the general situation and action would be taken on the basis of the report which is awaited.

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : I have not received the reply to my question. I had asked whether it was not a fact that a resolution was adopted by the Delhi Metropolitan Council two years ago and the Delhi Administration had decided to take over this mill ? You have admitted that the Delhi Administration had issued instructions and had not given permission. I want to know how this mill has been closed down for the last three years and why Government are sitting silent.

[English]

Are Government only silent spectator ?

[Translation]

I want to know how, when permission was not granted the mill was allowed to close

down and also inspite of the fact that the Delhi Administration had passed a unanimous resolution? Therefore, my demand is that the Hon. Labour Minister should take the responsibility of either getting the mill reopened before the next session of Parliament starts or take it over. Merely talking like this is not going to help. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI T. ANJIAH : We shall hold discussions in the meeting and then decide. It is difficult to say anything at this stage. Half of the mill is running whereas the other half has been closed down. We shall press them to run the weaving section. If they do not run it, we shall consider the recommendation made by the Delhi Administration to the Textiles Ministry.

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : You please tell me whether within two months, before the next session of Parliament... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : That is all right. It cannot be a question of debate. He has answered it already.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter concerning the families of 6000 workers. My question has not been replied to fully.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : That is what he has said—that they will take into consideration.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : What action you are going to take if the Mill is not reopened within two months?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : He has already answered it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : If it is a matter for consideration, you may tell us how the mill is lying closed when permission was not granted? No cloth has been manufactured there for the last three years and the workers are on the roads. I only want to know what

action will be taken by the Government in case the mill does not open within two months?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : He has already said it. What more can I get out of him? He said that they would consider what the Metropolitan Council had said.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : As far as I can understand, the Weaving Department in the Birla Mills was closed down as long ago as August, 1982. So it is not a matter of recent occurrence. The Minister has told us what they propose to do now. The weaving Department was closed down and as Mr. Makan has pointed out that not a single yard of cloth is being woven in that mill and they have closed down the weaving department totally, I want to know whether it is a fact or not. Now subsequently, in the last week they have also closed down three more departments—the printing department, the shearing department and the colouring department. These are finishing departments. Once the cloth is woven they have to pass through these departments for the finishing process. That means that the mill management is determined to go ahead with its proposal to close down production of cloth completely. I want to know from him. The other day during the debate on Labour Ministry's Grants I have used an expression which angered a large number of members here. Perhaps they did not understand what I have been saying. I said that I would like this Hon. Minister—whom I respect very much—to try to rescue this labour administration from its present stage of impotence. Some people got angry. They said this word is unparliamentary and this should be expunged. It was not expunged. Impotence has many meanings. They were perhaps thinking of other meanings.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Impotence of inanimate thing is permissible.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, why is that inspite of the fact that Birla management is repeatedly refusing to carry out the orders of the Labour Department and Labour Commissioner no action is being taken against them? They have made it clear that they are not going to listen to what you say. Why action is not being taken under the Industrial Development Regulations Act or Industrial

Disputes Act to see that the management of this mill is taken over? You need not nationalise it but the management of the mill should be taken over and production resumed. Why is it not being done?

[Translation]

SHRI T. ANJIAH : The management is facing prosecution and a Court of Inquiry for closing down the weaving section .. (Interruptions) The report is available with us. I had told you that the question of take over is not within the purview of the Labour Ministry. However, we shall recommend it to the Textiles Ministry. We shall insist on takeover if no compromise is reached. There is need to take action against such managements. It is just possible that that the management may not listen to it. In that case, action will be taken, and only then they will learn a lesson. A full report in this regard is with the Textiles Ministry. It is being examined what action can be taken on that. The Finance Minister had also hinted at it during this Budget Session. We want to take action keeping fully in view the crisis that has struck the workers. It is a matter of time now. The Delhi Administration is dealing with it. When they refer it .. (Interruptions) It has been recommended to the Textiles Ministry. I do not have the report on the outcome of the talks held with them. The Textile Minister is not present here. It is necessary to talk to him. The required action will be taken.

[English]

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Sir, I want to know specifically and straight. In spite of the fact that six months before the Labour Commissioner of Delhi Administration gave them direction to start the weaving department, they have written back unequivocally that "we shall not run it". I want to know whose writ runs — that of Government of India or that of Mr. Birla—in this country because inspite of being reminded not to do, they are closing one department after the other. They have reduced the labour strength from 6000 to 4000. They have the ultimate intention of driving out the others and keep only 1500. So, who is stronger? Apart from the sweet words of the Minister, let him tell how do they work? Is it that their writ does not work with the Birlas in this country? How is it that we want to know.

[Translations]

SHRI T. ANJIAH : This I have alserdy made clear to you that the management is continuously violating...(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Put them in jail...(Interruptions)

SHRI T. ANJIAH : I am not in charge of the Home Department only the Labour Ministry is under me...(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Why did you admit the question...(Interruptions)

SHRI T. ANJIAH : You have also dealt with this Department.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : That is why I an telling you that you have got the nearuses and you can use them.

SHRI T. ANJIAH : We are prepared to pay attention and to take action. We shall force the management some how to continue to run these departments. In case they do not...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I hope that they are not lollipops.

[Translation]

SHRI T. ANJIAH : We shall let you know within two months, in the next session ...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : You take over the mill in the next session...(Interruptions)

SHRI T. ANJIAH : We shall get it done if it is in my power to do so...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : After to months, no lollipops. And when it will be taken over? That is what we want to know.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : The total strength of the workers in the Birla mills as on 1-1-82 was 6,000; today it is 4,000. I would like to put one specific question to the Labour Minister. What relief was provided to these 2,000 workers who have been eased out in various dibious ways in the last 3 years?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : We want pin-pointed statement.

[Translation]

SHRI T. ANJIAH : I have already told you that some workers retired in the normal course. Their number is 240 and some other workers had sought voluntary retirement... (Interruptions) The number of the workers who had taken voluntary retirement is 1570.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Workers have been thrown out. We want specific assurance from the Minister. 2,000 people are thrown out.

[Translation]

SHRI T. ANJIAH : The report with us indicates that 1570 workers have gone on voluntary retirement. We do not have report to the effect that they were forced to seek voluntary retirement.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : 2,000 people are thrown out.

MR. SPEAKER : He has got the information. He has given the information.

He cannot give you wrong information.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : All this is wrong. Nowhere has this happened.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It could have been the other way.

[Translation]

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : They were beaten up and were forcibly thrown out... (Interruptions)

SHRI T. ANJIAH : We are also giving thought to the information which we have received from you and we shall enquire

whether they have been thrown out forcibly, forced to seek retirement and whether any compensation was given to them or not... (Interruptions) But, according to the report which we have received, 240 persons have retired in the normal course and over 1,500 persons have taken voluntary retirement.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : 2,000 workers were made to retire within two years... (Interruptions)

SHRI T. ANJIAH : We are looking into it, we are enquiring into the matter.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Development of Social and Women's Welfare Organisations

*881. **DR. B. L. SHAILESH :** Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry has recently issued some instructions to State Governments regarding the development of social and women's welfare organisations ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE : (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Workshop at Mokameh

*883, **SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that before Mokameh Bridge came into being, ferry system was prevalent at Mokameh where a very big dock with workshop was working under the Railways to undertake the repair work for ferries and it engaged a large number of workers who are still working there ;

(b) whether Government have ordered to stop expansion and further development of the said workshop dock ; and

(c) whether there is any likelihood of retrenchment of labourers in the said workshop in the near future ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

[Translation]

Fast Train Between Ayodhya and Allahabad

*886. **SHRI NIRMAL KHATRI :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any request for introduction of a fast train between Ayodhya and Allahabad.

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ;

(c) whether Government are aware that the erstwhile fast train 'Saryu Express' on this route was withdrawn ; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to inadequate terminal facilities at Ayodhya and Allahabad, it is not operationally feasible to introduce an additional train.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In 1972 one of the three passenger trains between Allahabad and Faizabad was converted into a Express train by withdrawing stoppages. Since this was resented by the users, the same was restored to run as a passenger train.

[English]

Supply of Wagons by S.C. Rly. for Transportation of Perishables from Andhra Pradesh to Howrah

*887. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether complaints have been received that the number of parcel wagons (VPs and VPUs) provided by the South Central Railway authorities for perishable food

articles, like eggs; fish, lemons etc. from Andhra Pradesh to Howrah, has recently been reduced drastically ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is a fact that many wagons are being diverted for carrying luxury items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Due to seasonal demand for movement of mango traffic from Andhra Pradesh to Delhi, there was temporary difficulty in movement of fish, eggs, etc. to Howrah.

(c) No, Sir.

Restoration of Train Services Between Thane and Bombay V.T.

*888. **SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Railway was running trains between Thane and Bombay V.T. which have been cancelled ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore ; and

(c) whether a proposal to restore the train services is under consideration of the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. Some of the commuter trains have been reduced.

(b) Due to shortage of Electric Multiple Unit coaches.

(c) No, Sir.

Irrigation Facilities in Tribal Areas of Orissa

*889. **SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has issued guidelines to the Government of Orissa to increase the irrigation potential in tribal areas of that State as the irrigation facilities there are much less than in other areas ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b). To augment irrigation facilities in Tribal Areas, the Government of India had suggested to the State Government in 1982 to prepare a Master Plan of irrigation in tribal areas covering inter-alia the following aspects :—

- (i) Harnessable water-resources for development in tribal sub-plan areas including flow irrigation (Major, Medium and Minor) lift irrigation and ground water development;
- (ii) status of present irrigation in the regions and utilisation of water resources for the future;
- (iii) existing land use pattern and projected pattern of land in the tribal sub-plan;
- (iv) present cropping pattern, proposed cropping pattern and the benefit likely to accrue to tribal families;
- (v) command area development aspect and the requirement of machinery and staff;
- (vi) rehabilitation programme in case the tribals are likely to be displaced. Attempts should also be made to locate alternative land in the command area of irrigation project proposed to be constructed;
- (vii) development of land and field channels should form part of each irrigation project and investment on these items should form total cost of the project;
- (viii) a programme with time schedule for implementation of irrigation projects and financial requirement may be clearly indicated.

Modernisation of Hirakud Dam

***890. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for modernisation of Hirakud Dam Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b). There is a proposal for modernisation of the Canal system of the Hirakud Project at an estimated cost of about Rs. 33 crores. It envisages restoration of canals to their design sections, lining of canals in selected reaches, construction of additional control structures and improvement to canal service roads.

(c) Does not arise.

Environmental Pollution in the Capital due to Effluence Emitted by Surface Transport

***891. SHRI K. PRADHANI :
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :**

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a study has been conducted recently by Government to assess the extent of impact of effluence emitted by the surface transport on the environment in the Capital (Delhi/New Delhi);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to save the Capital city from pollution caused by vehicles ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Report has not yet been finalized by Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi who conducted this study.

(c) Delhi Administration has been asked to amend the relevant Rules under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, to incorporate emission standards.

Power Projects With Foreign Assistance

***892. SHRI B. V. DESAI :
SHRI DEBI GHOSAL :**

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to start at least four hydel and thermal power stat-

ions with foreign assistance;

(b) whether any foreign countries have agreed to help these projects;

(c) if so, the details of the same; and

(d) by what time the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) to (d) : Some hydel and thermal projects are under consideration for implementation but the source and pattern of funding have not been decided. It has been proposed to set up Trombay TPS (Unit VI), Farakka Stage II, Chandrapur TPS and Sardar Sarovar multipurpose Project with World Bank assistance. Ramagundam Stage II with assistance from Saudi Arabia, Anpara B with Japanese assistance and Kahalgaon with Soviet assistance.

Development of Paradip Port During 1985-86

*893. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated for the Paradip Port during 1985-86; and

(b) the specific measures proposed to be taken for the development of Paradip Port during 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) An amount of Rs. 23.85 crores have been allocated in the Annual Plan 1985-86.

(b) The third General Cargo Berth has recently been completed. The fertiliser berth is expected to be completed by October, 1985. These projects would augment Port's capacity by 0.25 million tonnes for handling general cargo and 1,20 million tonnes for handling fertiliser raw materials respectively. Besides, this, dredging has also been taken up to maintain the designed draught of the Port round the year.

Balimala Power Project

*894. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal for further expansion of Balimela Power Project in Orissa;

(b) if so, the amount proposed to be spent on the expansion of Balimela Power Project;

(c) whether the expansion programme of the above project is going to be taken up in 1985-86; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) ; Does not arise.

Local Purchase of Ayurvedic Medicines by CGHS Dispensaries

6833. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) the guidelines laid down for the local purchase of Ayurvedic medicines by the Medical Officers Incharge of Ayurvedic CGHS Dispensaries in the Capital and elsewhere;

(b) whether the indents are placed on some selected suppliers and if so, whether any panel is maintained and how these suppliers are selected;

(c) whether Government are aware that monopoly supply is being entrusted to one or two suppliers resulting in their supplying the medicines after a lapse of 2-3 weeks and that too at times poor and sub-standard stuff;

(d) whether there is an endemic shortage of ayurvedic medicines in the CGHS dispensaries particularly in the closing and beginning months of a year; and

(e) the steps being taken to maintain proper stock and improve the quality of medicines supplied to the Dispensaries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (e). Local purchase of Ayurvedic medicines is made from local Chemists appointed for the purpose in case of non-availability of listed items in Ayurvedic

store or if non listed items are prescribed by the Specialist. The appointment of local chemists are made by inviting applications through Press advertisement and the Chemists quoting lowest service charges are appointed as Local Chemists. There is no instance of supply of any Sub-standard drug. However, there has been some occasional delays in supply of medicines for which the defaulting Chemists have been suitably cautioned.

Assistance of State Governments for Patrolling to National Highways.

6834. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have granted assistance to the State Governments during the Sixth Plan period for patrolling of National Highways; and

(b) if so, the details thereof particularly the details of the schemes received/approved for financial assistance for patrolling of National Highways in West Bengal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b). The National Highway Patrolling Scheme had been launched, as a pilot project, on five selected sectors of National Highways viz. Delhi-Chandigarh (NH-1), Ahmedabad-Surat (NH-8), Bombay-Kolhapur (NH-4), Madras-Dindigul (NH-45) and Calcutta-Durgapur (NH-2). These sectors were identified keeping in view the heavy traffic density and accident-proneness. The scheme envisages setting up of Traffic-Aid-Posts at an approximate distance of 50-60 Kms. Each Traffic-Aid-Post has been entrusted with the responsibility to patrol the assigned area and as and when any mishap occurs, to flash the news, to render first-aid medical assistance to the victims, to remove the injured to the nearest medical centre, to remove the vehicle from the road and ensure uninterrupted flow of traffic.

Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government to cover the expenses of equipment, and also for initial year's expenses on Traffic-Aid-Post personnel. For implementing Highway Patrolling Scheme on Calcutta-Durgapur sector with four Traffic-Aid-Posts, the State Government of West

Bengal had been provided with a total of Rs. 25.72 lakhs during 1983-84 and 1984-85.

Refrigeration Facility in CGHS Dispensaries in Delhi

6835. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of CGHS dispensaries, alongwith location in Delhi/New Delhi where Government have provided refrigeration facility but the refrigerators are lying out of order; and

(b) by what date Government propose to get all such refrigerators repaired in CGHS dispensaries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The required information is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) All the Medical Officers Incharge have been authorised to get these repaired through the manufacturer/supplier/distributor and, in case of their reluctance, to get these repaired from any firm in accordance with the prescribed formalities.

Statement

Names of the CGHS Dispensaries where Refrigerators are lying out of order

1. Timarpur
2. Subzi Mandi
3. Delhi Cantt.
4. Kasturba Nagar-I
5. Laxmibai Nagar
6. Moti Bagh-I
7. R. K. Puram-I
8. Srinivaspuri

Recognition to Abhinav Arogya Mahavidyalay, Pune

6336. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the existence of the Abhinav Arogya Maha-

vidyalaya (Dnyaneshwar Vidyapeeth Medical College), Pune;

(b) the aims and objects of the above Institution;

(c) the number of medical students studying in this Institution;

(d) whether it is a recognised institution and if not, whether Government would consider according recognition in view of the new policy of Government for establishing open universities; and

(e) whether till such recognition is accorded, Government would consider allowing medical students of the Institute of take the examination to save them from frustration in life in this year of the youth ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Regularisation of Power load to Industrial Units in Delhi

6837. SHRI NIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the P. U. C. Industrial Units in Delhi have applied for the regularisation of Load on the basis of ad hoc Municipal Licence in the year 1982;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the cases have not been regularised since 1983 to date on one pretext or the other; and

(c) the time by which these will be regularised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Cases of applicants who have not fulfilled the prescribed conditions have not been regularised.

(c) A definite time frame cannot be stipulated as regularisation follows fulfilment of prescribed conditions by the applicant.

Loss to Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking

6838. SHRI E. S. M. PAKEER MOHAMED : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking is suffering huge losses and if so, the total losses incurred during the last three years;

(b) whether any remedial steps have been taken or proposed to be taken by Government in the matter; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) The losses of DESU in the last 3 years amount to Rs. 276 crores.

(b) and (c). DESU has augmented its tariff in order to make its operations viable.

Funds Allotted/Spent for Health and Family Welfare Programme in West Bengal during Sixth Plan

6839. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the actual funds allotted for Health and Family Welfare Programme for West Bengal in Sixth Plan and how much have been spent till March, 1985; and

(b) number of Primary Health Centres existed during the end of 5th Plan in West Bengal and number of the same at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The Planning Commission had approved an outlay of Rs. 84.00 crores for Health Sector Programmes in West Bengal for the 6th Five Year Plan period of 1980-85. The likely expenditure is reported to be Rs. 94.97 crores during the same period.

(b) The number of Primary Health Centres in West Bengal was 316 on 1.4.1979 and this increased to 357 as on 1.4.1985.

Guidelines/Criteria for Allocation of Funds Under State Roads of Inter-State or Economic Importance Scheme

6840. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state the guidelines/criteria followed in the matter of allocation of funds under the central-aid programme of State roads of Inter-State or Economic Importance Scheme to different States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : Allocation of funds to the Centrally aided programme for State Roads under Inter-State or Economic Importance Schemes to different States depends upon :

- (a) the operative sanction for loan;
- (b) total funds already released;
- (c) the overall availability of budget provision for the purpose; and
- (d) the expenditure incurred by the State Government initially as also the capacity of the State Government to incur the expenditure.

Memorandum from Bihar daily Passengers Association

6841. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Bihar Daily Passengers Association submitted a memorandum on 3 April, 1985 to the Divisional Railway Manager, Danapur Division, Eastern Railway ;
- (b) if so, what are their demands; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Investment made in State Road Transport Corporations

6842. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry have made any investment in different State Road Transport Corporations as share capital;

(b) if so, the amount of investment made by the Ministry in different State Road Transport Corporations during the last three years; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) to (c). Under Section 23(1) of Road Transport Corporation Act, 1950, the Central Government and State Governments provide capital contribution to different State Road Transport Corporations in the ratio of 1:2. The work relating to disbursement of capital contribution was transferred to this Ministry w.e.f. 1.4.83. An amount of Rs. 180,39,88,534.00 was invested by the Ministry of Railways upto 31.3.83 and during 1983-84 and 1984-85 an amount of Rs. 38.50 crores and Rs. 41.40 crores were invested by this Ministry, respectively. A statement giving details of investment made in each State Road Transport Corporation is attached.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Corporation	Investment upto 31-3-83 as made by Ministry of Railways.	Investment during 1983-84.	Investment during 1984-85.
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh SRTC	33,70,97,661	05,99,02,000	5,17,81,000
2.	Assam SRTC	4,53,74,500	70,00,000	1,17,88,400

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Bihar SRTC	10,14,65,000	1,00,65,000	1,26,08,400
4.	Gujarat SRTC	35,28,37,925	10,44,83,000	5,38,21,000
5.	Himachal Pradesh SRTC	5,68,43,000	86,76,500	83,68,000
6.	Jammu & Kashmir SRTC	1,31,53,000	1,66,47,000	1,36,67,700
7.	Karnataka SRTC	12,53,40,375	4,10,61,000	6,05,31,500
8.	Kerala SRTC	10,96,88,000	95,79,000	1,72,67,400
9.	Madhya Pradesh SRTC	14,81,12,500	2,66,59,000	2,73,35,400
10.	Maharashtra SRTC	16,65,11,398	3,49,91,000	8,35,25,800
11.	Manipur SRTC	1,92,25,000	26,25,000	26,00,000
12.	Meghalaya SRTC	2,05,32,000	52,50,000	60,00,000
13.	Orissa SRTC	2,54,17,000	1,26,80,000	2,50,20,800
14.	Pepsu RTC	7,28,49,406	2,25,37,000	1,70,84,600
15.	Rajasthan SRTC	9,08,81,000	91,44,000	39,50,000
16.	Tripura SRTC	1,97,32,000	34,41,500	30,00,000
17.	Uttar Pradesh SRTC	16,13,91,000	1,02,59,000	3,56,50,000
18.	North Bengal SRTC	2,70,01,500	—	—
19.	Mysore SRTC	5,29,269	—	—
Grand Total		189,39,88,534	38,50,00,000	41,40,00,000

Shortfall of Power in the Sixth Plan period in West Bengal

6843. SHRI BIMAL KANTI GHOSH : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been heavy shortfall in the achievement of the target for increasing the power generating capacity of West Bengal during the Sixth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the main causes for such shortfalls ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) and (b). During Sixth Five Year Plan, 778 MW additional capacity was commissioned in West Bengal in the State Sector against target of 1368 MW. The details of projects which slipped to Seventh Plan are indicated below :

Name of Project

No. of units and capacity

1. Kolaghat Thermal Project 2 × 210 MW
2. Durgapur Projects Ltd. Unit-6 1 × 110 MW
3. Ramman Hydro-electric Project. 4 × 12.5 MW

(c) The main causes for shortfall are delay in project implementation, disturbed industrial relations, unfavourable geological conditions etc.

Allotment of Plots of land to Shopkeepers in Railway Colonies

6844. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had allotted plots of land in various Railway colonies to shop-keepers on suitable terms.

(b) whether at present such allotment have been stopped;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are aware of illegal encroachments on Railway land taking place at many places;

(e) whether Government are contemplating of any new policy for allotment of railway land to the needy persons; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Railway Reforms Committee reviewed the question of land management and recommended that Railway land Development Authority should be set up for management and commercial exploitation of railway land. The proposal for setting up the Railway Land Development Authority is being processed. Meanwhile, it has been decided that till such time, the policy for rational commercial utilisation of railway land is finalised and suitable organisation for Land management is set up, all further temporary licensing of land to private individuals for the purpose of setting up shops, commercial offices, vending stalls, clinics etc. not connected with Railway's working should be stopped,

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The policy regarding allotment of Railway land to needy persons would be considered after Land Development Authority is set up.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translations]

**Setting up of Ayurvedica Dispensaries
under C.G.H.S. in Meerut Division**

6845. SHRI DHARAMVIR SINGH :
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up at least six Ayurvedic Dispensaries under Central Government Health Scheme in each district of Meerut Division; and

(b) if so, the time by which these will be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI
YOGENDRA MAKWANA: (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Steps taken to check printing of Fake
Railway Tickets**

6846. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether printing of a large number of fake railway tickets worth several lakhs of rupees has come to notice of Government; and

(b) if so, what measures have been taken by Government to prevent such cases in future ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Railways have been asked to ensure nipping of tickets at the entrance and exit gates at the stations and to intensify thorough scrutiny of collected tickets with a view to detect fake tickets. Further, the Anti-Fraud Squads of the Railways have been geared up for carrying out surprise checks at the Booking Windows and the Exit Gates.

**Matching Grants to Non-Hindi States
Towards Salaries of Hindi Teachers**

6847. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :
Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Non-Hindi States are getting matching grants for the payment of salaries to the teachers who are teaching Hindi in those States ;

(b) the names of such States and the details of matching grants given to each State annually ;

(c) whether those States are not receiving their grants regularly ;

(d) if so, whether Government have received any complaint in this regard, the details thereof ; and

(e) steps being taken to make the payment of matching grants to those States regularly so that the teachers who are engaged in teaching Hindi in those States get their pay regularly ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K.C. PANT) : (a) to (e) Under the Scheme of "Appointment of Hindi Teachers in Non-Hindi speaking States/UTs", Non-speaking States/UTs are getting matching

grants from the Ministry of Education for the payment of salaries to Hindi teachers in those States. Central assistance on 50:50 sharing basis is being sanctioned/released taking into account the merits of the proposals received from the concerned State Governments/Union Territories.

2. The names of the States/UTs and details of matching grants given annually during the last three years are as under :

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
1.	Assam	16.12	8.84	8.25
2.	Andhra Pradesh	5.76	—	20.37
3.	Gujarat	—	—	1.30
4.	Nagaland	0.35	2.00	—
5.	Orissa	1.27	9.22	8.89
6.	Meghalaya	0.50	0.80	0.94
7.	Manipur	—	2.67	3.10
8.	Mizoram	3.00	3.00	15.24

3. It may be seen from the above details that some of the States/U.Ts such as Orissa Meghalaya, Mizoram etc. are receiving their grants regularly during the last three years. If payment to any State is not made during a particular financial year due to the rising demand on this scheme, efforts are made to meet the balance grant in the next financial year. In this process it is possible that disbursement of salaries may occasionally be delayed in some States. However, no complaints have been received in this regard.

Health Condition Survey of Tribal and Weaker Section People

6848. **SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that health field survey units have been set up by Government in various States to undertake health conditions survey of tribal population and other weaker sections ;

(b) if so, the findings thereof ; and

(c) the steps being taken to solve the problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI

YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Three Regional Field Survey Units have been set up at Patna, Bangalore and Bhubaneswar so far, under the scheme of strengthening health information and monitoring system (now renamed as evaluation and survey). These units are being set up in a phased manner.

(b) and (c) A feasibility study on "Health survey in tribal and Non-tribal villages" was conducted in few selected villages of Orissa and Karnataka. Except for common diseases like fever and common cold and skin diseases, no other permanent disease was detected during this study. A network of primary health centres supported by village health guides is being set up in tribal and rural areas. Besides, the implementation of programmes for control of communicable diseases, research on diseases to which scheduled castes and tribes are generally prone, opening of dispensaries/hospitals of ISM and Homoeopathy have been taken up. Mobile units are also being provided where considered necessary.

Dieselisation of Mail/Express Trains

6849. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any exact programme of progressive dieselisation of Mail/Express trains has been drawn up by the Railway Board/Zonal Railways for each year of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether such a programme is proposed to be drawn up and Mail/Express trains which are the only trains for certain States/Regions is proposed to be given due priority;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the mode of selection for dieselisation of Mail/Express trains at present being followed by the Railway Board/Zonal Railway; and

(e) the details about the trains dieselised during the past three years ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Dieselisation of long distance overcrowded Mail/Express trains is being done on a selective basis having regard to availability of diesel locomotives which are primarily required for clearance of essential freight traffic.

(e) 48 passenger carrying trains were dieselised in 1982-83, 79 in 1983-84 and 52 in 1984-85 on the Indian Railways.

Assessment Regarding Freight During Seventh Plan

6850. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any assessment regarding the freight traffic during Seventh Five Year Plan Period;

(b) whether a massive rise in the freight traffic is being anticipated during the Seventh Five Year Plan Period; and

(c) whether adequate provision of funds has been made to modernise the existing equipments during the same period ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) and (b) The freight traffic projections for the 7th Five Year Plan have not been finalised, but the

Railways are proceeding on the assumption that the level of freight traffic in the terminal year of the 7th Plan may reach 350 million tonnes compared to about 264 million tonnes lifted in 1984-85

(c) Depending on the Plan allocation, modernisation of the equipment will be given priority in the 7th Plan.

Entitlement for Treatment in Nursing Home of Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital

6851. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the category of Government officers entitled for treatment in and admission to Nursing Home of Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi; and

(b) what specific guidelines have been issued by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b) Central Government employees whose pay is over Rs. 750/-p.m. are entitled for treatment in and admission to Nursing Home of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital.

Power Production in West Bengal

6852. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) power production capacity increased in West Bengal during the period 1972-77 ;

(b) power production capacity increased in West Bengal during the period 1978-1985; and

(c) what are the details of (a) and (b) ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) and (b) In West Bengal, a power generating capacity of 250 MW was added during the period 1972-77 and 1010 MW (excluding 210 MW unit 4 of Durgapur under DVC) during the period 1978-85.

(c) Details of this capacity are :—

1972-77	Capacity (MW)
(i) Jaldhaka	9
(ii) Little Ranjit	1
(iii) Santaldih	120
(iv) Santaldih-II	120
Total	250 MW

1978-85	Capacity (MW)
(i) Rinchington	2
(ii) Santaldih III	120
(iii) Gas Turbines	100
(iv) Bandel	210
(v) Titagarh (CESC)	60
(vi) Jaldhaka	8
(vii) Titagarh (CESC)	120
(viii) Santaldih IV	120
(ix) Titagarh (CESC)	60
(x) Kolaghat	210
Total	1010 MW

**Construction of a Bypass Road in
Bhimavaram, Andhra Pradesh**

6853. SHRI VIJAYA KUMAR RAJU : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have agreed to defray 50 per cent and the Government of Andhra Pradesh 50 per cent of the cost for the construction of a bypass road in Bhimavaram, Andhra Pradesh ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to construct this bye-pass road ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Tehri Dam Project

6854. SHRI RAM SAMUJHAWAN : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Uttar Pradesh Government has approached the Centre for funds to meet the escalating cost of the Tehri Dam Project and to complete it; and

(b) if so, the quantum of funds asked for and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) and (b) : The State Government has proposed implementation of Tehri Dam Project as a joint venture between Government of India and Government of Uttar Pradesh, sharing the cost of the power component of the project in the ratio of 75:25 respectively. The modalities in this regard are in progress.

**Over-Bridges at Vengalam and
Chorode Level Crossings**

6855. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAM-CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to construct over-bridges at Vengalam and Chorode level crossings in Calicut district and Nadal and Chovva in Cannanore district; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) : No, Sir.

(b) : Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Stoppage of Delhi-Varanasi Ganga-
Jamuna Express at Haidergarh
Railway Station**

6856. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to State :

(a) whether Ganga-Jamuna Express does not stop at Haidergarh Railway Station while operating from Delhi to Varanasi via Lucknow but it stops at Haidergarh Railway Station on its journey from Varanasi to Delhi;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to provide a stoppage of the train at Haidergarh Railway Station while going from Delhi to Varanasi; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir;

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

**Nationalisation and Conversion
of A.K. (N.G.) Section**

6857. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry are aware of withdrawal of goods booking, minimisation of bogie coaches to 3/4 and worn out/bad track condition and absence of connective trains with AMP (B.G.) train in A.K. (N.G.) Section on Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the closure of this A.K. Section;

(d) if not, whether there is any proposal for nationalisation of this A.K. (N.G.) Section and conversion of this N.G. Section into Broad Gauge for development of the backward areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) and (b) As per extant policy, stations having a total goods earning (both inward and outward) of less than Rs.25,000/- per annum, are closed for goods traffic. Regarding coaches, there has been no reduction in the number of coaches on trains to 3 or 4. As regards B.G. connection at Ahmedpur, suitable connections are available with the N.G. trains. Government is aware that the tracks on this Company-owned Railway are old. However, the tracks are being satisfactorily maintained with casual renewals as required.

(c) No, Sir,

(d) No, Sir, this Railway though owned by Private Company is worked and managed by Eastern Railway since July, 1967. According to the agreement entered into with the owning Company, the Central Government has an option to purchase the line at an

interval of ten years, which falls on 31. 3. 1988. There is also no proposal for conversion of this section.

(e) Does not arise.

**Promotion of 1977 Batch of
GDO Grade—II**

6858. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the 1977 batch of G.D.O. Grade-II Medical Officers in the C.G.H.S. recruited through the UPSC have not so far been promoted to G.D.O. Grade-I;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and their stagnancy for the last few years in G.D.O. Grade-II; and

(c) whether Government propose to consider the desirability of having a cadre review to ensure that these Medical Officers recruited through UPSC and who have put in more than seven years of service are promoted to G.D.O. Grade-I and if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) (a) and (b) : Out of 166 Officers recruited on the basis of 1977 batch, 49 Medical Officers, which includes 38 Officers belonging to S/C and S/T category, have so far been promoted to G.D.O. Grade-I. Promotion to the G.D.O. Grade-I is linked with the number of vacancies available in the Grade. The remaining Medical Officers of 1977 batch will be considered for promotion as soon as additional vacancies become available in G.D.O. Grade-I.

(c) The last Cadre review of the CHS was completed in November, 1982. It is rather early to have another Cadre review of CHS at this stage.

**Rosters For Group 'D' and 'C'
Cadres in CGHS, Madras**

6859. SHRI M. MAHALINGAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state : (a) whether it is a fact that the rosters at the time of initial recruitment, promotion and at confirmation stage, are not maintained against

group 'D' and 'C' cadres in CGHS, Madras and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) if maintained, cadre-wise details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

**Non-Availability of Polio Drops
in CGHS Dispensaries**

6860. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the medicines particularly polio drops etc. meant for small children are not available for the last several months in C.G.H.S. dispensaries including Hauz Khas of New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government to remove this shortage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI

YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Most of the medicines including Polio drops etc. meant for small children are available in the CGHS dispensaries in Delhi including Hauz Khas Dispensary;

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Railway Project Pending Completion
in West Bengal**

6861. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of railway projects pending completion in West Bengal;

(b) the amount actually sanctioned for those projects for the year 1985-86; and

(c) the time likely to be taken to complete the projects ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) 45.

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) Completion of the projects would depend on the funds allotted in the coming years.

Statement

(Figures in Crores of Rs.)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Outlay during 85-86	Remarks
1	2	3	4
A. New Lines			
1.	Howrah—Sheakhala (17 km)	0.0001	It has not been possible to commence work due to shortage of resources.
2.	Howrah—Amta/Champadanga (74 km)	0.10	Ph. I-Santragachi-Bargachia (24 km) opened to traffic.
3.	Budge Budge-Namkhana including Lakshmikantpur-Kulpi (100 km)	0.0001	Not cleared by Planning Commission.
4.	Eklakhi—Balurghat with extension from Eklakhi—Malda Town (110 km)	0.50	Constraint of resources.
5.	Tamluk-Digha (88 kms)	0.0001	Not cleared by Planning Commission.
B. Doublings			
1.	Third line between Dankuni-Chandanpur (25 km)	2.14	Last Block Section Kamar-kundu-Chandpur (7 km) in progress.

1	2	3	4
2.	Dum. Dum-Barasat (15.24 km)	1.50	Completed and opened. Residual work in progress.
3.	Muri-Bokaro (Ph. III) (13 kms)	1.00	—
4.	Eklakhi-Kumedpur (42 km)	0.50	Works sanctioned recently.
C. Road over/under Bridges			
1.	Construction of Jagannath Road over bridge	10.00 lacs	—
2.	Construction of Road over bridge at Malda	25.00 lacs	Work on approaches yet to be taken up by the State Government.
3.	Construction of road over bridge at Jadavpur	20.00 lacs	Plans and estimates are being finalised.
4.	Construction of road over bridge at Serampur	15.00 lacs	—
5.	Construction of road over bridge at Belgaria	15.00 lacs	—
6.	Construction of road over bridge at Sodepur	5.00 lacs	Plans and estimates are being finalised.
7.	Construction of road over bridge at Purulia	10.00 lacs	State Government yet to finalise plans for road approaches and sanction the estimate.
D. Other Works			
1.	Setting up new Divnl. office at Malda Town	0.41 Crs.	—
E. Workshops			
1.	Kanchrapara—Remodelling and modernisation of Workshop Ph. I	3.15 Crs.	The work is expected to be completed in 85-86.
2.	Lilluah—Modernisation of C&W Repair Workshop (Ph. II)	0.51 Crs.	The workshop has been included in the Budget 84-85.
3.	Sonarpur—Extension of Maintenance facility of EMU for Sealdah South Section.	1.01	—
4.	Howrah—Bamangachi—Expansion of Diesel shed from 30 to 60 locos.	0.40 Crs.	—
5.	Bandel—Provision of EMU Car Shed.	—	A token outlay has been provided during 85-86 due to constraint on funds.
6.	Andal—Extension of Diesel Loco Shed from 20 to 50 shunters.	0.40	—
7.	Asansol—Provision of a Diesel Loco Shed to hold 80 locos.	—	A token outlay has been provided during 85-86 due to constraint on funds.
8.	Malda—Setting up of Diesel Loco Shed 60 Locos.	0.28	—

1	2	3	4
9.	Kharagpur—Modernisation of Workshop Ph. I	0.58	—
10.	Kharagpur—Modernisation of Workshop Ph. II	0.51	Included in Budget 85-86.
11.	Nimpura (Kharagpur)—Construction of 60 Loco Diesel Shed.	—	Token outlay provided during 85-86 due to constraint of funds.
F. Electrical Works			
1.	Panskura—Proposed EMU Car Shed.	0.0001	—
2.	Replacement of existing old and over-aged Remote Control System in Sealdah Dvn. by Modern Solid State equipment 25 Stations Ph. I	0.0001	—
G. Metro Projects			
1.	RTS from Dum Dum to Tollygunj (Metro Rly.)	81	Part sections from Dum Dum to Belgachia and Esplanade to Bhowanipur have been commissioned in 84. The services are proposed to be extended from Bhowanipur to Tollyganj by Mar' 86. Subject to availability of adequate funds the project is scheduled to be completed by end of 1989.
2.	Circular Railway, Calcutta.	4.8	The project was provisionally cleared by the Planning Commission for inclusion in 84-85. Formal approval from Planning Commission is awaited.
H. Traffic Facilities			
1.	Bidhannagar Rd—Acquisition of land for addl. facilities.	0.30	—
2.	Addl. facilities on Chamagram-New Jalpaiguri-Raninagar-New Bongaigaon section.	0.58	—
3.	(a) Malda Town—Kumedpur section remodelling of Old Malda and other traffic facilities.	1.00	—
	(b) Kumedpur—New Jalpaiguri section—Provn. of 2nd loop with Unidirectional reception facilities at 3 stations.		
4.	Kumedpur—New Bongaigaon section (a) Provn. of Tokenless Block working from Kumedpur to New Bongaigaon i.e. 52 stns.	0.50	—

1	2	3	4
	(b) Provn. of 2nd loop at 12 stations.		
5.	Sankrail—Acquisition of land for new freight terminal facilities.	0.30	—
6.	Sankrail—Provn. of 3 lines with OHE in connection with proposed new good terminal.	0.30	—
7.	Padmapukur—Acquisition of land for location of Coaching Terminal facility.	0.01	—
8.	Haldia —Panskura section augmentation of section capacity.	0.50	—
I. S&T Works			
1.	Bandel—RRI (Replacement work)	0.76	Construction of Cabin Building in progress.
2.	Andal—RRI (Replacement work)	0.12	RRI Building is in progress.
3.	Calcutta—Provision of integrated telephone network in Calcutta area.	0.50	The material is being procured.
4.	Sitarampur—Control Cabin replacement of Indoor and Outdoor signalling gears.	0.52	Materials received and RRI Cabin Bldg. completed internal wiring works is in progress.
5.	Provision of Railways own underground telecom cable for communication and block circuiting in replacement of P&T Cable.	0.25	—
	(i) Adra—Anara—Chandil section		
	(ii) Adra—Bhojudih—Jamadoba section.		

Irregularities in Functioning of Railway Service Commission

6862. SHRI P. MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since inquired into the working of various Railway Service Commissions during the last three years;

(b) whether there have been irregularities on a mass scale in the functioning of Railway Service Commissions;

(c) if so, nature of irregularities detected and complaints received in this regard; and

(d) the action taken by Government against the persons found guilty and to improve the functioning of these Commissions ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) to (d). The working of the various Railway Recruitment Boards (previously known as Railway Service Commissions) is reviewed by the Railway Ministry from time to time in order to bring about improvements in their functioning. Certain irregularities in the conduct of a few examinations by some Railway Recruitment Boards had come to the notice of the Government which were in the nature of alteration of marks, misplacement of answer-sheets, use of unfair means by some candidates, leakage of question papers etc. Action under the Disciplinary and Appeals Rules is invariably taken against the delinquent officials in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission, where necessary. Improvements in the functioning of the Railway Recruitment Boards are also brought about based on experience gained.

Setting up of Joint Hydel Projects by Punjab and Haryana

6863. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up Joint Hydel Projects between Punjab and Haryana; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Volume of Traffic at Calcutta Port

6864. SHRIMATI INDUMATI BHATT-ACHARYYA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that during 1982-83 to 1984-85, though the volume of annual traffic handled at Calcutta Port has increased only marginally the average waiting time and actual turn round time of ships has increased at a much higher rate;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the variation in the average waiting period, actual turn round time and volume of traffic handled at Calcutta Port during the above period as compared to other major ports;

(d) the reasons for increase at higher rate in the average waiting time and actual turn round time of ships at Calcutta Port during the above period;

(e) the steps taken or proposed to accelerate the loading and unloading activities at Calcutta Port; and

(f) the progress made in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b). No. The volume of annual traffic handled at Calcutta, including Haldia Dock Complex,

has declined during 1983-84 and 1984-85 as compared to 1982-83 as given below :

Year	Total traffic handled (in million tonnes)
1982-83	10-69
1983-84	10-47
1984-85	10-34

The average pre-berthing detention to vessels, both at Calcutta and Haldia, has registered a decline as against the increase in turn round time of vessels at Calcutta. The details are as under :

(Average pre-berthing detention (in days))

Year	Calcutta	Haldia
1982-83	1.3	2.6
1983-84	1.2	2.5
1984-85	0.8	1.9

(Average turn-round time (in days))

1982-83	13.8	7.0
1983-84	14.5	7.4
1984-85	15.2	6.1

(c) The inter-port comparison of waiting time, turn round time of vessels and volume of traffic handled is not possible as these factors are dependent on size of the vessels, type of cargo handled, mechanical facilities for handling such cargo, capacity of ports etc.

(d) The pre-berthing detention of vessels at Calcutta Port, including Haldia, during the last three years has shown a gradual decline. Regarding turn round time of vessels, there was a marginal increase at Calcutta in 1983-84 and 1984-85 as compared to 1982-83 largely due to increase in the idle time of vessels. Idling was mostly at the vessels option; the main reason being non-availability of ready export cargo. Other factors affecting the turn round time were disputed between owners and charterers or owners and crew, slow clearance of cargo leading to congestion in sheds etc.

At Haldia, the main impediment to better turn round time of vessels and lower pre-berthing detention is shortage of berths to cater to the need of present traffic of fertilizers, cooking coal, general cargo etc.

(e) and (f). The steps taken to accelerate loading/unloading activities at Calcutta and Haldia are as under :

Calcutta :

1. 8 new Wharf and Yard cranes are being installed.
2. Old mobile cargo handling equipment has been replaced in the Sixth Plan.
3. Acquisition of additional cargo handling equipment has been proposed in Seventh Plan.

Haldia :

1. Modification of mechanical coal handling plant and conversion of mechanical ore handling plant for coal handling are in progress.
2. Schemes for construction of general cargo berth and a second oil jetty have been included in the Seventh Plan.
3. Heavy duty locomotives for handling export coal are being procured.

Staff Strength in the Directorate of National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi

6865. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK ; Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the total sanctioned strength of Upper Division Clerks and Upper Division Clerks-cum-Computers in the Directorate of National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi as on the 1st April, 1976 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : The requisite information is as under :

Upper Division Clerks	19
Upper Division Clerks-cum-Computers	7

[Translation]

New Colleges in Educationally Backward Areas by U.G.C.

6866. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of EDUCA-

TION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a provision that University Grants Commission, can in special circumstances open new colleges in educationally backward areas for higher education;

(b) the number of colleges opened by University Grants Commission in educationally backward areas during the years 1983-84 and 1984-85 and the locations thereof and their position at present;

(c) whether Commission will consider opening of a college in educationally backward Basti District in Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) if so, by what time and if not, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise. The UGC Act does not empower the Commission to establish universities and colleges in the country.

[English]

Submergence of Land due to Bansagar Project

6867. SHRI AZIZ QURESHI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) what was the total number of persons whose land has been acquired for the construction of Bansagar Irrigation Project in district Satna of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) what is the total amount of money given by the Union Ministry of Irrigation for compensation and rehabilitation of these persons whose lands are going to be submerged;

(c) is there any special consideration to rehabilitate these uprooted persons at the earliest; and

(d) what is the probable date of completion of this project which is approved and financed by the Ministry of Irrigation ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (d). Bansagar Project is an inter-State Project financed by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and executed by Madhya Pradesh under the supervision and direction of the Bansagar Control Board established by the Government of India. The Project is proposed to be completed by 1990-91, subject to adequate funds being provided by the three States. Model villages for rehabilitation of affected persons are under construction. An amount of Rs. 5.99 crores has been paid for compensation for 3,231 hectares of land and other properties that have been acquired upto March, 1985. Corresponding number of persons is not reported.

Refund to 'BPT' Holders

6868. **SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that hard board tickets are issued against the fare tendered are sometime Blank Paper Ticket (BPT) are also issued;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that in the event of cancellation of the trains, passengers who have former type of tickets get the refund direct from the Railway Booking Window at the point of cancellation while the refund inclusive sleeper charges to 'BPT' holders is delayed without any valid reasons;

(d) if so, the details in this regard and the reasons for such discrimination;

(e) whether any complaints relating to problem faced by public for refund due to the cancellation of trains after the assassination of Shrimati Indira Gandhi have been received from Members of Parliament; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Blank Paper Tickets are issued against concession orders and Police War-

rants; etc. Also when Printed Card Tickets are not available for a particular destination an Excess Fare Ticket for extension of journey is issued alongwith the printed card ticket to the farthest station available on the route.

(c) and (d). Refund on printed card tickets and blank paper tickets can be granted at the station itself if the unused ticket is surrendered within the prescribed time limits. However, in case of partially used Blank Paper Tickets applications for refund have to be made to the Chief Commercial Superintendents concerned as there have been a number of cases of fraudulent refund on Blank paper Tickets.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Kolar Irrigation Project

6869. **SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of Kolar Irrigation Project in Madhya Pradesh and the time required for its completion;

(b) whether the construction work was held up for want of sufficient funds during 1984-85;

(c) if so, the effective steps taken by the Union Government for the speedy and timely completion of this project; and

(d) whether C.A.D. Agency has been constituted for this project ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c). Kolar Irrigation Project is not yet approved by the Planning Commission. However, the works on the Project have been taken up by the Government of Madhya Pradesh and an expenditure of Rs. 31.58 crores is anticipated to have been incurred upto March 1985 against the latest estimated cost of Rs. 96.36 crores. The project is programmed to be completed by the State by 1990-91. An expenditure of about Rs. 12.16 crores is incurred during 1984-85.

(d) Command Area Development Authority constituted for the Barne and Halali

Project has been given jurisdiction over the Kolar Project by the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

Legislation on Indian Council of Para Medical Rehabilitation Profession

6870. SHRI H. G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2711 dated the 9th August, 1984 regarding delay in decision to bring legislation on Indian Council of Para Medical Rehabilitation Profession and state :

(a) whether the legislative proposals on Indian Council of Para Medical Rehabilitation Profession have since been finalised; and

(b) if so, when the Bill in this regard will be introduced in Parliament ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOG-ENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). The proposal for setting up a Council for Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists is being reconsidered in view of the move initiated by the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare for setting up of a Rehabilitation Council. Action in regard to drafting a Bill for the purpose will be taken, in consultation with the Ministry of Law, after the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare takes a final view.

Allotment of Tea and Fruit Juice Stalls at Delhi and New Delhi Station

6871. SHRI MOHAMMED MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that during December, 1984 without press publicity some stalls of tea and fruit juice were allotted at Delhi and New Delhi stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that during November, 1984 a number of unemployed graduates/Scheduled Castes/handicapped had requested/applied for allotment of tea/fruit juice stalls at Delhi and New Delhi stations were not considered;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government have received suggestions from M.Ps. during November/December, 1984 to allot tea/fruit juice stalls at Delhi/New Delhi stations as per policy/rules to Scheduled Castes/unemployed graduates/handicapped, if so, what action has been taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) One tea-stall in the circulating area of New Delhi station, and one fruit juice stall at Delhi station, were allotted temporarily after giving due local publicity, and making a reference to Director General/re-settlement, New Delhi.

(b) (i) The tea-stall has been allotted in the circulating area towards second entry of New Delhi station

(ii) The fruit juice stall has been allotted on platform No. 8 at Delhi Main.

(c) and (d). All the candidates who had applied for these contracts were interviewed and screened by a duly constituted Screening Committee, and the contracts were allotted to those who were adjudged suitable by the Screening Committee.

(e) No, Sir.

Setting up of Rehabilitation Council

6872. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up a "Rehabilitation Council" for the speedy rehabilitation of the disabled persons; and

(b) if so and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR) : (a) No, Sir.

However, Government is considering to set up a Rehabilitation Council for prescribing and enforcing standards in training professionals for rehabilitation of disabled persons.

(b) Does not arise.

Production and Marketing of Smoking Mixtures by M/s. I.T.C. Ltd. And Dunclan Agro Ltd.

6873. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that M/s. I.T.C. Ltd. and Dunclan Agro Ltd. are producing and marketing some smoking mixtures which are very injurious to health; and

(b) if so, whether Government will conduct an enquiry into the whole affair and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). Government is of the opinion that any form of smoking is injurious to health. As per the Cigarettes (Regulation, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1975, a statutory warning about the health hazards of smoking is required to be incorporated in the cigarette packets, cartons and advertisements so as to forewarn the consumers.

[Translation]

Appointments made by Divisional Railway Manager, Katihar

6874. SHRI D. L. BAITHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of appointments made on regular, temporary, casual and daily wages during the past two years i.e. 1983 and 1984, by the Divisional Railway Manager, Katihar and the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes persons among them;

(b) whether it is a fact that applications were not called for through employment exchange for making these appointments as required under the rules;

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken by Government in this connection; and

(d) whether there is a rule in the railway department that at least 25 persons will be appointed from amongst the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates every year, and if so, whether this rule has been followed ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) to (c). The information

is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) No, there is no such rule and therefore its implementation does not arise.

Recruitment of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes in Northern and Eastern Railways

6875. SHRI ABDUL HANNAN ANSARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes recruited in class III and class IV posts in Northern and Eastern Railways during the period from 1982 to 1984 ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[English]

Allotment of Pethidine Raw Material to Pharmaceutical Firms

6876. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether pethidine raw material allotment is made to the pharmaceutical firms;

(b) if so, the basis on which new firms were allotted during 1984-85;

(c) the method adopted for its allotment; and

(d) whether any representations/objections have been received for a more equitable distribution and if so, the details thereof and corrective steps taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c). Narcotics Commissioner intimates to the Drug Controller (India) approved estimates of narcotic drugs including Pethidine. The Drug Controller (India) allots the quota of narcotic drugs including Pethidine to different State Drug Control Authorities taking into consideration the requirements of the State and the quantity utilised during the previous year. The State Drug Authorities in turn allocate the quota of narcotics drugs to their

licensed pharmaceutical manufacturers in the State. This Ministry is not aware of the basis and method by which the new firms were allotted pethidine during 1984-85 by the State Drug Authorities.

(d) This Ministry has not received any representation/objection so far.

Vacancies in Railway Board

6877. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts lying vacant in the Railway Board, as on date;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) 160 posts were lying vacant on 10.5.1985.

(b) The reasons for these posts lying vacant are officers and staff posted or recruited having still to join, ban on recruitment in certain categories and in certain cases due to non-availability of suitable staff. It may be added that 160 posts represent only 5.5 per cent of the total posts in the Railway Board and as such the vacancy position is not abnormal.

(c) The occurrence of vacancies and filling them up through recruitment/promotion/selection/deputation and transfer etc. is a continuous process and as such it is not possible to indicate any specific date by which all vacancies are likely to be filled up.

Herbon School at Ootacamund

6878. SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Herbon School at Ootacamund in Tamilnadu has been recognised as an examination Centre for Associated Examining Board, London;

(b) if so, whether the syllabus adopted by this School is the same as that followed in India or by Associated Examining Board, London; and

(c) whether any other School in India like this School is following the syllabus of Associated Examining Board, London ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). The Herbon School is a recognised centre for conducting the General Certificate of Education 'O' and 'A' level examinations on behalf of the Associated Examining Board, London. It follows the syllabus prescribed by the Associated Examining Board, London.

(c) Government have no information in this regard.

Bhopalpatnam, Inchampally and Manas Projects

6879. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether strong environmental objections have been raised against the implementation of the Bhopalpatnam and Inchampally projects in Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh and the Manas project in Assam and West Bengal;

(b) if so, how much land classified as national parks and sanctuaries would have to be acquired for these three projects;

(c) what would be the impact of canals built through these areas on the flora and fauna;

(d) what is the quantum of coal reserves that would be inundated by these projects; and

(e) whether in view of these objections, Government propose to shelve these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (e). Some objections on the basis of environmental consideration have been raised against the proposed Bhopalpatnam, Inchampally and Manas Projects. The feasibility reports of Inchampally and Manas Projects are not yet received by the Centre. The environmental impact of these two projects can be assessed only after the feasibility reports with details of the associated environmental aspects are furnished by the concerned Project Authorities.

As regards Bhopalpatnam Project, the Governments of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh have constituted a task force in

January, 1985 to examine the environmental aspects of the project. The report of this task force is not received by the Centre.

Recommendations of Rail Tariff Enquiry Committee regarding Passengers' Fare Rates

6880. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the recommendations of the Rail Tariff Enquiry Committee on passengers' fare rates; and

(b) the action taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) and (b). The main recommendations of the Rail Tariff Enquiry Committee made in 1980, on passenger fare rates are given below :

Recommendation No. 68 : It is recommended that the scale of fares for the Second (Ordinary) Class which should be the basic scale, should be constructed as shown below :

Distance	2nd Ordinary
Zero km.	25 paise (fixed charge)
plus 1 to 150 kms	5 paise per km.
plus 151 to 400 kms	4 paise per km.
plus 401 to 750 kms	3.25 paise per km.
plus 751 to 1200 kms	2.75 paise per km.
plus over 1200 kms	2.50 paise per km.

Recommendation No. 72 : It is further recommended that the fare scales for various classes should bear the following relationship with the Second (Ordinary) Class scale of fares :

Class	Suburban	Non-Suburban	
		Ordinary	Mail/Express
Second Class	100	100	140
A. C. Chair Car	...	...	300
First Class	400	400	500
A. C. C.	...	...	1100

Keeping in view the recommendations of the Rail Tariff Enquiry Committee, the

National Transport Policy Committee and the Railway Reforms Committee, Government have introduced a rationalised passenger fare structure, with appropriate modifications, with effect from 1st April, 1983. The details are given below :

1. **Second Class (Ordinary) :** The Second Class (Ordinary) fare were revised as under :

Zero kms	50 Paise
*plus 1—150 kms	6 paise per km.
plus 151—400 kms	5 paise per km.
plus 401—750 kms	4 paise per km.
plus 751—1200 kms	3.5 paise per km.
plus over 1200 kms	3 paise per km.

*For distances upto 150 kms in Second Class (Ordinary) and Mail/Express, the fares for the distance slab 1-150 kms were calculated on the basis of 5.7 paise per km instead of 6 paise per km.

2. **Fares for the other Classes :** As on 1.4.1983 the scale of fares for the other Class bore the following relationship with the Second Class (Ordinary) scale of fares with marginal adjustments in a few distance zones :

Second Class Mail/Express	140 per cent
A. C. Chair Car	300 per cent
First Class	550 per cent
A. C. Class	1150 per cent

Affiliation of C. G. H. S. Dispensaries in Chandigarh with PGI

6881. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any hospital in Chandigarh has been affiliated to C. G. H. S. Scheme;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to affiliate the P. G. I. Chandigarh to this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). There are no proposals with the Government to affiliate P. G. I., Chandigarh with the Central Government Health Scheme. This is because the Scheme is not in operation in Chandigarh and there are no facilities in P. G. I., Chandigarh which could be considered as exclusive to that institution and not available in other recognised institutions.

Mental Trouble Symptoms in Bhopal Gas Victims

6882. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the number of Bhopal gas victims showing symptoms of mental troubles ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : A preliminary survey conducted as part of a study supported by the Indian Council of Medical Research, reveals that approximately 10-12 per cent of the patients attending the medical and community health clinics in Bhopal present psychological symptoms.

System to Reduce Consumption of Fuel Oil in Thermal Plants

6883. SHRIMATI MANORAMA SINGH : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bharat Heavy Electrical Limited has achieved a major breakthrough in developing a system to reduce consumption of fuel oil in thermal power plants;

(b) whether the new system known as "direct ignition of pulverised coal" has been tried in one of the existing thermal power plants of the National Thermal Power Corporation and if so, with what results; and

(c) in case the system has been found successful what will be the savings in the use of fuel oil quantitatively and in monetary terms ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) to (c). According to BHEL, a system known as direct ignition of pulverised coal has been developed. It has not been tried in any power plant of National Thermal Power Corporation. According to BHEL,

the savings in use of fuel oil quantitatively and in monetary terms can be established only after the new system is tried in a thermal power station and performance tests are carried out.

[Translation]

U.P.'s Irrigation Schemes for Seventh Plan

6884. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether U.P. Government have submitted any scheme to the Ministry for approval to increase the present irrigation capacity of the States during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details of the schemes and by what time it is likely to be approved ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) The Draft Seventh Plan proposals of the State Government envisage creation of an additional irrigation potential of 0.86 m. ha from major and medium irrigation schemes and 0.97 m. ha. from minor irrigation schemes during the 7th Plan. The proposals of the State's 7th Plan are yet to be finalised.

Loan for Chambal Command Area

6885. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any possibility of advancing loan to Chambal Command Area in Rajasthan by the World Bank during this year; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The State Government has not yet furnished any proposal for external assistance.

[English]

Harmful Effects of Entroquinol Entro- vioform, Maxaform

6886. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND

FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government are aware that certain drugs like Entroquinol, Entrovioform, Maxaform and such other drugs have very harmful effects on the body system causing nerves weakness and disorders culminating in various maladies including deafness, blindness etc;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken during the past three years to ban the manufacture and distribution of these drugs;

(c) whether Government are aware 'that such drugs are being issued from Government Hospitals and dispensaries'; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). Government of India in consultation with the medical Experts and Indian Council of Medical Research have decided not to ban the marketing of products containing halogenated hydroxyquinolines, an active ingredient of Mexoform and Entra-Vioform. Halogenated hydroxyquinoline group of drugs are now Schedule — 'H' drugs and require to be sold only against the prescription of a Doctor. A cautionary note is also required to be inserted in the package insert highlighting the incidence of SMON that occurred in Japanese population, for the guidance of the medical profession.

(c) and (d). In view of reply to (a) and (b) above the General Hospitals and dispensaries are permitted to issue such preparations to the patients.

[Translation]

Duration of Pharmacist Course

6887. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Pharmacy Council of India propose to make the Pharmacist Course a two year course after intermediate Science;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be introduced; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Pharmacy Council of India is still working out the modalities in this regard and the final decision for the introduction of such a course or otherwise will be taken after examining the considered opinion of the States/Union Territory Governments in this behalf.

Implementation of Recommendation of Third Pay Commission Regarding Selection Grade to Employees in CGHS

6888. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission for giving selection grade to 10 per cent of employees has been implemented in C. G. H. S. since 1-1-1973; and

(b) if so, the number of the Pharmacists given selection grade since 1-1-1973 and the reasons for not giving this grade to the remaining Pharmacists ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). The Government has introduced election grade in group 'C' and 'D' cadres with effect from 1st August, 1976 only.

The seniority of the Pharmacists working in the CGHS, Delhi, had to be revised because of a ruling by the High Court of Delhi. The Selection Grade will be given to the eligible Pharmacists, shortly.

[English]

Assistance to Karnataka for Construction of Girls Hostels

6889. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of Central assistance given to Karnataka State during 1984-85 for construction of Girls Hostels; and

(b) how many new girls hostels were

constructed during 1984-85 with the Central assistance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRA-SEKHAR) : (a) An assistance of Rs. 19,42,187 was provided to 5 voluntary organisations in Karnataka for construction of working Women's Hostels during 1984-85.

(b) Three new Working Women's Hostels were sanctioned for Karnataka during 1984-85.

National Medical Education Inspection Committee

6890. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has set up a 15 Members National Medical Education Inspection Committee in 1981;

(b) if so, the main functions of this Committee;

(c) whether the members of this Inspections Committee had ever worked in rural areas; and

(d) if so, the details of the work report of the Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (d). The Government of India did not set up any National Medical Education Inspection Committee in 1981. However, the Government of India had set up a Medical Education Review Committee in September, 1981, consisting of 15 members under the Chairmanship of Dr. S. J. Mehta, Retired Director, Jaslok Hospital, Bombay, to review the present Medical Education System, in the context of the National commitment to attain the goal of health for all by the year 2000 A. D. through the universal provision of primary Health Care. The Committee was required to (i) review the current admission procedure, (ii) suggest measures for bringing about overall improvements in the under- and post-graduate graduate Medical Education (iii) recommend the optimum duration of undergraduate and post-graduate study; (iv)

examine Internship programme and (v) evolve realistic projections of Medical manpower requirement during the Sixth Five Year Plan and beyond.

Extension of Quilon-Kottayam Shuttle upto Ernakulam

6891. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Venad Express running between Trivandrum and Ernakulam is always over crowded;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to consider the extension of the present Quilon-Kottayam shuttle which runs in the morning, upto Ernakulam and run it as an express between Kottayam and Ernakulam so as to reduce the overcrowding in the Venad Express; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Apart from the Question of lack of traffic justification extension 381/382 Quilon-Kottayam passenger to and from Ernakulam is not feasible due to saturated line capacity on sections enroute.

Spread of T.B. and Leprosy in Tribal Areas of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Rajasthan

6892. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that killer diseases like T.B. and leprosy is spreading in tribal areas of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the tribal areas affected by these diseases in these States alongwith the population affected; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to assist and provide the necessary medicines to these States during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI

YOGENDRA MAKHANA) : (a) and (b). There is no evidence to show that TB and leprosy is spreading at a higher rate in tribal areas of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Rajasthan. In so far as leprosy is concerned some of the districts which also include the tribal population have been identified as hyper endemic with a prevalence rate of 10 and above per thousand. The list of such districts in these states is given at statement-I.

(c) The Central assistance released to these States under TB and leprosy programmes is given in the statement at statement-II.

Statement

List of hyper endemic Districts with Prevalance Rate of 10/1000 and above

Name of the State	Districts
Bihar	Santhal Parganas Dhanbad Gaya Saran

	Muzaffarpur
	Munger
	Hazaribagh
	Ranchi
	Rothas
	Singhbhum
Madhya Pradesh	Bilaspur Raipur Raigarh Durg Chhindwara
Orissa	Ganjam Balasore Cuttuck Chenkanal Mayurbhanj Puri Sambalpur
Rajasthan	Alwar Bharatpur

Statement-II

Statement showing the cost of the anti-TB drugs supplied under National TB Control Programme and the quantum of Central assistance including drugs released to States under National Leprosy Eradication Programme during 1982-83, 1983-84, 1984-85

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of State	1982-83		1983-84		1984-85	
	TB	LEPROSY	TB	LEPROSY	TB	LEPROSY
Bihar	4.54	47.84	16.45	57.24	67.48	62.81
Madhya Pradesh	10.84	33.98	18.83	55.95	78.73	66.12
Orissa	6.11	66.77	9.88	66.61	26.96	119.86
Rajasthan	6.53	24.73	13.11	20.02	44.15	25.78

Evaluation of History Text Books in Different States

6893. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been any evaluation of the history text books used in schools in different States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the stage and class from which World History is taught to the school students in different States; and

(d) the syllabi of History in West Bengal schools as compared to that of schools in other States ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have undertaken a programme for evaluation of school textbooks in history and languages with the objective of identifying and deleting material prejudicial to national integration. To begin with all school textbooks in history and languages prescribed/recommended in the States/Union Territories are to be reviewed from the national integration angle. The review is being undertaken on a decentralised basis under the overall guidance of the Government of India and according to the guidelines prepared by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). The textbooks are to be reviewed to identify and eliminate the following prejudices and attitudes :

1. Communalism
2. Casteism
3. Regionalism and linguism
4. Racialism
5. Obscurantism and superstition.

Government have also set up high level Steering Committee at the National level to consider the evaluation reports from the State Evaluation Groups/National Council of Educational Research and Training and review the progress of the programme. The work of evaluation has been completed in 27 States and Union Territories.

(c) Generally, World History is included in the syllabi at secondary stage, i.e. in Classes IX and X in most of the States.

(d) In West Bengal, History taught at middle school stage includes mainly World History. Indian History is taught in the context of World History. In Classes IX and X detailed History of India is taught. In many States generally Indian History is taught at the middle school stage and World History at the secondary school stage.

Exemption from Payment of Freight on Goods

6894. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether passengers were given exemption from the payment of freight on goods booked as luggage up to a limit;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this concession has been withdrawn when passengers desire to transport furniture articles of domestic use; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) to (c). As per extant rules, the following free allowance for each ticket is given at the starting station on the total weight of the luggage :

Air-conditioned Class	70 kgs.
First Class/2-Tier A. C.	50 kgs.
A. C. Chair Car	40 kgs.
Second Class	35 kgs.

Half of these quantities are allowed for each child's (half) ticket.

No such free allowance is permissible, inter-alia, on bulky articles of any description like furniture which on account of their bulk are chargeable on measurement basis. This rule has been in vogue for the past several decades and has not been modified.

Ayacut Area Under Major Irrigation Projects

6895. DR. K. G. ADIYODI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) total extent of area under major irrigation projects in Kerala project-wise up to 31 March, 1985; and

(b) the details of work conducted regarding Ayacut development and water management with CWPRS in the year 1983-84 and 1984-85, the benefits and the extent of area developed project-wise ?

**THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION
AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARA-
NAND) :** (a) Information regarding targets for irrigation potential from major projects by the end of March, 1985 is as follows :

S. No.	Name of Project	Target (Th. Ha.)
1.	Kallada	16.59
2.	Periyar Valley	79.46
3.	Pamba	48.87
4.	Kuttiadi	34.87
5.	Chitturpuzha	26.97
6.	Kanhirapuzha	23.99
7.	Pazhassi	21.18
8.	Completed major schemes	167.76

(b) Central Water and Power Research Station was not associated with ayacut development work during 1983-84 and 1984-85.

Free Travel Concession to Physically Handicapped

6896. SHRI RADHA KANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has allowed free travel concession to physically handicapped;

(b) if so, since when;

(c) if not, whether Government are considering to give certain relaxations to physically handicapped for travelling in trains; and

(d) when the necessary steps are likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. Totally free travel has not been permitted. They are,

however, allowed to travel with an escort, either in first-class or second-class, on 75 per cent concessions.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. The extent of concession already granted is quite substantial.

Opening of New Medical Colleges

6897. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of medical colleges separately in the country, State-wise;

(b) the States not having a single Medical College;

(c) whether as a matter of National Policy Government propose to open at least one such college in a State;

(d) whether college in such States will be started during the current year itself; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). A Statement is enclosed.

(c) to (e). The present out-turn of the Medical graduates every year from the existing Medical Colleges is considered sufficient to meet the medical Manpower requirements of the country. Therefore, the present policy of the Government of India is not to encourage the setting up of any new Medical College in the country. Emphasis is laid on the consolidation and improvement of the existing facilities for training medical Manpower rather than expansion of the same.

Statement

State	Number	Names of Medical Colleges
(a) 1. Andhra Pradesh	9	1. Andhra Medical College, Visakhapatnam. 2. Rangaraya Medical College, Kakinada. 3. Guntur Medical College, Guntur. 4. Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad. 5. Gandhi Medical College, Hyderabad. 6. Kakatiya Medical College, Warangal 7. Kurnool Medical College, Kurnool.

State	Number	Name of Medical Colleges
		8. S.V. Medical College, Tirupati.
		*9. Siddartha Medical College, Vijaywada.
2. Assam and Manipur	4	1. Gauhati Medical College, Gauhati. 2. Silchar Medical College, Silchar. 3. Regional Medical College, Imphal. 4. Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh.
3. Bihar	9	1. Darbhanga Medical College, Laheriasarai. 2. Sri Krishna Medical College, Muzaffarpur. 3. Patna Medical College, Patna. 4. Rajendra Medical College, Ranchi. 5. M.G.M. Medical College, Jamshedpur. 6. Patliputra Medical College, Dhanbad. 7. Medical College, Bhagalpur. 8. Magadh Medical College, Gaya. 9. Nalanda Medical College, Patna.
4. Delhi	4	1. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. 2. Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi. 3. Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi. 4. University College of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.
5. Gujarat	5	1. B.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad. 2. Municipal Medical College, Ahmedabad. 3. Medical College, Baroda. 4. M.P. Shah Medical College, Jamnagar. 5. Government Medical College, Surat.
6. Himachal Pradesh	1	1. H.P. Medical College, Simla.
7. Haryana	1	1. Government Medical College, Rohtak.
8. Jammu & Kashmir	2	1. Government Medical College, Srinagar. 2. Medical College, Jammu.
9. Karnataka	14	1. Mysore Medical College, Mysore. 2. J.J.M. Medical College, Davangere. 3. Kasturba Medical College, Manipal/Mangalore. 4. Bangalore Medical College, Bangalore. 5. St. John's Medical College, Bangalore. 6. Karnataka Medical College, Hubli. 7. J.L.N. Medical College, Belgaum.

State	Number	Name of Medical Colleges
		8. Medical College, Bellary.
		9. M.R. Medical College, Gulbarga.
		*10. M.S. Ramiah Medical College, Bangalore.
		*11. B.R. Ambedkar Medical College, Bangalore.
		*12. Kampagouda Instt. of Medical Sciences, Bangalore.
		*13. Medical College, Bijapur.
		*14. Medical College, Mysore.
10. Kerala	5	1. Medical College, Trivandrum.
		2. Medical College, Kottayam.
		3. T.D. Medical College, Alleppey.
		4. Medical College, Calicut.
		*5. Medical College, Trichur.
11. Madhya Pradesh	6	1. Medical College, Jabalpur.
		2. G.R. Medical College, Gwalior.
		3. M.G.M. Medical College, Indore.
		4. Gandhi Medical College, Bhopal.
		5. J.L.N. Medical College, Raipur.
		6. S.S. Medical College, Rewa.
12. Maharashtra	16	1. Grant Medical College, Bombay.
		2. Seth G.S. Medical College, Bombay.
		3. T.N. Medical College, Bombay.
		4. L.T.M. Medical College, Bombay.
		5. B.J. Medical College, Poona.
		6. Armed Forces Medical College, Poona.
		7. Miraj Medical College, Miraj.
		8. Dr. V.M. Medical College, Sholapur.
		9. Government Medical College, Aurangabad.
		10. S.R.T.R. Medical College, Ambajogai.
		11. Medical College, Nagpur.
		12. Indira Gandhi Corporation Medical College, Nagpur.
		13. Mahatma Gandhi Instt. of Medical Sciences, Sevagram, Wardha.
		*14. Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences, Karad.
		*15. Rural Medical College, Loni.
		*16. Medical Colleges Amravati.
13. Orissa	3	1. S.C.B. Medical College, Cuttack.
		2. V.S.S. Medical College, Burla.
		3. M.K.C.G. Medical College, Berhampur.

State	Number	Name of Medical College
14. Punjab	5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Government Medical College, Patiala 2. Guru Govind Singh Medical College, Faridkot 3. Christian Medical College, Ludhiana. 4. Dayanand Medical College, Ludhiana. 5. Medical College, Amritsar.
15. Rajasthan	5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. S.M.S. Medical College, Jaipur. 2. S.P. Medical College, Bikaner. 3. R.N.T. Medical College, Udaipur. 4. Dr. S.N. Medical College, Jodhpur. 5. J.L.N. Medical College, Ajmer.
16. Tamil Nadu	9	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Madras Medical College, Madras. 2. Stanley Medical College, Madras. 3. Christian Medical College, Vellore. 4. Kilpauk Medical College, Madras. 5. Thanjavur Medical College, Thanjavur. 6. Medical College, Chingleput. 7. Medical College, Coimbatore. 8. Madurai Medical College, Madurai. 9. Tirunelveli Medical College, Tirunelveli.
17. Uttar Pradesh	9	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. S.N. Medical College, Agra. 2. J.L.N. Medical College, Aligarh. 3. M.L.N. Medical College, Allahabad. 4. Institute of Medical Sciences, Varanasi. 5. G.S.V.M. Medical College, Kanpur. 6. M.L.B. Medical College, Jhansi. 7. K.G. Medical College, Lucknow. 8. L.L.R.M. Medical College, Meerut. 9. B.R.D. Medical College, Gorakhpur.
18. West Bengal	7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Medical College, Calcutta. 2. R.G. Kar Medical College, Calcutta. 3. N.R.S. Medical College, Calcutta. 4. Calcutta National Medical College, Calcutta. 5. B.S. Medical College, Calcutta. 6. North Bengal Medical College, Siliguri. 7. Burdwan Medical College, Burdwan.
19. Union Territory of Goa, Daman & Diu	1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Goa Medical College, Panaji.
20. Union Territory of Pondicherry.	1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research, Pondicherry.

State	Number	Name of Medical College
(b) States not having a Single Medical College		
		1. Nagaland.
		2. Mizoram.
		3. Meghalaya.
		4. Arunachal Pradesh.
		5. Sikkim.
		6. Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar.
		7. Tripura.
		8. Lakshadweep.

*Started without the prior approval of the Central Government/Medical Council of India.

Number of Ships Carrying Pilgrims to Mecca

6898. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of pilgrims went to Mecca by ships during the last three years;

(b) whether the number of ships carrying pilgrims to Mecca has been reduced considerably; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a)

Year	Pilgrims proceeded by Sea
1982	9993
1983	9931
1984	4715

(b) and (c). Till 1983, the Mogul Lines were operating two steamers for carrying Haj pilgrims. Of these, one had to be scrapped being unsea-worthy and since 1984 only one ship is deployed on the Haj route. Further, the pattern of transportation of Haj pilgrims is gradually changing from Sea to air due to sea travel being time consuming, inconvenient and almost as costly as travel by air.

National Anthem in Schools and Colleges

6899. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of students in our schools and colleges do not know National Anthem; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Educational institutions are expected to teach the National Anthem to the students. However, inspite of efforts it is possible that some students are not able to render the National Anthem properly.

(b) Under the Community Singing Programme of the National Council of Educational Research and Training, the proper rendering of the National Anthem is being taught to all music teachers who participate in national integration camps organised by the NCERT in different parts of the Country to enable them to teach the students. The song book, entitled 'Let's Sing Together' brought out by the NCERT contains the National Anthem accompanied by musical notations so that the teachers and the students can sing the National Anthem properly.

Switching over to Commercial Accounting

6900. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some State Electricity Boards have switched over to commercial accounting;

(b) if so, what are those State Electricity Boards;

(c) whether his Ministry proposes to suggest other State Electricity Boards in the country to switch over to this system; and

(d) if so, when Central Guidelines are proposed to be sent to different State Electricity Boards in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) to (d). Through a notification in the Gazette of India, the Electricity (Supply) Amendment Act, 1983 has been brought into force with effect from 1st April, 1985 for introduction of commercial accounting in all the State Electricity Boards. The Rules required for introduction of commercial accounting are being notified.

Supply of Sub-Standard Medicines to CGHS Beneficiaries

6901. **SHRI CHITTA MAHATA :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that sub-standard medicines are being supplied to the Central Government Health Scheme beneficiaries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Number of Illiterates

6902. **SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN :** Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) number of illiterates in India as on 1 January, 1985 and the State-wise figures for the same;

(b) whether the number is far bigger than the number of illiterates as on 15 August, 1947;

(c) whether any policy has been adopted by the Government to meet the problem of illiteracy on war footing; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) The number of illiterates is known only through the census which is conducted once in ten years. The last census was conducted in 1981. A statement showing the number of illiterates in India as per the 1981 census and the State-wise distribution is attached.

(b) Although the rate of literacy has gone up from 16.61 percent in 1951 to 36.23 per cent in 1981, the total number of illiterates has increased due to rise in population.

(c) and (d). Yes Sir; High priority has been given by the Government to the Adult Education Programme, which is included in the Minimum Needs Programme in the Sixth Plan and the 20-Point Programme. The objective of removal of illiteracy in the 15-35 age group is proposed to be achieved through universalisation of elementary education, non-formal education and special schemes for promoting functional literacy like the Rural Functional Literacy Project, Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations working in the field of adult education, State Adult Education Programme and involvement of student and non-student youth through NSS and NYK respectively. In the Seventh Five Year Plan, a new scheme of Mass Movement for Functional Literacy is being launched from the financial year 1985-86, which envisages removal of illiteracy with the active participation of students and non-student youth and other educated sections of the society namely, retired Government personnel, house-wives, teachers, employers in both the organised and unorganised sector.

Statement

Sl. No.	States/UT	Total Population	Illiterate Persons
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	53,549,673	37,514,855
2.	Assam	*	*
3.	Bihar	69,914,734	51,593,730
4.	Gujarat	34,085,799	19,189,955

1	2	3	4
5.	Haryana	12,922,618	8,252,720
6.	Himachal Pradesh	4,280,818	2,462,531
7.	J & K	5,987,389	4,390,613
8.	Karnataka	37,135,714	22,852,997
9.	Kerala	25,453,680	7,528,948
10.	Madhya Pradesh	52,178,844	37,634,276
11.	Maharashtra	62,784,171	33,163,365
12.	Manipur	1,420,953	833,335
13.	Meghalaya	1,335,819	880,628
14.	Nagaland	774,930	445,052
15.	Orissa	26,370,271	17,343,066
16.	Punjab	16,788,915	9,928,566
17.	Rajasthan	34,261,862	25,907,745
18.	Sikkim	316,385	208,647
19.	Tamil Nadu	48,408,077	25,770,418
20.	Tripura	2,053,058	1,188,258
21.	Uttar Pradesh	1,10,862,013	80,756,753
22.	West Bengal	54,580,647	32,236,494
23.	A & N Islands	188,741	91,420
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	631,839	500,506
25.	Chandigarh	451,610	159,030
26.	D & N Haveli	103,676	76,021
27.	Delhi	6,220,406	2,392,080
28.	Goa, Daman, & Diu	1,086,730	470,978
29.	Lakshadweep	40,249	18,084
30.	Mizoram	493,757	198,072
31.	Pondicherry	604,471	266,866
Total		6,65,287,849	4,24,286,000

*Exclude the population of Assam where the census could not be held owing to disturbed conditions prevailing there.

[Translation]

Daily Running of Sarvodaya Express

6903. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sleeper coaches provided in the Sarvodaya Express running between Ahmedabad and New Delhi;

(b) whether these are occupied fully or some of them remain vacant;

(c) the extent to which speed of the

Sarvodaya Express has been reduced and the reasons for reducing its speed;

(d) the difficulty in operating this train daily instead of running it twice a week;

(e) the number of representations received by the Railway Board for operating this train daily; and

(f) the decision taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Twelve second class and one AC two tier.

(b) They are fully occupied.

(c) Speed of the train was reduced so as to increase the number of coaches. Consequently journey time was increased by about 2 hours.

(d) Due to shortage of coaches and diesel engines.

(e) and (f). A number of representations have been received from various organisations. It has however not been found feasible to increase the frequency on account of shortage of coaches and diesel engines.

[English]

Procedure for the Yearly Survey of Small Ships/Boats/Vessels at Kandla Port

6904. SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the fishermen owning small ships and boats in Kutch (Gujarat) have to undergo compulsory survey of their ships/boat/vessels every year under the order of Kandla Port Trust;

(b) if so, whether these fishermen have to spend two-three days, foregoing their livelihood for these survey works; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to formulate a simple procedure in this regard for Kandla Port to overcome the hardships of the fishermen ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The survey is arranged at the minor port of Tuna in consultation with the fishermen on the dates convenient to them when they do not go for fishing.

(c) Does not arise.

Pochampad Project

6905. SHRI B. N. REDDY : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the second stage of Sri Ram Pad Sagar (Pochampad) Project in Andhra Pradesh has been approved by the Centre; and

(b) if so, what is the progress of the construction of the Project ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Introduction of a new Train between Bangalore and Trivandrum

6906. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARANGHAVAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce a new train between Bangalore and Trivandrum;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any representation to this effect has been received; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It is not feasible due to lack of resources like coaches and locomotives.

Proposal for a Shipping Service between Cochin and Maldives

6907. SHRI P. A. ANTONY : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a Shipping Service between Cochin and Maldives; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Representations from All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists

6908. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received many representations from the All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists about their problem;

(b) whether Government have examined their representations; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c). Certain representations were received from the All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists regarding the postponement of the enforcement of amendment to the Section 42 of the Pharmacy Act, 1948 which prohibits compounding, preparing, mixing or dispensing of any medicine by unregistered pharmacists after 1.9.1984. This provision was originally to be implemented with effect from 1.9.1981 but was postponed by a legislative amendment for 3 years on representations from States and various organisations as adequate number of trained pharmacists were not available. The position was carefully re-examined by the Government and it was decided that it would not be advisable to postpone further the enforcement of Section 42 of the Act.

Study Committee Appointed to Enquire into the Causes of Loss to D.T.C.

6909. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :
SHRI S. G. GHOLAP :
SHRI SHANTA RAM
POTDUKHE :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the cumulative loss incurred by the Delhi Transport Corporation as on 31 March, 1984 since its inception;

(b) whether any Study Committee was appointed to make indepth study of the causes of losses to DTC and to suggest ways and means to reduce the losses and improve its performance;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the suggestions were implemented; and

(e) if so, the results thereof, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) The cumulative loss incurred by the Delhi Transport Corporation as at the end of 31st March, 84 since its inception was Rs. 381.80 crores.

(b) and (c). The Bureau of Public Enterprises set up a study team with the following terms of references :

(a) To study and analyse the comparative performance of metropolitan road transport undertakings in the cities of Delhi/Bombay/ Madras/ Ahmedabad on the basis of operational, financial and managerial criteria;

(b) To investigate the cost of operations of the undertakings including fixed/variable cost items, particularly maintenance, inventory and manpower costs, of DTC vis-a-vis the other road transport undertakings;

(c) To analyse the internal and external factors responsible for difference and variations in the performance of the road transport undertakings;

(d) To suggest remedial measures, both short and long term, to improve performance and avoid losses in respect of the D.T.C.

(d) and (e). The Study Team is yet to submit its report.

Allotment of Plots of Land to Railwaymen

6910. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have a large amount of surplus land at Kharagpur on South Eastern Railways, which is lying vacant for years;

(b) whether Government have received any proposal to allot suitable plot of land to Railwaymen who have no quarter on proper terms and conditions; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Some pieces of vacant land are available at Kharagpur.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. However, as per extant policy, railway land cannot be relinquished in favour of Railwaymen for construction of houses.

Cost of Power Generating in West Bengal

6911. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) what is the cost of thermal power generation in West Bengal as compared to the cost in other States; and

(b) what are the power tariff rates for

different categories of consumers in West Bengal as compared to the tariffs in other States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The average electricity rates as on 1.5.1985 for West Bengal and other State Electricity Boards/Licensees are given in the attached statement.

Statement

Statement showing estimated average electricity rates in various SEBs/Licensees (as on 1.5.85)

(Rates in P/Kwh)

Sl. No.	Name of the State Elec. Board/ Licensees	Domestic lights and Fans (30 Kwh/month)			Commercial Light and Fans (200 Kwh/month)			Total	
		Rate	Elec. duty	F.C.A.	Rate	Elec. duty	F.C.A.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	51.67	—	—	51.67	96.50	—	—	96.50
2.	Assam	57.00	3.00	—	60.00	70.00	3.00	—	73.00
3.	Bihar	55.33	7.00	—	62.33	76.50	7.00	—	83.50
4.	Gujarat	46.56	12.60	—	59.16	56.16	17.98	—	74.14
5.	Haryana	34.75	10.25	—	45.00	70.80	12.95	17.00	100.75
6.	Himachal Pradesh	43.33	1.50	—	44.83	72.50	2.00	—	74.50
7.	J & K	30.00	3.08	—	33.08	52.00	6.90	—	58.90
8.	Karnataka	40.00	4.00	—	44.00	100.00	5.00	—	105.00
9.	Kerala	43.33	4.33	—	47.66	55.00£	5.50	—	60.50
10.	Madhya Pradesh								
	Urban	40.00	6.50	—	46.50	80.00	10.50	—	90.50
	Rural	38.00	6.50	—	44.50	80.00	10.50	—	90.50
11.	Maharashtra	30.00	7.50	—	37.50	65.25	17.50	—	82.75

12.	Meghalaya	44.00	6.00	—	50.00	75.00	6.00	—	81.00
13.	Orissa	50.00	7.50	—	57.50	62.00	9.75	—	71.75
14.	Punjab	36.67	8.00	2.93	47.60	72.50	10.00	5.80	88.30
15.	Tamil Nadu								
	Madras	55.00	—	—	55.00	95.00	—	—	95.00
	Other areas	55.00	—	—	55.00	90.00	—	—	90.00
16.	Rajasthan	40.00	6.00	—	46.00	60.00	6.00	—	66.00
17.	Uttar Pradesh	55.00	2.00	—	57.00	85.00	2.00	—	87.00
18.	West Bengal	52.00	5.00	—	57.00	75.00	3.00	—	78.00
19.	DESU	27.00	2.00	—	29.00	89.00	2.00	—	91.00
20.	Ahmedabad	21.50	7.50	29.85	58.85	43.50	14.63	29.85	87.98
21.	BEST	15.00	8.50	48.34	71.84	83.50	22.50	48.34	154.34
22.	Bombay								
	suburban	21.94	8.50	47.30	77.74	72.80	22.50	47.30	142.60
23.	CESC	21.50	5.00	24.33	50.83	53.00	10.00	37.50	100.50

£—Assuming average connected load of 2 KW.

Note :—This statement has been prepared on the basis of rates of electricity, electricity duty and fuel adjustment charge reported to E.T.A. & A. Directorate CEA upto 1.5.85.

12.	Meghalaya	30.00	—	—	30.00	65.00	5.00	—	70.00
13.	Orissa	15.00	2.73	4.49	22.22	40.00	6.33	1.62	47.95
14.	Punjab	12.50	—	1.00	13.50	30.00	5.00	2.40	37.40
15.	Rajasthan	21.00	1.00	—	22.00	34.00	6.00	—	40.00
16.	Tamil Nadu								
	Madras	11.49	—	—	11.49	76.00	—	—	76.00
	Other areas	11.49	—	—	11.49	71.00	—	—	71.00
17.	Uttar Pradesh	41.36	—	—	41.36	50.00	2.00	7.38	59.38
18.	West Bengal	35.00	—	—	35.00	60.00	3.50	—	63.50
19.	D.E.S.U.	20.00	1.00	—	21.00	75.00	3.00	—	78.00
20.	Ahmedabad Elec. Co.	22.50	1.18	29.85	53.53	38.71	4.69	29.85	73.25
21.	B.E.S.T.	—	—	—	—	70.00	3.50	48.34	121.84
22.	Bombay								
	suburban	20.00	—	—	20.00	49.00	3.50	47.30	99.80
23.	C.E.S.C.	—	—	—	—	39.00	3.50	37.50	80.00

@—5P/Kwh rebate is allowed for consumption exclusively during night hours (10 PM to 6 AM)

Note :—This statement has been prepared on the basis of rates of electricity, electricity duty and fuel adjustment charge reported to E.T.A.&A. Directorate CEA upto 1.5.85.

Statement

Statement showing estimated average electricity rates in various SEBs/Licensees (as on 1.5.85)

(Rates in P/Kwh)

Sl. No.	Name of the State Elec. Board/Licensees	Medium Industries 50 KW 30% LF (10950 Kwh/Month)			Large Industries 1000 KW 50% LF (365000 Kwh/Month)			Total	
		Rate	Elec. duty	F.C.A.	Rate	Elec. duty	F.C.A.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55.05	—	—	55.05	57.67	—	7.89	65.56
2.	Assam	55.00	2.00	—	57.00	55.00	0.19	—	55.19
3.	Bihar	82.00	2.00	—	84.00	69.28	2.00	—	71.28
4.	Gujarat								
	May to Oct.	43.47	6.19	24.31	73.97	41.52	10.23	23.69	75.44@
	Nov. to April	47.62	6.45	24.31	78.38	45.04	10.76	23.69	79.49@
5.	Haryana	30.53	7.63	17.00	55.16	30.12	7.53	17.00	54.65
6.	Himachal Pradesh	30.76	4.00	—	34.76	30.00	4.00	—	34.00
7.	J & K	20.00	2.70	—	22.70	18.00	2.40	—	20.40
8.	Karnataka	45.00	5.00	—	50.00	39.67	5.00	—	44.67
9.	Kerala	20.65	2.07	—	22.72	26.18	7.10	—	33.28
10.	Madhya Pradesh								
	Urban	57.25	1.50	—	58.75	38.77	3.00	24.50	66.27
	Rural	53.42	1.50	—	54.92	38.77	3.00	24.50	66.27

TB Due to Deficiency of Vitamin 'A'

6912. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to malnutrition/deficiency of Vitamin 'A' leprosy and tuberculosis is fairly widespread in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking to remove the deficiency ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) :

(a) Both TB and Leprosy are infectious diseases and are caused by infection of Tubercle bacilli and M. Lapre respectively. There is no evidence to suggest that deficiency of Vitamin 'A' causes the spread of these two disease.

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

Plight of Seamen Registered in Calcutta

6913. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether as a sequel to the recession in the shipping industry the Indian seamen are among the hardest hit,

(b) whether the plight of the seamen registered in Calcutta is worse than that of those in Bombay;

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to absorb these jobless Calcutta seamen;

(d) whether there are also jobless maritime officers;

(e) if so, whether Government are reviewing the entire gamut of manpower planning in the shipping industry so that after training these young maritime officers are provided employment; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The ratio of jobs available to the number of seamen is lower at Calcutta than at Bombay.

(c) The Seamen's Employment Board at Calcutta is being revived to advise the Director General of Shipping on the distribution of available jobs on a more equitable basis between the company roster and the general roster. On the recommendation of Nanda Committee which was set up to go further into the question of unemployment among seamen, the training of new seamen has been stopped.

(d) Yes. There are about 300 officers holding the Second Mate Certificate who are presently without jobs.

(e) The manpower requirement for the shipping industry is being continuously kept under review. During the last two years the graduate entry scheme of Directorate of Marine Engineering Training has been suspended; training period for Nautical Officers in T. S. 'Rajendra' was increased from one to two years in 1983 thereby reducing the intake by half; and from 1984 the intake into T. S. 'Rajendra' has been further reduced from 125 to 70 cadets.

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

Rail Line from Kothagudem to Vijayawada

6914. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal before the Railways to construct a new Railway line from Kothagudem to Vijayawada via Tiruvuru in Andhra Pradesh to help transport of coal to Vijayawada Thermal Power Station as well as development of the backward areas along the proposed line;

(b) when the survey work is likely to be taken up; and

(c) if not, whether the Railway Ministry propose to consider the proposal in view of its importance and undertake survey of the work ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. Due to severe constraint of resources and heavy commitments already in hand, there is no such proposal.

Setting up of more UNESCO Clubs

6915. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation clubs/Associations have made any significant headway during the past three years in the country;

(b) if so, the name of such institutions as are functioning at present State-wise;

(c) whether the Indian Commission for Cooperation with Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organisation and the Government would encourage the setting up of more such clubs/associations in the country, especially in the States/regions not covered so far; and

(d) if so, the outline of any programme chalked out or assistance offered in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). Unesco clubs/associations are voluntary organisations set up at different university centres, educational and cultural institutions, etc., in the country to promote the aims and objectives of Unesco. These clubs/associations undertake activities aimed at dissemination of information about the programmes of UNESCO and also organise activities in the fields of education, science and culture to promote international understanding, cooperation and world peace.

Apart from the Indian National Commission for Unesco, there are three voluntary organisations, viz., United Schools Organisation of India; Indian Federation of Unesco Clubs; and National Federation of Unesco Associations in India, which are functioning as apex bodies to coordinate and guide the activities of Unesco Clubs at the national level. These organisations maintain their own lists of Unesco Clubs.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Unesco clubs/associations are exempted to run their activities and programmes from within their own resources and meet all their recurring expenditure from funds raised through their own efforts. However, partial

financial assistance is occasionally provided to them for approved activities such as seminars, symposia, conferences, training programmes, workshops, etc., on the subject of education for international understanding, education for human rights, teaching about problems of peace, study of cultures of different countries and other activities related to Unesco's programmes. The Indian National Commission regularly supplies publications and other material of interest to these clubs. Special kits and material is also sent to these clubs to enable them to celebrate such events as UN Day, Human Rights Day, Literacy Day, etc.

Vacant Posts of Medical and Para Medical Personnel in Hospitals

6916. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that large number of posts of medical and Para medical personnel are lying vacant in hospitals run by the Central Government due to the ban on recruitment;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to exempt the essential services from the pervue of the ban orders; and

(c) if not, how does the Government propose to ensure proper and satisfactory medical facilities to the people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c). Even though there is a ban on recruitment, the immediate and inescapable requirements pertaining to the Ministry of Health are sympathetically considered by the Government and there is no difficulty due to the ban.

Railway over-bridge at Bhimavaram (Andhra Pradesh)

6917. SHRI VIJAYA KUMAR RAJU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal pending before the Railway Board to construct a railway over-bridge at Bhimavaram in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, by what time the project is likely to be taken up ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) The work of construction of road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 118 at Bhimavaram is already a sanctioned work.

(b) Plans and estimates for this road over bridge are under joint finalisation with the State Government.

Projects Undertaken by IRCON and RITES

6918. **SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the projects undertaken by Indian Railway Construction Company Limited (IRCON) and by Rail India Technical and Economic Services Limited (RITES) in the foreign countries;

(b) the Indian manpower engaged in each project;

(c) whether reservation policy for appointment of SC and ST is implemented by these two Corporations; and

(d) the number of SC and ST labourers sent abroad during the last one year by these organisations ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) and (b). A Statement is attached.

(c) Yes, Sir.

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

Statement

(a) and (b). Names of onhand projects abroad along with Indian manpower engaged in these projects are as under :

1 Rail India Technical and Economic Services Ltd. (RITES)

<i>Name of Project</i>	<i>Manpower engaged</i>
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1. Algeria

(i) Engineering studies of El-Khroub-Boucheouf line.	5
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(ii) Construction supervision of Ain-Touta/M'Sila	2
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2. Iraq

(i) General Engineering and Resident Engineering Services for Baghdad Al-Qaim Akashat Railway Project.	47
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(ii) Integrated Technical and Economic Services for implementation of project.	32
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(iii) Providing design and general engineering services to the Iraqi Republic Railways.	3
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(iv) Baghdad Marshalling Yard Survey.	2
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3. Ethiopia

(i) Techno-economic feasibility study from Addis Ababa to Assab in Ethiopia	21
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4. Jordan

(i) Integrated Consultancy package on monitoring of track by portable accelerometer.	58
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(ii) Inspection for permanent way material for Aqaba Railway Corporation.	2
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5. Zambia

(i) Assistance in Technical and Professional Services	9
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(ii) Providing services for Chippata-Mchinji rail line	2
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6. Ghana

(i) Consultancy Services for rehabilitation and improvement on performance of Ghana Railways.	19
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7. Mozambique

Management and professional services in reactivating and reinforcement of Railways	7
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8. Sri Lanka

(i) Consultancy services for improvement in Railway Workshop etc.	81
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9. Zimbabwe

- (i) Assistance in maintenance and operation of National Railways of Zimbabwe 349

II Indian Railway Construction Company Ltd. (IRCON)

1. Iraq

- (i) Construction of Sections 3 & 4 of Mussayed-Kerbala-Samawa Railway Project including works of Signalling and Tele-Communication. 376
- (ii) Construction of High Speed Branch line to Cement Factory at Al-Muthana. 130

2. Algeria

- (i) Providing of rail facilities for Cement Plant at Saida. 92
- (ii) Construction of standard gauge Railway line to serve Cement Plant at Benisaf. 36

3. Saudi Arabia

- (i) Detailed design and Construction of major Maintenance Workshop at Dammam. 59

Foundation Stones Laid by Former Railway Minister in West Bengal in 1984

6919. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) how many foundation stones were laid in West Bengal during the year 1984 by the then Railway Minister;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) what is the present position of those projects; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) 18.

(b) 1. R. P. F. Training Centre at Malda—Completed.

2. Lakahn Sen Out door Stadium at Malda—Completed.
3. Husain Shah Indoor Stadium at Malda—Completed.
4. Railway Hospital at Malda—Completed.
5. Service Commission Office at Malda—Completed.
6. Khaltipur Khadi Training Centre—Completed.
7. Divisional Office Building at Malda—In progress.
8. Majherat Swimming Pool Complex : Foundation stone laid on 9th Sept. '84 on cost share basis by Eastern, South Eastern and Metro Railway.
9. Sealdah-B. R. Singh Hospital—additional facilities for Cardiac treatment : Foundation stone laid on 26th Oct. '84.
10. Sir Gurudas Bandopadhyay Halt station on Kankurgachi Chord between Ballygunge and Dum Dum Jn. Foundation stone laid on 26th Oct. '84.
11. Sealdah Suburban Complex : Foundation stone laid on 27th Oct. '84.
12. Howrah Suburban Complex : Foundation stone laid on 27th Oct. '84.
13. Setting up of a concrete plant Depot at Malda—Foundation stone laid on 14.11.84.
14. Construction of new railway line Tamluk Digha—Foundation stone laid on 4. 5. 84,
15. Railway Station Building—Foundation stone laid on 11.9.84 for the Digha Railway station.
16. Diversion line from Siliguri Jn. to New Jalpaiguri avoiding Siliguri Town—Foundation stone laid on 10.7.84.
17. Extension of Booking office by providing Waiting Hall, Cycle

stand at Siliguri Town—Completed.

18. Lubricating oil filter manufacturing plant at Malda Town—Foundation stone laid on 20.10.84.

(c) and (d) :

Item 1 to 6 of part 'B' completed.

Item 7 : progress 80 per cent

Item 8 : The proposal could not be processed in 85-86.

Item 9 : The work has been approved. The R. C. Board pile foundation is in the progress.

Item 10 : The station was opened on 17th Jan. '85.

Item 11 : Not approved due to resource constraint.

Item 12 : Survey has been ordered.

Item 13 : It is proposed to call open Tenders for supply of concrete sleepers in Malda area from Private firms.

Item 14 *Item* and *15* : Planning Commission have so far not agreed to the construction of Tamluk Digha line.

Item 16 : For diversion of the line from Siliguri to New Jalpaiguri, the State Government have not yet given their consent to share cost.

Item 17 : Completed.

Item 18 : Work has been frozen.

Introduction of a New Train between New Delhi and Gorakhpur

6920. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether, keeping in view the increase in the number of passengers between New Delhi and Gorakhpur, Government propose to run a new train between New Delhi and Gorakhpur;

(b) if so, by what time; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Dose not arise.

(c) For the lack of resources viz. coaches and locomotives.

Abortion through Menstrual Regulation Method

6921. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether abortion through the Menstrual Regulation method is one of the most hygienic, economic and expeditious;

(b) what percentage of Government hospitals in the moffusil areas equipped with such equipment; and

(c) what steps are being taken to ensure that all such hospitals are so equipped ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c). Menstrual regulation for termination of early pregnancy up to six weeks is a well accepted method. This is a simple and low cost procedure. Facility for Menstrual regulation is available in most of the Government hospitals. States have been advised to extend this facility in all Government hospitals.

Matangiri Express and Connecting Bus Service to Digha on Howrah-Haldia Section

6922. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the present position of the Matangiri Express including connecting bus service to Digha on the Howrah-Haldia Section of the South Eastern Railway;

(b) what was the average daily income from the train; and

(c) what was the average daily income of the connecting bus service to Digha ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Matangiri Express between Howrah and Tamluk including bus service has been discontinued due to meagre number of passengers.

(b) Train-wise earnings are not maintained.

(c) The average daily income of the connecting bus service was Rs. 270/-.

Survey of Rail Lines in Kerala

6923. **SHRI K. MOHANDAS :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of surveys conducted in Kerala in respect of new railway lines in Kerala during the last five years;

(b) how many of such lines have been sanctioned and in how many cases work has been started; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be completed in respect of these lines ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Two

1. Alleppey-Kayankulam.
2. Trichur-Kuttipuram (Updating).

(b) One viz. extension of Broad Gauge line from Alleppey to Kayankulam has been approved.

(c) Its completion will depend on availability of funds in the coming years.

[Translation]

Setting up of Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences in Patna

6924. **SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences in Patna at a cost of Rs. 80 crores; with the help of Union Government;

(b) if so, whether the late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi had laid its foundation stone;

(c) if so, the position in regard to the construction work thereon; and

(d) the action taken by Government to ensure its speedy construction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences has been set up at Patna by the Government of Bihar. The Government of India has not committed any financial assistance for this Institute.

(b) The foundation stone of Institute was laid by the President of India on 12th February, 1983.

(c) It has been reported that 60,000 sq. feet built in area on the land allotted to the Institute has already been renovated and gastroenterology, biomedical tests, radiology, ultra soundgraphy and endoscopic services have been started from 15th of August, 1984. The Roorkee University, who were engaged to prepare a project report for the construction of Institute Building, Hospital, housing accommodation etc. have submitted their report and the State Government propose to complete the capital works in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Disparity in Passengers Fares

6925. **SHRI UTTAM RATHOD :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a disparity in passenger fares for the same distance in different sections of the railways;

(b) if so, the justification to continue this discrimination ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) and (b). Normally passengers fares have been fixed on the basis of actual distance involved in the route of travel. However, on certain sections, such as hill sections, the chargeable distances have been suitably inflated to partly cover the higher cost of operation.

Removal of Satyanarayannapuram Rail Track

6926 **SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA**

RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a memorandum was submitted by the Mayor Vijaywada Municipal Corporation to the Late Prime Minister on her visit to Vijaywada on 23 March, 1984 requesting to take necessary steps for removal of Satyanarayanapuram Railway Track in Vijaywada Municipal Corporation and which is not in use as the trains are being run on another diversion line already laid;

(b) whether, keeping in view of the importance and public convenience, Railways propose to remove the abandoned line at their cost and handover the site to the Corporation to enable them to connect it with the National Highway No. 5; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). On the existing alignment near Satyanarayanapuram, which is sought to be abandoned and land handed over to the Municipality, 14 pairs of trains are running each way daily. It is not possible to abandon this alignment without creating alternative facilities. The Railway had undertaken a detailed survey in this regard at the request and cost of Vijaywada Municipal Corporation. The estimated cost of providing alternative facilities will be Rs. 3.52 crores and, as per extant rules, this cost has to be borne by the State Government/Vijaywada Municipal Corporation. The Railways will undertake this work after estimate is approved

and cost deposited by the State Government, Vijaywada Municipal Corporation.

Assistance Provided to Shipping Companies

6927. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of Shipping and Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have been providing financial assistance to each individual shipping company;

(b) if so, the amount of financial assistance provided to each shipping company during the last-three years;

(c) the financial resources of each shipping company as on 31st March, 1985; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b). Out of a total of 72 shipping companies in India, 29 are SDFC assisted companies. SDFC has been providing financial assistance in the form of rupee loans and interest subsidy on SAFANUS (Ship Acquisition From Abroad Under New Scheme) loans to these shipping companies. A list of these shipping companies alongwith details of rupee back up loans and SAFAUNS subsidy drawn by them for the last three years is given in statement. I attached.

(c) and (d). the debt-equity ratio in respect of SDFC assisted companies is given in statement II attached.

Statement-I

Details of subsidy under SAFAUNS given by SDFC to various Shipping Companies during the years 1982-83 to 1984-85

(In Lakhs of Rupees)

Sl. No.	Name of the shipping Company	Subsidy given by SDFC under SAFAUNS*			Rupee Back-up loan given by SDFC		
		1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	M/s. Essar Bulk Carriers Ltd. (New Essar Shipping Co. Ltd.)	65.29	154.65	48.05	291.50	579.05	478.80
2.	M/s. Garware Shipping Co. Ltd.	21.35	19.10	...	...	...	...

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3. M/s. Strimline Shipping Co. Ltd.	1.25	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. M/s. Deccan Shipping Co. Ltd.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. M/s. Scindia Steam Navigation Co. Ltd.	29.18	41.75	27.95	...	...	...	...
6. M/s. Dempo Steamship Ltd.	1.79	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. M/s. Tolani Shipping Co. Ltd.	6.16	16.62	15.70	...	90.12	180.16	...
8. M/s. Panchsheel Shipping Co. Ltd.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. M/s. Shipping Corpn. of India Ltd.	371.23	1100.86	775.89	...	...	...	...
10. M/s. Chowgule Steamship Ltd.	52.26	83.12	59.66	...	...	381.88	...
11. M/s. Indoceanic Shipping Co. Ltd.	5.78	3.82	...	...	70.24	69.44	...
12. M/s. India Steamships Ltd.	19.26	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. M/s. Surrendra Overseas Ltd.	57.75	95.13	76.20	123.14	...	...	...
14. M/s. Hinengo Lines Ltd.	1.39	1.45	1.73	...	...	...	...
15. M/s. Sagar Shipping Co. Ltd.	41.53	53.30	...	...	...	...	...
16. M/s. Karnataka Shipping Co. Ltd.	7.01	0.95	5.08	...	...	...	...
17. M/s. Mogul Line Limited	55.87	10.31	114.73	...	...	...	...
18. M/s. South India Shipping Corp. Ltd.	...	77.26	44.60	...	90.12	381.88	...
19. M/s. Varun Shipping Co. Ltd.	...	1.71	6.70	...	...	...	...
20. M/s. Hede Navigation Co. Ltd.	...	9.48	10.94	...	...	...	...
21. M/s. Ratnakar Shipping Co. Ltd.	...	...	118.64	...	...	...	...
Total	737.10	1669.65	1302.87	414.64	739.41	1296.69	...

* The figures shown above relate to amounts paid by SDFC.

These do not include amounts adjusted towards dues from Shipping Companies.

Statement-II

Debt Equity ratio Position in respect of SDFC assisted Companies

Sl. No.	Name of the company	Debt equity ratio	As on*
I. Companies who have Debt Equity Ratio within Prescribed limit.			
1.	M/s. Chowgule Steamship Ltd.	5.98:1	31.3.1984
2.	M/s. Great Eastern Shipping Co.	1.40:1	30.6.1984

3.	M/s. Mangla Bulk Carriers Ltd,	5.66:1	31.12.1983
4.	M/s. Tolani Shipping Company Ltd.	3.07:1	31.5.1983
5.	M/s. Garware Shipping Corporation Ltd.	3.56:1	30.9.1983
6.	M/s. South India Shipping Corporation	1.38:1	31.7.1983
7.	M/s. Essar Bulk Carriers Ltd.	5.65:1	31.3.1983

II. Companies who have Debt Equity Ratio in Excess of the Prescribed Limit :

1.	M/s. Thakur Shipping Co. Ltd.	6.36:1	31.3.1983
2.	M/s. Damodar Bulk Carriers Ltd.	129.94:1	31.3.1984
3.	M/s. Nirvan Shipping Ltd.	6.95:1	31.7.1983
4.	M/s. Shipping Corporation of India Ltd.	6.06:1	31.3.1983
5.	M/s. Scindia Steam Navig. Co. Ltd.	6.13:1	30.6.1983
6.	M/s. Varun Shipping Co. Ltd.	17.12:1	31.3.1984
7.	M/s. Hinengo Lines Ltd.	36.99:1	31.3.1983

III. Companies who have no Equity :

1.	M/s. Surrendra Overseas Ltd.	Nil	31.12.1983
2.	M/s. Mogul Line Ltd.	Nil	31.3.1984
3.	M/s. India Steamship Co. Ltd.	Nil	31.3.1984
4.	M/s. Ratnakar Shipping Co. Ltd.	Nil	31.3.1984
5.	M/s. Seven Seas Transportation Ltd.	Nil	31.12.1983
6.	M/s. Indoceanic Shipping Co. Ltd.	Nil	31.12.1983
7.	M/s. Hede Navigation Ltd.	Nil	31.8.1983
8.	M/s. Streamline Shipping Co. Ltd.	Nil	30.6.1983
9.	M/s. Dempo Steamship Ltd.	Nil	30.6.1983
10.	M/s. Deccan Shipping Ltd.	Nil	30.6.1983

* The latest position as on 31.3.1985 is not available.

Level Crossings Trichur-Manjeswaram and Palghat-Trivandrum

6928. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAM-CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) how many level crossings are there on National Highway No. 17 between Trichur and Manjeswaram and how many are there on National Highway No. 47 between Palghat and Trivandrum;

(b) whether Government are aware of the difficulties and delays caused by these

level crossings to the ever increasing road traffic between Trichur and Manjeswaram; and

(c) if so, the steps being formulated by Government to overcome these obstacles ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) There are 11 crossings on National Highway No. 17 between Trichur and Manjeswaram and one level crossing on National Highway No.47 between Palghat and Trivandrum.

(b) and (c). Railways undertake construction of road over/under bridges in replacement of existing busy level crossings, jointly with the State Government/Local Authority on cost sharing basis. Construction of road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 168 on National Highway No. 17 has already been included in the Railways' Budget for 1985-86. The proposals for replacement of 4 other level crossing by road over/under bridges are under joint examination with State Government.

Issue of Passes to M/S. A. H. Wheeler

6929. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of A. C., first class and second class complimentary passes issued to M/s. A. H. Wheeler & Co.;

(b) whether it is a fact that the provision of issuing these complimentary passes was not included in the original contract;

(c) if so, what are the reasons to issue complimentary passes after the renewal of contract; and

(d) what is the necessity of issuing these passes to M/s. A. H. Wheeler & Co. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No complimentary passes have been issued to M/s. A. H. Wheeler & Co. However, they have been issued with the following number of journey passes :

Air-conditioned	Ist Class	IInd Class
Nil	29	29

(b) There was a provision of issuing passes in the earlier agreements with M/s. A. H. Wheeler & Co.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) In order to ensure efficient and satisfactory management of bookstalls for the travelling public, M/s. A. H. Wheeler & Co. have been issued journey passes for effective and satisfactory supervision/operation and maintenance of bookstalls which are spread

over a large number of stations and more than one Zonal Railway.

Funds for Development of Railways in Kerala

6930. SHRI I. RAMA RAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount spent for the development of Railways in Kerala during the Sixth Plan; and

(b) the allocation of funds therefor made during the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Rs. 51.47 crore.

(b) Seventh Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised. However, outlay in 1985-86 is Rs. 6.3 crore.

Neglect of Vocational Courses in Schools by the States

6931. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of States and Union Territories are neglecting vocational courses in the Schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether several States have diverted funds meant for this purpose to other sectors; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). At present 9 States and 4 Union Territories namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Delhi, Goa, Daman & Diu and Pondicherry are offering in all more than 120 vocational courses at the +2 stage with an annual intake of nearly 60,000 students in about 1600 institutions. The States of Uttar Pradesh, Orrisa, Bihar and the Union Territory of Chandigarh have also decided to introduce vocational courses in schools from the academic session 1985-86.

(c) and (d). The Government have not provided any financial assistance to States/ Union Territories for implementation of the vocationalisation programme during the Sixth Five Year Plan. As such, the question of diversion of funds meant for vocationalisation to other sectors does not arise.

Banned Contraceptive for use of Women of Third World

6932. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Multi-national Drug Corporations are using women of Third World as guinea pigs by dumping the dangerous and banned contraceptive device known as 'Dalkon Shield'; and

(b) if so, the corrective steps taken/proposed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b) Drug Controller of India has not approved marketing of the contraceptive device 'Dalkon Shield'. It is, therefore, not available for commercial use in the country.

Steps to Curb spread of Alcoholism

6933. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state whether Government propose to take steps on war footing to curb widely spreading alcoholism in the country as have been taken in other countries like USSR etc. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : Necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Expansion of Faizabad Junction

6934. SHRI NIRMAL KHATRI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Lucknow Division of Northern Railway has prepared a scheme for the expansion of Faizabad junction station;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount involved therein; and

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

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

(b) A work for provision of block rake handling facilities at Faizabad Station costing Rs. 60.32 lakhs has been included in Budget 1985-86. The scope of the work includes provision of Block rake handling, siding, levelling of surface for unloading of the goods and approach road.

(c) Completion of the work will depend upon the availability of funds in the succeeding years.

N. T. P. C. Units in U. P.

6935. SHRI NIRMAL KHATRI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of places where National Thermal Power Corporation have set up their units in Uttar Pradesh so far;

(b) the generating capacity and the power actually being generated by each of them; and

(c) the quantum of power being supplied to Uttar Pradesh by the National Thermal Power Corporation from its units which are located in Uttar Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) Singrauli Super Thermal Power Station (2000 MW) and Rihand STPS Stage-I (1000 MW) are being set up by National Thermal Power Corporation in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Five units of 200 MW each at the Singrauli STPS have been commissioned so far. The total energy sent out in 1984-85 was about 46005 lakh units.

(c) According to NTPC, during 1984-85 Uttar Pradesh consumed about 36180 lakh units of electricity.

Daily Running of Kisan Express Stopping it at Rudauli Station

6936. SHRI NIRMAL KHATRI : Will

the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation for running Kisan Express (Northern Railway) daily;

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

(c) whether Government propose to stop Kisan Express at Rudauli Station ?

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

(b) The frequency of Kisan Express has been increased from twice a week to 4 days a week w.e.f. 10.4.85 for the summer months. In addition, a summer special has been introduced between Ludhiana and Gorakpur twice a week to the same timings of Kisan Express, thus providing 6 days service between Ludhiana and East U. P. during the summer.

(c) This has been provided from 1.5.1985.

[English]

Development of Rayagada, Muniguda, Titlagarh and Kesinga Railway Stations (S.E. Rly)

6937. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Waltair Division of South Eastern Railway has prepared any developmental and improvement programmes of Rayagada, Muniguda, Titlagarh and Kesinga Railway Stations during any financial year of Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and funds provided for each work;

(c) whether the steps have been taken to improve the school building, construction of the new buildings and upgrade the school upto Higher Secondary level at Rayagada;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the works particularly the passenger amenities and the welfare programmes to be taken up during the Annual Plan 1985-86 between the Rayagada and Kesinga Railway Stations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). The details of the improvement works carried out at Rayagada, Titlagarh and Kesinga Railway Stations during the Sixth Five Year Plan period are given in the Statement attached.

(c) to (e). The existing school building is in good condition and has been maintained well. The accommodation available in the school building is considered adequate to the present requirement.

The existing educational facilities at Rayagada are considered adequate and therefore the proposal for upgradation of the Railway School upto Higher Secondary level has been dropped.

(f) The additional facilities are provided on a programmed basis depending upon availability of funds and comparative needs of various stations. No augmentation of facilities is proposed on these stations during 1985-86.

Statement

Year	Name of the work	Approx. Cost
1	2	3
	(I) Rayagada Station	
1981-82	Cycle Stand	Rs. 25,000
1982-83	(i) Improvement to Waiting Room and Retiring Room facilities	Rs. 60,000

1	2	3
	(ii) Cover over Foot over bridge	Rs. 25,000
1983-84	Provision of RCC benches	Rs. 3,000
	(II) Titlagarh Station	
1981-82	(i) Cover over foot over bridge	Rs. 60,000
	(ii) Extension of booking-cum-parcel office	Rs. 30,000
	(iii) Public Address System	Rs. 25,000
1982-83	Improvement to Waiting Room and Retiring Room facilities	Rs. 60,000
1983-84	Provision of RCC benches	Rs. 3,000
	(III) Kesinga Station	
1980-81	Tea Stall	Rs. 16,000
1981-82	(i) Platform cover 100 ft. long	Rs. 1,00,000
	(ii) Extension of booking-cum-parcel office	Rs. 50,000
1983-84	Provision of RCC benches	Rs. 2,000

Development of Tribal Languages

6938. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of languages spoken in the country in written and oral forms;

(b) the measures taken by Government and the States for the development of tribal language/dialects which are still in oral form;

(c) the names of the tribal languages which have got own scripts and the financial assistance provided for their development so far;

(d) whether the States having considerable number of tribal population have taken any steps to develop the written and oral tribal languages and introduced these in schools to teach the tribal students; and

(e) if so, State-wise details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) According to the Census of India 1971 the identifiable mother tongues which returned 10,000 or more speakers each at the All India Level are 106.

(b) The Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, which is a subordinate

office of the Ministry has taken up 57 tribal languages/dialects for linguistic description and materials production. The Tribal Research Institutes in the States also take up preparation of primers and reading materials in major tribal languages and dialects.

(c) A statement giving this information is attached.

(d) and (e). Since the promotion and development of regional languages including tribal languages is the responsibility of State Governments, information about the schemes being implemented by them is likely to be available with the State Governments.

Statement

Names of tribal languages which have got their own scripts, as per information available with the Central Institute of Indian languages, Mysore

Roman Script

Mizo of Mizoram, Khasi and Garo of Meghalaya, Ao, Angami, Ilotha and other Naga languages of Nagaland, Tangkhul, Mao, Hiar, Thadou and other tribal languages of Manipur, Karbi (Mikir), Mising (Miri) and some other tribal languages of Assam

are written in Roman though the Assam Government's policy is to write them in Assamese script. The Car Nicobarese of Andaman and Nicobar Islands is written in Roman though the Government's policy is to use Devanagari.

Devanagari Script

Adi, Apatani, Mishmi, Nishi, Nocte and other languages of Arunachal Pradesh, Bodo of Assam, Gondi, Halbi of M. P., Kurukh (Craon), Mundari and Santali in Bihar and Ho of Orissa.

Bengali Script

Maithei (Manipuri) of Manipur, Kok Borok (Tripuri) of Tripura, Santhali of West Bengal Santali is also written in Roman and in Ol Chiki a native script invented by Sri Raghunath Murmu.

Oriya Script

Kuvi, Sora, Ho and Santali of Orissa. Sora also has a native script invented by Sri Mangal. Similarly Ho has a native script.

Gujarati Script

Warli of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

Perso-Arabic Script

Gojri, Shina, Balti and Broskat of J&K.

Tibetan Script

Ladakhi of J & k, Bhutia of Sikkim and Monpa of Arunachal Pradesh.

Native Scripts

Limbu of Sikkim.

Telugu Script

Gondi and Desia of Andhra Pradesh.

Kannada Script

Jenu Kuruba, Soliga and Kodagu of Karnataka and Badaga of Tamilnadu.

Tamil Script

Tulu, Kota, Badaga and Vakri Boli of Tamilnadu.

Malayalam Script

Kuruba and Panian of Kerala.

Details of Financial Assistance provided during last Five Years

Under the scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for the development of Indian languages including tribal, the following amounts have been sanctioned during the Sixth Plan period :

Year	Tribal language/ dialect	Amount sanction (Rs.)
1980-81	Sora	10,000/-
1981-82	Chakma	2,403/-
	Mundari	6,000/-
	Group of 11 dialects of Orissa	10,000/-
1982-83	Sora	10,000/-
	Santhali	14,000/-
	Group of 11 dialects of Orissa	20,000/-
1983-84	Boro	8,148/-
	Group of 11 dialects of Orissa	30,000/-
1984-85	Group of 11 dialects of Orissa	20,000/-
	Santhali	14,000/-
		Total 1,44,551/-

There is, in addition, a full fledged unit for Tribal and Border Languages in the Central Institute of Indian Languages which carries out research and material production.

Construction of Railway Platform at Bally Station

6939. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has received representation regarding construction of railway platform at Bally Station on Eastern Railway for Howrah-Burdwan chord line train stoppage; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government thereon ?

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

(b) A proposal for provision of platform at Bally for Howrah-Burdwan chord line has been prepared for inclusion in 1986-87 Works Programme subject to availability of funds.

Introduction of Trains from Vikhroli and Mulund to Bombay V. T. during Peak Hours

6940. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether Government propose to introduce trains from Vikhroli to Bombay V. T. and from Mulund to Bombay V. T. during peak hours ?

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

Fire in Goods Train Carrying Army Ammunition in Tughlakabad Yard

6941. SHRI B. V. DESAI :

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI :

SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a railway wagon carrying army ammunition was blown to pieces and two others damaged when a fire broke out in a goods train in the railway yard of the Tughlakabad Station on the 20th April, 1985;

(b) if so, the extent of damage and loss to the railway property;

(c) whether the cause of fire was enquired into;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any sabotage was suspected; and

(f) what preventive measures are being taken by the Railways to check recurrence of such so incidents ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) On 20.4.1985, army ammunition loaded in wagon No. 28604 exploded and consequently the wagon caught fire during shunting operations in Tughlakabad Marshalling Yard. One more wagon which was adjacent to this also caught fire.

(b) There was no loss of life. The damage to Railway property has been assessed approximately at Rs. 83,500/-

(c) to (e). A Departmental Enquiry is being conducted into this accident. The cause of fire, the details thereof and whether or not it was a case of any sabotage will be known on finalisation of the report of the Committee.

(f) This will depend on the findings of the Enquiry Committee.

Introduction of Additional Passenger Trains in Chakradharpur Division of S. E. R.

6942. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of passenger trains which are running in Chakradharpur Division of South Eastern Railway;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to introduce some additional passenger trains in Chakradharpur Division;

(c) if so, whether a passenger train is proposed to be introduced between Tatanagar and Banspani; and

(d) if so, when the proposal is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI

MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Twenty pairs of passenger trains besides 17 pairs of Mail/Express trains.

(b) Not at present.

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

Foreign Assistance for Ib Valley Project

6943. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have sought external aid for implementing Ib Valley Super Thermal Power Project in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the amount of external aid likely to be made available for that project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) and (b). Government of Orissa have proposed various sources of financing, including external assistance, for the Ib Valley Thermal Power Project. A decision regarding financing the project can be taken when it has been approved by the Planning Commission.

Renting of Ship etc. by Government Body to M/s. I. T. C. Ltd.

6944. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether M/s. I. T. C. Ltd. has entered in shipping business;

(b) if so, the details of each ship owned by M/s. I. T. C. Ltd. and date of acquiring of such ships by the company;

(c) whether any Government body has given ship or motor boats or trollies on rent to M/s. I. T. C. Ltd.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) No, Sir. However they acquired two deep-sea fishing trawlers in 1977.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Ministry of shipping and Transport is not aware of any such renting of ship, motor boat or trolley to M/s. I. T. C. by any Government body.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Delhi-Amritsar National Highway

6945. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether keeping in view the high incidence of road accidents on National Highway between Delhi and Amritsar, Government propose to divide it into two-way traffic road and plant trees etc. on the raised space dividing the road; and

(b) if so, the total amount to be spent on this work during this year and the time by which the entire work will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Keeping in view the high intensity of traffic between Delhi and Amritsar on National Highway No. 1, the work of providing 4-lane divided carriageway has already been taken up alongwith plantation of shrubs and trees.

(b) An initial budget provision of Rs. 270.75 lakhs has been made during the current financial year 1985-86. No time frame can be indicated as it will depend on the availability of financial resources in the subsequent years.

Conversion of Lucknow-Pilibhit-Tanakpur Rail Line into Broad Gauge

6946. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a provision in the 1985-86 Railway Budget to convert Lucknow-Pilibhit-Tanakpur rail line into broad gauge line;

(b) if so, the amount earmarked for this purpose; and

(c) if not, time by which this important line passing through central parts of Uttar

Pradesh is likely to be converted into broad gauge line ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no proposal for conversion of the suggested MG section into BG, due to severe constraint of resources and heavy commitments already in hand.

Central Schools in Trans-Yamuna Areas of Delhi

6947. SHRI HARISH RAWAT :

SHRI JAIPRAKASH AGARWAL :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to open some more Central Schools in Delhi in the near future;

(b) if so, the number of the Central Schools proposed to be opened;

(c) whether some of these proposed Central Schools would be opened in the new trans-Yamuna colonies also; and

(d) if not, whether Government would consider immediately introduction of 10 plus 2 classes in Central School of AGCR Colony in trans-Yamuna area and also introduce classes upto 10th standard in the other Central School of that area ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c). It is not possible to indicate at this stage the number and locations of Kendriya Vidyalayas (Central Schools) to be opened in 1985-86.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.

[English]

Average Capacity Utilisation of Major Ports

6948. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there were imbalances among major ports in regard to the average utilisation of port capacity during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the average port capacity utilisation in different major ports during the last three years;

(c) the major causes for such imbalances and under-utilisation of capacities in some ports; and

(d) the steps, if any, taken or proposed to ensure more rational utilisation of port capacities in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) to (c). The capacity utilisation of the Ports during the last three years was as under :

Percentage Capacity Utilisation

Port	1982-83	83-84	84-85
Calcutta	82.91	70.73	67.27
Haldia	64.06	61.45	73.25
Paradip	54.03	36.55	44.12
Vizag	90.16	91.52	77.07
Madras	77.69	82.99	91.41
Tuticorin	65.25	65.14	69.17
Cochin	104.77	77.53	55.13
New Mangalore	25.08	30.53	36.34
Mormugao	80.50	83.34	90.12
Bombay	153.39	149.94	96.0
Kandla	96.93	108.51	77.97
Total			
Capacity Utilisation	87.49	87.21	78.07

The under utilisation of capacity at Paradip and New Mangalore was largely due to under utilisation of the captive facilities for iron ore, because there has been serious recession in the international iron ore market. Bombay Port worked far beyond its capacity because of available infrastructure facilities such as rail and road transport, bunched arrivals of vessels due to shipowners and shippers preferences based on the facilities developed by/available to them at Bombay.

(d) In order to avoid imbalances in capacity utilisation of parts, the Standing Committee on the Rationalised Distribution of Cargo of this Ministry meets once in a quarter to allocate Government imports/exports in a rationalised manner among various ports so that under utilisation of available capacities is reduced and pressures on over busy ports released to the extent possible.

Utilisation of Coal Handling Facilities at Calcutta and Haldia Ports

6949. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the coal handling facilities at Calcutta and Haldia ports are under utilised;

(b) if so, the main reasons for low performance of the coal handling facilities at Calcutta and Haldia ports;

(c) the average level of utilisation of such facilities; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to improve the performance of coal handling at Calcutta and Haldia ports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b). The coal handling facilities available at Calcutta and Haldia are not being utilised to the optimum level. The main reasons for below optimum utilisation of facilities at Calcutta and Haldia are as under :

Calcutta

(i) Non-availability of suitable colliers pliable in low draught in Hooghly;

(ii) Erratic supply of coal wagons and non-synchronisation of arrival of coal rakes and colliers;

(iii) non-availability of conventional four-wheeler wagons which only can be handled by the mechanical coal handling plant at Calcutta.

Haldia

(i) repeated receipt of lumpy coal, stones and boulders, un-suitable for handling through the coal plant, causing damage to the plant and machinery;

(ii) idle time due to grizzly cleaning,

(iii) non-availability of adequate number of wagons;

(iv) inadequate/irregular nomination of vessels by the user agency.

(c) The average level of capacity utilisation is 20 per cent at Calcutta and 50 per cent at Haldia.

(d) The Calcutta Port Trust have taken up with D.G. Shipping and Indian Coastal Conference for increased availability of ships for movement of coal from Calcutta Steps to increase coal handling capacity at Haldia, including modification of the existing coal handling plant and conversion of the ore handling plant for handling coal, regular nomination of vessels by Tamil Nadu Electricity Board, despatch of proper sized coal from the colliceries are also being taken. The performance is monitored on a daily basis, and bottle necks attended to.

News Item Captioned "New Hope for Asthama Patients"

6950. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item captioned "New hope for Asthama patients" appeared in Indian Express dated 24 April, 1985;

(b) if so, the details of the said new device;

(c) whether the similar device will be introduced in the other Central Government hospitals also; and

(d) if so, by when and to what extent the asthmatic patients will get relief from this disease ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Mini Peak Flow Meter is a simple device which has now been developed in India and is available in the market. It helps in monitoring the severity of airway obstruction in patients with asthma. It is not a remedy in itself but only a monitoring device for recording the efficacy of the treatment.

(c) and (d). Most of the chest centres and clinics in India have equipments (mostly imported) to assess airway resistance of the patients. As already stated, these equipments by themselves do not cure asthma; they only enable the physician to assess the severity of the disease and periodically monitor the efficacy of the treatment.

Institutional Finance for Super Thermal Power Projects

6951. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry proposes to avail of institutional finance from IDBI through newly established power Generation Corporation to execute some Super Thermal Power Projects;

(b) whether such type of institutional finance had been taken earlier for some other power projects;

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to avail similar institutional finance for proposed Talcher Super Thermal Power Station, Orissa; and

(d) the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) There is no newly established power generation corporation.

(b) IDBI assistance has not been obtained for any power project in the Central Sector.

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

Mancheswar Railway Workshop, Orissa

6952. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated cost of Mancheswar Railway Workshop, Orissa;

(b) whether the workshop has become fully operational;

(c) if so, since when, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) The sanctioned estimated cost is Rs. 18.15 Crores.

(b) to (d). The workshop initially became operational for corrosion repairs of coaches in April' 83 and coaches after periodical overhaul were first turned-out in Feb'84. The present level of the out-turn of the periodical overhaul of coaches is two units (Four Wheeler) per working day.

The capacity of the workshop will be progressively increased to eight units per day by additional inputs during the VIIth Plan period, depending upon the availability of funds.

Generation of Power in Orissa in Seventh Plan

6953. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority has made any revised forecast on the generation of power in Orissa during the Seventh Plan period; and

(b) what are the basis on which the power generation assessment has been made by Central Electricity Authority ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) and (b). The power generation assessment in respect of Orissa has been reviewed by the Twelfth Power Survey Committee headed by the Chairman, Central Electricity Authority. The energy availability in utilities has been assessed as 7839 MU

based on factors, such as capacity additions, plant availability and utilisation norms, benefits likely to accrue from central sector and other projects, etc.

Bogies Reduced in Parasuram Express

6954. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of bogies in the Parasuram Express running in Kerala have been reduced from sixteen to eleven;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that the rush in this train is increasing day-by-day; and

(d) if so, whether the number of bogies is proposed to be restored to sixteen ?

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

(b) Does not arise,

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It is already scheduled to run with 16 coaches.

Proposal to get Financial Assistance to Gulbarga University in Karnataka

6955. SHRI H. G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for financing Gulbarga University in Karnataka is pending before the University Grants Commission; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). The Gulbarga University established in 1980 is yet to be declared fit by the UGC to receive assistance from the Commission under Section 12-B of the UGC Act, 1956. The Commission has suggested certain amendments to the Act of the University before it can be declared fit. The State Government's decision on these suggestions is still awaited. The

question of sanctioning any grants to the University can be considered only after the University is declared fit to receive such assistance.

Facilities Provided to Children under Community Aid and Sponsorship Programme

6956. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 'Community Aid and Sponsorship Programme' has been introduced in some parts of the country and if so, what facilities are provided to children under the programme;

(b) what is the amount of expenditure expected to be incurred in a year; and

(c) whether there is any plan to introduce this programme in other parts of the country also and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR) : (a) The Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare has no such Scheme.

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

[Translation]

Setting up of Railway Zone in Bihar

6957. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a long standing demand for setting up a Railway Zone in Bihar with a view to expand railway facilities in the State and providing employment in Railways to the people of Bihar; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The demand for formation of a new zone in Bihar was remitted to the Railway Reforms Committee for their consideration. The Committee after carefully con-

sidering all the aspects have not made any recommendation in this regard.

[English]

New Railway Line Projects

6958. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any of the new railway line projects included in the Works Programme of the Railways for the year 1984-85 has not been included in the Works Programme for the year 1985-86;

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

(c) whether the allocations for the on-going projects for the year 1985-86 has been reduced as compared to the previous year 1984-85; and

(d) whether Government would ensure that all such project which were taken up during the Sixth Plan are completed in the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). While no new project for a New Line, included in the Works Programme for 1984-85, has been deleted in the Budget for 1985-86, the on-going work of Kalka—Parwanoo (Tipra) New Line (4.3 kms) on the Northern Railway, has been dropped, on the advice of the Himachal Pradesh Government.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Seventh Five Year Plan has still not been finalised. The completion of on-going works will therefore depend on the resources made available in the Seventh Plan.

Technical Assistance to Andhra by C.W.C.

6959. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to direct the Central Water Commission to render technical assistance and guidance to the

Andhra Pradesh Government for preparation and formulation of project report, identification report as per the criteria and standards of World Bank regarding investigation planning, design, economic, analyses in respect of "Pulichintala Balancing Reservoir" to protect the Riparian rights of 130 years old 13 lakh Acres Ayacut under Krishna Barrage at Vijayawada; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b). The Government of Andhra Pradesh have not proposed inclusion of the Pulichintala Balancing Reservoir Project in the pipeline for World Bank assistance. Hence question of preparation of the project report. Identification report as per criteria and standards of World Bank does not arise.

Scheme of Financing Non-Formal Education Centres in Orissa

6960. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have discontinued the scheme of financing fresh non-formal education centres for women in Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to continue the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The scheme continues to be in operation.

Indo-Soviet Protocol on Shipping

6961. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Protocol has been signed between India and Soviet Union on shipping;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the shipping between the two countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) A Protocol was signed at the conclusion of the 7th Session of the Indo-Soviet Joint Committee on shipping on 12.4.1985.

(b) and (c). Some of the more important decisions arrived at are as follows :

- (1) The Soviet and the Indian sides agreed to take further measures to improve turnround time of Indian and Soviet vessels in the ports of both the countries.
- (2) Both the sides expressed satisfaction in the maintenance of parity in liftings and earnings in general during 1984.
- (3) With a view to reduce the delay of Soviet tankers at Indian Ports, the Soviet side were requested to deploy smaller tankers.
- (4) It was agreed that fertilisers, rich sulphur and oil cakes will continue to be shipped on liner basis instead of on charter party or other terms.
- (5) The cargoes being shipped from India to Afghanistan via Black Sea were also included in the party.
- (6) Regarding outstanding claims pertaining to demurrage/despatch of rice shipments and claims of shortage of earlier shipments of fertilisers, it was agreed that the receivers and buyers may contact each other and settle the issues.
- (7) Both the sides noted that improvement in packaging was essential for reducing damages to cargo while in transit.
- (8) The Soviet side agreed to give preference to Indian ships over third country ships in allotting third country cargoes.

Allotment of Book Stalls to M/s A. H. Wheeler & Co. and M/s. Hyngim Botham & Co.

6962. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether M/s. A. H. Wheeler & Co. and M/s. Hyngim Botham & Co., have been allotted the contract of book stalls at 275 Railways stations each, for the 9 years from 1 January, 1985;

(b) whether the other vendors of different nature on the same Railways Stations have been allotted the contract for three years;

(c) if so, what are the specific reasons for this discrimination; and

(d) whether Government are considering the proposal of uniform contract for all the vendors either for three years or nine years to remove the disparity among the existing vendors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) The Book-stall contracts of M/s. A. H. Wheeler & Co. & M/s. Higginbotham and Co. respectively at 265 and 48 Railway stations have been only renewed each for a further period of nine years from 1.1.1985.

(b) Catering/Vending contracts on the Railways were previously allotted for a tenure of 3 years. A policy decision has been taken to enlarge the tenure of these contracts from 3 years to 5 years, which will be given effect from the next renewal/fresh award of the contracts.

(c) Prior to 1967, the tenure for the Bookstall contracts of M/s. A. H. Wheeler & Co. and M/s. Higginbotham was five years like that of other Bookstall contractors, but they had an 'automatic renewal' clause in their agreements. Consequent upon the decision to eliminate the 'automatic renewal' clause, which would have otherwise perpetuated these contractors of the railways, the matter was negotiated with the contractors, in consultation with the Union Ministry of Law, who agreed to the deletion of the above clause in their agreements, provided they were given longer term of 9 years.

(d) No, Sir.

Higher Education Programme through Television

6963. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the progress achieved regarding relay on Television of programmes on higher education sponsored by University Grants Commission;

(b) the total number of direct reception sets installed so far and at what stations;

(c) the total expenditure for the period ending December, 1984; and

(d) the subjects covered so far ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a). Transmission of a one-hour programme on higher education through INSAT-IB and Doordarshan network commenced from August 15, 1984. The programmes are transmitted between 12.45 P.M. and 1.45 P.M. A repeat telecast of these programmes between 4 P.M. and 5 P.M. started on popular demand from February 16, 1985. The programmes presently telecast include those produced by the media centres developed by the UGC, and those obtained from other agencies within the country and abroad. Programmes for telecast upto the end of June 1985 have already been capsuled.

(b) No direct reception sets have been installed in universities and colleges for receiving these programmes. As the telecasts are relayed by Doordarshan Transmitters through INSAT-IB all colleges/universities within the range of Doordarshan transmitters are being supported by the Commission for procurement of normal (V. H. F.) Colour TV receivers.

(c) The total grants sanctioned for the development of media centres is Rs. 1.53 crores till December 1984.

(d) The programmes presently transmitted are not related to any specific part of the curricula of university courses. These are in the nature of enrichment programmes on topics in different disciplines to provide breadth of knowledge and awareness.

Private Blood Banks in the Capital

6964. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the numbers of blood banks operating in the Capital under private control and since when;

(b) does the Government exercise adequate check to see that (i) the quality of blood is of requisite nature; (ii) it is properly stored; (iii) it is sold at controlled prices and (iv) the donors are not professionals; and

(c) the number of cases where the blood issued by these banks proved fatal to the patients during the last two years and action taken by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Names of blood banks operating in the Union Territory of Delhi under private control alongwith the date of issue of licence are as under :

Name of blood bank	Date of issue of licence
1. Blood Bank Organisation, Pusa Road, New Delhi	29.4.1961
2. Blood Transfusion Centre Hanuman Road, New Delhi	3.3.1964
3. South End Blood Bank, East of Kailash New Delhi.	14.7.1980
4. Sunil Blood Bank, Wazir Nagar, New Delhi.	10.2.1983
5. G. K. Medical Centre, Greater Kailash Pt. II, New Delhi.	23.6.1984

(b) Yes Sir. The Drug Control Organisation of Delhi Administration exercises adequate check to see that the blood is of requisite nature and stored properly; There is no price control on the sale of human blood; All the blood banks have to obtain blood from human beings who are free from diseases transmittable by blood transfusion and whose haemoglobin content is not less than 85 per cent.

(c) No such case has been reported to Drug Control Orgn. of Delhi Administration during the last two years.

[Translation]

Programme to make Nutritious Food Available to Pregnant Women

6965. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE be pleased state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the diet taken by women during the pregnancy influences the mind and health of the child; and

(b) if so, the Government's programme to make nutritious food available to pregnant women ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRA-SEKHAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Supplementary nutrition is provided to pregnant women, belonging to disadvantaged section of society, under the scheme of Integrated Child Development Services/Special Nutrition programme.

[English]

Allocation for widening and Development of National Highway No. 12

6966. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state the amount being provided for widening and development of Jaipur Bhopal-Jabalpur National Highway No. 12 during 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : A sum of Rs. 385.31 lakhs have been provided for the development of National Highway No. 12 during 1985-86.

[Translation]

Target/Achievement of Sterilization in Rajasthan during 1985-86

6967. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state

the targets fixed for carrying out sterilization operations in Rajasthan during 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) The Sterilization Operation target for Rajasthan State has been fixed as 2,85,000 for the year 1985-86.

[English]

Nhava Sheva Port Project

6968. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the contribution of Government of Maharashtra for Nhava Sheva Port Project; and

(b) what would be the capacity of this new port with regard to handling of cargo ships ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) The Nhava Sheva Port Project is a central project. The Government of Maharashtra did not make any financial contribution towards this project. However, the Government of Maharashtra made the Government lands in the project area available to the Port Trust Authorities free of cost.

(b) The new port will have a handling capacity of around 11 million tonnes of dry, bulk and containerised cargo at the berths.

Irrigation Projects of Maharashtra

6969. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that on account of laterite soil in various parts of Maharashtra the cost of the major irrigation projects proposed in the State of Maharashtra is more than the permissible yardstick of cost-benefit ratio;

(b) in order to encourage irrigation in backward regions of Maharashtra do the Government of India propose to relax the cost-benefit ratio in deserving major irrigation projects proposed to be undertaken in drought-prone areas; and

(c) if so, which are these irrigation projects under the active consideration of Government of India ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) The project reports from areas with laterite soils in Maharashtra indicate that their cost-benefit ratio is within the permissible limits.

(b) Projects benefitting drought prone areas are already eligible for relaxation of the normal cost-benefit ratio criterion.

(c) Does not arise.

Coastal Rail Line Diva-Panval-Uran

6970. **SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) when the Coastal Railway line from Diva to Panval was sanctioned;

(b) when the further link of railway from Panval to Uran was sanctioned;

(c) when both these routes were completed and what was the cost incurred by Government for these two routes;

(d) whether both these routes catering the needs of commuters; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). In 1961.

(c) Diva-Panvel (26.3 Kms.) was completed and opened to goods traffic on 31-10-1964 and opened to passenger traffic on 28-12-1964. Section between Panvel and Uran (26.97 Kms.) was opened to goods traffic on 31-1-1966. The completion cost of these lines is Rs. 3.17 crores.

(d) Diva-Panvel section caters to commuters traffic. Panvel-Uran section is open to goods traffic only.

(e) Panvel-Uran section is so far open to goods traffic only.

Chandrapur Project of Maharashtra

6971. **SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) what progress the turn-key project of Chandrapur in Maharashtra State has so far made;

(b) what was the result of the global tender issued with regard to this project;

(c) to whom has this power project work been assigned; and

(d) what is the estimated cost of the project and when it is likely to be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) to (d). It is not proposed to award a turn-key contract for the Chandrapur thermal power project (Stage-III, 2 × 500 MW) in Maharashtra. Global tender documents have been issued under the World Bank's international competitive bidding procedures, and the last date for submission of bids is 1.7.1985. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 902 crores. The project is expected to be completed in 1991-92.

Primary Health Centres to be Constructed during 1985-86.

6972. **SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) how many Primary Health Centres are proposed to be constructed during the year 1985-86; and

(b) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). According to the information provided by the States/UT Governments during their annual plan discussions with the Planning Commission 1558 buildings for Primary Health Centres are proposed to be constructed during 1985-86.

National Medical Library, New Delhi

6973. **DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that National Medical Library, New Delhi is catering to the needs of Medical Colleges in the capital only and if so, what are the types of facilities available in Delhi and its obligations to various colleges outside New Delhi;

(b) whether there is any proposal to start such Regional Medical Libraries in various parts of India ;

(c) whether any such proposal has been received from any State and the measures taken in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The National Medical Library is catering to the needs of the Medical Colleges in Delhi as also those of other Medical Colleges, Research Institutions and Practitioners in the country. It provides bibliographical services, photo-copying services, Medline services, inter-library-loan and reading room facilities which are available to all the persons engaged in health or health related activities in any part of country.

(b) to (d). The proposal to start regional Medical Libraries in some part of the country is receiving the attention of the Government.

Supply of Anti-T. B. Drugs

6974. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are actively considering the proposal of the Tuberculosis Association of India to make supply of anti-T. B. drugs a 100 per cent centrally sponsored scheme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). The proposal to classify the scheme of supply of material and equipment and anti-TB drugs to States under the National Tuberculosis Control Programme as a 100 per cent Centrally Sponsored Scheme during 6th Plan has been considered by the Government of

India in consultation with the Planning Commission and the view taken was to continue the Programme on 50:50 basis. The same pattern has been continued during first year of the 7th Plan.

Introduction of a Direct Rail Service between Rayagada and Rourkela

6975. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no direct rail service between Rayagada and Rourkela in Orissa;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to provide a direct rail service between these two important places; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to implement the above proposal ?

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

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

Expansion of Railway Wagon Repairing Unit, Raipur M.P.

6976. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal for expansion of Railway Wagon Repairing unit, Raipur in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, when the above proposal is likely to be taken up; and

(c) the number of skilled and non-skilled workers who are presently engaged in this Railway Wagon Repairing Unit ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) There is a proposal for increasing the capacity of Raipur Workshop for periodical overhaul of Broad Gauge Wagons.

(b) The proposal would be taken up for consideration depending upon the materialisation of workload and also availability of funds.

- (c) Skilled Workers = 1047
 Non-skilled Workers = 494

**Railway Division at Sambalpur
 (Orissa)**

6977. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated in 1985-86 for the establishment of Railway Division at Sambalpur in Orissa;

(b) when the said project was sanctioned; and

(c) the target date fixed for the completion of construction of the division office buildings etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c). Formation of Divisional Headquarters at Sambalpur in Orissa has been accepted, in principle, in 1984. However, before any such major activity can make headway, certain preliminary steps have to be taken. As such, 278 acres of land near the Sambalpur Station has been identified. The Divisional Office complex and essential staff quarters will eventually be located in this area. Furthermore, plan for the new building for station-cum office complex has been finalised and the contract awarded for an outlay of Rs. 35 lakhs. A good beginning will thus be made with the construction of the station-cum-office complex. Further progress of work will depend on the availability of funds and as such, no target date can be indicated.

UGC Grants to Universities

6978. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount provided by University Grants Commission to different Universities in Madhya Pradesh in 1984;

(b) whether Government propose to enhance the allocation to the universities set up in backward States; and

(c) if so, the total amount of grants proposed to be allocated in 1985-86 to the different universities set up in Madhya Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) The grants paid by the UGC to Universities in Madhya Pradesh during 1984-85 are as follows :

<i>Name of University</i>	<i>Grants paid (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
Awadesh Pratap Singh	20.86
Bhopal	8.60
Indira Kala Sangeet	1.26
Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore	10.25
Rani Durgavati Vishwavidyala, Jabalpur	4.44
Jiwaji	6.76
Ravi Shankar	10.53
Dr. H. S. Gaur, Saugar	29.59
Vikram	25.45

(b) and (c). Development grants to universities are not allocated by UGC on an annual basis. At the beginning of each Plan period, the UGC indicates a tentative allocation for each university determined on the basis of several factors like the stage of development of each university, the nature and levels of programmes offered by it, the student and faculty strength, and the progress made by it in the previous plans. In the Sixth Plan, while determining this tentative allocation the need for removal of regional imbalances was also kept in view. Each university is then asked to prepare programmes to be implemented within the ceiling of allocation so indicated. These proposals are then assessed through Visiting Committees on whose recommendations grants are approved for each university. Depending upon the progress of implementation of various schemes, funds are placed at the disposal of universities from time to time.

The total outlay for higher education in the Seventh Plan has not yet been finalised. The tentative allocation for each university for general development in the Seventh Plan would be finalised by the Commission only after the total outlay likely to be available is known.

[Translations]

**Conversion of lines between Sonapur
 and Barauni into Broad Gauge**

6979. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the distance between Sonapur and Barauni via Shahpur Patoree on North Eastern Railway is only 80 kilometre; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to convert this 80 kilometre line into broad gauge so as to reduce the time in covering the distance between Sonapur and Barauni ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir. The distance between Sonapur and Barauni, via Shahpur-Patoree, is about 91 kms.

(b) There is no proposal to convert this section into BG at present.

[English]

Relief to Salt Producers

6980. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that due to present shortage of wagons the salt Producers of Kharaghoda, Patdi and Dharngadhra in Gujarat have suffered incalculably; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to give relief of these Salt Producers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). While transport of Salt by rail from Kharaghoda, Patdi and Dharangadhra areas including Kuda was about 12 per cent more in 1984-85 over 1983-84, the movement of salt by trade in ships for Eastern India has declined, resulting in increased demand for rail transport in Gujarat.

Efforts are being made to further increase the availability of wagons for Salt loading in this area to the extent feasible.

Increase in the number of Beggars on Trains and at Platforms

6981. SHRI MULLAPAPLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he is aware of the increase in the number of beggars in trains and at platforms;

(b) if so, the names of the divisions and the routes on which large number of beggars are found; and

(c) what deterrent action is being taken by Government to root out this menace once and for all ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). The Railway Administration is aware of the nuisance caused by beggars in trains and at platforms. However, as no statistics is maintained regarding the number of beggars on trains and on platforms it cannot be said that their number has increased of late.

(c) Railways organise regular checks and raids with the assistance of R.P.F., R.P.S.F., G.R.P. and Civil Police to remove the beggars from trains and stations.

[Translation]

Health Guide Workers State-wise

6982. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the total number of health guide workers deployed, State-wise, to look after the health of villagers under multi-purpose workers scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : Village Health Guide Scheme is a separate Scheme and not a part of the Multi-purpose Workers Scheme. The number of Health Guides trained State-wise is given in the statement attached.

Statement

Total number of Health Guide trained as per information received upto 31-3-85 (figures provisional)

State/UT

1. Andhra Pradesh	31534
2. Assam	17634
3. Bihar	10000
4. Gujarat	22852

5. Haryana	10280
6. Himachal Pradesh	4418
7. J & K	Not implementing Health Guide Scheme
8. Karnataka	13716
9. Kerala	Not implementing Health Guide Scheme
10. Madhya Pradesh	35619
11. Maharashtra	43774
12. Manipur	1690
13. Meghalaya	2029
14. Nagaland	340
15. Orissa	22495
16. Punjab	10906
17. Rajasthan	13878
18. Sikkim	345
19. Tamil Nadu	Not implementing Health Guide Scheme
20. Tripura	1860
21. Uttar Pradesh	82855
22. West Bengal	41199
23. A&N Islands	346
24. Arunachal Pd.	Not implementing Health Guide Scheme
25. Chandigarh	25
26. D&N Haveli	74
27. Delhi	160
28. Goa, Daman & Diu	884
29. Lakshadweep	42
30. Mizoram	697
31. Pondicherry	278
All India Total :—	369930

Conversion for Primary Health Centres into Rural Hospitals

6983. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the number of Primary Health Centres in the country converted into rural hospitals during 1984 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : According to the information provided by the State/UT Governments during their Plan discussions,

99 Community Health Centres (Rural Hospitals) were likely to be established during the year 1984-85.

Rural Students Health Care Scheme

6984. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any rural students health care scheme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The Government of India has no Rural Student Health Care Scheme as such. However, School Health Programme is being implemented in 100 primary health centres on experimental basis.

(b) Under this Scheme, the following activities would be covered :

(i) Training of teachers;

(ii) Health Education;

(iii) Health check-up of primary school children;

(iv) Treatment of sick children; and

(v) Immunization.

The focus of the scheme would be the training of the teachers to identify sick children, to keep health records of the school children, provide treatment for minor ailments and to organise health education activities in the schools. Teachers would also assist in arranging health check up and immunization of school children by the primary health centre staff.

[English]

Restoration of Bangalore Bogies to G. T. Express

6985. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the practice of attaching five Bangalore bogies to Grand

Trunk Express has been stopped;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware of the difficulties faced by people of Karnataka on account of this decision;

(c) whether Government have received representation from Karnataka Government to continue the practice of attaching Bangalore bogies to G. T. Express; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (d). It is a fact that the through coaches running between Bangalore and Delhi by 15/16 G. T. Express had been temporarily suspended from September'84.

With effect from 1.5.85 two coaches have been restored to run between Bangalore and New Delhi by Grand Trunk Express.

Changing the Timings and Extension of Nizamuddin-Mangalore Jayanti Janta Express upto New Delhi

6986. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to change the timings of Jayanti Janta Express which runs from Nizamuddin to Mangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received any representation from the Karnataka Government to extend Jayanti Janta Express upto New Delhi Railway Station; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Proposal to Run H. Nizamuddin Bangalore Express bi-Weekly

6987. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to run the H. Nizamuddin-Bangalore Express bi-weekly;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is not feasible due to lack of resources like coaches and locomotives.

State Capitals not Connected with New Delhi by daily trains

6988. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the State Capitals for which there are no daily trains from New Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : Trivandrum and Bangalore the State Capitals of Kerala and Karnataka respectively are not served with daily service from New Delhi, while the State Capitals of Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim do not have rail links upto their Capitals towns.

Non-Testing of Medicines Procured from Open Market by Jipmer

6989. SHRI M. MAHALINGAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued instructions to Government Medical Store Depots to accept any item in the Depot only after test;

(b) whether the Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research while effecting local purchase other than from Government Medical Store Depot accept the item without subjecting to prior tests in their own or outside Laboratories; and

(c) if so, through what means the quality of drugs procured locally other than from Government Medical Store Depot is ensured ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been reported by the Director, Jawaharlal Institute of Post-graduate Medical Education and Research, that the drugs not on V. M. S. list of Medical Stores Depot are purchased from firms licensed by Drugs Controller, Public Sector enterprises and approved firms on Government rate contract on the recommendation of the Expert Drug Committee of the Institute and as such no preliminary testing is done in the Institute or outside.

(c) In case the clinical efficacy of any drug is in doubt the matter is reported to the concerned authorities for taking suitable action.

Health Risks from Metals in Food-stuffs and Water

6990. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the general health risks arising from metals in foodstuffs and water which are being spread through the air also and are harmful for plants, animals as well as human beings and if so, results of any studies conducted so far;

(b) what are the main metals involved in the above and the nature of health risks; and

(c) whether World Health Organisation have set any limits and whether these are being followed in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Government is aware of the possibilities of the general health risk from metals as a result of increasing industrialisation. A worldwide collaborative WHO/UNDP Project carried out with great care at the beginning of this decade did not reveal excessive intakes of lead and cadmium in the average population in 3 urban localities in India. A multicentric study supported by Department of Environment is currently underway to get the

baseline data for heavy metals in water, food and air.

(b) Main metals of concern are cadmium, lead mercury and arsenic. Cadmium causes damage to kidney and bones whereas lead and mercury are principally neurotoxic. Arsenic may cause dermatitis.

(c) WHO has set limits of tolerance for a few heavy metals. The limits of heavy metals in various foods have already been prescribed under the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955.

As regards water, Government has also prescribed its own guidelines for acceptability of drinking water laying down the tolerance limits of heavy metals.

Proposal for Uniformity in Tariffs in Major Ports

6991. SHRIMATI INDUMATI BHATTACHARYYA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria for fixing tariffs for the different major ports;

(b) the port charges and wharfage rates charged at different major ports;

(c) the reasons for differences in tariffs in the major ports;

(d) whether ports having lower tariff rates are attracting more traffic than the other ports where tariff rates are higher; and

(e) if so, whether Government have any proposal to make the tariffs uniform in all major ports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) The traffic passing through a port consists of many commodities. The ability to bear the port charges may vary considerably with individual commodities. Some commodities may not stand the full costs, which include depreciation, overheads and minimum return on capital employed. Commodities like coal and salt will move only when the charges are substantially low. In such cases the ports are required to recover only the bare cost of moving such traffic which are direct costs and constitute

the floor charges in the tariff system. Commodities of higher value and comparatively smaller bulk can stand higher rates which may be fixed on the principle of ports charging 'what the traffic can bear'. In view of the multiplicity of commodities and the services required to be rendered by the major ports, the individual rates are differentiated according to the classifications and variations in the costs of handling of the cargo and the vessels. Application of this principle necessitates cross subsidisation of handling of various commodities and also various services.

(b) The rates charged at the major ports are published in books called Scales of Rates. All these books are available on payment of price. The results likely to be achieved by reproducing these large sized books of all the ten major ports will not be commensurate with the labour and cost involved.

(c) As in (a) above.

(d) The traffic handled at ports is dependent on the production in and requirements of the hinterlands served by the ports, as also on the facilities available at the ports, including the infrastructure such as roads, railway links, transport, etc. Tariff structures alone are not a guiding factor in the shippers' option for a particular port.

(e) Differential rates are implicit in the value, volume and direction of trade. Public interest may also necessitate differential tariff for certain kinds of commodities and for certain periods. The idea of having a uniform rating system is attractive though specious. Since each port has in respect of traffic an individuality of its own and relies on certain commodities from which the bulk of its revenue is derived, such as tea, gunnies at Calcutta, iron ore at Madras, Visakhapatnam and Mormugao, there will be practical difficulties in working out a uniform rate for all ports. These considerations militate against the principle of uniform rates even for major commodities at the various ports.

CGHS Wing in Safdarjung Hospital and Polyclinic in R. K. Puram

6992. SHRI HAFIZ MOHAMMAD SIDDIQ : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether CGHS Wing in Safdarjung Hospital is not a composite one and patients for skin, neurology, orthopaedic etc. have to line up with the general public in the Safdarjung Hospital;

(b) whether for obtaining X—Rays, getting E.C.G. done etc., CGHS beneficiaries have no separate arrangements;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to make the wing composite and also to open a polyclinic in R.K. Puram; and

(d) by when CGHS dispensary building for Sector IV, R.K. Puram is likely to be constructed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) At present no proposal for expansion of the CGHS Wing of Safdarjung Hospital or to open a polyclinic in R.K. Puram is under consideration.

(d) Construction of CGHS dispensary at R.K. Puram Sector IV will be considered after procurement of the plot of land earmarked for the purpose.

Proposal to Construct Nursing Home in Safdarjung Hospital

6993. SHRI HAFIZ MOHAMMAD SIDDIQ : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a Nursing Home in Safdarjung Hospital for the convenience of the Government employees residing in that part of the Capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). There is no proposal for establishing a Nursing Home in the Safdarjung Hospital during the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(c) Due to financial constraints it is not possible to consider such a proposal at present.

**Implementation of Recommendations
of the Committee on "Standardi-
sed Diets for Hospitals"**

6994. SHRI HAFIZ MOHAMMAD SIDDIQ : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recommendations of the Committee on "Standardised diets for hospitals" has since been implemented to have a uniform pattern of diets served to indoor patients and whether this scheme applicable to Delhi Hospitals or for all Government Hospital all over the country;

(b) whether some of the Government Hospitals in Delhi; like Safdarjung Hospital, purchase the items of general kitchen from Kendriya Bhandar; and

(c) if so, is there any proposal to direct the remaining Hospitals also to follow suit and if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The recommendations of the Committee on Standardised diets for hospitals have been recommended for implementation to the State Governments. The recommendations are applicable to all the Government Hospitals all over the country including Delhi.

(b) and (c). All the Government Hospitals in Delhi are already purchasing requirements of diet items from Kendriya Bhandar/Super Bazar.

[Translation]

Committee on Examination Reforms

6995. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that University Grants Commission has appointed an Implementation Committee on reformation of examination system;

(b) if so, the composition and terms of reference thereof; and

(c) whether the Committee have submitted its report and if so the action taken by

Government on recommendations contained therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) The University Grants Commission initiated a programme of Examination Reforms in the IV Plan. A Standing Committee was also constituted to advise the Commission on implementation of the Examination Reform programmes. This Standing Committee is reconstituted from time to time.

(b) The present composition of the Standing Committee on implementation of Examination Reforms is as follows :

1. Professor Ramaranjan Mukherji
Vice-Chancellor
Rabindra Bharati
Calcutta.
2. Professor R.C. Mehrotra
Department of Chemistry
Rajasthan University
Jaipur.
3. Professor R.G. Takwala
Department of Physics
Poona University
Poona.
4. Professor V.S. Mishra
Department of Education
Gorakhpur University
Gorakhpur.
5. Professor H.S. Srivastava
Department of Measurement
and Evaluation, NCERT
New Delhi.
6. Professor H.P. Dikshit
Department of Mathematics
Jabalpur University
Jabalpur.
7. Dr. N.K. Upasani
Hony. Director
Examination Reform Unit
S.N.D.T. Women's University
Bombay.
8. Dr. D. Acharya
Industrial Management Centre
Indian Institute of Technology
Kharagpur.

(c) The Committee meets from time to time and advises the Commission on specified measures to be taken. At its last meeting

held in October 1982, the Committee had recommended the details of certain minimum programme of reforms to be implemented by the universities. The programme of minimum reforms was communicated to all universities in January, 1983. The programmes suggested include division of the syllabus into units, setting questions from each such unit with choice limited to questions from each unit, freedom for examiners to repeat questions from the previous examinations, holding of examinations only after fulfilling the requirement of a minimum number of lectures, laboratory session etc. and making arrangements for proper conduct of examinations including supervision, invigilation, etc.

[English]

Universities Declared as Trouble Torn

6996. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Universities set during the last three year giving year-wise position and giving names;

(b) the details of Universities that have come up without University Grants Commission's concurrence during the above period;

(c) Universities which have been declared as trouble torn during the above period; and

(d) steps taken by University Grants Commission to streamline their working and action taken against the defaulters ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) The following Universities have been set up during the last 3 years.

Name of University	Year of Establishment
1. Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.	1982
2. Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu.	1982
3. Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Science	

and Technology, Srinagar, J & K. 1982

4. Andhra Pradesh Open University, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh. 1982

5. Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh. 1983

6. Amravati University, Amravati, Maharashtra 1983

7. Guru Ghasi Das University, Bilaspur, Madhya Pradesh. 1983

8. Gandhiji University, Kottayam, Kerala. 1983

9. Mother Teresa University, Kodaikanal, Tamil Nadu. 1984

10 Arunachal University, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh. 1984

(b) The State Government do not require the prior approval of the UGC for establishing new Universities. However, such Universities require to be declared fit by the UGC to receive assistance from the Commission. Among the Universities mentioned above only the Bharathiar and Bharathidasan Universities in Tamil Nadu have so far been declared fit to receive assistance by the Commission.

(c) : Universities are not so declared by the UGC.

(d) : Does not arise.

Construction Works on National Highway No. 12

6997. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the construction work on National Highway No. 12 between Bhopal and Jaipur is very slow;

(b) if so, the details of road under construction and bridges which are yet to be completed;

(c) what was the total allocation for National Highway No. 12 during Sixth Plan; and

(d) the details of works done between Jaipur-Bhopal and Jabalpur during the Sixth Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) to (d). No, Sir. The development and maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process and improvement works are sanctioned keeping in view the existing condition of the National Highway, traffic intensity and availability of resources. 73 works costing Rs. 7.28 crores were completed on National Highway No. 12 and an allotment of Rs. 10.58 crores was made during Sixth Plan. 58 works costing Rs. 7.68 crores on National Highway No. 12 are in various stages of progress.

Allotment of Land in Rajasthan Canal Area

6998. SHRI H. G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the allotment of land in the Rajasthan Canal Project area had been made by an agreement by the two State Governments of Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan under the supervision of Central Government;

(b) if so, whether the allotment is/was made in the reserved area for the Pong Dam Oustees;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Oustees are being harassed by the un-social and unwanted elements in the area; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) Pursuant to the decision taken by a Committee of Chief Ministers (comprising of Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh and the Union Minister of Irrigation and Power) in September, 1970, 2.25 lac acres of

Command Area was reserved in the Rajasthan Canal Project for allotment to Pong Dam Oustees. The allotment of land to Pong Dam Oustees in Rajasthan is being made under Rajasthan Colonisation (Allotment of Government Land to Pong Dam Oustees in the Rajasthan Canal Colony) Rules 1972.

(b) : Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). A few cases where land allotted to Oustees have been forcibly occupied by un-social elements have been reported. Rajasthan authorities have been requested to instruct the local Civil Administration, to redress the grievances of oustees promptly. Government of Rajasthan have informed that prompt action has been taken.

Damodar Valley Corporation's Power Supply to West Bengal

6999. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any request has been received from the Chief Minister, West Bengal, that both the State Electricity Board as well as Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation can absorb additional power from Damodar Valley Corporation whenever there is a short-fall;

(b) whether Damodar Valley Corporation's power supply to West Bengal can be augmented in view of the Chief Minister's assurance; and

(c) the details of the latest position in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). In the context of heavy load shedding in Calcutta city, Damodar Valley Corporation was instructed to give certain additional power to Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation; however, it has been observed that full allocation is not being utilised by C.E.S.C. Less than 50 per cent of power allocation is being drawn during off-peak hours, and even during peak hours full allocation was not utilized at times.

Taking into account, generation from Damodar Valley Corporation, the Corporation is not in a position to supply additional power to West Bengal State Electricity Board.

[Translation]

Construction of Parallel Canal to the Ganga Canal

7000. SHRI DHARAMVIR SINGH : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme of the Centre/Uttar Pradesh Government to construct a parallel canal alongwith the oldest canal of the country, the Ganga Canal with World Bank assistance;

(b) if so, the scheduled period of the construction of this new Ganga canal and the amount of expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;

(c) whether keeping in view the price rise, it would not be necessary to increase many times the amount earmarked for the construction of this canal; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to reduce the period of construction of this parallel Ganga canal so as to complete the work with the amount earmarked therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The first phase of the Upper Ganga Canal Modernisation Project is scheduled to be completed in 2008 in four time slices. from 1984 to 2008 with the total cost of Rs. 1313 crores. The World Bank is currently providing assistance of US \$ 125 million for the first time slice of six year's duration upto September, 1990 and an amount of Rs. 249.77 crores is expected to be spent on the project during this period.

(c) The cost of the first time slice includes the provision of physical contingencies and also an element of price escalation.

(d) The State Government has not made any proposal to reduce the period of construction of the parallel Ganga Canal.

[English]

Commercial Energy Consumption

7001. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) Commercial energy consumption in terms of coal replacement, of oil products and electricity in 1982-83, 1983-84, 1984-85;

(b) projected requirements for the next five years;

(c) estimates drawn up, if any, of non-commercial fuels like dung, firewood, charcoal and vegetable waste in the total energy consumed in the country; and

(d) whether there is a shortage of these non-commercial fuels in many parts of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Setting up of Head Quarter of the Bhakra Beas Management Board at Chandigarh

7002. SHRI JINDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chairman of the Bhakra Beas Management Board has been allowed to set up his Headquarters at Chandigarh, which is at a distance of 108 Kms., 210 Kms. and 200 Kms. from the important project sites of Nangal, Talwara and Sundernagar respectively;

(b) whether, as a result, huge sums of money will be required for purchase of land, construction of offices and residential quarters etc. at Chandigarh, while accommodation already available at the project sites is falling vacant; and

(c) whether basing high officers of the Board and top engineers and technical experts at Chandigarh instead of at or near the actual work-sites is considered conducive to more efficient management ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) to (c). A decision was taken by the Bhakra Management Board (now Bhakra Beas Management Board) in 1967 to locate its Headquarters at Chandigarh in view of its being close to the various BBMB project sites, New Delhi, capitals of partner States and having better communication facilities. Whereas Corporate Office of the Board is located at Chandigarh, senior engineers upto and including Chief Engineer's level are based at the various project stations, for effective functioning. As a result of locating the Corporate Office at Chandigarh, no accommodation is surplus at Nangal. However, some residential accommodation at Talwara and Sundernagar rendered surplus to the BBMB requirements, which are neither sufficient nor suitable for the Corporate Office, have been given on rental basis to Punjab State Electricity Board and Himachal Pradesh Government respectively on their persistent demand for their officers/offices at the two stations.

Sale of Banned Drugs

7003. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :
SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN :

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

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to a news item captioned "Banned Drugs freely available" appeared in the Statesman of 14 April, 1985 ;

(b) if so, the details of such drugs which are now available for sale in the country; and

(c) the action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) . Out of 25 drugs, reported by the W.H.O. to have been withdrawn in some countries, 12 drugs were not approved for marketing in India at all. 8 drugs have been withdrawn from the market and the remaining 6 drugs namely (1) Nitrofurans compounds, (2) Phenformin, (3) Hydroxy-

quinoline derivatives, (4) higher dose Lynestrenol products, (5) Piperazine and (6) Phenylbutazone/Oxyphenbutazone have been permitted for marketing in the country in consultation with the Medical Experts subject to a cautionary statement and contra-indications being given on the label/packed insert.

In so far as this Ministry is aware the drug Lomotil mentioned in the News item has not been banned in any country. This drug is however not recommended to be used in children below age of 6 years.

UGC Grants to Garhbeta Colleges, Midnapore

7004. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA :
SHRI R. P. DAS :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether University Grants Commission have approved a financial grant of Rs. 1,60,000/- for development assistance to Garhbeta College, Midnapore Distt. (West Bengal;

(b) whether the said college administration has sent all the relevant documents, plan etc. asked for by the University Grants Commission; and

(c) if so, whether the University Grants Commission are expediting the release of grants ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) The University Grants Commission had approved a proposal for construction of classrooms at a cost of Rs. 1,60,000 with the Commission's share limited to Rs. 80,000.

(b) and (c). Instead of sending the Plans and estimates for construction of classrooms, the college sent estimates for extension of Professor's common room, Principal's chamber, etc. The Commission therefore, advised the college to send plans and estimates for the approved construction programme. These are still awaited. The question of payment of grant will be considered when plans and estimates for the construction of classrooms are received and approved.

**Uttar Pradesh Government's Offer
to Centre for Taking Over Multi-
purpose Projects**

7005. SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh Government have offered that Central Government should take over some of the multipurpose hydro-electric projects which involve huge amount;

(b) if so, the projects offered; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) . The Government of Uttar Pradesh have offered Kishau Multi-purpose project (600 MW) in Yamuna Valley, Tehri Dam Project (1000 MW) in Ganga Valley and four hydro-electric schemes in Sarda Valley, namely, Dhauliganga, Gauriganga, Eastern Ramganga and Tanakpur for implementation in the Central Sector/Joint Sector. A decision has already been taken regarding the projects in the Sarda Valley. The Tanakpur hydro-electric project (120 MW) is under construction, through National Hydro-electric Power Corporation. Investigations have yet to be completed regarding the other three projects.

The Kishau Multi-purpose project involves inter-State issues relating to sharing of Yamuna waters and also submergence in Himachal Pradesh. The scheme could be considered for implementation in the Central Sector after the inter-State issues are resolved and techno-economic feasibility of the scheme is established. The modalities regarding execution of Tehri Dam Project as a joint venture between Government of India and Government of Uttar Pradesh are under examination.

[Translation]

**Concessions to Handicapped Children
in Central Schools**

7006. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the facilities being provided to handicapped children by the Government in Central Schools;

(b) whether it is a fact that handicapped children are not allowed any concessions in school buses etc.; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) There is no provision for any special facilities for handicapped children in Kendriya Vidyalayas (Central Schools).

(b) and (c). Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has no provision for transport facilities for children. Private transport arrangements are made in some Kendriya Vidyalayas on 'no profit no loss' basis and the concerned children have to share the expenses.

[English]

**Study Regarding Enrolment of Poor
Students at Elementary Stage**

7007. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to conduct a study in regard to poor students' enrolment at the elementary stage; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). The National Council of Educational Research and Training and other organisations have conducted a number of studies over the years in regard to problems causing poor enrolment at elementary stage. However, in view of the importance of the matter, the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have been recently requested to undertake area-specific studies wherever needed, for identifying the causes of non-enrolment and for taking suitable measures to attain universal enrolment.

**Universities in Andhra Pradesh Cleared
by U. G. C.**

7008. SHRI N. V. RATNAM : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) number of Universities in Andhra Pradesh cleared by University Grants Commission and when;

(b) number of Universities not declared fit by University Grants Commission in the State of Andhra Pradesh and the reasons for not clearing them; and the

(c) number of Universities in each State getting grant-in-aid ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). The total number of universities in Andhra Pradesh including Central Universities and two institutions deemed to be universities, is 13. Of these, 2 universities established in 1982 and 1983 respectively are still to be declared fit for assistance from central sources. The University Grants Commission has suggested certain amendments to the Acts of the Andhra Pradesh Open university and the Sri Padmavathi Mahila Vishwavidyalayam before declaring them fit for assistance. The State Government is yet to communicate their views on these suggestions.

(c) The total number of universities in each State; including Central Universities and institutions deemed to be universities, receiving grants from Central sources is given in the attached statement.

Statement

Statement showing the State-wise number of Universities which are receiving grants-in-aid from the UGC

Name of State	Number of universities/ Institutions receiving grants-in-aid
Andhra Pradesh	11
Assam	3
Bihar	10
Gujarat	9
Haryana	3

Himachal Pradesh	1
Jammu & Kashmir	2
Karnataka	5
Kerala	4
Madhya Pradesh	10
Maharashtra	11
Manipur	1
Meghalaya	1
Orissa	4
Punjab	4
Rajasthan	5
Tamil Nadu	9
Uttar Pradesh	22
West Bengal	8
Delhi	5

[Translation]

**UGC Grants to Lalit Narayan
Mishra Mithila University
Darbhanga**

7009. SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Lalit Narayan Mishra Mithila University, Darbhanga in Bihar is receiving grants from University Grants Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) The L. N. Mithila University, Darbhanga has been declared fit to receive assistance from the UGC subject to the condition that grants for institutional development would be provided only after the Act and Statutes of the University are amended as suggested by the UGC. Meanwhile, the university is being sanctioned grants for other purposes, namely appointment of Visiting Professors, award of fellowships, publications, unassigned grants, etc.

(b) and (c). During the period 1981-82 to 1984-85, the Commission had approved a total grant of Rs. 2.65 lakhs. However, the University has been paid only Rs. 40,170. A

Visiting Committee appointed by the Commission had assessed the requirements for development grants. Action on the report of the Committee would be taken as soon the State Government informs the Commission about the amendments made to the Act and Statutes of the University.

[English]

Suicide Rate in India

7010. SHRI R. ANNANAMBI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S

WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the suicide rate in different States of India;

(b) the reasons for suicide; and

(c) ratio of males and females in such cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRA-SEKHAR) : (a) to (c). The requisite information is annexed at Statements I-III.

Statement-I

Incidence of Suicides Volume of Suicides per lakh of population during 1982

Sl. No.	Name of States/U. Territories and Cities	Estimated mid year population in 1000	No. of suicides	Vol. of suicides per 100,000 of population	Percentage of total suicides
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	53593	2990	5.58	6.7
2.	Assam	19903	1705	8.57	3.8
3.	Bihar	69823	714	1.02	1.6
4.	Gujarat	23961	1793	5.28	4.0
5.	Haryana	12851	461	3.59	1.0
6.	Himachal Pradesh	4238	90	2.12	0.2
7.	J & K	5954	22	0.37	—
8.	Karnataka	37044	5295	14.29	11.9
9.	Kerala	25403	4613	18.16	10.3
10.	Madhya Pradesh	52139	3051	5.85	6.9
11.	Maharashtra	62715	3890	6.20	8.7
12.	Manipur	1412	41	2.90	0.1
13.	Meghalaya	1328	36	2.71	0.1
14.	Nagaland	773	5	0.65	—
15.	Orissa	26272	2303	8.77	5.1
16.	Punjab	16670	359	2.15	0.8
17.	Rajasthan	34108	937	2.75	2.1
18.	Sikkim	315	17	5.40	—
19.	Tamil Nadu	48297	5490	11.37	12.3
20.	Tripura	2047	550	26.87	1.2
21.	Uttar Pradesh	110886	2477	2.24	5.5
22.	West Bengal	54486	6881	12.63	15.4
Total (States)		674218	43,720	61.48	97.7

1	2	3	4	5	6
23.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	188	72	38.30	0.2
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	628	23	3.66	—
25.	Chandigarh	450	21	4.67	—
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	104	15	14.12	—
27.	Delhi	6196	435	7.02	1.0
28.	Goa, Daman & Diu	1082	86	7.95	0.2
29.	Lakshdweep	40	1	2.50	—
30.	Mizoram	488	7	1.44	—
31.	Pondicherry	604	352	58.28	0.9
Total (UTS)		9780	1012	10.35	2.3
Grand Total		683998	44732	71.83	100.0

Note : Population figures are actual census figures as on 1.3.1981 and the volume per lakh of population is based on the actual census figures. Estimated mid year population figures for 1982 are not available.

Statement-II

Suicides classified according to causes during 1982

S1. Causes of Suicides No.	Number of Suicidal Deaths	Percentage to total Suicides
1. Failure in examination	771	1.7
2. Quarrel with parents-in-law	3803	8.5
3. Quarrel with Spouse	2857	6.3
4. Poverty	1202	2.7
5. Love Affairs	2185	4.9
6. Insanity	1428	3.2
7. Dispute over Property	824	1.8
8. Dreadful diseases	6632	14.8
9. Unemployment	518	1.1
10. Bankruptcy or sudden change in economic position	374	1.0
11. Deaths of dear persons	380	1.0
12. Fall in Social reputation	480	1.0
13. Other Causes	23278	52.0
Total	44732	100.0

Statement-III

Suicides classified according to sex and by States, Union Territories and Metropolitan Cities during 1982

S1. States/U. T.s/Cities No.	Male	% of Male to total	Female	% of Female to total	Total
States					
1. Andhra Pradesh	1,683	56.3	1,307	43.7	2,990
2. Assam	1,229	72.1	476	27.9	1,705
3. Bihar	433	60.6	281	39.4	714
4. Gujarat	915	51.1	878	48.9	1,793
5. Haryana	246	53.4	215	46.6	461
6. Himachal Pradesh	63	70.0	27	30.0	90
7. Jammu & Kashmir	13	59.1	9	40.9	22
8. Karnataka	3,196	60.4	2,099	39.6	5,295
9. Kerala	3,188	69.1	1,425	30.9	4,613
10. Madhya Pradesh	1,766	57.8	1,285	42.2	3,051
11. Maharashtra	2,239	57.6	1,651	42.4	3,890
12. Manipur	33	80.5	8	19.5	41
13. Meghalaya	27	75.0	9	25.0	36
14. Nagaland	4	80.0	1	20.0	5
15. Orissa	1,253	54.4	1,050	45.6	2,303
16. Punjab	261	72.7	98	27.3	359
17. Rajasthan	547	58.4	390	41.6	937
18. Sikkim	15	88.3	2	11.7	17
19. Tamil Nadu	3,414	62.2	2,076	37.8	5,490
20. Tripura	313	56.9	237	43.1	550
21. Uttar Pradesh	1,383	55.8	1,094	44.2	2,477
22. West Bengal	3,685	53.5	3,196	46.5	6,881
Total (States)	25,906	59.3	17,814	40.7	43,720
U. T.s					
23. A & N Island	45	62.5	27	37.5	72
24. Arunachal Pradesh	13	56.6	10	43.5	23
25. Chandigarh	15	71.4	6	28.6	21
26. D & N Haveli	9	60.0	6	40.0	15
27. Delhi	232	53.3	203	46.7	435
28. Goa, Daman & Diu	58	67.4	28	32.6	86
29. Lakshadweep	—	—	1	100.0	1
30. Mizoram	6	85.8	1	14.2	7
31. Pondicherry	236	67.1	116	32.9	352
Total (UTs)	614	60.7	398	39.3	1,012
Grand Total	26,520	59.3	18,212	40.7	44,732

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cities						
1. Ahmedabad		89	48.1	96	51.9	185
2. Bangalore		395	55.1	325	44.9	718
3. Bombay		112	54.1	95	45.9	207
4. Calcutta		18	43.9	23	56.1	41
5. Delhi		219	52.5	198	47.5	417
6. Hyderabad		107	56.9	81	43.1	188
7. Kanpur		21	47.7	23	52.3	44
8. Madras		262	56.7	200	43.3	462
9. Jaipur		61	48.4	65	51.6	126
10. Pune		78	55.7	62	44.3	140
11. Nagpur		97	49.5	99	50.5	196
12. Lucknow			—N. A.—			
Total (Cities)		1,459	53.6	1,265	46.4	2,724

**Students' Strength in J. N. U. and
Per Capita Expenditure**

7011. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) the strength of both part time and full time students in each school and centre in this academic year in Jawaharlal Nehru University;

(b) the number of students who have dropped out from Jawahar Lal Nehru University as on 31st January, 1985; and

(c) per capita expenditure in Jawahar Lal Nehru University in the present academic year ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION

(SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) The number of students on rolls of the Jawahar Lal Nehru University at the commencement of the academic year 1984-85 pursuing full-time and part-time courses in each School and Centre of the University is given in Statement-I attached.

(b) The details of students, out of those admitted during 1984-85, who either dropped out or whose names were removed for failure to satisfy the eligibility conditions within the stipulated date, are given in Statement-II attached.

(c) On the basis of the maintenance grants paid during the financial year 1984-85, and the students strength as on 31.1.1985, the per capita expenditure works out to approximately Rs. 27,529/-

Statement-I

School/Centre	No. of full-time students		Total	Part-time	Total
	M. Phil/ Ph. D.	M. A.			

I. School of International Studies

Centre for American & West European Studies.	39	—		—	
Centre for Studies in Diplomacy, International Law & Economics.	61	—		—	

1	2	3	4	
Centre for East Asian Studies.	44	—	—	
Centre for International Politics & Organisation.	70	—	—	
Centre for South East & Central Asian Studies.	42	—	—	
Centre for Soviet & East European Studies.	43	—	—	
Centre for West Asian & African Studies.	35	—	—	
M. A. in Politics (International Studies)	—	58	—	
Total	334	58	392	—
				392

II. School of Social Sciences

Centre for the study of Regional Development	102	27	—	
Centre for Historical Studies	86	35	—	
Centre for the study of Social Systems.	106	35	—	
Centre for Political Studies.	72	28	—	
Centre for Economic Studies & Planning	29	44	—	
Zakir Hussain Centre for Educational Studies.	27	—	—	
Centre for Social Medicine & Community Health	27	—	—	
Centre for the Studies in Science Policy.	2	—	—	
Total	451	169	620	—
				620

School/Centre	No. of full-time Students		Part-time				
	M.phil/Ph.D	M.A.	Pre-Degree Diploma	Advanced Diploma of Proficiency	Dip-oma of proficiency	Cert-ificate of proficiency	T O T A L
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
III. School of Languages							
Centre of African & Asian Languages	10	69	8	—	7	58	
Centre of French Studies	19	77	—	8	31	35	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Centre of German Studies	6	57	—	—	—	—	
Centre of Indian Languages	71	13	—	15	—	16	
Centre of Linguistics & English Linguistics	27	25	—	—	—	—	
Philosophy	3	—	—	—	—	—	
Centre of Russian Studies	9	84	—	—	12	25	
Centre of Spanish	5	38	—	—	10	60	
Total	150	363	8	23	60	194	798
IV. School of Life Sciences	71	19	—	—	—	—	90
V. School of Computer & Systems Sciences	35	—	—	—	—	—	35
VI. School of Environmental Sciences	55	—	—	—	—	—	55
Grand Total							1990

Statement-II

Name of School	No. admitted			*No. dropped out			
	M.Phil/ Ph. D.	M.A. —	Part- time & Dip- loma	M.Phil/ Ph.D. —	M.A.	Part time & Dip- loma	Total
1. School of International Studies	128	59	...	9	12	...	21
2. School of Social Sciences	169	170	...	17	48	...	65
3. School of Languages	53	173	288	2	28	164	194
4. School of Life Sciences	32	21	...	5	3	...	8
5. School of Computer & Systems Sciences	15	...	...	4	...	...	4
6. School of Enviromental Sciences	19	...	...	6	...	...	6
	426	413	288	43	91	164	298

*The figures include the number of students either dropped out or their names removed for their failure to satisfy the eligibility conditions within the stipulated date.

Progress of on-going Projects in Maharashtra

7012. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details and the particulars of the on-going railway projects sanctioned and taken up for construction in Maharashtra

since 1983; and

(b) the progress made so far in respect of them in physical and financial terms.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). A Statement is attached.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Physical progress as on 31-3-1985 % age	Financial expenditure up to 31-3-1985 (in crores of rupees)	remark
1	2	3	4	5
New Lines				
1.	Mankhurd—Balapur with a bridge across Thane Creek (18 kms.)	0.86	1.42	
Gauge Conversions				
1.	Parbhani—Purna and Mudkhed—Adilabad conversion and Purna Mudkhed parallel BG line (248 kms.)	—	0.20	
Doublings				
1.	Additional pair of lines between Andhere and Bandra with fly over at Ravli	1.4	1.15	
Other Traffic Facilities				
1.	Vikhroli-Provision of 4th Terminal—Acquisition of land	—	0.04	
2.	Vikhroli—Provision of 4th Terminal (Phase-I)	—	—	
3.	Udhana—Jalgaon sectionline capacity works	—	—	Partly in Gujarat
Road Over/Under Bridges				
1.	ROB between Kandivli—Borivli	—	0.06	
2.	ROB at Pimpri	27.0	0.36	
3.	ROB at Chunabhathi	—	0.01	
4.	ROB at Wardha	—	0.05	
S & T Projects				
1.	Bhusawal-RR1	—	—	
2.	Replacement of AC Vane type relays and power supply system, colour light signals on Boriveli—Virar Section.	Nil	Nil	
3.	Replacement of existing Vane type relays, track circuits, lever frames at Goregaon.	Nil	Nil	
4.	Replacement of 800 line telephone exchange by an electronic exchange at Churchgate.	Nil	Nil	
5.	Improvement of communication system on the Bombay suburban section.	Nil	Nil	
Workshop and Sheds				
1.	Pune-Expansion of Diesel shed to home 60 to 100 locos.	12.99	1.26	
Electrifications				
1.	Durg—Nagpur (265 kms.)	—	0.01	186 kms. falls in Maharashtra.

Guidelines Re : Purchase of Medicine Kits

7013. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some state Governments have not followed the Central Government guidelines for purchase of medicine kits for supply to Village Health Guides;

(b) names of States which have not followed the guidelines of Union Government; and

(c) the States which could not spend the total amount sanctioned for the purpose by the Central Government and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the State UTs. The same will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as received.

Mobile Clinics Attached to Medical Colleges and Particularly in Gujarat

7014. SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that for the purpose of the re-orientation of medical schemes, over 300 mobile clinics had been supplied to the medical colleges all over the country;

(b) if so, number of such mobile clinics supplied to the Medical College in Gujarat and the amount spent for the purpose;

(c) whether the Government are regularly receiving the report of utilisation of mobile clinics from the respective medical college;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) details regarding rate of percentage of beneficiaries of the urban and rural population covered under each of the mobile clinic in the States alongwith an outline for intensifying this scheme particularly in the remote areas where doctors and other para medical staff are generally reluctant to serve?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (e).

Yes, Sir. 318 Mobile Clinics were received by the Government of India under the U.K. Aid Programme. These are attached to the Medical College to involve them in the delivery of Health Care Services to rural and semi-rural population. The Medical college in Gujarat have been supplied 15 Mobile clinics @ 3 Mobile clinics per college. The total amount released to the State Government of Gujarat for the purpose of implementing the Rome Scheme in the 5 medical colleges is Rs. 80.20 lakhs. The progress reports of utilisation of the Mobile Clinics in Gujarat are being received regularly from all excepting one Medical College. The Mobile Clinics are meant for the delivery of health care services to the rural and semi-rural population and not for the urban population. The use of these clinics varies from institution to institution depending on a number of factors including the terrain, 'nature of existing rural health services and the availability of supplementary resources etc. Wherever possible, these clinics are also used for other national health programmes.

Recommendations made by Committee Constituted to look into Grievances of CGHS Pharmacists

7015. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of recommendations made by the Committee constituted to look into the grievance of CGHS Pharmacists and what was the date of submission of report to the Government;

(b) the recommendations made by the Committee on each of the grievances of the Pharmacists; and

(c) recommendations implemented so far by the Government and if some of them not implemented, the reasons in each case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c). The Committee which was constituted to look into the grievances of C. G. H. S. pharmacists submitted its report on 2.5.1979 and recommended creation of the following promotional posts :

1. Senior Pharmacist-cum-Store-keeper.

2. Assistant Store Superintendent.
3. Zonal Store Superintendent.
4. Depot Manager.

The recommendations could not be implemented due to financial constraints.

Epidemic of Cholera in South Delhi

7016. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Cholera cases in South Delhi have been reported in the month of April, 1985;

(b) whether Cholera has been spreading in the epidemic form in Delhi; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken to combat Cholera ?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. However the necessary preventive measures have been initiated.

Leprosy Patient Rehabilitation Centres

7017. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : SHRI AMAR SINH RATHAWA:

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

(a) the number of leprosy patient rehabilitation centres opened in the country with the Central assistance;

(b) the number of leprosy patients treated in each Centre; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to establish more leprosy patient rehabilitation centres in the country to avoid spreading of this infectious disease, if so, the details thereof ?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) ; (a) and (b) : Under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme a scheme for the establishment of Leprosy Rehabilitation Promotion Units in different States/Union Territories is being implemented. Out of 15 such centres sanctioned 7 centres have been established so far.

The rehabilitation centres provide necessary surgical treatment for the correction of physical de-formities for jobs and tools adaptations. The Leprosy Patients are treated at Leprosy Control Units, Urban Leprosy Centres, SET centres and Leprosy Hospitals, etc. Upto end of March, 1985, 30.27 lakh cases have been receiving treatment in various units.

(c) During 7th Plan period it is proposed to establish 9 more Leprosy Rehabilitation Promotion Units in the country.

Women's Universities

7018. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) number of women's Universities functioning in our country and since how long;

(b) number of universities recognised so far and reasons for not recognising others; and

(c) whether Government are satisfied that there is sufficient number of women universities in the country to meet the special needs of our women ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) ; (a) There are at present three women's Universities in the country. The first of these was established in 1951 at Bombay. The second was established at Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh in 1982 and the third at Kodaikanal in Tamil Nadu in 1984.

(b) These universities have been established under Acts of the respective State Legislatures and do not therefore require any further recognition by the UGC or the Central Government. However, the two universities in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu established in 1983 and 1984 respectively are yet to be declared fit by the UGC to receive Central assistance.

(c) The facilities offered by all the universities in the country are also accessible to women. The Central Government has therefore no proposal to set up separate universities for women.

[Translation]

**Modernisation of Power Stations of
Ukai, Gandhi Nagar, Dhruvran
in Gujarat**

7019. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allotted for modernisation of power station of Ukai, Gandhi Nagar, Dhruvran in Gujarat;

(b) the defects found in these three power stations and the steps being taken to remove them; and

(c) by what time the modernisation work is likely to be completed and the extent to which production will be increased after modernisation ?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) the total loan assistance sanctioned under the Central scheme for increased power generation by removing the Ukai, Gandhinagar and Dhruvran station is about Rs. 21.34 crores.

(b) The major items of work covered under the renovation and modernisation programme relate to boilers, including economisers and air preheaters, control and instrumentation, turbo-generators and turbine auxiliaries, etc.

(c) The programme is expected to be completed in about three to four years. The expected increase in generation after implementation of the programmes in the three power stations is expected to be about 500 million units per year.

[English]

**Status of "Sree Chithira Thirunal
Medical Centre, Trivendrum"**

7020. DR. K. G. ADIYODI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the status of 'Sree Chithira Thirunal Medical Centre, Trivendrum' and facilities extended by Central Government;

(b) what are the fields in which research is being conducted at this centre and the results thereof; and

(c) how are these results put into practice ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) It is an Institute of national importance set up by an Act of Parliament and financially supported by Deptt. of Science, and Technology under the Ministry of Science and Technology. Facilities include laboratories for biomaterials science, and biomedical engineering, a fully equipped surgical centre for patients in cardiology neurology and cardio-thoracic surgery. It also has facilities for post-graduate training courses in above areas;

(b) and (c). The research and development work is taken up in bio-medical engineering and technology, basic research studies in Biosurface technology and thrombosis. The technologies for bio-medical devices developed by the Institute (double blood bag disposable oxygenator and cardiotomy reservoir-cum-filter) were transferred for commercial production through National Research and Development Corp. of India. Similarly, the Chitra tilting disc valve and prosthetic vascular graft are scheduled to enter commercial production.

**Norms laid down by UGC for Sanc-
tioning Grants for Development
Activities**

7021. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) the norms and conditions stipulated by University Grants Commission for sanction of grants for library, laboratory, buildings, hostels and other development activities in various colleges in the States;

(b) whether any distinction is made between urban and rural colleges;

(c) if so, the nature of the distinction and the exact criteria in each case; and

(d) the definition of rural and urban colleges recognised by the Commission in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) During the Sixth Plan, the UGC has been providing assistance to Colleges recognised under Section 2 (f)

and, where applicable, declared fit under Section 12-B of the UGC Act. The conditions of eligibility prescribed for different purposes are as follows :

1. *Basic Assistance*—Colleges which have 150 students in degree courses, and 5 permanent teachers are sanctioned basic assistance on 100 per cent basis for faculty improvement, books and journals and equipment. The quantum of grants for books and journals is determined at the rate of Rs. 50 per student subject to a maximum of Rs. 40,000 and equipment grant at the rate of Rs. 150 per student in courses involving laboratory work, subject to a maximum of Rs. 50,000.
2. *Development grants*—Development grants are sanctioned to colleges which have atleast 4 departments with a minimum of 2 teachers in each and a total strength of 10 permanent teachers; and a total student strength of 300 in degree courses. Such colleges with an enrolment of 300—600 students are sanctioned a total grant of Rs. 4 lakhs, those with an enrolment of 601—2000, Rs. 5 lakhs and those with an enrolment of 2001 and above Rs. 7.5 lakhs. Within these ceilings, the Commission provides assistance to the extent of 75 per cent on staff, books and equipment and extension programmes; 100 per cent on faculty improvement programmes and remedial courses, and 50 per cent on buildings.

(b) and (c). In the case of colleges located in rural areas, assistance on the above basis is sanctioned by relaxing the minimum enrolment requirement from 300 to 200.

(d) For the purpose of assistance, a college is considered to be located in a rural area if it is outside the limits of a municipality, corporation, town or notified area, cantonment or other similar urban bodies.

Cost Escalation of Power Project

7022. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a slaggering increase in the cost estimates of power projects sanctioned by the Centre so for;

(b) if so, the range of the increase in cost estimates over the original estimates;

(c) the number and names of the projects where such increases have taken place; and

(d) the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) to (c). Statements showing name, original sanctioned cost and cost as now anticipated of thermal and hydro power projects in the country sanctioned by the Centre are given at Annexures-1 and 2 laid on the Table of the House.

(Placed in Library. See No. LT-1130/85)

(d) The main reasons for increase in the cost estimates are :—

- (i) Increase in the cost of plant and equipments;
- (ii) Increase in the cost of steel, cement, other raw materials and labour;
- (iii) Change in scope of work including changes in design necessitated because of geological and other site conditions;
- (iv) Inadequate provisions in the original estimates; and
- (v) Increase in customs duty etc. due to import of equipment necessitated by external financial arrangements, etc.

Indo-Bangladesh Joint River Commission

7023. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether one day meeting of the local committee of the India-Bangladesh Joint River Commission ended at Belonia in South Tripura on 4 April, 1985;

(b) if so, the main reasons of failure to reach any accord;

(c) other steps Government propose to take to settle this issue;

(d) whether any fresh official level talks are likely to be undertaken; and

(e) if so, by what time ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The meeting was held on 3.4.1985.

(b) The Bangladesh side did not agree to stop the works undertaken by them opposite Belonia.

(c) to (e). The matter was discussed in the Standing Committee of the Joint Rivers Commission on 30th April 1985. As there were differences, the Standing Committee has referred the matter to the Joint Rivers Commission.

Major Railway Projects in West Bengal

7024. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the particulars of the major railway projects sanctioned and taken up for construction in West Bengal during the last three years;

(b) the progress so far made in respect of them in physical and financial terms; and

(c) whether the progress is very poor; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (d). A statement is attached.

Statement

Parts (a) to (d) :—Particulars of major Railway Projects sanctioned during 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 are indicated below, together with progress thereof :

(Figures in Crores of Rs.)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Year of approval	Anticipated Expenditure upto Mar. '85	Progress	Reasons for slow progress, if any
1	2	3	4	5	6
A. New Lines					
1.	Eklakhi—Balurghat with extension from Eklakhi—Malda Town (110 kms)	83-84	3.40	2%	Constraint of funds.
2.	Tamluk—Digha (88 kms)	84-85	—	—	Not cleared by Planning Commission.
B. Doublings					
1.	Muri-Bokaro (Ph. III) (13 kms)	83-84	0.23	—	Constraint of resources.
2.	Eklakhi—Kumedpur (42 km)	84-85	—	—	Works sanctioned recently.

1	2	3	4	5	6
C. Road Over/Under Bridges					
1.	Construction of Road over bridge at Malda.	83-84	24.80 lacs	100% (Rly. portion)	Work on approaches yet to be taken up by the State Government.
2.	Construction of Road over bridge at Jadavpur.	83-84	7.00 lacs	—	Plans and estimates are being finalised.
3.	Construction of road over bridge at Serampur.	83-84	7.42 lacs	20%	—
4.	Construction of road over bridge at Belgaria.	83-84	11.15 lacs	15%	—
5.	Construction of road over bridge at Sodepur.	84-85	—	—	Plans and estimates are being finalised.
6.	Construction of road over bridge at Purulia.	82-83	—	—	State Government yet to finalise plans for road approaches and sanction the estimates.
D. Other Works					
1.	Setting up new Divnl. office at Malda Town.	84-85	0.75 Crs.	40%	—
E. Workshops					
1.	Lilluah—Modernisation of C&W Repair Workshop (Ph. II)	84-85	0.30	—	The work has been recently included in the Budget 84-85.
F. Metro Projects					
1.	Circular Railway, Calcutta	84-85	10.0	12%	Formal approval from Planning Commission is awaited.
G. Traffic Facilities					
1.	Bidhannagar Road—acquisition of land for additional facilities	84-85	0.10	—	Recently included in the Budget.

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	a) Malda Town—Kumdepur section remodelling of Old Malda and other traffic facilities b) Kumdepur—New Jalpaiguri section—Provision of 2nd loop with Unidirectional reception facilities at 3 stations	84-85	1.25	—	—do—
3.	Kumdepur—New Bongaigaon section a) Provision of tokenless Block working from Kumdepur to New Bongaigaon i.e. 52 stations b) Provision of 2nd loop at 12 stations.	84-85	0.20	—	Due to constraint of resources.
4.	Haldia—Panskura section—Augmentation of section capacity	84-85	0.58	—	Recently included in the Budget.

Representation from Students of Jamia Millia University

7025. SHRI GOPAL KRISHNA THOTA : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the students studying Aircraft Maintenance Engineering, Department of Technology in Jamia Millia University, New Delhi, submitted a written representation to the effect that their course should be treated as a B.E. (Aircraft Maintenance);

(b) whether their course would be recognised by Indian Airlines and Air India for employment in their respective organisations without a licence from Director General of Civil Aviation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The course presently offered by the Jamia is not of the degree level, and would require to be upgraded to qualify for recognition as equivalent to B.E. (Aircraft Maintenance). The question of the Indian

Airlines and the Air India accepting the graduates of this course for employment as Graduate Engineers would arise only after the course is appropriately upgraded.

[Translation]

Realisation of Penalty for Loading Coal in Railway Wagon in Excess of the Prescribed Limit

7026. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Limited, the Director, Railway Movement and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce had taken a decision in 1984 that the penalty for loading coal in railway wagon in excess of the prescribed limit, would be realised from the customer;

(b) if so, the reasons for doing so when the Coal India Limited or Railways are actually responsible for loading coal in the wagons in excess of the prescribed limit; and

(c) whether Government propose to realise this penalty either from the Coal India

Limited or from Railways or from any other agency responsible therefor instead of realising it from customers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No such decision was taken. The recovery of penalty charge from the person paying the freight charges is as per the Goods Tariff rules.

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

[English]

Treatment of Patients by Bio-magnetism

7026-A. SHRI G. G. SWELL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are arrangements within the country for treatment of patients by biomagnetism;

(b) if so, where;

(c) whether we are in touch with other countries on this state-of-the art medical technology; and

(d) the names of those countries and the broad indications of their successes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The ICMR have reported that it is not possible to feed magnetic fields from living organisms into the body. However, it is well known that exposure of the body to magnetic fields alter body functions e.g. brain waves (EEG), blood flow and possibly inflammatory reaction. Also, it is well established that the human body produces magnetic fields. Measurements of these fields are used for diagnostic purposes e.g. "magnetocardiography."

(b) Magnetic fields are being used for therapy. Devices are manufactured in India to affect biomagnetism and influence disease. Most of these are elementary and/or in the realm of quackery. A charitable trust in Madras is running a magnetotherapy clinic regularly.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) USSR and Germany are involved in studies regarding biological effects of magne-

tic fields. Theoretical work is also done in USA.

News Item 'Luxury Bus Owners' Flourishing Racket

7026-B. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :
SHRI RAM SAMUJHAWAN:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item 'Luxury Bus Owners' flourishing racket' appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 19 April, 1985;

(b) if so, the number of Deluxe and Video buses registered in Delhi, Jaipur and Agra during the last three years, Year-wise;

(c) the number of cases of non-issuance of regular tickets, maintaining duplicate ticket books, coaches registered under different names and extra coaches plying without registration detected by Government and action taken against the defaulters during last two years in Delhi; and

(d) the number of such coaches which are under Government operation at present in Delhi, Jaipur and Agra ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While the information in respect of Deluxe and Video buses registered at Jaipur and Agra during last three years is yet to be received from concerned State Governments, similar information in respect of Delhi is given hereunder :—

	1982	1983	1984
Buses :	25	37	41

(c) The luxury and video coaches referred to in the question fall in the category of Contract Carriage which is meant to carry passengers for hire under a contract to use the vehicle as a whole and therefore the question of issuing tickets to individual passengers does not arise. Delhi Administration have intimated that no irregularity has come to their notice about any duplicate ticket booths, plying of extra coaches without registrations or registration not conforming to the requirements of regulations.

(d). At present 20 coaches including A.C. coaches are under operation by Delhi Tourism Development Corporation in Delhi. Similar information in respect of Jaipur and Agra is yet to be received from the concerned State Governments.

Luxury and Video Coaches Operated by Private Parties

7026-C. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLIK :
SHRI RAM SAMUJHAWAN :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that almost all the luxury and video coaches operating between major metropolitan cities of the country are run by private parties which have a well knit network to hoodwink various tax authorities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a majority of the operators have booking agents at strategic points in every city where a passenger can book a seat in the luxury coach in advance on payment of full fare for the journey for which he is issued a receipt;

(c) whether it is also a fact that no ticket is issued to the passenger at all and even the cash receipt is taken away by the conductor in the bus on the pretext that he would have to collect the money from the booking agent; and

(d) whether these rackets have come to the notice of Government and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) to (d). The luxury and video coaches referred to in the question fall in the category of Contract Carriage bus, which is meant to carry passengers on hire under a contract using the vehicle as a whole. The question of issuing tickets to individual passengers therefore, does not arise.

Each State Government/U.T. Administration invariably realises the tax for the period for which permit is issued and when the vehicle crosses the State border, the tax in respect of the State is realised at the bor-

der check post. The question of evasion of tax in such cases is negligible.

Instances of malpractices and clandestine operations particularly with regard to buses/coaches operating on All India Tourist permits have come to light and steps have since been initiated to modify the scheme to eliminate scope for misuse of tourist buses.

12.00 hrs.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : I want to make two submissions. Number one : One privilege notice I have given. It has been pending. I have received a memorandum. I would request you to take it up tomorrow.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : We shall see.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Secondly, Sir, this being almost the last day I would like to raise one question regarding the artistes in the country. We are going to have Festival of India in France and United States of America.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You may give notice under Rule 377.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Three Bharata Natyam artistes...

MR. SPEAKER : You give it in writing. Not like this.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have given.

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We will allow. But not like this, I will allow in a regular manner.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I don't say 'Irregularly'—regularly only I say.

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you under 377. No problem.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : Sir, I had thought originally of coming to you and meeting you in your chamber. You will forgive me. But after something has happened I thought I must make my submission here in this House. That is the question of what I consider to be discrimination against this House.

MR. SPEAKER : About what ?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I had given notice of a Question which was returned to me by**

saying, your Question cannot be admitted. I asked him to explain to me why it had not been admitted. I was told by the man who came to see me, that this Question which related to that agreement between India and Italy about research in defence matters, — it has not been admitted, because it may contain some classified information which cannot be given out in the interests of the security of our country. I kept quiet. I said, all right; that may be so. To my surprise today I find in the Papers, Sir, that the same question has been answered along with supplementary questions in the other House. Something cannot be classified information for Lok Sabha and not classified information for the other House. What kind of rules and what kind of norms are we following? I do not understand. It can be permitted in the other House and not permitted in this House? Somebody must look into this.

MR. SPEAKER : I will look into it. I will talk to you.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : This cannot be treated as a second-class House.

MR. SPEAKER : No. No question.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I am very annoyed about this thing. I have spoken to you. I have given a Calling Attention. You had promised that you would get some report from the Minister. I had asked him to make a statement. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : On that very report, the man must have gone to you. I do not know how it can be differentiated.

Not recorded**

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : How can it be permitted there and not permitted here ?

MR. SPEAKER : We will see to it. It should not have been.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : We must have some remedy for this kind of thing.

MR. SPEAKER : I will see to it.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Sir, what about the privilege motion given by Mr. Purna Chandra Malik ?

MR. SPEAKER : We are doing it.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Sir, tomorrow is the last day of the Session.

MR. SPEAKER : Does not matter. It might be the last day of the Session.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, we have spoken so much. Tomorrow at Zero Hour, you give your ruling on our privilege motions. You speak, Sir, and we will listen.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Raghuma Reddy, No, no question. Please take your seat. That is not the way.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Papers to be laid on the Table.

— — —

12.20 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Calcutta Metro Railway (Operation and Maintenance) Temporary Provisions Act 1985.

Statement showing reasons for delay in laying the above papers on the Table

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSILAL) : I beg to lay on the Table...

- (1) A copy of the Calcutta Metro Railway (Temporary Provisions) General Rules, 1984 (Hindi and English versions

published in Notification No. G.S.R. 735 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd October, 1984 under sub-section (3) of section 22 of the Calcutta Metro Railway (Operation and Maintenance) Temporary Provisions Act, 1985.

- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the notification mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No LT 941/85]

Annual Reports and Review of the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi, National Book Trust, India, New Delhi, etc. for the year 1983-84.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : I beg to lay on the Table...

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 942/85]

- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at a (1) above.
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Book Trust, India, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84 along with Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Audited Report (Hindi and English versions) on the accounts of the National Book Trust, India, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Govern-

ment on the working of the National Book Trust, India, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.

- (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 943/85]

- (5) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the North Eastern Hill University, Shillong, for the year 1982-83 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (6) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library See No LT 944/85]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.

- (8) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 945/85]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi for the year 1983-84, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.

- (10) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 946/85]

(11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84 together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.

(12) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 947/85]

(13) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, for the year 1983-84 together with Audit Report thereon.

(14) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

(15) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Reports of the Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh for the year 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84, Annual Report of the university of Delhi, Delhi, for the year 1983-84, Annual Report of the University of Hyderabad for the year 1983-84, Annual Reports of the North-Eastern Hill University for the year 1982-83 and 1983-84 and Annual Accounts of the North-Eastern Hill University for the year 1983-84, and Annual Report of the Visva Bharati for the year 1983-84 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting Year.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 948/85]

Statement showing reasons for delay for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Children's Film Society, India within the stipulated period

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : I beg to lay on the Table a Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining the reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Children's Film Society, India, for the year 1983-84 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting Year.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 949/85]

Notification under Major Port Trusts Act 1963 Annual Report and Review of the Delhi Transport Corporation. Statement showing reasons for not laying the Annual Administration Report of the Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Patiala

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : I beg to lay on the Table...

(1) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 305 (E), (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th March, 1985 approving the Tuticorin Port Trust (Allotment of Residence) Amendment Regulations, 1985, under sub-section (4) of section 12 A of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 950/85]

(2) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 357 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th April, 1985 containing Rules for inspecting, surveying and regulating vessels which are not self-propelling plying within the limits of the Port of Bombay, under section 6 (2B) of the Indian Ports Act, 1908.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 951/85]

(3) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Kandla Port Trust for the year 1983-84 and

the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (2) of section 103 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963.

- (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 952/85]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Delhi Transport Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84, under sub-section (3) of section 35 of the Road Transport Corporations Act, 1950.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Delhi Transport Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.

- (6) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 953/85]

- (7) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining the reasons for not laying the Annual Administration Report of the Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Patiala, for the year 1982-83 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting Year.

- (8) A Statement (Hindi and English Versions) explaining the reasons for not laying the Annual Accounts and the Audit Report thereon of the Pepsu Road Transport Corporation for the year 1982-83 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting Year.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 954/85]

**Notification Under Government Savings Bank Act 1973.
Union Government Appropriation Accounts (Civil) for the Year 1983-84**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANAR-**

DHANA POOJARY) : I beg to lay on the Table...

- (1) A copy of the Post Office Time Deposit (Amendment) Rules, 1985 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 418 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th May, 1985, under sub-section (3) of section 15 of the Government Savings Banks Act, 1973.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 955/85]

- (2) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1983-84—Union Government (Civil) under article 151 (1) of the Constitution,

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 956/85]

- (3) A copy of the Finance Accounts of Union Government for the year 1983-84 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 957/85]

- (4) A copy of the Union Government Appropriation Accounts (Civil) for the year 1983-84 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 958/85]

**Notification under Prevention of
Food Adulteration Act, 1954**

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI K. C. PANT) ; On behalf of Shri
Yogendra Makwana, I beg to lay on the
Table ..**

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 23 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 :

- (i) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (Third Amendment Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 764 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th November, 1984 together with a corrigendum to the Hindi version published in Notification No.

G.S.R. 385 (E) in Gazette of India dated 29th April, 1985.

(ii) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (First Amendment) Rules, 1985 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 3 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st January, 1985 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 142 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th March, 1985.

(iii) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (Second Amendment) Rules, 1985 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 11 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th January, 1985 together with a corrigendum thereon published in Notification No. G.S.R. 368 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th April, 1985.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 959/85]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy, New Delhi for the year 1983-84.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 960/85]

12.20 hrs.

[English]

ARMS (AMENDMENT) BILL* 1985

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : On behalf of Shri S. B. Chavan, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Arms Act, 1959.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is ;

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Arms Act, 1959.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : I introduce the Bill.

12.22 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

(i) Need to Reopen the Bhaskar Textile Mills, Jhasruguda, Orissa

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): The Bhaskar Textile Mills, Jhasruguda is one of the two Textile Mills of Orissa and the only one of its kind in Western part of the State. In fact, this is the only major industry in Jhasruguda which being the gate-way to Western Orissa is quite an important place in the State. But it is unfortunate that the management of this Mill closed down the mill about two years ago, on the plea of labour unrest. The owners of the factory don't seem to have any regard for the labour and industrial laws and regulations. They don't pay any heed to the directives of the State Government issued from time to time obviously for a settlement to reopen the mills. As a result about two thousand workers of this industry having lost their jobs are on the street now for the last two years.

The plight of these poor and helpless workers could be well imagined. The closure of this major industry of this locality has also naturally caused a set back to the economy of the area.

However, thanks to the Government of Orissa that having realised the gravity of the situation and finding the management quite adamant not to reopen the mills, they have of late decided to nationalise the mills and accordingly have moved the Union Government in the matter.

*Published in the Gazette of India extraordinary Part II Section 2 dated 16-5-1985.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Union Government particularly the Hon'ble Textile Minister to take necessary steps immediately on the decision as well as the recommendations of Orissa Government to the re-opening of the Bhaskar Textile Mills in view of the commercial importance, urgency and human consideration involved in it.

(ii) Need to Improve Irrigation Facilities in Draught Affected Districts of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka

SHRI K. RAMCHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur) : The districts of Anantapur and Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh and Kolar, Chitradurga and Tumkur in Karnataka State are chronically drought-affected areas. Irrigation facilities in these five districts are very meagre. Famines have ravaged these areas time and again and the misery and sufferings of the poor is beyond human endurance.

To save the people from the severe onslaught of famine it is very essential that irrigation facilities are improved. These areas are situated on a very high altitude and it is not easy to improve the irrigation potential.

River Netrevathi in western ghats of Karnataka has got about 500 T.M.C. of water which is going into the Arabian Sea wastefully. This water can be diverted to upper Bhadra to irrigate the above five districts. This is a costly venture. The Government of India, the Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka can execute the project jointly and the Central Government may be pleased to order an investigation into the feasibility of using the water of River Netravathi to improve the irrigation in the above districts.

[*Translation*]

(iii) Need to take Stringent steps to Ensure, Safe Delivery of Money sent by Insured covers through Post Offices

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now-a-days, the people settle down wherever they are able to find a source of livelihood, but the members of their families go on living at their earlier residential places. They keep contact with one another through letters, etc.

Today, the biggest problem is being faced in sending money to their family members. Any person who is earning somewhere sends some money to his family members. I am sorry to say that the money sent by money-order not only reaches after a delay, but it involves more expenditure also. Therefore, the poor people sent their money by insured covers, but recently, it has become unsafe because it has become a common practice that the seals are tampered with and money is taken out.

I, therefore, draw the attention of the Minister of communications towards this and demand that he should take stern action to check it so that the faith of the people in the post offices is restored.

(iv) Need to protect the City of Bangalore from Pollution

SHRI S. M. GURADDI (Bijapur)** : Bangalore is a city of gardens besides being a paradise on earth for those wanting to enjoy the union with nature. Once there was a move to hold one session of the Parliament in this city. Here rain soaked breeze blows throughout the summer and the citizens of this city can enjoy warm sun throughout the winter. You are awakened to the piping notes of whistling thrush and open your window to a casement of dew-washed trees in flowers. African tulips, Bengonias, all in full glory amid weird-happed arucaris. All day long koels and barbots call from dense green foliage and the evenings are fragrant with jasmine and maussam.

But the beauty of Bangalore is being eroded. Steadily growing population, unplanned constructions and the accumulation of industries are spoiling the beauty of the city. Areas like Krishnarajapuram, Yeshwantapuram are smoky and the city is losing its identity. Some other features which are spoiling the beauty of the city area :

(1) There are a dozen B. Ed colleges. These are not spread over the city.

(2) Vidhana Soudha, Cubbon Park and Maharani's college cannot co-exist on the ugly out skirts of Central Jail. Central Jail could have been outside the heart of the city.

**The speech was originally delivered in Kannada.

(3) Gandhinagar is a film colony.

[Translation]

(4) Kampa Gowda Road which has been named after the founder of the city is studded with cinema theatres, which spoil the climate.

(5) The conducive climate of Bangalore is being eroded by the vice-den atmosphere of race course in the heart of the city.

I request the Hon. Minister of Environment to protect the city from pollution and to maintain the beauty of pensioner's paradise.

[English]

(v) **Need to Introduce an Expressrain from Tumkur to Bangalore**

SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJ (Tumkur) : Tumkur is a district headquarter and a prominent educational centre. There are three engineering colleges, three B. Ed colleges and many other educational institutions. The Holy Siddaganga Centre is situated here catering to the educational needs of thousands of persons coming from all over the country.

Tumkur is one of the major commercial business centres in Karnataka. Coconut, arlicanut, sapota etc. are grown abundantly and some of them are exported. Tumkur is also an important industrial centre. HMT factory and many other medium and small industries are situated here. About 3000 persons travel by train from here to Bangalore daily. Among them about 1500 are Government employees. In addition to this, businessmen and students also travel by train daily. But unfortunately, there are only two shuttles of four bogies from Tumkur to Bangalore. This is not at all sufficient to the growing demand of passengers. These shuttles take three hours to reach Bangalore which is only 70 kms from Tumkur. Government employees have to spend six hours in these slow moving trains. In fact, journey in these trains is a severe punishment to the travellers. Under these circumstances, I request the Hon. Railways Minister to look into the matter and to introduce an express train daily from Tumkur to Bangalore immediately.

(vi) **Need to Provide Air Service between Varanasi and Bombay via Nagpur**

SHRI UMA KANT MISHRA (Mirzapur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Varanasi is an important city and it is the cultural capital of the country. People from different States of the country visit Kashi off and on. Kashi is a great centre of pilgrimage. Foreign tourists also visit the city in large members but so far it has not been linked by air with Bombay. Also, the tourists have to emplane from Delhi to visit important places of South India.

I request the Civil Aviation Minister to introduce an air service from Varanasi to Bombay via Nagpur. With this service Hyderabad, Tirupati, Trivandrum, Bangalore, Madras, etc., would also be linked directly with Varanasi via Nagpur. There are sufficient number of people who want to travel from Bombay to Varanasi and back and also to the important places of South India. People have also been demanding that Bombay should be linked with Varanasi via Nagpur by air.

It is hoped that the Civil Aviation Minister will immediately accept this demand.

(vii) **Need to take Action Against the 'Dainik Jagran' for Publishing a news item tending to create Unrest and Instability in the Country**

SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI (Kanpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a news 'After Rajiv, Who' has been published on page 10 of the daily *jagran* dated the 10th May 1985, of Kanpur has caused resentment not only in North India but among the people of South India also and this news has created serious concern among all the Indians. The person who calls himself a *tantrik* and has forecast this, has indulged in an anti-national act. Such news tarnishes the image of the country. Necessary action should be taken against such *tantrik* who try to create an atmosphere of anxiety, fear and instability in the country.

(viii) **Need to Provide Assistance by the Centre to the Government of Maharashtra for Organising Drought Relief and Providing Drinking Water Facilities**

SHRI KESHAORAO PARDHI (Bhandara) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this year many districts of Maharashtra have been affected by drought which list includes Bhandara where the drought has been very severe. The State Government have started job-oriented works but they are not sufficient. There is also the acute problem of drinking water and it is necessary to provide relief measures for this. It is also necessary that the shortage of fodder is removed and the people are provided with foodgrains and employment. In the coming days, the farmers will have to be given seeds also. In such conditions the recovery of land revenue, land measurement tax, irrigation tax and bank loans is being made. Some farmers had taken loans from the Land Development Bank for digging wells and purchasing motors but they are not getting power connections even after waiting for three years. With the result, that the farmers have not been able to utilise their wells and electric motors. The recovery of the Land Development Bank loans has started. The farmers are unable to repay these loans owing to drought. The recovery of all these taxes and loans should be suspended forthwith. The drought relief team of the Central Government has, during its visit, witnessed their condition.

I request the Government of India to assist the State Government in drought relief work and in solving the problem of drinking water.

12.34 hrs.

MONOPOLIES AND RESTRICTIVE TRADE PRACTICES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1985

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will now take up Item No. 10—Further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Veerendra Patil on the 15th May 1985, namely :

“That the Bill further to amend the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969, be taken into consideration.”

The time allotted is only one hour and thirty-eight minutes and I request the Hon. Members to be brief. Shri Jaipal Reddy may speak.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar) ; Sir : This Bill is before us today because, as part of the Budget proposals, it was mentioned by the Finance Minister that the ceiling under MRTTP Act would be raised from Rs. 20 crores to Rs. 100 crores. The Budget, particularly of this year has come to be noted for many important and fundamental departures not only from the accepted national policy pursued for the last three decades and more, but also from the perspective that was evolved during the freedom struggle.

The Budget is important not only for the fiscal proposals, but also for many important non-fiscal proposals. And the most important of those non-fiscals proposals was this : this is very significant, because it indicates the direction which the new Government would like to tread. The Congress (I) was at least making pretensions towards socialism; and now they have given up these pretensions also. This Government would do well to remember the background or the setting against which this Act came into being in the first place. In the '60s., a Study Report led by Mahalanobis, and a Study Report led by Hazari observed that the growth of economic power in this country was disproportionate, and that it was increasingly tending to get concentrated in fewer and fewer hands. That was the reason why this legislation instituting a Commission, a standing quasi-judicial Commission was brought forward way back in 1970.

I do not want to refer to the Preamble of the Constitution. I do not have to refer to the Directive Principles of the Constitution. Our Directive Principles of State policy refer to the need for mounting a conscious effort to see that economic power is decentralized. Under Article 39 (c), the Constitution directs :

“that the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment;”

Trade

Now, we will have to see whether the new amendment brought forward is in conformity with this Directive Principles of the Constitution. Though the MRTP Commission has been in existence for the last 15 years, we must also see whether the Commission has been enabled or allowed to function with a passion, so as to subserve this larger objective. I should say that the growth of monopolies in this country between 1971 and 1977 was less than was seen between 1980 and 1983. After the return of Congress (I) to power in 1980, whatever pretensions that were there in the early '70s., were given up.

Today, the Bill is not a sudden development. It is a logical sequel of a series of policies pursued by the Congress I during the last five years. Between 1971-1977, the top ten groups in the country increased their corporate assets by 43 per cent; between December 1980 and December 1983, the same top ten corporate groups increased their assets by more than 100 per cent. Take, for example, the case of the Birlas Group. The value of assets of Birlas Group Companies went up from Rs. 1431 crores to Rs. 2,900 crores; in just a period of three years, Birlas Companies Group increased their assets by more than 100 per cent. The same was the case with the Tatas. The assets of Tatas Group went up from Rs. 1500 crores to over Rs. 2,700 crores, during the same period of three years.

This was the same case with the trend of growth in equity capital abroad. If we take the case of 8 industrialist houses in the country, in this area, we will find that they account for as much as 66 per cent of equity abroad. Here again the Birlas Group take the cake. Birlas Group Companies account for 30 per cent of the equity capital abroad. Now, you must examine as to what are the reasons behind this persistent phenomenon of galloping growth in the corporate assets of top groups that the MRTPC has failed to fulfil the objectives for which it was established or set up. It is because the MRTPC has been deliberately allowed to remain or become a toothless institution and an eye-wash institution. The role of MRTPC is only recommendatory. The considered view of an expert who was a judicial commissioner is not at all binding on the government. Secondly, I may also point out that the Government is not obliged to refer the cases of all MRTPC companies to a commission at all; the govern-

Trade

ment can decide upon the merit of these companies at his own sweet will. The Sachar Committee which was appointed during the Janata period went into the question and pointed out that out of 246 cases under sections 21 and 22 of the Act finally disposed of by the Government of India between January 1974 and December 1976, 227 cases were disposed of by the Government without reference to the commission itself.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am giving 10 minutes to each member. So many members are complaining here. So, I cannot allow more than that. Already, you have exhausted eight minutes; two minutes are more. There are so many complaints from so many members that I am giving more time to some members and less time to some other members. I do not want to hear such complaints from the members again; I do not want to have this kind of discrimination.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Government has been deliberately treating the Commission with benign neglect, if not open contempt.

As I mentioned earlier, it is a toothless institution, it has no staff, it has no infrastructure for monitoring or enforcing its own orders. The Commission has no powers to pass final orders even in regard to the few cases that are referred to it.

I may now refer to the manner in which the Commission has always been proving to be ineffective, not only in the area of prevention of growth of monopolies, but also in the area of restrictive trade practices.

The Commission has since its inception on August 6, 1970 till December 31, 1982, instituted 404 inquiries only. Out of these 404 inquiries 153 were initiated by the Commission on the basis of applications of RRTA and 233 on the basis of its own knowledge and information. It is very interesting to note that only 16 inquiries were initiated on the basis of complaints made by trade or consumer associations having membership of more than 25 per cent. I may also draw the attention of the Government to the fact that only two references were made in the last 13 years by the Government of India from the viewpoint of consumers. It is shocking to note that the State Governments in this

country did not make a single reference to MRTP Commission in the last 13 years. The big companies also are going scot-free in respect of another vital area that is, they are also taking advantage of the special facilities made available to small sector units. Now I will give you a few illustrative examples :

Thyristors Controls Private Limited, registered under the MRTP Act 1978 as part of the Reliance Textile group is registered with the NSIC for Government purchases as a small scale unit.

Skefco India Bearing, a company belonging to the Tata group and which has 39 per cent foreign equity has been registered under the MRTP Act since 1971. Its annual report for the year 1981 said that the Company has no licensed capacity, but it was registered with the Maharashtra Government as a small scale unit.

I will also refer to another case : Hoyle's Paints belonging to Singhania Group; an MRTP company since 1971 claimed in 1981 that the reported licensed capacity was as per return filed with the Director of Cottage and Small Scale Industries, West Bengal.

The drugs and pharmaceuticals industry has the maximum concentration of trans-nationals operating as small scale units.

American multi-nationals like the U. S. Vitamins and Pharmaceuticals Corporation and Elly Zella were enlisted for Government purchases as small units.

Carter Wallace claimed to be a small scale unit. The Hon. Minister may tell the House as to what steps will be taken to streng-then the Commission.

This Bill only shows that the Government has given up its faith in the public sector, has given up its faith in the mixed economy concept, and has given up its commitment to the concept of capture of commanding heights of the public sector; it has chosen to put all its eggs in the basket of big business.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY, (Puri) : So far as this amendment is concerned, it is rational. May I know if this statute is something which goes against the

Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of the Constitution, what prevented the Janata Party when it was in power, to remove it from the statute book ? Compulsion of the situation which one may not like has to be accepted. Necessary evil has to be accepted. What is the need of the hour ? The need of the hour is more sophisticated technology and capital. That is why in China the ideology has been subordinated to idiology. But it is a strategy for development and growth. So far as the Head of the State of the Chinese Government is concerned, he has accepted norm whether the cat is black or white if it catches rats, it is all right. Whatever may be the process, whether it is the capitalist process or the socialist process of production matters little, if it gives the production and efficiency, that has to be accepted. That is why, multinationals from Japan are invited in China. That is why, they have some sort of understanding with the United States of America for some technological development, Now they are getting some nuclear technology from the USA. What is happening in socialist countries of the West Europe ? Sweden and France are now laying more emphasis on private sector and public sector is being handed over to private hand. The reason is that they want more production.

This amendment is consequential to the policies that we have adopted in the Budget. Weak India will not answer the problems. If India is strengthened economically, then only India will flourish internationally. Even smaller countries today because of our weakness, are having hostile postures against us. The reason is that they do not see strength in us. We need more sophisticated technology and capital. If we remove all the big industrial houses, will that development be possible ?

In 1972 the number of big industries registered, was only 815. Their assets amounted to Rs. 5,600 crores. And in 1982, their assets have gone up to Rs. 21,600 crores. These are the Government figures. In 1972, the number of undertakings registered was 850 and in 1981-82 it has grown to 1,270. This process is going on. But all the same, we have to take into consideration the inflation and the inflationary pressures. We have to see how the prices have gone up, how the investment cost has

gone up. So, naturally, if you calculate according to the price index, Rs. 20 crores will perhaps now be Rs. 50 crores or Rs. 60 crores, and the Government is amending it to Rs. 100 crores because unless we give scope to the big companies which require heavy investment, they cannot have it. That is why the amendment is quite rational and my submission would be that there should be no dispute on this. Dispute was only in 1972 when the Act was introduced. At that time some people had objected to it ideologically. But once we have accepted this process, there should be no dispute now.

We must take into consideration the other aspect of it also, that is, the growth of public sector. In the year 1980-81, the growth of public sector was 23.6 per cent, whereas the growth of the MRTP houses was only 20.7 per cent. So this is a mixed economy that we have adopted, not the complete socialist economy, and it will take years to transform this economy into a complete socialist economy. It is not that the Government has deviated from its objective of socialism, or that the Congress Party has deviated. We stand by socialism. Socialism is not the God's gift, it is the result of the long struggle for decades, that the Congress Party has adopted the objective of socialism from cooperative commonwealth to socialistic pattern of society and then socialist society. Congress party embraces every sect of people, including the richest persons of the society, the feudals, the working class and the poorest of the poor. So naturally, we had to carry on the struggle for decades to achieve socialism as our goal. It is because of the new needs that we are changing the strategy of our development. I fully support this amendment and I hope this House will adopt it.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD) : Sir, I will request you to skip over the lunch hour. Whosoever wanted to take lunch they have already gone.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I think you are foregoing the lunch hour. Therefore, now I request Shri Amal Datta to speak.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : Nobody from Congress.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No, there are many.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Socialists have disappeared.

AN HON. MEMBER : They will come after lunch.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Sir, this is one of those suggestions which have come from the Budget to raise the limit for value of assets for MRTP companies. It appears from the way this MRTP was working, that it does not matter really whether the ceiling is fixed at Rs. 20 crores or Rs. 100 crores or Rs. 200 crores. My Hon. friend Mr. Reddy has referred to the Birla group. In fact, these Birla Group, Tata Group have assets over Rs. 2,000 crores, but if they come forward with any proposal for expansion, that will automatically be approved by the Government. So, raising the limit to Rs. 100 crores really does not matter. I think only about 50 or 60 companies will now be exempt because many top companies are already gone above the ceiling of Rs. 100 crores.

13.00 hrs.

But how this particular Act was being worked by the Government since its inception in 1970? That is very curious. The Government instituted an inter-Ministerial Advisory Group. This group was constituted to examine these proposals coming from the Companies who had got registered under the MRTP Act and this Group was to advise the Government as to whether a particular proposal from an MRTP company would require further inquiry by the MRTP Commission. And as it happened, in most of the cases the group recommended that no inquiry is necessary. 90 per cent of the cases were disposed of by the Government without referring the matter to the Commission. So, the Commission was, as my Hon. friend, Mr. Reddy rightly said, an eye-wash. The Commission was there for people outside India to see or for people who have some belief and faith in socialism and who think that the Congress is in some way or other implementing some of the ideals of socialism like preventing concentration or part of concentration of economic power. So, just to give them some eye-wash, this Commission has been there. It has not done

[Shri Amal Datta]

any substantial work during the period of fifteen years of its existence, because the Statute is formed in such a way that this Commission cannot work unless the Government wants it to. And the Government has not wanted it to work at all.

Now, the Commission itself in one of its annual reports suggested that this particular way of functioning of the Government so far as the Commission is concerned is very irksome. It felt quite helpless that the Government was not referring the cases to it. It said that certain guidelines should be formulated for the Government as to which type of cases should be and must be referred to the Commission and which not. As yet the Government have not formulated any such guidelines. If guidelines are formulated, the Government's discretion goes. So, why should it formulate any guidelines. All kind of *stretagem* has been practised by the Government to see that the Commission cannot discharge its function, which the law gives to it. Its function from the very beginning has been only advisory and there has been nothing mandatory in the commission's recommendations. There have been cases where even after referring the matter to the Commission, the Government rejected its recommendations.

So, this Rs. 20 crore limit which is now being raised as it is stated in the objects clause because of inflation that the costs have gone up. The Statement of Objects and Reasons says :

"Having regard to the considerable increase in the cost and the economic size of projects that has taken place since then, it is proposed to revise this limit of Rs. 100 crores."

Now, at the beginning when the Hon. Minister introduced this Bill he said that the original figure of Rs. 20 crores was a tentative figure. Now, I have gone through the debate of the period when this original Act was enacted and I find that at that time there was no such proposal that the tentative limit could be raised by the Government. In fact, I would say that having regard to the fact that the economy has become very big and having regard to the fact that there are lot of companies which are working with their capital of much more than Rs. 20 crores and the Government is allowing them

to work, there is no need at all to increase the limit. On the other hand the limit could have decreased. So the Government either believes in competing or it does not believe in it. If it believes in monopoly, then it is the right Bill to be introduced. If it believes in competition and socialism it should have reduced the limit. But the Government in its wisdom has brought forward this Bill and as I said to start with that it does not appear to matter very much so far as the functioning of the big monopoly houses are concerned, whether this statutory limit is increased or not because they were already much much above it. Some examples have been given already by various speakers as to how in spite of this Bill being on the Statute Book, the concentration of economic power has grown during the last fifteen years. From Rs. 250 crores some companies have grown up to Rs. 2,500 crores, a ten times increase in fifteen years. That kind of thing has happened. We know which are the companies and probably there are 101 companies which were over Rs. 20 crore limit out of which 61 companies will not be benefited because they are already above the Rs. 100 crore limit which is being set. But the benefit is already there because the Government is their own Government. They know whenever they come to the Government with a new proposal for expansion on one ground or the other, the Government will allow them and the Government will not give any ground also. So, any type of expansion is being allowed.

Already there is substantial dilution in the dominance concept and even the asset concept because of the 25 per cent increase on the value of the production was allowed over their licensed capacity. Moreover, nothing is done to see that the assets are revalued. If there have been increasing costs, they do not only affect the future investments. They also affect the valuation of the present assets. Now, a company whose book value of the present asset is Rs. 20 crores is shown as Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 crores or something like that. If it is revalued at today's prices, it will be more than Rs. 100 crores. So, what the Government is doing in this regard? Let the Hon. Minister reply on that. If it is revalued then instead of 51 companies which should now be affected or otherwise whose value should be over

Rs. 100 crores, there may have been more than 200 or 300 companies and I am sure the Government is not going to do that.

Another aspect of the Budget proposal was that the Government would penalise those managements who have ruined the company by making the net worth of the company zero or negative. I should have thought that that was a more urgent necessity because here the Government had discretion to allow expansion, allow further increases in equity and all that kind of things. But on the other hand we find that the Government have no power at all so far as the reduction of, net worth of a company is concerned. We know how many companies are going sick every day. Now, there are 22,000 sick companies according to the answer given in Parliament itself. If it is so, it would be more urgent for the Government to say that the managements which are ruining the company after company, they are not allowed access to public funds through the public financial institutions. But the Government does not care to bring forward a Bill to give effect to that proposal. On the other hand it has to pamper the monopolists. So, it has brought forward this Bill within this Session.

The concentration of economic power has been noticed for a very long time. Even before this Act had been enacted, there had been four committees which had gone into this. Mahalanobis Committee submitted its report in 1960. Then there was Hazar Committee. After that there was the Monopolies Inquiry Committee and then the Datta Committee. All these Committees have noticed two things that there was concentration of economic power and increasing disparity. One of the reasons was that the licencing system of the Government was working in such a way as to encourage this increase in concentration of economic power. I would like to know what the Government has done during the last 15 years to see that the licensing system does not work in that fashion. On the other hand I think the licensing system has gone on working in this inequitable fashion only. Otherwise how can some companies get their assets increased? Book value of their assets have increased, not the market value, by ten times in the last fifteen years. So, if that has already happened, then this further dilution was not

necessary. It is just to pamper some people and just to keep some people quiet that the Government has brought this legislation. Otherwise whatever it wants to do it could have done and it has been doing. Not only that it could have done and it was doing already by not referring the cases to the Monopolies Commission, disposing of cases on its own but it is continuing to allow various lacunae and loopholes in the system to give total exemption to various companies working in different fields. These lacunae they are using liberally. So, this is one of those proposals, I would say, by which the Government on the one hand while professing socialism to the rest of the world, in India they want to curry favour with the capitalists because that is their source of funds. I think, today, we have received a Bill for legalising the political contributions. So, all these are knitted together and these people have to be given the favour so that they may make contributions to the funds of the ruling party. So, this is also one point where the Budget proposals are falling in line with the Government's real conduct, i.e. it is the supporter of capitalism and the supporter of monopolists.

To the outside world, it will show a different picture that it is for socialism and Non-Alignment and things like that. But in actual practice, it is conducting itself in a very different way inside the country. So far as seeking technological collaboration to import foreign technology and trade agreements are concerned, they are going more and more towards the camp of the imperialists and I think that is the present policy of the Government. We do criticise it but the present Government, as it is constituted, will continue to go in this fashion.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : Sir, the reason given by the Government for bringing forward this amending Bill, as the statement of objects and reasons says very briefly, is that it is proposed to revise the limit of assets to Rs. 100 crores, having regard to the considerable increase in the cost and the economic size of projects that has taken place. But, Sir, I would like to take this opportunity to remind the Hon. Minister that this has nothing to do with the original aims of the MRTP Act itself. The MRTP Act was not brought for this

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

reason at all. It was one of the several measures adopted in 1969 by the Government at that time led by Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. Well, I will give the benefit of doubt to the Government. But they were definitely at that time trying to project an image of a Government which was keen on bringing some radical reforms including the nationalisation of the banking industry, abolition of privy purses and all those measures which were taken at that time, during that period. One of them was the legislation of the MRTP Act.

Now, this MRTP Act has a genesis. Its genesis is not anything to do with the size of the undertaking being conducive or not conducive to growth. The basic genesis of the MRTP Act was the Directive Principles of State Policy which are enshrined in the Constitution of India. If you look into the aims and objects of the original MRTP Bill, 1969, you will find that they are clauses (b) and (c) of article 39 of the Constitution of India which lay down that the State shall direct its policy towards two objectives :

One objective is that the ownership and control of the material resources of the community are so distributed as best to subserve the common good; Second objective is that the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment. I have quoted from the Constitution. So, this is the genesis of the whole scheme of the MRTP Act. Now, judging from that criterion, the Minister must tell us what is the justification now for bringing forward this amending Bill. What is the reason? As Mr. Amal Datta has pointed out, I have got many figures but I have no time to go into all this.

Actually, this MRTP Commission has proved to be a toothless tiger. It is a tiger without any teeth at all. The main aim of the Act was to curb concentration, to reduce concentration and to reduce also the share in the domestic market of these big houses in the interest of the small scale sector, in the interest of the public sector and in the interest of non-MRTP companies. There are many big companies, but they do not come within the MRTP Act. But there are the small scale industries; there is the public sector. In order to encourage them, the scheme of the Government was that

further concentration in the hands of a few companies should be prevented and their share in the market should also be gradually reduced. I would like to know from him how far in these 15 years or 10 years that we have been working this Act and the MRTP Commission has been functioning, we have been going in that direction or whether we have been going in the opposite direction. The official figures prove that the assets of these companies have been growing at a terrific pace; they have been growing at an average growth rate of something like 26 per cent per annum. If you take the top 25 houses—A.C.C., Ashok Leyland, Bajaj, Bangur, Birla, Chowgule, Dunlop, Hindustan Lever, Indian Tobacco Company, ICI, J.K. Singhania, Kirloskar, Khatau, Larsen and Toubro, Mafatlal, Mahindra & Mahindra, Modi, Reliance Textiles, Sarabhai, Shri Ram, Tata, TVS, Thapar, United Breweries, Walchand, and so on and so forth,—the rate of growth of their assets has been phenomenal, the rate is over 25 or 30 per cent per year. So, what has the Act, and what has the MRTP Commission, been able to achieve? The whole process is going in the opposite direction. Now, all that this Bill seeks to do is, out of the 101 companies which came within the previous limit of assets of Rs. 20 crores or more, about 49 companies are going straight out and 52 companies remain within the scope of the MRTP Act. So, those that are remaining will remain because they are the real giants; their assets have nothing even remotely relating to this limit at all: they have got assets, huge assets; going upto thousands of crores of rupees. And the names which I read out include a number of companies which are really subsidiaries or branches of foreign multi-nationals. They are there, they will remain there and they will continue to grow; there is no power which can control them or reduce their rate of concentration. At least this Commission cannot do it. This Commission, according to our Statute, has produce an Annual Report. If you go through their latest Report which we have been provided with, for the period from 1st January to 31st December, 1983, you will find that the Commission itself is shamfacedly admitting that they had very little work to do, very little they could do. There is no time. Otherwise, I would like to tell you in detail. Referring to the year 1983, they say this—I am quoting from the Commission's Report ;

"The Central Government has so far made three references to the MRTTP Commission for inquiry into monopolistic trade practices ..."

This is about trade practices.

"The said references relate to the following companies..."

Who are they? Coca Cola Export Corporation, Cadbury-Fry (India) Ltd. and Colgate Palmolive (India) Ltd.—all branches and subsidiaries of the well known foreign multinationals. Then the story is told by the Commission the sad story of how the Commission could not inquire into these cases: because immediately the orders were given, the references were challenged by those companies through writ petition filed in the Delhi High Court, the proceedings before the Commission were stayed and then these orders were vacated. Immediately those Companies went to the Supreme Court issued stay orders and asked the MRTTP Commission not to go ahead and the Commission regretfully admits that the year has ended and they have not been able to proceed at all with their enquiry. This is an example. That is why I am referring to the Commission as a toothless tiger. It is not in a position to do anything.

Under Sections 21, 22 and 23 of the Act, prior approval of the Government is required in case of expansion. They cannot expand without taking the prior approval of the Government. In the case of setting up of new undertakings, they have to take prior approval of the Government. In the case of mergers, amalgamations or take-overs, they have to take the approval of the Government.

I suggest that this terrific rate of growth of concentration in assets which has taken place among the big houses proves without any doubt that in all such cases of expansion setting up of new undertakings and the question of mergers and amalgamations, the Government has been giving them blanket permission and approval. In some cases they did it without approval. There is the question of the Hindustan Lever Company. I think the Hon. Minister is aware that recently several representations were made several times to several Ministries of this Govern-

ment, that they have done something without even seeking the approval of the Government and gone ahead, invested money, set up plants, done everything. All this is done without taking any approval from the Government and, first of all, the Law and Company Affairs Ministry was pleased enough to issue notice to that Company saying that "If you do not take approval, then you will be considered to have violated this Act and penalties will follow." After that, I do not know what happened. Some mysterious moves took place behind the curtain and after some time, we were informed that "No. The Government has now been convinced by the Company that in this case it is not necessary to take prior approval and so they are permitted to go ahead."

Anyway, so many things have been happening. And, therefore, all these questions of what are the dominant undertakings, what are inter-connected undertakings and what are considered to be groups, are there and there are so many definitions given. But nowhere has the Government intervened anywhere which would prevent the further strengthening and consolidation of all these groups and inter-connected undertakings and dominant undertakings.

So I agree with those friends who have said here that the policy of the Government is to strengthen these monopolies and now what will happen that those companies which are left out because they have not reached the Rs. 100 crore asset? They are big companies but they have got less assets than Rs. 100 crores and they will not come under the MRTTP Act. They are now free to do anything they like with even the fake sham show of restrictions that they cannot go into certain sectors, they cannot go into low priority sectors, they can only invest in what is known as the core sector or high technology sector and they cannot invest in what is called the non-Appendix-I industries. All these companies are now liberated from that, obviously because they are no longer to be counted as monopolies. They may not have Rs. 100 crores assets. They may have Rs. 75 or 50 or 60 crores. They will no longer be considered as monopolies under the Act. All restrictions on them are removed. They are free to go anywhere they like, to invest as they like, to diversify, to expand

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

as they like. There is no restriction on them whatsoever. After a time, they will also come up to Rs. 100 crores perhaps ! Now because the limit has been raised; they will be clever enough to stay just a little short of Rs. 100 crores, so that they can enjoy all these facilities which are open to them.

This report of the Commission has also painted a picture of the restrictive and monopolistic trade practices. I cannot go into the details of the question of re-sale price maintenance. So many things were brought to their notice of collusive price tendering. So many of these companies got together and they make a mutual arrangement so that the price which they quote, the tendering price, is the same and sometimes they boycott the goods, they arrange for a boycott of the goods of other Companies which are not allowed to come on the market. Then there is the predatory pricing and tie-up. Then they have arrangements with the selling agents and marketing agents. All these have got restrictive practices which come within the purview of the MRTP Commission and which they are supposed to investigate and they are supposed to control. Now what we have got before us—finally I would say—is simply the question of raising the limit of the assets which means that at the moment 49 companies will be liberated free even formally from all the restrictions which were supposed to be there on the monopolies. They are no longer to be counted as monopolies. They are free to do what they like and go wherever they like. As far as others which are above the Rs. 100 crores limit, we have been hearing even today in this House even in things like production how the Birlas and other concerns are behaving. Here the Ministers are saying that they are not able to do anything. This Minister is also concerned and he knows the question of Delhi Cloth Mills and the Birla Textile Mills and what is happening. They are all figuring here in the top 25 people—all these people, the Sri Ram Group, the Birla group, they are all here. Even in small matters like closing down their factories, declaring closure or sacking thousands of workers, which we are hearing here everyday during the proceedings, the Government are completely helpless and they are not able to do anything. They say that they have got no powers to do anything. The MRTP Commission has also

been like that. It has not been given any powers or teeth and the net result has been that these houses have been growing at a terrific pace. The concentration of wealth, instead of being reduced as the Directive Principles of the Constitution enjoin upon us to do, is increasing. The Bill has been brought at a time when concentration is increasing and is not being reduced, when the rate of concentration has gone up and is not being reduced. Therefore, a large number of economists and other knowledgeable people in this country have remarked on the fact that this is a part of the whole Budget philosophy of the Government, namely, that instead of working for reducing the inequalities in wealth, what is actually going to happen is that inequalities are going to be increased. Income is generated. Production takes place Wealth is generated in the country. But if the system of ownership is such that concentration of that economic wealth goes on on the basis of that generated income, then the inequalities will not get less, the inequalities will get more. And what are the social implications and political implications of that for the whole country ? Therefore, we oppose this Bill because this Bill is meant only to help some companies which were within the MRTP Act to get their freedom now to go wherever they like and do whatever they like whereas the Government has not come forward with any new proposal as to how they propose to deal with bigger companies which have been concentrating their wealth at rate of over 25 per cent per annum. So the whole thing is a sham. I do not see what is there in the Bill which will benefit the country or the economy.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : Very few members participated in the debate. So far as the Hon. Members on the other side are concerned, the discussion went on expected lines. I never expected that they would welcome this measure.

Ever since the Budget was presented in this House, the Hon. Members, particularly from the Opposition side, are taking every opportunity to brand the ruling party and the government as reactionary and anti-socialist...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA ; Pro-monopolist.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : And is going in reverse direction, so on and so forth. I personally feel that for a developing country, it is all right talking about ideologies but those who are in charge of administration, I think, have to be realists, instead of any capitalist, socialist, communist or all that their 'ism' should be pragmatism otherwise I do not think it is possible for any party in power to deliver the goods to the nation. Why I am saying this is because I know for some—I do not want to say whether for some parties or for some individuals, deliberately I do not want to say—the bread produced in a socialist country tastes better than the bread produced in a capitalist country. I am not in agreement with them. According to me the hungry man is only concerned about the bread. Where it is produced is not his concern. His concern is only to fill his belly.

I must also say that by propagating and carrying on all sorts of voicing about ideologies we cannot feed the people. I am telling this because yesterday I read the paper—Telegraph. The Chief Minister of West Bengal, Shri Jyoti Basu commends private sector. He has attended a private sector function there. He has welcomed the private sector and while welcoming the private sector the Chief Minister says :

“The Chief Minister. Mr. Jyoti Basu commended the private sector for investing in West Bengal at a time when the Centre was reluctant to foster industrial growth.”

Naturally, being the Chief Minister belonging to an Opposition party, I think, he would avail every opportunity to blame the Central government if there is no development in West Bengal. Not only the Chief Minister of West Bengal but everybody sitting there representing West Bengal have blamed the Central Government for that. But I must tell the Hon. Members that out of 15 districts in West Bengal 13 districts are backward districts according to the definition and they are declared backward districts. Even then there is no development. If there is no development again they say Government of India is responsible for retarded growth of development in West Bengal.

That is a different matter. I am not criticising the statement made by the Chief Minister. I welcome it because I know that only the people who carry the weight know the burden of the weight. Because he is carrying the weight; he has to solve the problems...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : What is it that he said ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : He welcomed the private sector.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Because Centre is refusing to invest anything.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : There is no public sector for him to welcome.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : The number of public sector industries which are there in West Bengal you will not find in any other part of the country. So far as Industries Ministry is concerned there are a number of them. If I think of any public sector it is either in Howrah, Calcutta or some other place in West Bengal.

AN HON. MEMBER : All sick companies should be nationalised.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : We have accepted the policy of mixed economy. I think everybody sitting in this House on this side or that side is a party to that and we have been following that mixed policy. Sir, now the question is this : When the Government is facing the problem of resource constraints what it should do ? My Hon. friend Mr. Indrajit Gupta and other members on that side feel that starting every industry, setting up of industries, developing a particular area by setting up industries etc. is the responsibility of the Government. In a mixed economy it cannot be so. That is why they have laid down what are the industries which are to be set up in the public sector, what are the industries which are alone for the private sector, what are the industries which are alone for MRTP companies or big business houses and what are the industries which are reserved for small-scale sector. Everything has been defined already. There is no question of my explaining the position to the Hon. Members now. Sir, now I want to ask the Hon. Members because they should not feel that there is any discrimination against West Bengal. I think only yesterday the Hon.

[Shri Veerendra Patil]

Member from Bihar asked about Rohtas industries. 15,000 workers are now lying idle. They are thrown out of employment. The whole industrial complex is closed. They demanded and they said, why not Government today nationalise all those industries in that complex. And in my reply to the Calling Attention, I categorically said no, it is not possible. Because, we have worked out. It comes to Rs. 175 crores. The paid up capital of that complex is Rs. 6 crores. And now in order to rehabilitate that complex we have to shell out Rs. 175 crores. We have to spend Rs. 175 crores over rehabilitating those industries. Nobody is sure that those industries will start generating revenues and they will get surpluses or become profitable. What I am saying is this. There are resource constraints. We don't have resources at all. Therefore there is no such question. I find that lot of Members are asking questions: Why cannot you set up this industry in my constituency, and so on,—as if it is the responsibility of the Government to start industries everywhere, wherever there is a demand. It is not possible. Now we have come to a stage. I think very soon Hon. Members will have an opportunity to discuss about the Seventh Plan. When the resources are limited I want to ask the Hon. Members whether with whatever limited resources which are available we should spend those resources on creating infrastructure or on setting up industries everywhere. According to me we have to spend all that money on creating infrastructure. Otherwise where is the question of setting up industries?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : 80 per cent of the investment comes from public institutions, even for private companies. I don't know whether the Industries Minister understands this.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Whether it comes from financial institutions or not, even that is taken care of, while making the plan. That is a different matter. Now what I say is that whatever amount is there it is the amount of the Government. The question is whether that amount should be spent in creating infrastructure or in setting up industries. I will quote one instance. There are two proposals before Government. One is to set up a power plant generating 100 MW. Another proposal is to set up a cement plant

with 1 million tonne capacity. I would like to know from Mr. Jaipal Reddy what should be our priority.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Take both.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : The resources are not there.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : For the 1 million tonne cement plant also, 80 per cent of the finance is contributed by the nationalised financial institutions.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : What I am saying is this. I have got resources for one only. Out of these two, which should be given priority? He said take both. But I think after sometime he will say print more notes and whatever investment necessary may be made and start the industry.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : He does not understand the planning.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Hon'ble Members feel that monopoly houses are growing and their assets are growing. I want to make it clear that the MRTP says very clearly in its preamble itself. It is an act to provide that the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of economic power to the common detriment for the control of monopolists, for the prohibition of monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices, for matters connected therewith. It is not against the growth of the economy. It is against the growth which is going to be detrimental.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : That means growth in a few hands.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : If the Hon. Member feels whatever growth is there is always detrimental to the society, then it is a different matter. He is at liberty to hold that view.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Public sector growth is very good. We welcome it.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Now, the question is that although the MRTP Act is there since 1969, I know that the assets of these houses are increased. But who are the main beneficiaries? The main beneficiaries are the top 10 or 20 houses, not the remaining houses. I have got the figures and I can

give those figures. Even for this figure of Rs. 100 crores, I have got the information. As on 31-12-1983, the number of MRTP houses comes to 1321 undertakings and on 31-12-1984, it became 1784. I do not want to quote that figure. So, out of this figure of 1321 undertakings, the total assets come to Rs. 25,962 crores and out of this amount of Rs. 25,962 crores, if you take into consideration the first 10 or 20 houses, it is more than 50 per cent and they are controlling 50 per cent to 60 per cent of the total assets, not the remaining. Now, even after increasing the limit from Rs. 20 crores to Rs. 100 crores, how much of this amount of Rs. 25,962 crores is going out of the MRTP? It is just 23 per cent. 23 per cent of these assets will go out of the MRTP net. That means still 77 per cent remains within the ambit of the MRTP. Mr. Jaipal Reddy was referring to Tatas and Birlas.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : The Government was not referring these cases to the Commission. So, what can the Commission do? In 92 percent of the cases, references were not made to the Commission at all. If the Hon. Minister gives assurance that all the MRTP applications will first be referred to the Commission and then the decision will be taken by the Government, we will agree.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Now, regarding enquiries into the monopolistic or restrictive trade practices by the Commission, I would submit that it is a judicial Commission. The Commission may inquire into any restrictive trade practices upon receiving complaints which constitute such practices and all that, upon a reference made to it by the Central Government or a State Government.

Further, may I state that no reference was made by the State Governments? Do you mean that the Central Government is responsible for not making a reference to the Monopolies Commission? The Monopolies Commission has got powers to take into account or take cognizance of such things. The Government does not come into the picture.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : The Hon. Minister is confusing. Under Sections 21, 22 and 23 the MRTP cannot take notice in the area of restrictive trade practices but in

regard to the applications made by MRTP Companies for examination.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : They will not go to the Commission.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : We want them to go to the Commission.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : How can they go to the Commission if there is no provision?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sections 21, 22 and 23 are there. They do not go to the Commission. They come to you for approval. That is what they are supposed to do under the Act, but in many cases they only come to you for approval. And in some cases when they come to you, you have given them blanket approval. You give me any example when you have not given the approval to them.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Whenever any expansion case is concerned, when any new licence is concerned, any merger is concerned, they have to approach the Government or the Company Law Board for MRTP clearance. There is a procedure. There is a procedure for MRTP clearance, after going through that procedure the clearance is given. And they are going through the procedure.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You are supposed to refer the cases.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : When there is a quasi-judicial Commission why do you not refer?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You have the power to refer.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : I am sorry, the Hon. Members are not correct. What the Commission has to do under the Act, is to go into the unfair trade practices. The Hon. Members are suggesting that every application for MRTP clearance should be referred to the Commission. For what purpose, I cannot understand. The Commission is not meant for that purpose.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I am afraid, the Hon. Minister is not correct. He may please read sections 21, 22 and 23. We think that the Government has got the power to refer

to the Commission. The Government is not referring to them.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : I do not want to argue further.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : It is meant to subserve the clear objectives of the companies.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : In 1969 this limit of Rs. 20 crores was fixed. And Hon. Members are aware of the fact that the value of rupee in 1969 was not the same as today. So, there is erosion in the value of the rupee, there is inflation. And this limit of Rs. 20 crores which was there in 1969, if you calculate and see it is not the same Rs. 20 crores today.

Then Hon. Members might argue that it should not be 100 crores, why do you raise it to Rs. 100 crores? I agree that according to them even if I take inflation into consideration it may come to Rs. 60 crores; by somebody's calculation it might come to Rs. 70 or 75 crores. Now the question is that everybody agrees that there is inflation. They are not agreeing with this figure. Nevertheless, that is a different matter. Everybody agrees that this 20 crores is not the same today in 1985. So, now the question is whether it should be 60 or 75 crores. That is one question.

Therefore, I must say that when we have raised it we are not raising it for one or two years. We fixed Rs. 20 crores in 1969 and today you are fixing at Rs. 100 crores, and I cannot say when it is going to be revised or when it is going to be Rs. 150 crores or even more than that. I cannot say anything. Because, when we are legislating we are not legislating for a year or for a term. I do not know about the next regime, and what they are going to do with this; whether they are going to continue with Rs. 100 crores, or they will increase it to Rs. 150 crores, or reduce it to Rs. 50 crores—I cannot say anything. I cannot commit the future Government. But what I say is that we want that there should be some sort of certainty; uncertainty should not be there. That is why we say that even to-day if we take the inflation

into consideration and work out things, we will see that it comes to Rs. 60 crores or Rs. 70 crores. We should not limit it to that Rs. 70 crores, because next year if there is more inflation, we cannot go on changing this every year, saying: this year there is 5 per cent inflation; therefore, from Rs. 70 crores we will go to Rs. 75 crores. Next year from Rs. 75 crores we will increase it to Rs. 80 crores. That cannot be.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : You are planning for the 21st century.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Therefore, what I want to submit is that we want some sort of certainty.

The other day, our Commerce Minister announced the Import-Export Policy for two years. Why? Because there must be some sort of certainty. This uncertainty should not be there. That is why we said: instead of putting it at Rs. 60 crores or Rs. 65 crores or Rs. 70 crores now, and changing it after two years or three years, it is better to make it Rs. 100 crores now, and then wait for a reasonable period, so that there will be some sort of certainty, and some sort of security to all the people who are going to invest, or investors. That is why this Rs. 100 crores have been put.

Hon. Members are arguing as if we are doing something to favour certain parties. No. They are aware of the fact that we have increased the limit in the case of small scale sector also. Have we not increased the limit to Rs. 35 lakhs?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : From Rs. 25 lakhs to Rs. 35 lakhs.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : From Rs. 25 lakhs to Rs. 35 lakhs, and then we have gone upto Rs. 45 lakhs in the case of ancillary industries. You must understand it. There was a time, about 10 or 12 years back, when the small scale industry was only upto Rs. 5 lakhs. To-day, from Rs. 5 lakhs, it has gone upto Rs. 45 lakhs. You can argue that it should not be Rs. 100 crores; it should be Rs. 80 crores, or Rs. 70 crores. There, I agree that we will have an honest difference of opinion. But what I want to say is: "Don't give an impression or a picture that we are bent upon helping a particular section." That is not so.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : What about proper evaluation of the assets? You are taking the book value of the assets, and that is not the same as the market value. You should take the proper market value at the same time. Actually, when you are allowing Rs. 100 crores, you are really allowing Rs. 1,000 crores.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : There is another object behind it. But I must admit that Hon. Members may not be convinced if I advance this argument. To-day what is happening? By this method, we are helping only the top 10 to 20 monopolists. I think that if you analyze it, you will be convinced about it. You take a party which has Rs. 25 crores. To-day, he is an MRTP house. I want to know whether a house having Rs. 25 crores' assets is in a position to compete with a house having Rs. 1,500 crores. To-day, they are on par. They are not treated differently. They are at par, 'because all MRTP houses' means all MRTP houses, irrespective of the assets that they are owning over and above those 20.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : How is this increased ceiling going to help them in their competitiveness?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : It is only helping those 20 people. To-day, they are enjoying the monopoly. We want to break that monopoly. We want to create competitors. That is why we think of helping these people, to get out of the MRTP.

What is happening? Although the MRTP Act is there, the provisions are there—are you not allowing the MRTP houses in non-Appendix I areas also?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : We are not supposed to.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : We are allowing in certain areas.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Entry into non-Appendix I industries is banned for the monopolies. How are you allowing them?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : I tell you : with your knowledge it is going on. If the MRTP houses want to enter small scale industries, they can do so, provided they

accept the obligation of 75 per cent export. MRTP houses are allowed to go to backward areas and in no-industry areas, in non-appendix also provided they accept 30 per cent export obligation and in no-industry districts provided they accept 50 per cent export obligation.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : You revised your industrial policy recently.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : I am telling you authoritatively. Now, why I am telling you, why I want to tell you that we are relaxing this, why we are asking them to go to backward areas, why we are telling them that we are prepared to give concessions, you please go, it is because today the position is that small scale industrialists are not in a position to invest more and MRTP houses are not allowed to invest and start the activities? Then who is to do this?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : What is the guarantee that these people will oblige you?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Whether they oblige or not, we are not identifying what these people are, who are these people; we do not know who are these people. What I am saying is that we are providing all the facilities, but if people are not coming forward to invest, what to do? Now, we block MRTP or totally we say that no more MRTP activities in our country at all, whatever they have, let them continue, we do not allow them to have any more activity, by stroke of pen, we can issue order, but do you want that no activity should go on?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : So that MRTP people can get into business.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Unfortunately, although we tried our best to block the MRTP companies, we could not block because others did prefer to come forward and invest. Therefore, we say, all right, if you want to go to backward areas, we give this relaxation. Why did we give relaxation? It is only out of compulsion *(Interruptions)* All right, we block MRTP companies, but non-MRTP companies should come and start industries; they are not coming. If they are not coming, what is the remedy?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Those people who want to come but cannot come because of lack of resources, why don't you help them? These people are not suffering from lack of resources.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : The Hon. Member is aware of the fact that nearly 70 per cent to 75 per cent of the investment that is required for setting up industries comes from the financial institutions.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Are you going to stop that?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : No, no, we are not stopping that. Despite that nobody is coming forward, what to do?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : These 49 companies which are now being taken out of MRTP and you are hoping that they will go to backward areas, and they will do all sorts of things.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : In backward areas, MRTP companies are allowed to go there; they are at liberty to go to those backward areas.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Then what are you expecting from these liberated people now?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : What I expect from these people who are going out of the net of MRTP is that the Hon. members are aware of the fact that we have announced that 25 industries as de-licensed industries; those de-licensed industries are not meant for MRTP companies and small scale industries have not got resources to go into those industries.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : So, some MRTP companies are being liberated.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : What I want to know from you is that you do not want anybody to enter that area. *(Interruptions)* I cannot answer this argument. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Your suggestions are very good, but some people who do not follow them are now creating disturbances.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : What I was saying is that Hon. members are under the impression that once these companies

go out of the MRTP net, then they are at liberty to do whatever they want. No.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Obviously!

15.00 hrs.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : No. They have got only two concessions. MRTP companies have got two stages of procedure to be followed for getting licence or getting approval for expansion or merger or supporting an industry. The first stage is making a regular application for letter of intent and converting it into licence. That is one procedure. After getting that, they have to approach for MRTP clearance separately. So, in these cases, where Rs. 100 crores limit is given, they have only one stage to follow and not the other one. That is the advantage. That is all. If the Hon. Members are under the impression that this Act is not going to be applicable to them at all, it is not so. All the other provisions of this Act are equally applicable, irrespective of their assets. If they indulge in corrupt practices, this Act is applicable to them. If any complaint is received against the company, even where its asset may be below Rs. 100 crores, the matter would be referred to the Commission, the Commission would go into the matter and inquire into it and punish the company, if they are found guilty.

Now, there are only two advantages. One is that after getting the licence, they need not again approach for MRTP clearance. That is one advantage. The second advantage is, so far as the 25 industries, which are de-licensed are concerned, in order to get into those industries, they need not approach either for MRTP clearance or for any industrial licence. So, these are the only two facilities that are made available to them. I sincerely make an appeal to you. Today, if those monopoly houses with Rs. 25 crores or Rs. 50 crores assets, want to start any activity, they have to get the licence and again approach the Ministry of Company Affairs for MRTP clearance. The procedure is, as soon as they apply for MRTP clearance, it has to be notified and it has to be published for inviting objection. And I must say here that the first ten or twenty big business houses do object and they prevent them to enter that areas. This is what is happening. That is why I want to create competition

for these ten or twenty big business houses. I have got the figures with me and I tell you as to how much assets these ten or 20 industrial houses are controlling out of the 25,000 crores of rupees. They are controlling more than 60 to 65 per cent of the total assets of all these 1300 MRTP houses today. Do you want them to grow further? You do not want any competition for them. That is why I say that I want competition. I want people to compete with them. Now they need not go through this cumbersome procedure to getting MRTP clearance after getting the licence, and those 25 de-licenced industries which are not reserved for MRTP houses, they cannot enter those areas. Small scale industries have not got the resources to enter these industries. And we have to do some thing. If you want to take the policy of 'dog in the manger' I am sorry I cannot say anything. Either you must produce, or you must allow somebody else to produce. I do not agree if you say, 'either you produce or you do not allow anybody else to produce'. That means there will not be any production in the country. There will not be any growth in the country, And the result of these ideologies is that the country will suffer and the common man will suffer. That is why, I want to make it very clear that we have done it not for the benefit of the big houses, but it is for the benefit of people with limited and reasonable resources. We want to see that competitors are created for these big business houses, because only through competition, we can achieve efficiency, we can achieve growth and only through competition every investor and every industrialist would feel that he can survive. Only when there is competition, he can survive and only when there is competition, we will be able to achieve efficiency. That is the purpose of this Act.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : That is all right. We have understood your argument, whether we agree or not. You want that these companies which are going out of the MRTP now, are to be relieved of some of those complex procedures and so on, to help increase production. But are you also adopting any new policy regarding your financial assistance to them from your institutions? Is that going to be further liberalised or is it going to be very stringent for these companies with Rs. 50 crore or Rs. 75 crore assets? Is there any way of enforcing them to become more self-reliant in getting resources, or are you going to feed them from your

Government financial institutions? What is the policy regarding that?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : The Hon. Member knows the policy so far as MRTP companies are concerned. There are so many restrictions on them with regard to raising of funds, approaching the financial institutions, etc. MRTP companies are required to raise their resource to a particular extent. Whatever facilities non-MRTP companies are enjoying, these companies will also enjoy the same facilities. I do not have the figures. But I know of MRTP companies where we have said that their equity should be so much, their debt-equity ratio should be so much. But in the case of non-MRTP companies those rigid conditions are not there. That is why there is no question of giving any more concessions to them. The concessions are already there for non-MRTP companies and rigid conditions are there for the MRTP companies.

Again I appeal to the Hon. Members that this is only to create a healthy competition against those 10 or 20 industrial houses, who are now monopolising the whole economy, that this amending Bill has been brought forward. When we are raising the limit at every level—we have raised the limit in respect of the small scale industries and ancillaries—similarly we thought that we should raise the limit of these MRTP companies from Rs. 25 crores to Rs. 100 crores. It is not that we are going away from the socialist path; we are becoming reactionary—we are treading the path of capitalism and all that. There is nothing like that. There is no question of making any departure from the established policy and the procedure. It is only to see that larger interest is served, there is proper economic growth in the country and there should not be concentration of economic growth in the hands of top 10 or 20 people. With this object I have brought forward this piece of legislation. I hope, the Hon. Members might have been convinced with my arguments and they will support this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER ; The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, we take up clause by clause consideration. The question is :

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1 the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

14-08 hrs.

ANDHRA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE
COUNCIL (ABOLITION) BILL

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : I beg to
move :

"That the Bill to provide for the abolition of the Legislative Council of the State of Andhra Pradesh and for matters supplemental, incidental and consequential thereto, be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : How much time shall we fix ?

SOME HON. MEMBERS. No discussion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right. the question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the abolition of the Legislative Council of the State of Andhra Pradesh and for matters supplemental, incidental and consequential thereto, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The house will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill. The question is :

"The Clauses 2 to 9 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clauses 2 to 9 were added to the Bill.

Cluases 1 The Enacting Formula
and the Title were added
to the Bill

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad One second, Sir. On this occasion I would like to express my happiness and the gratitude at the way the Government has acted and accepted the wishes of the Government of Andhra Pradesh. I am in support of this Bill and I support it.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool) : Sir, through this Bill, Shri Bharadwaj Ji has opened the *darwaza* that was closed for the people of Andhra Pradesh, and he has further secured the constructive cooperation of the Union with the States. We thank him for this and we also thank the Prime Minister for responding to the wishes of the people of Andhra Pradesh and for respecting the Resolution passed by the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Jaipal Reddy. Three Reddys want to speak.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar) : Sir, while I welcome the Bill, I do not find any reason for thanking anybody. I must make it very plain because we thought no discussion would take place. Now that some discussion is taking place, I must put forth my viewpoint. I do not think that anybody deserves to be thanked for the very simple reason that the Legislative Assembly of Andhra Pradesh was forced to pass the Resolution second time. I will merely refer to one think, the Constituent Assembly debates. Mr. Ambedkar, while referring to this Article said very clearly :

"The provisions of this article follow very closely the provisions contained in the Government of India Act, section 60, for the creation of the Legislative Council and section 308 which provides for the abolition. The procedure adopted here for the creation and abolition is that the matter is really left with the Lower Chamber, which by a resolution may recommend either of the two courses that it may decide upon. In order to facilitate any change made either in the abolition of the Second Chamber or in the creation of a Second Chamber, provision is made that such a law shall not be deemed to be an amendment of the Constitution, in order to obviate the difficult procedure which has been provided in the Draft Constitution for the amendment of the Constitution."

Mr. Ambedkar, while moving the Bill for the relevant article, said that the discretion was left completely to the Assembly of the State concerned. The Government of India was quite grudging in considering it. It is obvious. I am at least happy that wiser counsels, though belated, prevailed upon the Government.

SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ : With your kind permission, Sir, I would like to reciprocate the feeling and put the record straight. You will kindly appreciate that new norms of democratic behaviour have been set in as this Government has taken over, and you will find that when we implement the Resolution of the Andhra Pradesh Assembly, we are doing something which is highly democratic. And in doing so, I am also grateful to the leaders of the opposition who have said that they will not like to speak on this. As you know, Sir, our party had majority in the Council and we had lot of opposition from our own people. But, as I said, if democracy has to thrive, institutions have to be nurtured, we will have to make sacrifices. I am happy that with this spirit, Mr Jaipal Reddy will take it. There is absolutely no other spirit except that. To uphold the highest traditions of democracy in this country, we will cooperate in future also.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

14.15 hrs.

PAYMENT OF BONUS (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 1985

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we shall take up Item No. 12—Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Bill. Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad may move the Bill for consideration on behalf of Mr. Anjiah.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY
AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) :
Sir, on behalf of Shri Anjiah. I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, as passed by the Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, I am on a point of order. The convention is that when the Bill is to be moved, it must be moved by the concerned Minister and the concerned Minister is not here now. So, he is not going to listen to the speeches made in the House. Then how is he going to reply ? It is too much.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Minister is held up on an urgent business. Meanwhile, the other Minister is going to note whatever the points that are being raised by Members.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I have no doubt about the capacity of Mr. Anjiah.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Minister is going to note the points. There is no problem.

Motion moved :

"That this Bill further to amend the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Now, Mr. Dora may speak.

SHRI H. A. DORA (Srikakulam) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, now the Amendment introduced by the Government is for the deletion of Section 12 of the Bonus Act of 1965. The only amendment that is now sought to be made to this Act, viz, Bonus Act of 1965, is to delete Section 12 of the Bonus Act. In other words, Section 12 of the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, shall be omitted. I respectfully submit to this august House that this particular piece of amendment is, no doubt, a progressive piece of legislation but as the Hon. Minister for labour contended on 9th of this month in the Rajya Sabha that he would bring about a piece of comprehensive legislation to cover all sections of employees in this country, I am only sorry that such a piece of legislation has not been introduced in this august House, particularly in this Session, though it was promised by the Hon. Minister in the other House on 9th of this month.

Now the Hon. Minister for Labour has come to the House and therefore, the objection which my learned friend raised is now waived, I think. Now that the Hon. Minister has come, I would like to submit that this particular piece of legislation as also the emphasis laid on it is no doubt a progressive piece of legislation, but it does not cover all employees in this country.

14.19 hrs.

[**SHRI SOMNATH RATH** *in the Chair*]

Sir, the working class in this country obtained their share of bonus not through any piece of legislation, but through a hard struggle in which several persons lost their lives in this country and that the result of the struggle which has been there prior to the coming into force of the Payment of Bonus Act of 1965 is crystallised in this form and therefore, what I would like to submit is that the omission of this particular Section does not accrue to the benefit of the railway employees in this country. You are aware that the railway employees who are working in Railways in India are innumerable. There are lakhs of employees who are working under this public sector undertaking and who are not getting this particular bonus. The Bonus Act is conspicuously silent and it does not come to their benefit

and therefore, the omission of this particular Section is not sufficient though it gives benefit to a smaller section of organised employees. You are aware that there are a number of unorganised employees in this country. Crores of such people are there, but the Amendment is silent about those employees and I would have congratulated the Hon. Minister if he had brought a different amendment, a positive amendment to this particular Act embracing the employees of all the unorganised and organised sectors in this country. Of course, the Hon. Minister, who held the post of Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, is well aware and he hails from labour community and he respects the labour community, he knows how the labour community in this country are exploited. He is not alien to that particular sect of people, as some Ministers in this august House are. I would like to submit that there are certain provisions which exclude the benefit of this particular Act and they are contained in Section 32 of the Bonus Act of 1965. I may be permitted to quote this Section 32 :

“Nothing in this Act shall apply to—

- (i) employees employed by any insurer carrying on general insurance business and the employees employed by the Life Insurance Corporation of India;
- (ii) seamen as defined in clause (42) of section 3 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958;
- (iii) employees registered or listed under any scheme made under the Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Act, 1948, and employed by registered or listed employers;
- (iv) employees employed by an establishment engaged in any industry carried on by or under the authority of any department of the Central Government or a State Government or a local authority;
- (v) employees employed by—
 - (a) the Indian Red Cross Society or any other institution of a like nature (including its branches);
 - (b) universities and other educational institutions;

(c) institutions (including hospitals, chambers of commerce and social welfare institutions) established not for purposes of profit;

(vi) employees employed through contractors on building operations."

I submit that Section 32 is a bar and it really takes away the benefit of a large number of employees in this country. I submit that this section 32 could have been deleted and an amendment to this effect could have been introduced in the House instead of section 12 of the particular Act.

It is necessary to recognise the strength of the labour force in this country. You are aware that 51 per cent of our population live below the poverty line. And this 51 per cent is working in different sectors of the establishments in this country. They are working in factories and under the contractors. You are also aware that there are contractors who engage a large number of labour force. But they are also exempted under section 32 of the Bonus Act. I, therefore, urge the Hon. Labour Minister that at least in the ensuing piece of legislation, he should bring an amendment for the deletion of this section 32 from the Bonus Act which would definitely benefit a large number of labour force in this country.

With these few words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to welcome this Bill which has been brought forward by the Labour Minister. I welcome this firstly because the amendment was overdue, secondly because, there was an announcement by the Finance Minister in his Budget speech that the Government would be bringing before this House such an amendment. By bringing this Bill, the Government is honouring its commitment which has been made in the Budget speech by the Finance Minister.

The Payment of Bonus Act was passed in 1965 and at that time this section 12 enacted wherein it was decided that even was though an employee was getting a salary of Rs.1,600, he would get the bonus as if his salary was only Rs.750. Now, we are deleting this section 12 which was putting a limit on

the payment of bonus. The limit was that the salary for the purpose of bonus is to be calculated only at Rs. 750, even though the employee might be getting more salary. Now, by deleting this section 12, as I said, we are removing this limit and now the employee drawing a salary of up to Rs. 1,600 will get a bonus, actually, according to his salary without any ceiling of Rs. 750/-. This is a very welcome amendment that is being made in the Bonus Act.

While I say so, I would also like to point out to the Government that in a way it is a half-hearted measure. When we are amending this Payment of Bonus Act by deleting section 12, we should have also amended another section which would have been a logical amendment.

Now, when the Payment of Bonus Act was passed, the scheme of the Act was as follows.

A person getting a salary of Rs. 1600/-, was entitled to bonus. But the bonus must be calculated actually only upto the salary of Rs. 750/-. So when we delete Section 12, in a way we are raising that salary limit up to Rs. 1600/- for calculating the bonus. Therefore, the higher limit for qualifying bonus should have been also logically raised at least to Rs. 3000/-. My submission, therefore, is that when we are deleting Section 12, we should have at the same time amended the definition of 'employee' given in Section 2 of the Act. The definition of 'employee' says, "any person (other than an apprentice) employee on a salary or wage not exceeding one thousand and six hundred rupees per mensem"...So, the bonus is to be given to the employees who are drawing salary up to Rs, 1600/-. My submission is that if this ceiling was put in the year 1965, then it was necessary to raise this ceiling in the year 1985 when particularly the value of the rupee has gone down. Many employees will be denied bonus because they are drawing emoluments more than Rs. 1600/-. So, logically this definition also should have been amended at the same time, so that a person drawing salary not exceeding Rs. 3000/- also will be entitled to bonus. As I stated, the Payment of Bonus Act was passed as far back as in 1965. At that time also the deliberations took place from the year 1961. Formally there was a formula suggested by the Labour Appellate

[Shri Sharad Dighe]

Tribunal for Bonus. It was confirmed by the Supreme Court and the Bonus Commission was appointed on 6th December 1961. In order to fix the terms of referrance of that Bonus Commission, a Tripartite Committee was also appointed and ultimately the Report of that Bonus Commission was received on 24th of January 1964, which was placed before this House on 2nd September. Therefore, my submission is that these figures which were fixed regarding the lower limit and higher limit for the payment of bonus were fixed as far back as between 1961 and 1964. Those figures are not valid now according to the price index figures and according to the value of the rupee, which has also fallen down. Therefore, as I have stated, the Government should have come forward regarding the amendment of the definition of 'employee' also in this Act. Fortunately for me—I read in the newspapers that in the Conference of Labour Ministers recently held under the Chairmanship of the Central Labour Minister, the same point has been expressed and our Union Labour Minister has also assured that the Government was intending to make this kind of amendment also and in the case of the employee, the upper limit is at Rs. 1600/- is proposed to be raised to Rs. 3000/-. That assurance has been given in the Labour Ministers' Conference as I have read in the newspapers. I have also learnt that in the Consultative Committee attached to the Labour Ministry, there also the Union Labour Minister has expressed in the same way. Therefore, I hope that this amendment also will be brought by the Government in the near future so that logically the whole Act will be properly balanced and proper justice will be given to the employees.

My further submission is also this—that even the other parts of the Act also require immediate amendment. For example, the Act applies to establishments in which 20 or more persons are employed. My submission is that in the present context, this figure of 20 should have been replaced by 10 and the Act should apply to all establishments in which 10 or more persons are employed so that more and more employees will get the benefit because as we know, now it has been settled that bonus is not *ex gratia* payment but if it is a sort of a deferred wage. Therefore, if it is in the form of a deferred wage, employees who are employed in establishments

having employees between 10 to 20 should also justifiably get the benefit of the bonus. Therefore, I will appeal to the Government that in the near future they should take a comprehensive view of the whole Bonus Act and bring a comprehensive Bill suggesting the overall amendments. The formula of bonus also requires to be reviewed. Several provisions of the Act should be reviewed properly and a comprehensive Bill may be brought before the House as early as possible. I will again congratulate the Union Labour Minister for at least making this amendment urgently in this session and I will again urge upon him to take a comprehensive view and bring in the next session all the amendments which are necessary for this Bonus Act.

[*Translation*]

SHRI. K.N. PRADHAN (Bhopal): Sir, I want to congratulate the Labour Minister on his bringing forward the Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Bill. One of the announcements made for the benefit of the workers in the Budget by the Government related to bonus.

Sir, the workers have been struggling for their right since time immemorial and after this long struggle only, they have been able to get their rights, including the right to Bonus. In the beginning, the employers considered it as parting with some profit in favour of the workers but the fight continued and ultimately the workers succeeded in getting it accepted as deferred wages. Government enacted the payment of Bonus Act in 1965. The amendment now brought forward of course, will benefit some of the employees but a large section of the employees will still remain deprived of this facility. Rather, it will not be wrong to say that they will suffer a loss, because the definition of the workers and employees given in sub-section 13 section 2, of the payment of Bonus Act of 1965 has been confined to those workers and employees whose pay is only upto Rs. 1600, which would mean that only these persons will be entitled to get bonus.

One big anomaly in this amendment Bill is that if you count, you will find that an employee who is presently getting a pay of Rs. 1600, will get a bonus of Rs. 320 at the rate of 20 per cent. In this way, actually he will get Rs. 1920 in one month whereas a

senior employee whose pay is Rs. 1610 or Rs. 1650 or even Rs. 1800 will become junior in pay. It is a big anomaly in the present amendment Bill. How many employees will be benefited by it, this I shall tell you by way of an example. When this Act was enforced in 1965, in BHEL, Bhopal, except one or two officers nearly 18000 employees were benefited by this, but now only 6000 employees are going to be benefited.

14.40 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

Out of them those who get a pay of Rs. 750 have not been benefited much. The employees whose pay is between Rs. 750 and Rs. 1600 only have been benefited. Earlier 1800 employees used to get bonus but now only 4000 more will be added to this number.

The intention of the Bill is good but since the time when the way for the welfare of the workers was paved by the Government led by the late Jawahar Lal Nehru in which Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda was the labour Minister, this is the first time when the workers instead of gaining something are going to lose through the enactment of a law. With this law, a large number of employees are going to be deprived of the benefit. Therefore, I submit that unless an amendment is made in this regard, they will remain losers.

Sir, there are other anomalies also. For example, when the gross profit of a company is calculated, income tax is deducted from that and bonus is paid to the workers from the remaining profit but if the income of the employee who gets bonus becomes taxable after getting bonus then income tax is deducted from his pay also. I feel that deduction of income tax from two sources is not justified.

Similarly, we have put a ceiling of 20 per cent for payment of bonus. When it is a question of payment to the workers, why should a ceiling be fixed? Similarly, from the available surplus also, only 60 percent is paid whereas in the name of capital investment and revenue deduction a large portion is sliced away. Then why should the bonus not be paid from the cent per cent available surplus?

In 1984-85, you had increased the depreciation rates. This has resulted in less payment

of profit to the workers. I would like to point out to the Hon. Labour Minister that after Independence every law has helped the workers in getting more and more benefits. This time also our intention was to give more bonus to the workers. It looks as if you either overlooked this point in the beginning or because of the conflicting views of different Departments or in the apprehension that certain Departments might have to pay more, Government did not think on this point. Considering the rights of the workers and in the name of deferred wages, which is the hard earned income of the workers, no Department has a right to think as to how much they will have to lose or gain.

Sir, in conclusion, I would like to make one more appeal that the employees of the other Departments i.e. Government officials should also get the right to bonus. They should also be given bonus. I am confident that our Hon. Labour Minister, who has a very good rapport with the labourers and who is very sympathetic to the workers, will not delay it further but amend the Bonus law at the earliest to make it practical.

In addition, there are many other laws which need amendment today. In the morning, we had been discussing Birla Mills affairs. Mr. Speaker did not give me a chance to speak but I would like to say that our textile industry is the oldest industry of our country and even today it plays a significant role in our economy. During the last 15 to 20 years a tendency has developed that the owners of the mills gradually swallow all the profits and cause their mills to suffer losses and ultimately take it to a stage where the workers have to face unemployment. The result is, that Government are obliged to take over the industry under compulsion. For the last 10 to 15 years this trend has been going on. Keeping in view this increasing tendency of the mill owners can Government not take a decisive action? Did we not opt for mixed economy in the hope that the private sector people would also contribute their mite in improving the economy of the country? But does their present attitude not show that they have not proved sincere to the desired extent? I, therefore, submit that the problem of the textile industry should be resolved once for all. During the last several years, the workers of several textile mills had to face miserable conditions, many of them died

[Shri K. N. Pradhan]

of starvation and others became jobless and in spite the best efforts of Government, the mill owners went on causing their mills to suffer losses, they never tried to bring improvements in them and ultimately, Government had to take over their mills.

I am fully confident that the Hon. Labour Minister will be kind enough to amend the other labour laws at the earliest as per requirements. With these words, I support the Bill.

[English]

SHRI AJOY BISWAS (Tripura West) : Sir, Government has brought forward a small piece of legislation. This will definitely help a section of the workers. But I think without a comprehensive Bill the problems of the workers are not going to be solved. What is the concept of bonus? Bonus is a deferred wage. According to the Constitution, the State shall endeavour to provide a living wage to the workers and employees of the country. But the workers and employees of the country are not getting this living wage. They are not even getting the need based minimum wage. They are getting far below the need based minimum wage. So, there is a gap between the living wage and the wage which the workers and employees are getting. Bonus is a compensation of this gap. It is a deferred wage, as I said. If it is so, then, all the employees, all the workers, of the country should get the bonus. But it is not so. Workers have earned this right, not by any gratuitous relief or by charity but the workers have earned this right through their blood and through their sweat.

In 1965 the Central Government passed the Bonus Act. Bonus was linked with the deferred wage. But the Central Government and State Government employees and semi-Government employees were left out from the purview of this Bonus Act. I don't understand this. If the Government has accepted the principle that Bonus is deferred wage, then, why should the Central Government employees, State Government employees and semi-Government employees be left out from the purview of this Bonus Act? Sir, even several High Courts and the Supreme Court gave their verdict

that the bonus is a deferred wage. The Central Government employees and the Railway employees did not accept the stand taken by the Government. They waged a bitter struggle you know all about Railwaymen's strike in 1974. Ultimately Government accepted the bonus in the case of the Central Government employees. But you will see that the bonus has been implemented in the case of Central Government employees but it is to be linked with the productivity. Here I would point out that in the case of private sector you have accepted that the bonus is linked with the deferred wage. But when the Government implement the Bonus Act for their own employees, they say that it is to be linked with the productivity. I do not know why the Government is maintaining double standard in this case. By doing so, it will enthuse the capitalists and the exploiters of the country. So, you have to decide in the case of giving bonus to the Government employees whether bonus will be linked with the deferred wage or not.

Now, Sir, about 60 lakh State and the semi-Government employees are not getting the bonus. They are in doldrums. A few State Governments have sanctioned to their employees some ex-gratia payment. That is not the bonus. It is the Central Government who can formulate the National Wage Policy or the Bonus Policy. It is the Parliament which can pass the Act. The State Governments have no powers. So, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether he would consider bringing forward a comprehensive Bill so that these 60 lakh of the State Government and the semi-Government employees also get the bonus.

Now, Sir, in this legislation, the ceiling of the calculation has been raised from Rs. 750 to Rs. 1600. I welcome this. But what about the eligibility ceiling of the bonus? It is still kept at Rs. 1600. The Bonus Act was passed in 1965. During these 20 years, the wages have increased due to price rise. The quantum of wages has been increased but the real wages has not increased. Many workers were getting bonus previously and now they have been left out from the purview of the Bonus Act. Thousands and thousands of the workers are being deprived of the bonus because of the ceiling fixed at Rs. 1600. If you are really interested to do something for the workers, definitely you have to remove this ceiling limit.

My third point is about the maximum ceiling limit of 20 per cent. Sir, when you are not able to fix any ceiling on profit, you have no right to fix ceiling limit on bonus. Actually, the employers, the owners, the capitalists are earning at the cost of the workers. I would strongly plead that the workers should also have a share of the profit. When you have accepted that bonus is a deferred payment of wage, why should there be any ceiling ?

With regard to the allocable surplus, I do not know the idea behind this. Who will determine the allocable surplus ? It is the owner. The workers have no access to the accounting of the owners. Why should not the workers get bonus on the basis of the balance-sheet ? The balance sheet is to be taken into account otherwise the workers are being deprived of their due share of profit.

Lastly, I shall request the Hon. Minister to bring a comprehensive Bill in which the State Government and semi-Government employees should also be included and brought within the purview of the Bonus Act. Sixty lakh State Government and semi-Government employees are on the path of agitation. In 1974 they organised a one-day strike. Even on the 15th of this month, fifty lakh State Government employees organised demonstrations throughout the country for bonus. If the Central Government claims that India is a welfare State, and the Government is for the workers, in that case you should definitely have a National Bonus Policy. Once again, I request the Labour Minister to bring forward a comprehensive Bonus Bill in the near future, so that all sections of the people get bonus according to the norms of bonus as deferred wages.

14.56 hrs.

[SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESHWARI
in the Chair]

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : Sir, I rise to support the Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Bill.

Under the dynamic leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, ours is a progressive and pro-labour Government. It is not only a slogan,

the Government has exhibited its intentions at the first Budget session, when the Finance said that relief is to be given to workers and the Hon. Labour Minister has now brought forward this amending Bill.

This Act came into force in 1965. We should take into consideration the price rise and as such the upper limit that has now been raised from Rs. 750/- to Rs. 1600/- ought to be raised still further to Rs. 3200. Under the leadership of late Shrimati Indira Gandhi, it was decided to give bonus to class III and class IV employees, but some States have not as yet given bonus to these employees. When the Hon. Labour Minister brings forward a comprehensive Bill, I have a suggestion to make for his consideration. As it is, if an employee or worker gets an increment and his wages go a little over Rs. 1600, he does not get bonus, he is deprived. The increment will thus not be a boon for him, but it will be a curse. When a Comprehensive Bill be brought I suggest that bonus may be given not taking into consideration the wages, but the category of the employees. If the bonus is to be given according to category of employees then when low worker gets an increment, that will not affect his entitlement to bonus.

As far as the companies are concerned, the profit indicated in the balance sheet showing profit and loss is taken for granted.

15.00 hrs.

A labourer or a worker has no chance to oppose. So, some provision is to be made in the Act so that in case, there is some dispute about the Balance Sheet, over profit or loss, the Government should intervene and a decision has to be taken. Once again, I congratulate the Labour Minister because this Amendment will give relief to thousands of workers and a comprehensive Bill will certainly give further relief.

15.01 hrs.

[SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESHWARI
in the Chair]

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA (Aurangabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I also rise to support the Amendment before the House. This is no more a matter to be disputed now that bonus is a legal claim and

[Shri Sateyendra Narayan Sinha]

a worker is entitled to claim it is a matter of right. Those days are over, when it used to be a bakshish or ex-gratia payment or a gift. In 1965 the Payment of Bonus Act was passed, when this national ceiling of Rs. 750 was fixed and the eligibility criterion was fixed at Rs. 1600/-. The amendment now brought before the House seeks to remove this notional ceiling of Rs. 750, which means that an employee getting Rs. 1600/- becomes eligible to bonus. But Sir, the other part of it is missing, viz. the eligibility criterion. All the members who have spoken before me have been unanimous in asking to raise the limit of eligibility to Rs. 3000. Their argument is that the notional ceiling of Rs. 750 fixed in 1965 is too low on account of the erosion in the value of rupee, and then the upper limit also should, by the same token, be raised to Rs. 3000/- so that the benefit of this can be made available to a large number of workers. Now Sir, when this Payment of Bonus Act was passed, the salary of most of the workers was near about Rs. 750. Now a skilled worker is getting much more than Rs. 2000 or in the neighbourhood of Rs. 2500 to Rs. 3000. So, those workers are getting more than Rs. 1600 and they are skilled workers. Just because inflationary pressures or for other reasons, their salary has gone up beyond Rs. 1600 and they will be deprived of the benefit of this Act. So, it is logical and reasonable that Government should have come up with an amendment that a person who is getting more than Rs. 1600 or a person who is getting Rs. 3000 or Rs. 2500 would be eligible to get bonus, calculated on the basis of notional ceiling at Rs. 1600, just as in the previous Act, in which it was calculated on the notional basis of Rs. 750. In this context, the notional ceiling would be Rs. 1600. This would have been more logical, reasonable and proper.

My next suggestion is that bonus which has been accepted as deferred wage, should be extended to all employees of Government, whether they are serving in the public sector or semi-Government undertakings or in the Government undertakings. It should not be linked with their productivity, because in that case the whole concept of making it a deferred wage will be defeated. It should be treated as a part of his wage. As my friend Mr. Ajoy Biswas said just now, bonus is

treated as a deferred wage, a device to fill the gap between the living wage and the actual wage. If that is so, it should not be linked with productivity as has been done in the case of Railways or Telegraphs. This has to be clarified; and since, as I said earlier, the law is settled on this point, the concept has been accepted, there is no point in not extending the application of this law to these undertakings.

I do not agree with what Mr. Ajoy Biswas said when he spoke about profits, viz. that they have made a contribution to the earning of profits, because then you cannot talk of this productivity; you cannot say that it should not be linked with productivity, i.e. if you talk of profits. So, irrespective of profits earned, my submission is that a worker should get bonus as a deferred wage, and it should be calculated on the basis, as if he was getting Rs. 1600/-. This should be the criterion.

Now I wish to welcome the step taken by the Labour Minister in constituting a Committee of Labour Ministers of several States—which I found in the newspapers—to evolve a National Wage Policy. When a national wage policy is actually evolved, I think it will take care of all these factors. Our friends have been unanimous in requesting the Minister to come up with a comprehensive legislation. I hope he will take all these factors into consideration. There are several laws like the Workmen's Compensation Act. The definition also differs from Act to Act. All the definitions should be made uniform, and there should be no ambiguity and there should be no room for any dispute or conflict. He should come up with a wage policy, fixing the minimum wage, and the upper i.e. the maximum wage. I would remind the Hon. Minister that Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru had declared the intention of the Government that there should be an upper limit as well as a lower limit. Today, the upper limit is nowhere to be seen. The sky is the upper limit. For the worker, there is a lower limit. Still, it is a fact that 50 per cent of the people in India are living below the poverty line. Developmental activities have given them no benefits. They have been deprived of the benefits. Their standard of living has not gone up. But when the national wage policy is evolved, all these factors have to be taken into consideration.

Now with regard to unorganized labour. I know that the labour, e.g. in tea plantation which is an organized industry, gets bonus. But what about the large number of agricultural workers who are not organized? They depend on the sweet will of the landholders. Even with regard to the minimum wages, there is dispute. Minimum wages are not being paid to them. All kinds of troubles are being faced by them. I have mentioned this point in the House several times and I would request the Hon. Labour Minister to take these factors into account when the national labour policy is evolved, so that he takes care of every section of the country, and nobody is allowed to languish in poverty or deprivation, when the goal we have set for ourselves is the bringing in of a socialist society. My friend on other said : we have abandoned the socialist path.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I never said that, because they were never on that path.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : No, we were. We have taken all anti-poverty measures, to improve the living conditions of the people; that is true. But much more has to be done; and the Labour Minister, who has worked in the labour field also should take into consideration the conditions of all kinds of labour so that they can get every benefit of the laws that we are enacting here; these laws should be properly implemented so that labour can get full benefits.

With these words, I, once again, support this Bill and request the Hon. Labour Minister to come up with a comprehensive legislation and evolve a national wage policy which will take into consideration all the factors and will be to the benefit of every section of the society.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South) : The Hon. Labour Minister has raised lot of hopes in the minds of the working class not only while replying to the debate on the demands for grants of his Ministry but also in the Labour Ministers' Conference recently held and in the Consultative Committee meeting. So, I am confident that he will implement all that he has said.

There are innumerable laws in respect of labour not only at the Centre level but also at the State level. As I know, there are a

number of laws in some of the States and even rules for the laws have not been framed and they have not been implemented; but laws are there. As far as their implementation is concerned, in some cases, it has been nil and in some other cases it has been very very slow. So, I join my other friends in demanding that a comprehensive law should be brought forward at the next session itself. The Labour Minister has promised about it and I sure he will do it.

Coming to this particular amendment, I welcome to the extent the ceiling has been enhanced from Rs. 750 to Rs. 1,600. The basis on which this has been enhanced is not known to us. Just now, Mr. S. N. Sinha said something about it. In 1965, it was fixed at Rs. 750, but, then very few people were getting this much of salary. If I remember correctly—this is subject to correction—the cost of living index was then about 137; now it is more than 588. If you calculate on that basis also, the ratio will be more than 2,500. I do not know on what basis this figure had been arrived at. Of course, it was announced by the Finance Minister and the Labour Minister has worked out. But I do not know whether it is scientifically worked out. Of course, I am happy that the Labour Minister in the Conference has given a hint that it will be enhanced to 3000.

How many workers are going to be benefited from this? Why should we discriminate between workers and workers? What is needed in our country today is production and more production alone. All people, Government, management, labourers, we must all unitedly see that the country produces more in all fields. In order to do that, the labour must have at least minimum facilities, at least living facilities. In this, thousands of workers have been left out of Bonus Act; they will not get bonus. I also strongly urge that not only this limit should be raised but also I will be happy if there is no limit at all; that is also necessary, I think. This bonus was started as *baksheesh*, but now it has become a legal right; and as many members said, it has now considered as a deferred wage. I remember quite well that in this very House Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said that every worker must have the need-based minimum wage. How many workers are getting the minimum wages leave alone the need

[Shri V. S. Krishna Iyer]

based wage. Even the minimum wages that have been fixed have not been paid for.

Madam Chairman, we should not forget that lakhs and lakhs of unorganised workers are there who constitute nearly 80 per cent of the labour force. I would earnestly request the Labour Minister to remember this. I am convinced about his anxiety to help them, I know that he has sympathy towards the labour, because he was himself a labour leader. I know that, and I requested him to consider the case of the unorganised labour force.

Then there are lakhs and lakhs of landless labourers also who are working in the country. You know that, Madam, in our own State there are landless labourers, who constitute 50 per cent of the labour force. They are not paid minimum wages, leave alone bonus. They are not even paid minimum wages, regularly. So, I once again earnestly urge the Government that our aim should be that we should see that the workers are paid minimum wage in all sectors, whether it is the public sector or the private sector or any other sector. A minimum wage must be there for every worker. So, I would once again request the Hon. Minister that he should not think of linking payment of bonus with productivity. Irrespective of productivity, whether it is increased or not, bonus should be paid. Because the labourer does his duty honestly. Please do not distrust the labour. I am not a trade union leader but I can say one thing. When the labour asks for bonus, he will do so only when he is convinced that management could afford to pay please do not think that they want to paralyse or sabotage the industry. It is not so. They work hard for the development of the industry. The management has to understand the labour and give them the bonus when they ask for it. Whether it is the private sector or the public sector the management should realise this.

I would therefore request the Hon. Minister to ensure that every worker is covered by this Act and also to see that he brings forward the proposed comprehensive legislation about the need based minimum wage and also the amendments—much promised—to the Labour Act. I hope that when we meet here again for the next session, that is the monsoon session, the comprehensive

Bill that piece of legislation will be placed here.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Mool Chand Daga.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : Madam Chairman, today there is not a single Member of Parliament who does not support the principle of bonus. If he has to enter the politics of vote, he should support the principle of bonus as much as possible. If someone asks for 20 per cent bonus, he should demand for 25 per cent. But our Labour Minister has crammed a very good reply that the Bonus Amendment Act is about to come and that they are going to bring forward a comprehensive legislation in this regard. Regarding bonus I want to know one basic thing namely how many times how many mandays were lost for demanding bonus? In the beginning when 8.33 per cent bonus was declared, the workers had had to struggle hard for that. Then later on, when it was increased to 20 per cent, for that also the workers had to struggle much. Now a days, in every industry, there are two or three unions. One union asks for 10 per cent, the other demands 20 per cent bonus. If in Maharashtra, 20 per cent bonus is demanded, then in Karnataka the workers ask for 25 per cent bonus and in Tamil Nadu for 40 per cent.

ONE HON. MEMBER : What will be the demand of the Rajasthan workers?

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : They will ask for 100 per cent bonus. This is the situation today and the Labour Minister will not say what is going to be the limit. In India, whosoever speaks more in support of bonus, he will be applauded more by the workers'. The bone of contention of the workers is bonus and I think the workers get in several places Puja bonus, Dussehra bonus, etc., separately. Now the workers say, "Let us check the balance sheet" and when they see the balancesheet, they say that the businessmen, the *baniyas*, are thieves.

One thing more. It has been stated in Article 39(2) that there shall be labour participation. This participation should be at every stage. Otherwise how will you come to know that the profits earned by the

company have been included in their balance-sheet or not. Presently, we have to depend on the balance-sheet. If we appoint someone as a judge, he also starts taking his share. Many a time, the labour leaders also take their share of money. That is why I say that a comprehensive Bill should be brought on bonus and for that the Hon. Minister will have to fix a criterion. Earlier, bonus was linked with productivity. You are aware that in 1974 in spite of the strike in the railways, bonus was paid. After that, Prof. Dandavate became the Railway Minister and bonus was paid to the workers. In Defence also, bonus was paid. In spite of losses to the Railways, bonus was paid. Even if the Public Undertakings incur losses, they have to pay the bonus. The employees of the P & T Department also get bonus, even if the letters posted may reach their destinations after seven days. My submission is that there should be some criterion for the payment of bonus. When Shri Shiv Raj Patil was not a Minister, he also used to favour the payment of bonus. This subject has become so common that it causes loss of mandays.

[English]

AN HON. MEMBER : Why are you opposing bonus ?

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I am not opposing bonus. Should I lose all my votes ? I have been the President of the INTUC for the last so many years.

[Translation]

In respect of bonus, the Government machinery has to go into many aspects. You should appoint a Committee in this regard so that the comprehensive Bill which may be brought forward should include all the aspects. It will avert loss of mandays and will help in the payment of proper amount of bonus. The employers should also earn some profit. We shall have to find some way out for this.

I want to tell you that there are industries which incur losses due the payment of bonus. Even if they are incurring loss, they will have to pay bonus at the rate of 8.33 per cent. They cannot refuse to pay this much bonus. You will have to rethink about the productivity-linked bonus also. The agricultural labourers have no unions, the unions

should be formed for them also and they should be paid bonus for 15 days. There is difference of opinion on the rate of bonus also. The criteria for productivity linked bonus will also have to be changed. Otherwise, a new question will arise in the States. Everybody will demand bonus. Gradually we have started paying bonus to the P&T employees, and the Railway and Defence employees. We are paying bonus to the LIC employees also irrespective of their gross salary. In this way, everybody will ask for bonus.

Now he has given the definition of bonus as deferred wages. What is this deferred wages ? If it is a deferred wage then pay interest on it. We have heard the expression 'deferred wages.'

[English]

It is a deferred wage. Very good ! If it is a deferred wage, why don't you take interest for this deferred wage ?

[Translation]

I request the Hon. Minister that he should, after consulting all the parties and keeping in view all the points, reformulate the Bonus Act. You should keep this thing in mind that mandays should not be lost because of this law. The people who are entitled to bonus should get the bonus and the profit should remain with those for whom it is meant. You will have to keep all these things in mind.

You have said that you will call a meeting in July or October. After that you will formulate the Bonus Act. If it is done, we shall not be able to discuss it in the Monsoon Session. My request is that this Bill should be brought in the Monsoon Session and passed so that this question is resolved once for all.

*SHRI R. ANNANAMBI (Pollachi) : Madam Chairman, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to say a few words on behalf of my party the All India Anna D.M.K., on the Bonus Amendment Bill.

It augurs well for the labour in our country that their representative is at the

*The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

[Shri R. Annanambi]

helm of affairs. We have started experiencing the benefits of having a real labour leader as the Labour Minister. On 7.5.1985 while speaking on the demands for grants of the Ministry of Labour I had demanded the formulation of a National Wage Policy. With due deference to the views expressed by the Members on the floor of this House and in great promptitude our Labour Minister has constituted a high level committee to formulate the national wage policy. I welcome this and I am sure that this Committee will soon complete its work. I was thrilled to see the other day the news item about the constitution of this high level committee. This confirms the commitment of our Labour Minister and his dedication to the cause of labour in our country.

Similarly, in my speech on that day, I welcomed the announcement of our Hon. Prime Minister about five national awards for the labour. This will go a long way to enthuse the labour to give their best for the good of the nation. Our Hon. Prime Minister, in whom the labour of the country have reposed their full confidence and unflinching faith, has vindicated his Government by the announcement of national awards for the labour. This Bill itself is a further proof of our Hon. Prime Minister's commitment for the cause of labour.

I should say that this Bill is in pursuance of our Hon. Finance Minister's proposition in his Budget enhancing the ceiling of Rs. 750/- per month to Rs. 1600/- for the entitlement of bonus. I have no doubt that this Bill will get the unanimous approval of this House. The Hon. Members who preceded me have made several suggestions including the elimination of this ceiling limit of Rs. 1600. I am sure that the Hon. Labour Minister will bestow his personal attention on these suggestions and act accordingly. I would not go into the technicality of bonus being a deferred wage and hence it should not be linked with productivity. I am concerned primarily with the labour getting bonus which is their birthright. Here I have to refer to the prevalence of contract labour system and casual labour system in the country. You will agree with me, Madam, if I say that the workers will not be able to derive any benefit from labour laws such as the bonus law etc. so long as these pernicious

systems are in vogue. The Hon. Labour Minister is fully conversant with the woes and wails of contract labourers and casual labourers, as he has himself gone through the mill. He should earnestly endeavour to abolish the contract labour system and the casual labour system in the country. It may be difficult for him to abolish casual labour system in the private industrial sector. But its existence in public sector industries is obnoxious. Every attempt must be made to abolish casual labour system from public sector industries.

Before I go further, I would like to refer to the pitiable plight of plantation workers in Valparai area of my Pollachi Parliamentary constituency. Thousands of men and women are working in Coffee and Tea Plantations in this area. For more than 10 years, 20 years, they are treated as daily wage labour. I am personally conversant with the miserable living of these plantation workers. The plantation owners fleece them and deny them fair wages. I know many hundreds of young women workers in their prime of age are wasting away their youth; they cannot get married because they cannot pay dowry from their wages. The Hon. Minister of labour should in fact formulate a separate law for plantation labour in our country. Their nature of work and their conditions of living are quite distinct from other workers in the plains. I have no doubts in the capacity of our Labour Minister to rise to the occasion for the good of plantation labour in the country.

The casual labour system being followed in our Indian Railways, in P & T Department and in other public sector undertakings should be done away with immediately. Though the possibilities for doing away with casual labour system in private industrial sector may be remote, yet the Hon. Labour Minister should exert in that direction also.

Recently he has announced that a national tripartite conference will be convened to discuss the problems of labour in our country and to formulate constructive proposals to resolve them. I should commend the ceaseless efforts of our Labour Minister for ameliorating the living conditions of our labour. I would take this opportunity to refer to a few allied matters connected with the welfare of workers.

In 1983, 5280 Works Committees should have been constituted in the industrial sector of the country. So far only 1838 Works Committees have been constituted, covering 50 per cent of the workers. The Hon. Labour Minister should ensure the constitution of works committees in all the industries covering the entire labour force.

The minimum wages being paid under the Minimum Wages Act bear no relationship to the existing price level. The prices of essential commodities are soaring sky high. Presently, once in two years the minimum wages are reviewed. I suggest that once in twelve months such a review should be undertaken so that the minimum wages reflect the rising prices of essential commodities. It should be made mandatory on the part of State Governments to have such an annual review of the minimum wages being fixed under the Minimum Wages Act. Then only the workers will get some tangible benefits.

Presently there is no equal pay for equal work. The women workers are the victims, though there is Equal Remuneration Act. This Act is not being implemented effectively and uniformly throughout the country. I demand that the Labour Minister should take personal interest in getting this law implemented by the States so that the women workers get equal wages like their male counterparts. The Hon. Labour Minister has mentioned in the other House that he will soon bring a comprehensive labour law covering different aspects of the problems of our workers. I want that this should be done expeditiously. Before I conclude, I would appeal to the Labour Minister that he should by law ensure that the workers who have put in three to five years of continuous service are treated as permanent workers and they should become entitled for all the benefits under the labour laws. I am sure that this will gradually eliminate the casual labour system in the country. Once again I extend my support to this Bill and conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI RAJ MANGAL PANDE (Deoria) :
Madam Chairman, we have heard much about the bonus and productivity-linked bonus and also some speeches that there

should be no ceiling on the amount of salary on which the bonus accrue. We all proclaim that we are living in a prosperous India and all our plans were meant to give a happy life to the poorer, to make their living better than what we are getting at present, but our efforts have not succeeded and the result has been that the poor has become poorer and the rich has become richer. Now, so far as the case of giving bonus to the employees and the workers of this country is concerned, I believe we have a different philosophy. Our Senior leader, Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha has demanded that there should be no ceiling so far as bonus to be given to these employees and workers is concerned because now in this Act any person who is getting a salary of Rs. 1600/- only is entitled or eligible to have a bonus or get a bonus, but those people whose salary is more than Rs. 1600/- are not entitled to it. My contention is that there should be some kind of limitation because unless we have that kind of limitation, if we go on granting that much of bonus to everybody, then there are people who are getting salaries of more than Rs. 4000 or Rs. 5000. So, if we at all give them also bonus, then what will be our formula about those people to whom bonus should not be given in the registered list? We have already proclaimed that even those workers whose salary is much less as a consequence of their lower jobs, should not be paid a bonus of more than Rs. 50/-. It indicated that we have a slab so that the poorer persons or those people who are at the lowest grade, they must have some kind of higher bonus so that they may have a living which must be worth living. Now, with this exemption on income, if we go on granting that much of liberty or freedom to any person who is getting Rs. 5,000 to be eligible to get bonus, then naturally it is a serious erosion of our economy so much so that those people who are getting bonus at a lesser rate will also have a disparity and discontentment. So, our Labour Minister who has brought this Bill to give bonus to a person whose salary is Rs. 1,600 or less than Rs. 1,600 has done a good thing and I support the Bill, The bonus should not be given to persons who are getting salary above Rs. 1,600.

Madam, there must be some tribunal or agency which must decide such kinds of agitational approaches even for the sake of

[Shri Raj Mangal Pandey]

wages, bonus or any other benefit on account of which man-days are lost in this country. Mr. Daga is very much right in his contention on the issue of bonus that many working days, hundred and thousands of working days have been lost. So, it indicates we do not have the uniform national policy or national philosophy regarding grant of bonus. I shall request the Hon. Labour Minister to have some such kind of tribunal which may not only look into the question of wages, work-hours etc., but may also decide all kinds of issues which virtually arise between the Government on the one side, the management and the workers on the other side. These tribunals should be given so much of power to deal with these cases. With the establishment of a tribunal, all these conflicts regarding the grant of bonus in different factories and undertakings will stop. There have been many cases where concerns like Eveready and other factories' workers have demanded 40 per cent bonus. There are concerns where the workers have demanded 33 per cent as bonus. In Government undertakings, even when we are in loss, we give 8.33 per cent as bonus. I mean to say that there must be some kind of agency, a national agency which might decide all these issues because they are the only factors which cause conflict in the workers-management relations and thereby our national economy suffers, mandays are lost and loss of billions and billions of rupees to the national exchequer. So, my humble submission is that there must be labour participation or workers' participation in the management so that the labour union is acquainted with or made aware of the loss or profit made by the company. Secondly, they must have the sense of participation so that the management must also be conscious that any irregularity or any improper balance sheet by which they show it to the Government and deny the workers the benefit, cannot be done and it should be stopped. Unless we do it and unless we have a national agency to decide all these issues, our imposing any kind of ceiling of Rs. 1600 or less than that or more than that will not work. So, my humble submission is that the ceiling of Rs. 1,600 or less than that, is a very reasonable ceiling by which the workers who have been placed at the lower level might not have any discontent against those who are getting higher salary, because once we start increas-

ing the ceiling, there is no check. Then, there will be further discontentment and the result will be unnecessary conflict between the management and the workers.

I shall now request one thing more. The very purpose of giving bonus is to give an incentive to the workman or to the employee so that he may have an inspired feeling; that he has to work for the nation; he has to work for the society. When we see the other people who do not have any such outlook or do not have any such outlook which affects the solidarity and unity of the nation, when they are getting more than what they should get and when these workers are getting much less than what they should get, then there is this kind of discontentment. So, to avoid this kind of situation there should be a comprehensive law and there should be a uniform policy, and at least three categories of enactment must be there—the factories whose earning is beyond a particular amount, the factories who are in between the amounts and the factories who are going in losses. We remember that in the Emergency period we were giving bonus at the rate of 4.33 per cent, even when there, were losses. Even during the present period, even when those public undertakings are under losses, we have been giving 8.33 per cent. What is this all? Madam, when there are losses, even in public undertakings where the balance sheets are not fraudulently prepared, if we give bonus at the rate of 8.33 per cent or even more than that, how could our economy be improved? That is a very serious point to be considered. So, I shall very humbly submit to the House and to the Hon. Minister to have a look into all these matters and go in for such a comprehensive Bill so that the worker must be satisfied as only a contented labour could produce more than what the nation requires, and unless the labour is given its dues, and unless the labour is given its wages and the bonus which you think it is its due or which you think it is a deferred wage, the society and our national goal of socialism cannot be achieved.

With these words I support the Bill.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) :
Madam, I would be very brief. So, I am not going into all the different aspects of the present Payment of Bonus Act.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Time fixed is only two hours. We are nearing it now.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : How much time is left ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Two minutes are left.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I will take only five minutes.

This Amending Bill has got an extremely limited purpose. That is, it is replacing two ceilings by one ceiling. Up to now in the Act there were two ceilings. One was a ceiling on eligibility which was Rs. 1600 per month. Nobody drawing more than that could get bonus and there was another ceiling on the calculation of the bonus. That ceiling was Rs. 750, a notional ceiling, which has no justification in any logic or any accounts or anything, but it was there. The merit of this Bill is only this, Madam, that it replaces these two ceilings by one ceiling, that is, Rs. 1600 is now the ceiling both for eligibility and for actual calculation of the amount which he will get. Of course, it is inadequate and I am not going to take time now to suggest various other things which should be done to make this Payment of Bonus Act more comprehensive and more satisfactory. But as far as this ceiling of Rs. 1600 is concerned for the purpose of eligibility, I think almost all Members who spoke here wanted that this ceiling should be raised—some said it should be raised higher, some said it should be abolished altogether. I think that whatever is done should be defensible on some logical basis. There is no defence. How it is Rs. 1600/- ? What is the logic behind it ? What is the legal validity of this ceiling of Rs. 1600/- ? There is no validity at all. This bonus is payable to those people who are defined in this legislation as workmen. Workmen is a category in our country. In the Industrial Disputes Act it defines very clearly what is meant by a 'workman'. All I am asking for is that anybody irrespective of his salary who comes within the definition of 'workman' must be eligible to get bonus. It does not matter if he is earning Rs. 2000 or Rs. 2500 or Rs. 3000—he won't be earning more than that. Somebody was talking about people earning Rs. 5000 or Rs. 6000. Those are officers, I am not talking about officers, I am talking

about workmen under the Amendment of the Act. And why should you blame him if his salary has gone up now or is going to go up further ? You cannot blame the workman. You are now changing the whole structure of your industry, you are modernising the industry, you are bringing in new technologies, you are telling us every-day that your whole industrial policy and financial policy is geared towards modernising the industry, bringing computers and all kinds of sophisticated equipment. The people who work on those sophisticated machines and who will require training also—without training they cannot handle those machines—if they earn Rs. 3000/- or more why should they be penalised for that. It is a part of the whole process of modernisation. If you modernise the machine the worker will also be modernised. So, you must think ahead. We are going into a situation where you can have no longer workers who will be getting Rs. 700 or Rs. 800 per month. They will be earning much higher. The number may not be big just now but there will be such people. There is no reason why they should be debarred from getting bonus.

I would here like to remind the Minister the view that the Supreme Court has taken on this arbitrary discrimination between worker and worker. In the case of liberalised pension benefits for Central Government employees, Government took a decision and announced that people who retired before a certain date only they will be eligible to get liberalised pension and those who retired after a certain date will not get it. There was a big agitation and discontentment. Finally they went to the court over this and the Supreme Court held the view that just by fixing a date, an arbitrary date, viz., if you retire one or two days before you will get the higher pension and if you retire one or two days later then you will not get it, it amounts to arbitrary discrimination between employee and employee and is not sustainable and they have struck down the Government order and, as such, all government employees have become eligible for liberalised pension benefits.

I am just drawing a broad parallel. So, on the question of salary limit there should not be this arbitrary limit. This will not stand the test of any law. Therefore, I

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

would request the Minister to be careful not to get into difficulty which may later on create lot of complications. It is better to take the straight forward view that who ever comes under the definition of 'workman' gets bonus irrespective of his salary. We are getting so many letters and representations everyday. I am sure the Minister is also getting representations from people saying that this Rs. 1600 limit deprives them of the bonus as they are getting a little more than Rs. 1600.

Sir, some people seem to imply that this bonus is an incentive for strike. I want to say it is not an incentive for strike. Rather it is a dis-incentive for strike. I will tell you how. Whatever the total wages I have actually earned in the whole year the bonus is a percentage of that. The lowest figure is 8.33 per cent and the highest ceiling is 20 per cent. If I am on strike I am not paid wages for that strike period. No work no pay. If I am on strike for three months my total wages earned during the year will get reduced proportionately. Therefore, when the percentage is calculated my bonus also goes down. So; how it is an incentive for strike ! If I want to earn more bonus I should not go on strike. If I go on strike my bonus will also be less. *(Interruptions)*

We are not producing very much here. I think the workers are producing more than we are producing. We are producing nothing but words.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : We are not producing children . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why you say we are not producing ? We are producing.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : We are producing words, of course !

MR. CHAIRMAN : We are producing something .

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA . If I say this tomorrow outside Parliament I may be hauled up for sedition. There is a Bill coming. If I say outside that Parliament produces nothing but words, I may be put in jail for sedition, I am told. I don't know;

I have not seen this Bill. I would suggest that this is a wrong idea. Either do away with the whole concept of bonus if you can do it. There are advanced countries of the West, for example capitalist countries, where they don't have such a thing as bonus. But they have an indexed wage system. All they get is their wages but their wages is linked with the cost of living with the price movement and automatically their wages go up as prices go up. We cannot do that. So we have invented this bonus. We have invented one separate dearness allowance and one separate bonus as a category which are different from basic wage, basic salary. Now we are concerned only with this bonus so, for the limited purpose of this Bill I would request the Minister humbly, please don't keep this kind of arbitrary limit and ceiling. It makes distinction and discrimination between employee and employee, which I don't think any court in this country will uphold also. Because, you must have a basis for a discrimination like that. There is no such basis. It is better that bonus is made available to all workmen irrespective of what salary he is earning; if he is workman he should get bonus. For that matter take the case of agricultural labour, who has been referred to here. I don't know whether you can calculate what percentage of the total wages he earns throughout the year to be paid as bonus. It is very difficult in our country's conditions. First of all he does not work for the whole year. He works only for a few months during harvesting and sowing season and then his wages are not always paid in cash. Sometimes they are paid part in cash and part in kind. There is no record kept; he has no record also of the wage that he earns *[Interruptions]* He is supposed to be given a minimum wage. In some cases he manages to get it where he is organised; in many cases he does not get it. And at the end of the year he may have gone away also. He has no fixed employer also. He is working in somebody's else field today and somebody else's field tomorrow. So all these problems are there. We have to think about it, how we can help them, who are the weaker sections of all. So, far as the workmen goes, under the Act, there should be no limit, no ceiling, on his salary; he should be eligible for the bonus. That is all that I say. For the moment I have got my

reservations on other aspects, of the Bonus Act; but I do not wish to go into them now. Thank you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI (Srinagar): Madam Chairman, I am not opposing this Bill, I am rather supporting the spirit of the Bill. It has been mentioned repeatedly in this House that in 1965, when this law was brought, the ceiling for the payment of bonus was fixed at Rs. 750, but now in 1985 when you are amending this law, you have accepted a ceiling up to Rs. 1600. I want to submit that the labour agitations are going on and they have put forth certain demands. Over 16 crore workers and employees are facing difficulties and problems for which no solution has been found out by Government. These people belong to a section which has a fixed income. In our society, these are people who have more than one means of income but our workers and employees have only limited income and they have to meet the expenses on the education of their children and other expenses within their fixed income.

16.00 hrs.

The way the prices are spiralling and the difficulties of the workers and employees are increasing, Government should try to resolve the matter in its entirety and should not come before the House with piecemeal legislation. It is an important matter and all efforts should be made to solve it. When you expect that the workers should increase production and when you want that the country should progress and become prosperous, it is necessary that you should think of the betterment of the workers and employees on whose shoulders this responsibility lies. Unless you provide them with better facilities and solve their problems and unless you give them need based wages, how can you expect the country's production to increase and about 16 lakh employees and workers to take the country ahead on the path of progress and development speedily? This cannot be expected from them. Therefore, you have to find out some solution to remove the dissatisfaction among the employees and to stop strikes, lockouts and the increasing number of disputes in the factories.

Another thing I want to submit is and here I agree with Shri Sinha—that in our country production and the wages of the workers are not related to each other. The profit of the factories and the wages of the workers are not inter-linked. Today, the problem is that of production. We should pay more and more profit and bonus to the workers in proportion to the increase in production. Special attention should be paid towards this aspect. Many of the public sector industries are incurring losses, and even then they are paying bonus to their workers, but in the private sector, the owners think more about their own profit than about giving benefits to their workers. You should solve this problem in a different way because the industrialists and the capitalists are trying to pocket more and more profit for themselves even at the cost of the sufferings of the employees. Therefore, the workers of the private sector should get their rights. Presently, they are not getting their rights.

One important thing is, — and you are already committed to this and the matter has been raised in this House also,—that there should be employees' participation in management. Without this, there cannot be any solution because we do not know how much the income is and how much the profit earned is. The workers are being kept totally in the dark about these things. Unless their participation is there they will not come to know the extent of profit the industrialists are earning.

Thirdly, I would like to submit that there is a section of workers in our country for whom there are no labour laws. In our villages, there are lakhs of artisans who work with their hands and their products are sold in the country as well as sent, abroad to earn foreign exchange. This is a big source of earning foreign exchange. But generally it happens that the middlemen exploit them and we do not have any details about them. Through you, I would like to tell the Hon. Minister that there are lakhs of workers in our State of Jammu and Kashmir who are engaged in vocations like carpet weaving, *papier mache*, wood carving, etc. They are very skilled and honest workers. I am pained to say that their daily income is between Rs. 6 and Rs. 8 only, what to speak of the minimum wage. They

[Shri Abdul Rashid Kabuli]

work day and night, sometimes for 10 hours or so but they do not get full wage whereas the owners of carpet factories and others are earning crores of rupees from papier mache, wood carving and other handicrafts. There is great contribution of these artisans in earning foreign exchange, but they are not getting any benefit from it. The workers are not getting any benefit because the basic laws are not being implemented there.

I would like to request the Hon. Minister that the interests of these illiterate workers may be kept in mind while bringing forward a comprehensive Bill concerning labour, because these people are being exploited. The factory-owners and the middlemen are earning profit to the tune of crores of rupees, but the people who actually work are not getting any benefit.

I would like to inform the House that a carpet manufactured in Kashmir is second to none in the world. At present our competition is with Pakistan. Kashmir can produce carpets in such a large number that this industry can become a source of revenue to the country. I would like to inform you that thousands of innocent children are engaged in this industry. Labour laws are not applicable to them. The structure of their bodies gets distorted. Their hands and feet get twisted and generally they remain ill. Therefore, labour laws should be made applicable to these artisans also.

The people who know how to agitate for their rights, get these laws enforced, but the illiterate persons cannot do so. The factory-owners and the middlemen are very clever and dishonest and they avoid enforcement of these laws in their factories. I have personally seen that thousands of workers are working in their factories but the owners do not show any labour on their registers. They indulge in malpractices and dishonest methods.

I would therefore, like to point out that the present Bill is not going to serve the purpose, because many an issue is linked with the issue of bonus. There is the issue of the workers and their children. There is the issue of bonded labour. Which is the

place where bonded labour problem does not exist ? We should put an end to it. One of the points included in the 20 point programme of the Congress (I) is the abolition of the bonded labour system.

I would therefore, like to request that a comprehensive Bill should be brought after looking into all these factors. Every possible effort should be made to solve all the labour problems.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : Madam Chairman, many Hon. Members have expressed their views on this Bill. You are aware that the workers have been agitating for bonus for years together. At last a permanent bonus system was introduced in 1965. Again in 1980, Indrajit got a law enacted for giving 8.33 per cent bonus to the workers. You are aware that while bonus is being given to some, it is not being given to the others. Mr. Kabuli, an M. P. from Kashmir has stated just now that it is not being given to some workers. It is a fact but there are many anomalies in the labour laws in this country, which are not there in other democratic countries whether they are capitalist countries or socialist countries, and we have to look into that. The capitalists in our country are still of the view that our country is an agricultural country and they pay wages accordingly. Today, the plight of the farmer, the agricultural labourer and the industrial worker is pitiable. An unskilled worker in foreign countries gets Rs. 2000 as salary which is equal to the salary of a skilled worker here. Mr. Daga has told just now that these very workers get Rs. 10000 in foreign countries. That is why they go abroad for work. These workers go to U. S. A. and to the Arab countries as they get more money there. Here a worker has to work for 8 hours as against 6 hours in other countries. Here Sunday is the only closed holiday whereas in other countries two holidays are granted. Besides, many other facilities are provided to them. The management is never willing to give facilities to the workers here. A voice is raised here to provide housing, medical and transport facilities to the workers, but the people in the management treat it as sheer waste of money. They try to set up another industry by saving money on these items. The capital-

ists have become money-minded. You may compare the present condition of the big industrialist with their earlier condition. Many people say that they are paying high salaries. I do not agree to it, I still maintain that a worker gets much less in India, whether he is an agricultural labourer or other worker. Unless the purchasing power of the people is increased, more industries cannot be set up. If people have more money, they will spend more. Then new industries will be set up. If a worker gets more, he is not going to set up a factory. With the excess money he may purchase T. V., scooter, clothes etc. or he may construct his house with the result that new industries will be set up and the unemployment problem will be solved thereby. Without purchasing power the unemployment problems cannot be solved. There is no unemployment problem in other countries. Go to East Germany, the Soviet Union and other Communist countries and see for yourselves the increased purchasing power of the people there. That is why there is no unemployment problem there.

Today, certain industrial workers are considered to be a privileged class, but I do not think so keeping in view the economic condition of India, they can be considered a privileged class to some extent but unless they spend money, nobody is going to be benefitted. If the farmers and the workers do not have the purchasing power, then how is industry going to be benefitted? If the industrial worker has got money, he can spend that and the process goes on. What is happening is that the purchasing power of the industrial worker has not increased whereas the industrialist have constructed big buildings. If you see you will find that the entire money is with them. I am not against the private sector, but the exploitation of the workers in the country should stop. Right from the late Jawahar Lal Nehru to Indira Gandhi and now our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, all have taken steps in this direction. Mr. Indrajit Gupta was saying just now that the interests of all those who come under the definition of workman should be protected. What is the definition of a worker in India? They think that only fitter or turner comes under the category of workman, which is not correct. In the democratic countries, the doctors also come under this category. Here the outlook is different. When we have adopted the path of

socialism, many things can come under that. Many Members talked about several other issues besides bonus. It is impossible for our country to be at par with other countries. The history of industrialisation is 200 or 250 years old. It is only after Independence that more industries were set up here. Prior to that Birlaji or some others had their industries here. Now that our country is becoming industrially developed, the issue of wages and other issues will naturally come up. No body can check them, even if he so desires. we have taken the step keeping in view the heavy burden. The D. A. of the public sector employees has been increased by Rs. 600 crores. What does the private sector pay? You all know that. Even after earning huge profits the private sector shows losses. The balance-sheet is prepared in such a manner that no profit is shown at all, whereas the position is otherwise. This position may be different in the case of some of the industrialists. Multi-national companies at least show their profits. I am not praising them. The industrialists in our country employ only Badli labour, N. M. R. labour, casual labour or temporary labour, who remain casual labour for their entire life. No change takes place in their position. Under the leadership of our Prime Minister we propose to amend all the labour laws so that production may increase rapidly and there may not be any violence. We shall not encourage the leadership of violence in any way. Violence is not needed to get justice. Justice can be secured through the laws. Violence will ruin the industries and the nation. Hon. Shri Indrajit Gupta has also said that strike results in the loss of bonus. He has said a very wise thing. Even the private industrialist is not going to give anything under the pressure of strike. Some labour laws are proposed to be amended by bringing forward a comprehensive Bill. There are certain anomalies in the existing laws. The Bonus and minimum wages Acts also come under it. It is under our consideration as to what should be done for the workers throughout the country, from Kashmir to Kanya Kumari. The Government of Jammu and Kashmir have not yet implemented the labour laws. When I asked them why they had not implemented the labour laws they replied that they were going to do so.

SHRI RAJ MANGAL PANDEY : Will you consider giving 8.33 per cent bonus in

the public sector undertakings, irrespective of the fact that they are incurring losses ?

SHRI T. ANJIAH : Everybody knows the amount of bonus to be given if there is profit. The workers have been given the right to get one month's pay as bonus. The people in India only say that they are incurring losses.

SHRI RAJ MANGAL PANDEY : We are talking about the public sector undertakings.

SHRI T. ANJIAH : Only some public undertakings are incurring losses while others are showing good performance. Bonus will be given there also. The question of non-payment of bonus in any industry does not arise. Bonus shall be given in all the industries whether they are incurring losses or earning profit.

Madam, you know that a number of industries have been set up in Bangalore. Leave aside the aspect of loss being suffered by them. We know how an industry earns profit and how another incurs loss. The management of certain public sector undertakings is very efficient. Experienced and efficient people are there. In the management of certain other industries, there are some people who know nothing about them and still they are there. We know all these things. We are trying to affect changes in the industries, wherever needed. These industries incur loss due to this very reason. We are trying to improve their working.

Our Government will not tolerate that an undertaking should incur loss constantly. We shall try to see that efficient and experienced officers having good knowledge of a particular industry are projected in that industry. We are trying to see that they somehow earn profit. For instance, BHEL is earning good profit. It is not incurring loss now. Besides, many other undertakings like H. M. T. etc. are earning profit to the tune of lakhs of rupees. The main reason for the loss in these undertakings is that the management does not have experience and complete information about them. I am of the view that with the appointment of efficient officers, there will be no loss in the undertakings.

Now, so far as the question of the ceiling limit of pay for giving bonus to the workers is concerned, as you know, the system of giving bonus is a traditional one and it started from Bombay. Initially, bonus used to be given on the occasion of Dussehra, Diwali etc. but this system has now undergone changes and it is now no more a customary or traditional bonus but has become a permanent feature. Therefore, the system of granting bonus has not started today, it has been in vogue since long. We only want to give it a legal shape now and it is in this context that this Bill is before you.

I can assure you that this proposal to enhance the ceiling for bonus has been made by Government after a thorough consideration. With these words, I appeal to all the Hon. Members to support this Bill.

[*English*]

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Shri Indrajit Gupta and Shri Mool Chand Daga talked about the ceiling. Are we to continue this ceiling.

SHRI T. ANJIAH : There is a difference between a skilled worker and a semi-skilled worker. Those who are drawing more than Rs. 750 should get bonus of Rs. 1600.

MR. CHAIRMAN The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are no amendments to clause 2. The question is :

"The clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : 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.

SHRI T. ANJIAH : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.23 hrs.

**COMPANIES (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 1985***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Companies Act, 1956, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The Hon'ble Members will recall that the Government had made certain important policy announcements while introducing the Finance Bill on 16th March, 1985. One such announcement was that the companies should be permitted to make political contribution in order to enable the corporate sector to play a legitimate role within the defined norms in the functioning of our democracy and for this purpose necessary legislation would be undertaken. In recent years, a view has gained ground that a certain amount of openness rather than a blanket ban on political donation will really augur well for a cleaner political and economic environment. Representatives of trade and industry have been equally urging upon the Government to reconsider replacement of the existing provision of section 293A by the law which

obtained prior to 1969 and which was introduced by 1960 to permit companies to make political contributions subject only to certain ceilings. Companies often argue and rightly that they are entitled to support a political party which believes in certain amount of freedom of private business. Secondly, many companies feel that they can resist any pressure from any political party for "out of the books" donations if they are allowed to contribute, by an enabling provision of the statute, a certain sum which is within their capacity to spend. Thirdly, it is also argued, with some force, that a company itself functions on the principle of shareholders' democracy, and, therefore, a ban on political donation in a democratic society is an anachronism. Fourthly, political donation by companies is permitted, within limits, in other democratic countries of the world which have not suffered on account of permitted political donation.

Taking all these considerations in mind, it seems that the balance of advantage would lie in restricting rather than imposing a total ban on political contributions. However, to make these restrictions really meaningful, a few important features have been incorporated in the Bill. Since companies not having profits should not be encouraged to make political contributions, monetary ceiling as an alternative to a certain percentage of profits for arriving at the permissible amount of political donation has been done away with. The present Bill also provides for absolute prohibition against political donation as far as Government companies are concerned. Additionally, it is proposed in the Bill that companies which have been in existence for less than three financial years should not be permitted to make political contribution. So that there may not be any controversy in the future as to what constitutes political donation, the Bill makes it clear that any donation or subscription or payment in whatever form to a political party would amount to political donation. Even an expenditure incurred directly or indirectly or any advertisement in souvenirs, brochure, pamphlet or the like would be brought within the definition of political contribution. Of course, provision is also made in the Bill for the

*Published in the Gazette of India extraordinary Part II, Section 2, dated 16-5-1985.

[Shri Veerendra Patil]

fullest disclosure of the amount contributed, the name of the party, individual or body, etc. In order to make these proposals more meaningful, the Bill also seeks to provide that any company making any contribution in violation of the restrictive conditions imposed therein would suffer the penalty of three times the amount contributed. The officers of the company in default would also be punished with imprisonment for infraction of this provision.

16.27 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the Chair*]

Another important announcement made by the Government in the course of introducing the Budget proposals was to the effect that the Government would introduce necessary legislation so that legitimate dues of workers rank *pari passu* with those of secured creditors in the event of closure of the company and even above the dues of the Government. The precedence which the present law accords to the secured creditors over unsecured creditors and the status of the workers as an unsecured creditor are borrowed from Anglo-Saxon law. There are, however, certain countries of the world where notable departure has been made. Thus, in Canada and in some of the States in the United States of America, the wages of the employee enjoy a preferential claim in the event of the insolvency of a corporation and in some cases, the wages for labour get precedence over mortgage and other lien of corporate property.

Keeping the interest of workers in a welfare State uppermost in mind, the present Bill has been introduced to provide that the dues of all the workers, irrespective of the amount involved, should be fully protected by creating a statutory charge on all secured assets of the companies in favour of the workers. The protection should be available only to workers who come within the definition of a workman as defined in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. Other employees of the company would continue to be governed by the existing law. Under the provisions of the Bill, the secured creditor would have to realise his dues only jointly with the Official Liquidator. To the extent dues of workers remain unrealised from the security of the secured creditors, the worker would be given priority over

other unsecured creditors for realisation of the balance amount due. In the interest of equity and fair play, the secured creditor who has suffered by relinquishing his security in favour of the worker would be given similar priority over other unsecured creditors, *pari passu*, with workers, limited, of course, to the extent of the loss suffered and no more.

Through this Bill, I have also taken the opportunity to introduce certain clarificatory amendments in the existing section 396 of the Companies Act. This section empowers the Central Government to order amalgamation of companies in public interest. The Committee on Subordinate Legislation (Seventh Lok Sabha) have recommended that the Company Law Board should be empowered to reassess compensation on appeal from the order of the prescribed authority assessing the compensation payable under an order of amalgamation under this section. The Committee have also recommended that the order of amalgamation itself may provide for the continuation of any pending legal proceedings by and against the transferee company on the lines of the existing provisions of section 394 of the Act under which the High Court orders amalgamation. Section 396 of the Act is proposed to be amended suitably to give effect to these recommendations.

I now move :

“That the Bill further to amend the Companies Act, 1956, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

“That the Bill further to amend the Companies Act, 1956 as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) :
I rise to give my qualified support to the Bill.

This Bill seeks to amend three important sections of the Companies Act. Section 396 deals with amalgamation. I have no comments to offer on that. Amendments to section 529 and 530 dealing with treating the workers dues *pari passu* with the secured creditors are welcome. I strongly support

this. For the first time, the Government has recognised that the workers do play a role in the prosperity of the industry and that they have a share in the value of assets of the company. This is a welcome measure.

The third amendment is with regard to section 293A. I oppose this on the ground that it takes away protection which the Company Law extends to the share-holders. I am not criticising it on the ground that the contributions will be mainly going to the ruling party and the opposition parties will be denied and so on and so forth. I do not subscribe to that view. Whether it is the ruling party or a party in opposition or an individual who wants to contest as an independent, all these today are being denied legally any contribution from companies. That was a welcome step. But with this Bill this particular ban is lifted. That means you are opening the floodgates for all types of unscrupulous managements to squander the funds of the shareholders. After all, who is paying when the company pays? It means that it is the shareholder who is paying. On behalf of the shareholders this particular Bill gives powers to the Board of Directors to make the contribution. My objection is only on this account. I have no objection if the shareholders want to contribute to any political party. In India our Company Law has been framed in such a way that the shareholder has got a very little role in the running of the company. It is only once a year or once in two years that the General Body meeting is called. And we know what happens in the General Body meeting and how many shareholders attend it. Small shareholders never attend it. It is only a few people who join together and manage to pass the resolutions of the Board of Directors. Those are carried in the General Body meeting and the annual report and audited accounts are adopted.

In this Bill under section 293A which is substituted by another clause it says that the company can give contribution to the political parties to the extent of 5 per cent of its aggregate annual profits calculated on the basis of the preceding three years profit. This 'preceding three years' clause gives scope that a company would be permitted to pay contribution to the political parties in a particular year in which it suffers losses also,

because it has to be seen that in the preceding three years if the company makes profit, 5 per cent of that aggregate can be given as contribution.

As far as the shareholders are concerned, I am of the strong view that this power should be given only to the shareholders. How can we give power to the shareholders to give contributions to the political parties? The least that we can do is to say in the Bill that if a company gives donation to a political party, within three months the company should call an extraordinary General Body meeting and it should be ratified. After the end of the year when the Annual Report comes before the shareholders, people forget about it. They do not know that the company has paid any particular contribution to a particular party and nobody will be in a position to remember and to go through the figures in the profit and loss account and say anything about it. I feel that first of all, on the basis of principle I oppose this because the companies should not be permitted to give contribution to the political parties. But if, as the Minister has pointed out just now, the companies are being permitted to play a role in the democratic process just by giving donation, if the Government wants to give this power to the companies, let these companies call an extraordinary general meeting within three months of giving the donations and get the approval. That is all, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Roberts-ganj): Sir, as the Hon. Minister has said while introducing this Bill, a hint was given at the time of introducing the Finance Bill that a Bill permitting donations to various political parties would be brought forward. Not only this, the Prime Minister of our country had also announced in the manifesto of our congress party at the time of elections that such a provision must be made keeping in view the political parties and also with a view to removing corruption from the country. With all these things in view, the Hon. Minister has brought forward this Bill today. Therefore, I fully support this Bill.

Sir, you just have a glimpse into the history of the last 37 or 38 years. A Bill was brought forward in 1956. Not only this, the

[Shri Ram Pyare Panika]

leaders of the political parties of that side, whether it was Prof. Madhu Dandavate or whether it was the Sachhar Committee, were of the view that donations should be banned and it was under those circumstances that Government had imposed a ban on them. But after imposing the ban, it was felt that black money was increasing rather fast and various political parties who were not in a position to collect donations either due to their own policies or due to other circumstances of their own making were not getting justice even in the elections. Keeping all these things, this Bill has been brought forward.

I was just going through the debate that took place on this Bill in Rajya Sabha. Many of the opposition Members have supported it, but at the same time, they have also alleged that the congress party has brought forward this Bill in its own interest. I went to tell Shri Madhav Reddi—you have a Government in Andhra Pradesh, the C.P.M. and left front have their Governments in West Bengal and in Karnataka, the Janata Party has its Government. Therefore, if you criticize it for the sake of criticism, it is not good .. (*Interruptions.*) There is no question of benefit in it. The question is how to root out corruption from politics. Today, black money poses the biggest problem before the country and all this is being done by the big capitalists, those elements who influence the economy of our country and if it is not checked, it is but natural that these elements will try to give a slip to Government under the pretext of patronising many political parties. Therefore, today is a very important day in the democracy of our country and the Bill brought forward by the Hon. Minister is a historic one which will help checking many malpractices which have crept into our polity due to the imposition of ban on donations. Not only this, I and my party colleagues are of the view that there should not be too many parties. One knows to what extent the number of parties had risen before the elections in the name of caste, in the name of religion, in the name of region and in the name of community. And when such a thing happened at the national level too, a lot of difficulties were faced, but the people of India strengthened the roots of democracy by not

electing the people belonging to such parties. What was happening before elections? Casteism and communalism were having an ugly alliance and what was to happen to this ugly alliance? We see what is happening in the world today. We are passing through very critical times and all the political parties will have to come together to tackle it. I agree that in a democracy, the question of donation arises at the time of elections and we can say that it is an unavoidable evil. But the question is how to curb this evil. I think the proposed Bill will go a long way in curbing it. I am of the opinion that there should not be too many political parties as we have in India today but instead, there should be just two or three parties based on some principles. One can be leftist and the other can be rightist and so far as our party is concerned, we have always stood for a mixed economy. In the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 passed during the late Jawaharlal Nehru's tenure, we encouraged the private sector while at the same time giving importance to the public sector. I am of the view that today these sectors have no importance. Now, we have the joint sector and the cooperative sector. The entire money comes from a single source, the entire money is public money and it is the money of the nationalized banks.

One thing which I want to say is that while we are legalising the donations, there are parties and candidates who should be provided with the means to contest election, as reiterated by the Election Commission also. But, certainly, it becomes more difficult to do so in a country where 337 candidates are there on a ballot paper making it pretty difficult for a voter due to the abnormally long ballot paper. Gradually, the parties based on casteism, regionalism and linguistic considerations have thinned out and have not been able to achieve success in the recent parliamentary elections. They did manage to be elected to the State Assemblies but the people of India gave a jolt to the parties and the candidates knowing narrow outlook in the parliamentary elections. But, still there is need to bring about more reform. Therefore, the time is not yet ripe to demand of Government to arrange subscription or funds for the parties. If we make such a provision, thousands of parties would come up overnight. I dare say that there are some national level parties in respect of which one

feels some hesitation in accepting them as national parties. There are parties in each pocket and each corner of the country and they claim to be national parties. They secure five per cent votes and become national parties. It is high time that serious second thought is given to it. The present Bill, I think, will help clean our political life.

So far as the question of West Bengal is concerned, I want to say that the industrialists are very happy in West Bengal. You know pretty well why an industrialists remains on happy terms with any political party. Everybody has seen how money was pumped into the last elections. The attitude in Bengal today is very lethargic. You just see their rate of growth. When planning started in 1951-52, the rate of growth in West Bengal was 14 or 15 per cent. The *per capita* income was also very high there. But, what is the *per capita* income there today? Today, West Bengal is bagging far behind. There is a lot of mismanagement there for the last 7 or 8 years.

I want to give a suggestion that with a view to bringing cleanliness in politics and checking the malpractices in politics, it is necessary for us to pass this Bill unanimously. We should also exert pressure on the big companies who run big industries lest they should earn undue profits on this score. We should ensure that they do not work against our ideal of socialistic pattern of society.

I demand that donations may be given to a common fund, as suggested by some Hon. Members. I totally agree to this. An account of the donations given should also be kept. You should see that black money does not grow in this endeavour. This should not happen.

This Amendment Bill brought forward by you will certainly help create a good climate in the country and will also help reduce the number of parties in the country.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Sir, I rise to support this Bill. This Bill seeks to make three amendments in the Act of 1956. There is no dispute so far as two of the provisions are concerned. But the opposition parties have somewhat opposed the third provision. Though this provision has also been incorporated with unanimity, yet the question

which is raised by the opposition is what the circumstances were after 1956 which had led Government to impose a ban on company donations in 1969 after 1956 and what new circumstances had since arisen so as to warrant the withdrawal of this ban again.

The political system which we have today is an open political system. In such a system every section is free to play its decisive role but the prosperous section uses its influence more. There is no denying the fact that the role of money is continuously increasing in our election system. Every political party is ever eager to accept this money in some form or the other and from one source or the other. No political party is today in a position to say that they contest elections on the money raised through their membership subscription or by the subscription collected by the workers of that party. In the situation which is developing in our country wherein at the centre there is the congress Government and in various States, Governments of different parties are being formed, it cannot be said that the raising of resources by way of donations is confined to the congress party alone and that there is a restriction on other parties and that they cannot accept money. This is not so.

Now, the question arises why a ban was imposed on it in 1969. When this ban was imposed, at that time also it was serial on the basis of the recommendations made in the reports of various committees that donations by companies were causing degradation, a sort of pollution in politics. But, after the ban imposed in 1969, a new situation emerged. The intention behind that ban was good, but that intention was not fulfilled and it was highlighted by the political parties, the intelligentsia and the newspapers that the political parties were receiving black money from the companies and the companies were polluting politics by giving black money and at the same time the political parties were giving protection to the companies generating black money by accepting donations. I am of the view that the donations that the political parties will get after legalizing donations by the companies will not be in black money. The companies will have to show their accounts to the Income Tax and other departments and the other people can also have information to this effect in one

[Shri Harish Rawat]

way or the other. I think this system is more open than the one we had earlier, because the evil which we want to remove cannot be removed by imposing a ban. Therefore, we shall have to think about the measures through which the money received through clandestine methods can be checked from influencing the political parties and I think the Hon. Minister has tried to realise this objective through this Bill. Besides, while moving the Finance Bill, the Finance Minister had also stressed that this was a part of our Prime Minister's resolve to clause politics and I think this question should not be viewed in isolation in the amendment of Article 293. This Bill should be viewed in the overall perspective, in the entire light of the way the Congress Party is functioning today, the way our Prime Minister is functioning, the way the election law was amended and the way an effort is being made to plug the various loopholes and lacunae. I think any political party can criticise it for the time being with a view to malign the congress party for its own political ends, but so far as the facts are concerned and the basic intention is concerned, there cannot be any differences. When we have accepted this political system, this open system, I want to tell my friends in the opposition that their mud slinging and blaming others, branding the ruling party and its people as dishonest is not proper. The situation is not like that. By mud-slinging in politics, by blaming others, we try to give those people a free hand who, in fact, went to totally corrupt our politics and weaken our political setup. There should be some kind of control over the private and other companies. The control should be such that they could not earn money through dubious means. They should not be allowed to deviate from their declared policy, the policy which they put before Government. For that, we shall have to see how Government are working in that direction. I think, our Government and our party have endeavoured through law to keep under check the intentions of the millionaires and the tycoons. All these efforts should be complimented. Keeping this in view, I welcome this Bill. The will Bill provide relief to the workers and will help in checking the various malpractices in which the companies are indulging at present. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, three things are contemplated in this Bill. One is lifting the ban on donations by the companies to the political parties. The other two are welcome provisions which deal with workers' dues and problems arising out of amalgamation of companies.

I oppose this amendment to section 293A of the Companies Act. This amendment has got a long history. In 1956 when the Companies Act was passed, it was provided in that Act that companies could give donations to political parties. After some time there were debates both inside and outside Parliament. Some Committee were appointed. And in 1969 the then Government imposed a ban amending the original 1956 Act. At that time, while introducing that Amendment Bill, the then Industries Minister, late Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, mentioned that the amendment was being introduced in order to have a healthy public life, to clean our public life. The very same argument is now being put forward by our present Industries Minister; while this Amendment Bill is put before the House; he makes the very same statement that this amendment is being introduced in order to have a healthy and cleaner public life. I cannot understand this at all. All those Committees which were appointed—B. N. Sastri Committee and Sachar Committee—were against companies giving donations to political parties. Also one unofficial Committee was there appointed by late Shri Jayaprakash Narayan, the Tarkhunde Committee. The Tarkhunde Committee was against it on moral grounds also, as Shri Madhava Reddy has pointed out. The majority of the shareholders need not hold the same political view as that of the Board of Directors, and this political will or political view of the Board of Directors is being imposed on the majority of the shareholders. That is what is going to happen. Which is the Party which is going to be benefited by this amendment? Everybody knows that it is the ruling Party which is going to be benefited. They are already benefiting; they are getting money under the table. Now, with this amendment, the ruling Party can get the money both under the table and over the table. That is what is going to happen. Peratically this is not at all going to make any healthy break in our public life. This Bill is going to legalise corruption and

legitimize black money. That is what is going to happen in our public life because the ruling party is in a position to pressurise those who can give donations.

(Interruptions)

17.00 hrs.

Sir, even a child in this country knows that the ruling party is amassing black-money. From where did they get all this money to spend in the recent elections. Do you think it came from the sky? This money was donated by the big business houses here in our country under the table. I once again want to underline that by bringing this legislation the ruling party is going to get money both over the table and under the table.

Sir, I also oppose another clause in this Bill-293A sub-clause 5 (a) which contemplates to levy fine on the companies if some donation is given against the provision of this Act. Supposing an official or Board of Directors give donation against the provisions of this Act why the majority of shareholders should suffer?

Sir, I wholeheartedly welcome the provision for workers, namely, this amendment to Section 529. This has been the long-standing demand of the workers in this country. In this case also I plead with the Minister that workers should be brought at par with the creditors because it is the workers who sweat and toil for the benefit of the company.

So, I welcome the other two amendments but I strongly oppose amendment to 293A. I once again like to go on record and say that it is going to legalise corruption and legitimize blackmoney.

SHRI RAJ MANGAL PANDEY (Deoria) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. This is such a Bill which every member should welcome. It is a happy augury that the whole House is seriously attempting to put a curb on this cancerous disease which has affected our national life. Who does not know that the generation of black-money has been mainly responsible for vitiating our political life so much so that we have had even in Parliament and outside Parliament serious complaints against us that the entire system has been corrupted by the black-

money..and the people who have been generating this black money have been helping us to win our election. In this connection I could only recite a couplet by Tennyson. It says :

The old order changeth yielding place to new;

Lest one good custom corrupt the world.

Sir, whatever might have been desirable in 1969 may be undesirable in 1985 and vice versa. According to the particular situation prevailing at that time we would have decided something. But now with the change in the circumstances if we reverse our earlier opinion there is nothing wrong in it. Everybody feels that even when there was no ban on political donations the generation of black money was so rampant that a serious check was necessary because the future of our children and the future of our democracy have been seriously affected. Now, Sir, the very basis of democracy is that we must have a clean public life and a cleaner political structure. We want to create a society by giving a tradition of cleaner public life about which our children may be proud of. The present situation which is prevailing is that there are serious complaints to which I referred to earlier.

Now the question is, how to curb this black money evil which is corrupting our national and public life. In this House very many times we have urged that there should be a curb on this national curse. But now I don't know why objection is being raised from the other side. When public donations have been stopped, even then, generation of black money did not stop. It has increased manifold and vitiated our political and national life. So the argument of the members of the other side does not convince us that the release of the ban on political donations will at all affect our political life and generate black money. The Election Commission says that the Representation of the people Act does not give that much of power to nullify election through corrupt methods or black money. So, if we want to have a real democracy and a clean and fair election, then, naturally, this process of generation of black money has got to be stopped because it is one potential factor which tempts the people in the conduct of the elections. One must admire the intentions of the Government which is seriously working on this issue. This is one reason why

[Shri Raj Mangal Pandey]

Rajya Sabha has endorsed this Bill and sent it to the Lok Sabha for approval. Now, Sir, the opposition from the other side has accepted two of the three amendments but they are having objection only to public donations which is not at all convincing. Could we not remember that till 1969 when public donations were allowed, the opposition raised all these cries, of political atmosphere being corrupted. The opposition has been telling us that ban on political donations is responsible for generating black money which is the cause of our winning elections. But now when we are stopping it, they raise the same old cry. I think nothing could be more admirable than the presentation of this Bill. I wholeheartedly support the Bill which will give us a cleaner political and national life and bring a sustained democracy in the country. With these words I conclude. Thank you.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Sir, there are different sections in this Bill. The last two sections are not controversial. But really they are tagged on to the real section 293A legalising company donations to political parties. Almost all have understood that clubbing together of all these provisions is really to white-wash the real intention of section 293A. I shall not go into other two provisions which are not objectionable. I shall only refer to 293A which I strongly oppose. The Bill that is now considered in this House is really amusing and the reasons for bringing forward this Bill are so elastic. That is what I think. The very same old reasons are given as were given when company donations were earlier banned in 1969. Let me read out the Statement of objects and Reasons of 1969 Bill which was passed in this House.

“Such contributions have a tendency to corrupt political life and to adversely affect healthy growth of democracy in the country”.

Those were the objects and reasons stated in that Bill. All those objects and reasons which were given in 1969 Bill are now being advanced to proclaim company donations. The very same thing is being said again to re-introduce company donations. This is political expediency or opportunism on now-

a-days euphemistically called pragmatism. This has been followed since long and let us not forget it.

Justice M. C. Chagla who was very much respected by the people of this country, had said in 1960 in Tamil Nadu High Court while delivering judgement on a case. He said—

“If this system of company donation to political parties continue, then we will have a Government of the people by the industrialists and for the industrialists.”

So, this is quintessence of this Bill. The Government it already for the industrialists but not totally of the industrialists. So, again the doors are kept open for them. Naturally, the question of clean public life arises. I am not going to quote that again. That will take time. Mr. Kurup has already said what Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the then Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs said at that time. He said and I quote—because it is very relevant.

“All kinds of suspicions and doubts were now raised. The reasons for raising them would disappear and it would be better both for Government benches and also others feel that the public life was clean and no one was influenced by any company as far as political activity or elections were concerned.”

This is what the then Minister for Industrial Development and Company Affairs said in 1969. Now, what is happening today? Do you for a clean public life with all the talks about “Mr. Clear”? Do you find new images and all that? We come to know that it is direct contravention of what was said in 1969. I would like to remind this House that the period of 1969 was really much brighter period for the Congress for some time. This is the historical truth which cannot be reversed. I am sure those who are sitting on Treasury benches—some youngmen and some old persons are sitting there—are feeling shame in the heart of their hearts for this Bill. Probably they are thinking that after all the main money will be coming to the Central ruling party having the reigns of power firmly in their hands. Therefore, again for exigencies, pragmatism or opportunism they are not in a position to open their mouths. That is the

real situation. But I would call spade a spade and thoroughly oppose this Bill.

Somebody was saying that we were taking money under the table etc. Perhaps Shri Das Munshi was saying that. As far as my party is concerned, we are completely free from it. But that is not my contention.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :
I have not accused your party.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
That is very good. Shri Panika was saying that this was a historic occasion and the companies should contribute for the democratic life of the country. If you were so concerned for such contributions to political life, why did you not accept Shri Wanchoo's recommendation where he said that a fund of contributions made by companies be created and that be distributed among all political parties on *pro rata* basis according to their last election results. I myself would not even agree to that. I do not believe in company donations to the political parties. But if you were so serious in their participation, you could have very well taken Shri Wanchoo's suggestion, but then that would have defeated the purpose to a great extent. It is, therefore, very clear that this measure regarding company donations has been brought in the new turn of history that you are trying to take, where you do not think that old *ghoonghats* are needed any more. We call it *ghoonghata* in West Bengal. You do not need it any more. But say it clearly and do not try to confuse the people, because nobody is such a fool as to think that you are bringing this Bill for cleaning the public life. Therefore, I thoroughly oppose this Bill.

I definitely believe that there are people on the other side, who also feel like this, but they may not be able to speak, though they must be feeling differently. For them I really have compassion and sympathy.

They say that by this black money will be curbed. This is really a very new theory that you have projected for chasing black money. You do not have a political will, and after being a thorough failure in chasing the black money, now you have decided that the best way to chase black money and root it out is to directly take company donations. This would be a great burden on the share-

holders, because white money will have to be donated first. That because it will be on record. When permits or licences are to be issued, they would ask : "What is your record in regard to this ?" Therefore, their record for contribution to the ruling party has to be there in any case. Further, it is not only donations to political parties, the Bill says donation for any political purpose to a person is also allowed. You take the white money in the name of political parties as also any political person for any political purpose. Then take the black money under the table. The field is wide open. Therefore, any political person with any political purpose can go for company donations. What is the difficulty ? The shareholders will not only be burdened with white contribution, on the top of it, they will be burdened with three, four or five times of black money contribution, and altogether a much larger amount will flow to the Central ruling party.

Therefore, I think, it is better to call spade a spade. This is an attempt of not cleaning the public life, but openly proclaiming uncleaned practices in the public life. That is the real purpose of the Bill; it is abhorring and should be dismissed.

SHRI SALAUDDIN (Godda) : I welcome this Bill. It is very progressive and will push up the morale of the share-holders as well as the labourers. This Bill will improve all aspects of a company's working—(1) structure of a company, (2) labourer, and (3) shareholder. Some of the Hon. Members protested against this Bill. But according to my view, structure of the joint stock company is democratic in character and nature. Shareholders are the masters, they are the policy-makers and as per the Companies Act of 1956, they have the voting right. The shareholders play an important role in the company's affairs. This Amendment Act will tone up the structure of the joint stock companies. In particular I would like to mention that the status of the labourers in the preferential list of a liquidated company has risen higher. In case of amalgamation of a company, the structure of the joint stock company will definitely change and the management of a company will run further smoothly without any hindrance.

[Shri Salauddin]

The third section of 293 (a) regarding contribution of companies to the political parties is a controversial issue. But there is no way out. I know that it is a much more difficult case, but side by side, it is all the more necessary.

[Translation]

Some Members of the opposition parties specially those belonging to West Bengal are opposing it. I know that the Members of C.P.M. accept money openly from these companies. This is an accepted fact. But they are saying that only the Members of the Congress Party take money. The Members of C.P.M. extract money by force, by threatening and by coercion. This is an admitted fact. These people pressurise the companies. They compel them to pay money. They put handles in the way of the industrialists. They ask the workers to go on strike and incite them. The workers are not harassed so much by management as they are harassed by the members of the C. P. M. They are very vocal here. They have got a right to speak here. I am also exercising my right to speak here.

This Bill has been brought forward to obviate their coercion, threats and use of force. This Bill has been brought forward so that nobody could threaten any one. We are not doing this for ourselves. This is for the welfare of all the people

Our intention is to have a check on black money through this Bill.

[English]

That is the very best progressive step taken by this Government.

[Translation]

Amalgamation is related to structure. Many evils have crept into the structure today and as a result of amalgamation, the structure has deteriorated very much. The weaker companies the sick units, the inefficient companies and units which have lagged behind in the competition would get a new lease of life and they could enter the market and start production. I therefore,

welcome this Bill. With these words, I conclude my speech.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Mr. Chairman : I do not want to take much of the time of the House; but I may say only this much : while the ban on Company donations is being removed, I am reminded about the two parallel economies that have been running in the country. In a different sense, we are a mixed economy—we have the official economy in the country, and as once the late Finance Minister Mr. Y. B. Chavan said, we have a parallel black money economy in the country.

As far as donations in the elections are concerned, there will in future be two parallel economies : one will be the donations which will be officially recorded in Company Accounts by which, by dint of the Bill that will be converting itself into an Act today, the political parties will be able to get white money. Commensurate with the white money that each party will get, there will be a corresponding amount of black money that will be there. Therefore, in a strange way, we will be having a mixed economy in our elections.

This is not a very strange thing.

17.27 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Sir : you have come at the appropriate moment. In what we call as the mother of Parliaments, i.e. the House of Commons, for the last several years there is not a single election petition, and the elections are fair and free, where neither the Conservatives have ever complained against the Labourites, nor have the Labourites ever complained against the Conservatives; nor the Communists have complained against both the Conservatives and the Labourites. But even in such a parliamentary democracy, which is the mother of democracies, a number of years back, i.e. in the 18th century, it was just a trade a financial barter. Since it will be of interest to this House, Prof. Ranga, I will read out a very interesting survey as to what used to happen in the 18th century in the House of Commons elections to the British Parliament:

"Some years back, the BBC put out a series of features on the working and history of the British Parliament. One of these features recounted this interesting episode about the House of Commons during the 18th century : "In the early eighteenth century, a particularly obstreperous Member of Parliament replied in these terms to his constituents who had written to him asking him to vote against the budget "

The voters said : 'Vote against the Budget'.
The survey goes on :

".. "Gentlemen", he said, "I have received your letter about the excise and I am surprised at your insolence in writing to me at all. You know, and I know, that I bought this constituency. You know, and I know, that I am now determined to sell it. And you know what you think I don't know, that you are now looking for another buyer; I know what you certainly don't know, that I have found another constituency to buy ;"

This was what was happening.

"Buying and selling of Parliamentary constituencies in Britain was no exception then. It was almost a rule. Seats were actually advertised for sale—or even hire—in the papers. A Hansard publication, *Our Parliament*, by Strathearn Gordon notes : "Between 1812 and 1832, £5000 to £6000 was the ordinary price of a seat purchased for Parliament, or £1800 if rented for a year."

So, that was the position in the mother of the Parliaments because in those days some barons and landlords formed limited constituencies and some had controlled the ropes. They used to put up a board "Constituencies for auction". Bidders used to come. Some one would say 3000, other would say 4000, third would say 5000 and he would shout one, two and three—5000—and a constituency was sold. That is how the corruption took place. I am reminded about that episode today. Today, you are trying to remove the ban on donations and there what we propose to do—I am not touching all the aspects regarding worker's amal-

gamation of companies on which there can be no difference—what we are doing by removing the ban on companies, you are trying to legalise illegal things. For instance, if you feel that in spite of probation, the cottage industry grows and in villages and small towns, near sea side, the manufacture of liquor is going on, rather than saying that we are discontinuing this, you say that by law, we have opened drinking to all the citizens. Through it is vice, you say we are removing prohibition. All that you are doing is that you have found that in spite of your laws, donations are coming and donations don't come to anyone. After all, there is a sense of proportion. Industrialists and monopolists are most balanced men in the country. They know how a balance between various parties to be retained? Therefore, they know those who monopolise power, the monopolists have to monopolise their health. Therefore, they go on extending more help to them; and you will find tomorrow, even after this Bill becomes an act and when it is implemented, if you just find out from the company account of various companies as to how much donations they have given to parties X, Y and Z, then you can almost build a formula that five times of that amount shown in the account will be the actual amount that will be given to that party outside the company's account and that is how the parallel black - money will exist side-by-side with the actual donations coming in the companies. Therefore, you will be putting actually a premium in the vice. Now, we are trying to approach the problem in the wrong way. The intentions are best. But remember the road to hell will always be paved with best intentions and they are masters in having best intentions and in having capacity to go to hell. Therefore, with the best of intention, they are taking the country to hell. I am only saying about this and not otherwise. What will be the net effect of this? What is the basic problem that you don't tackle—unfair elections, growth of moral power, growth of money power, growth of muscle power, growth of machinery power. All these are only symptoms of a disease; they are not a disease itself. Your man power is not disease. But what is happening at the root that is disease. The corrupt tendencies are disease and therefore if you want really to undertake this particular measure to see that actually

[Prof. Madhu Dandavate]

evil practices are reduced, then merely removing the ban on companies' donations will not solve the problem. You go to the root of the problem; and if you go to the root of the problem, then what the former Chief Election Commissioner has suggested is that States funding of elections create a fund of hundreds of crores for five years. You prescribe a limit that those candidates who forfeit their deposits, their expenditure will not be borne by the government at all; but those who will retain their security only their expenditure will be borne. You fix up the parametre; and once you have the States funding of elections, you can also try another experiment that is in West Germany where they have fixed a particular percentage; these parties which get percentage of votes above a particular minimum fixed, they will be entitled to get subventions from the government. And once that is declared then there is a family planning of political parties. They also feel that if you want to finance their election, rather than having many parties, they can become one party. We have a country in which if there are two MIAs, together they form three political parties. That is the state of spectacle we are having in the country. Because we have this pattern that parties getting the vote beyond a particular percentage will be entitled for subvention from the the Government, the natural tendency among the small political parties will not be to multiply more and more like India's population, but the process will be a process of polarisation. It will not be a process of fission but it will be a process of fusion. More and more small parties will come together; because they will like to be entitled to get subvention from the Government and thereby indirectly the multiplicity of the parties will be eliminated and as a result a stabilised democracy can be achieved and at the same time because they get above a particular percentage they get the subvention, at the same time you can put a clear rider that once you get state funding of elections beyond that you will not be required to spend at all.

In England, lot of expenditure—Mr. Ranga you and I are incurring this already—is taken over by the State. Cards are sent to the individual electorate by the Government. A brief note about every candidate is mentioned on the card. Brief propaganda campaign,

a gist of their election campaign, programmes—all those are circulated by them. And as a result, the election becomes cheap. That is why just with 15 or 20 days' notice they are able to hold the elections in the U.K., and therefore the elections become very cheap.

So, let us go to the root of the problem as to how the elections are to be made cheap. Not that we make the elections costly and make provisions in the Company Law to see that enough money will be available from the companies for the donations. We are going exactly in the wrong direction therefore, rather than going to the root of the problem. The tragedy of our country is political parties, instead of going to the root of the problem, they touch it at the surface only and as a result of that every solution of the problem is a tinkering of the problem—not solving the problem at the root level. That is exactly what is happening in this country. Otherwise, on the face of it this is a very innocuous legislation and some of them who have not gone through the implications and studied as to what happens in the country, they say that it is an admirable effort. But when they start its implementation, and when some in power go to the opposition and some in the opposition go to power, then they will realise what exactly the implications of this particular company law are. And, therefore, I would prefer the State funding of election rather than funding of the election of the parties by the companies and if you allow the funding of the election by the companies, remember that the businessman is a very shrewd and intelligent animal. I am saying it in the sense of a rational animal. Man is also described and defined as a rational animal. In that sense only I am saying that the businessman and industrialist is a very ingenious animal and what does that animal do? Whenever they give a donation they treat it as an investment and the first principle of investment is invest only in that particular industry from which you will be able to plough back a lot. And, therefore, remember my friends! Whether we belong to the Janata or whether we belong to the Congress Party, once we allow the companies to invest, not in machinery, not in plants, not in dams, not in the various projects, but in elections and in the political parties, then the investor will try to get back through the investment a considerable amount of Plough back and that is what these people will be doing.

All said and done, if some company magnate has helped me a lot, if some monopolist has helped me a lot, it is a human psychology that if it is found out that he is involved in a fraudulent practice, I must tell you that even my tendency will be to see that even if I do not speak in favour of him I do not say anything against him, at least remain quiet and I become a silent spectator of the fraudulent practices that are conducted by the monopolist and industrialist. It is not only the psychology of the opposition but also the ruling party. Even if we, on the opposition, get lakhs and lakhs of rupees from a particular industrialist X or Y, my tendency in the House will not be to expose him but to expose only that industrialist from whom I have not got even a farthing so that he will not be able to say against either inside the House or outside. Therefore, even our battle against inequality will suffer, our battle against some of the affluent sections will suffer and our battle against industrialists and monopolists will suffer.

This is a measure on which you can neither vote for nor against. What is there in it? Of course, I do not accept it. Our opposition is not for petty reasons but for deep-rooted reasons. Therefore, taking advantage of the discussion on this Bill I will make an earnest appeal to the Minister that with your majority you will always carry the Bill, because if you try to tighten the MRTP Act, people from your side will say that it is an admirable progressive measure and if you try to relax the limit from Rs. 20 crores to Rs. 100 crores, the same people in their speeches will say that it is the wonderful pragmatic step that the development process in the country can increase. Therefore, my humble suggestion to the Minister is that with your majority you are going to pass it. You, as the presiding authority, in one breath, are going to say those for and those against and the Bill is passed. You will not wait for to count how many for and how many against.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If you demand that, definitely I will have to wait for.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I do not blame you. All that I am saying is that in our present party structure, the consensus is already nationalised and it is not a question of exerting a conscience vote. Even

if Prof. Ranga were to feel otherwise—I do not allege that he feels otherwise—he cannot forget that he is the Deputy Leader of the Congress Party. Of course, he is the Deputy Leader in the year when they are celebrating the centenary of the Congress Party. 7.1/2 years young girl is claiming that she is hundred years. Of course, Rangaji is old enough. But even the youngers are saying that they are of 100 years of age. On this occasion they are likely to pass these measures with their majority. I have no grouse against them. Even if we were in majority, we would have passed all of them with the brute majority. But this being the situation I only provoke them by saying that today if you want to pass it with your majority, pass it, but at least at some stage let your conscience be roused and let you be driven to the basic thinking of State funding of elections and when you start doing it you will find that this is only tinkering with the problem and what is really needed is facing the problem and solving the problem. Only in that context, I am not interested in this Bill.

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I must confess that I am provoked to speak at this stage by the speeches made by Geeta Ji and also by Dandavate Ji. The positive proposal that they have suggested, I agree with that. It has always been a practice in West Germany. There they have made it necessary for the State to make contributions to various political parties according to the votes that they are able to gain from the people in the election. In that manner they have made it easier for their political parties to be sure of their political funds for fighting the elections; if not to meet the whole of it, at least a major part of it. To that extent I am in agreement with them. I have been hoping that time would be taken by our Government as well as the Opposition parties to have discussions among themselves and reach some consensus when this kind of a suggestion was made by the Election Commission. But unfortunately, no such effort has been made so far. I hope that effort would be made as soon as possible and it would be possible for all the political parties to come to some agreement in regard to that matter.

The second point on which I am in agreement with Professor Dandavate is if

[Shri N. G. Ranga]

such a system were to be adopted, then there would be an effective incentive for so many fractional parties to come together and then form themselves into groups or parties in their way towards the development of a bipartisan system, as they have in England or in America. But just as it is now, the very leader of Dandavate's party is unwilling to take an initiative in helping the other political parties to come together among themselves and then forming into some kind of a viable political party. Under these circumstances, we are bound to have all these fractional parties that we have. I am rather amused that my Hon. friend Geeta Mukherjee, who looks so stale and old, has suddenly turned out to be a handsome damsel. Now I can understand how she is able to manage to get herself elected again. She is a bit of an actress also,...

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : She is a damsel in distress also.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : I wish to assure her that it is not only herself, there are others also on this side. We can go on ridiculing each other but nevertheless we can remember who is black, the pot or the kettle. All have gone through the same experience of expediency, of collections under the table, below the table and above the table also.

My Hon. friend from this side has touched upon a very important point which is involved in this that it is not only the companies and their managers and their directors and their tycoons, as our friends would like to call them, who are going to vote in regard to these company donations but also the workers, because we are going in for progressive development of what is known as workers' participation in the companies' management. So, they will also have their share in taking their decision as to how much should be contributed, by which company, in what proportion, to their profits or their losses or their transactions. That would be an open opportunity for the workers themselves and whoever represents the workers. The Communists claim to represent them, we also claim to represent them. Therefore, it is an opportunity for them to assert themselves. And when they

do it, they would be able to get the companies to contribute to several parties—those who are on the side of the ruling party, those who are on the side of the Opposition parties also.

They alone are not experts in forming the Opposition parties as opposed to the ruling party, the Congress. For some years I was also in the Opposition. I have had some experience also, the kind of bitter experience that some of them who are honest, have been having and the experience I had as to how difficult it is to get any kind of donation from anybody. But I have known one or two, I think, very honest people who had the moral courage to tell the then ruling party that they were going to contribute to both—to the party that I was then representing and also to the ruling party. When the ruling party leader asked them "why are you doing this?" one man said we believe in democracy where there should be Opposition. Since you are the ruling party and since you have three fourths control, therefore, three lakhs of rupees for you; and since they have got control on only one fourth, we are giving them one lakh of rupees. Another gentleman who was best of the tycoons, said : if we do not contribute to them, they will blackmail us. If we do not contribute to you, you create trouble through your bureaucracy. So, we contribute to both. Has the same not been within your experience individually and otherwise? Do you not know that it is happening? Is it not because you have gained control over the whole of the working class involved in a concern or in a big company or a part of it, and so you are able to collect through blackmail or whatever it is or through persuasion. It is a fact? These are the things that are happening. We are going through all this. What about our experience in regard to our elections.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Rangaji, wicked people say that due to the fact that the Swatantra Party was getting money at that time, the Congress Party in 1969 brought the earlier Bill. Is it your experience too having been in the Swatantra Party?

PROF. N. G. RANGA : I am not able to hear you.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Repeat it, he has not followed you.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Please, it is no good trying to speak with our tongue in our cheek. I do not want to touch any delicate spot of anybody, but let us be honest with ourselves.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Prof. Ranga, is that the norm that you follow even when males are speaking ?

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Dandavate Ji, you have covered such a big ground that I cannot now hope to finish my speech within the next six minutes that I wish to take.

Now, one thing is this. He said, why are you satisfied with this tinkering ? Now, my Hon. friend has referred to what is known as Pocket Boroughs in England. I have gone through all that history and I have also gone through the Congress electioneering here in our country. At one time we needed only Rs. 5,000/- for our Constituency. Now, I do not know how much, but not less than Rs. 5 lakhs. Where from it is to come ? It has got to come from somewhere. Leave that aside. In England in order to enable the working class to play their honourable role in public life, they have imposed what is known as "political contribution" from the workers. It has had its own history also. Every worker at one time mainly because he joined a union and the Union decides in favour of voting for the Labour party, had to contribute a particular sum to their labour fund. Afterwards, when the Conservative Party came in, they said it is not only the Union which has got to decide, every worker who wants to make a contribution should also decide. In that way they have progressed to such an extent that on the whole it is free from too much corruption. There is some corruption everywhere. My Hon. friend here with his hands on his beard was saying outside : what is it under the table and over the table, black and white money and so on ? These things are bound to happen. They would be there .. (Interruptions).

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mehbub-nagar) : 'Black' will continue to be there. We need 'white', to whitewash the black.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Let us be honest with ourselves. I am not trying to score points. I am only trying to persuade people because I am on the way towards development of a consensus, as I have already told you. I did not like the reference that was made by our friend, Prof. Madhu Dandavate—I expected something better from him—to Mr. Pure. I can tell you, so far as my experience goes..

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I referred to 'Dirty men'. I never referred to 'Pure'

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Perhaps, Mrs. Geeta Mukherjee referred to it.

My experience shows that a genuine effort is being made. Let us appreciate that. It may be only a step. Nevertheless we are moving in the right direction. You cannot deny that. When you move in the right direction, if you go on shouting like this, fighting like this and ridiculing, people will naturally become shy and we will not be able to move further in that direction. I want all political parties to move as fast as possible towards as much of purity as possible in public life. And it is a very good contribution because here you have got the workers as well as employers. Both workers as well as capitalists would have the chance and they would be able to make up their own mind. It is quite possible that we may come across such a possibility, such an experience, that the opposition may and so they might get 25 per cent contributions while the ruling Party may get 75 per cent. Slowly it may come to fifty-fifty. We are not going to oppose a development like that. You are asking for workers' participation. You are going to get your chance. Apart from all these things, is it not a fact that the political parties are getting money not only from our own people in our own country but from outside also ? Are we not bandying charges one against the other in various Legislatures as well as Parliament ? And at the same time are we not carrying on ? In spite of all these troubles, we are moving towards progress. I have had the experience of these things since 1930. In 1930 I was elected unopposed. In 1931 I was defeated.

17.58 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *In the Chair*]

[Prof. N. G. Ranga]

As I have been saying to people, I do not think there is any Member here who has been defeated as many times as I was and who has been re-elected also as many times as I was. I have had all these innings. I know how we are moving. We are moving towards progress, towards more and more purity and less of self-deceit. Therefore ..

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Ranga, please resume your seat. I have to make an announcement.

17.59 hrs.

DEATH OF MEMBER

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have just received the news that one of our

Hon. Members, Shri Girdhari Lal from Bijnor, Uttar Pradesh, a veteran Member, has passed away. As a mark of respect, I adjourn the House. The obituary reference will be made tomorrow. But, before we adjourn, the House will stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect for his memory.

(The Members then stood in silence for a short while.)

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to reassemble at 11.00 a.m. tomorrow.

18.00 hrs.

(The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, May 17, 1985/ Vaisakha 27, 1907 (Saka).)