

Statement-II

Sr. No.	Name of the Bank	Metro-politan	Urban	Rural	Semi-urban	Total
1.	UTI Bank Ltd.	8	1	-	-	6
2.	Indusind Bank Ltd.	11	3	-	4	18

[Translation]

FERA Cases

4974. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :
SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons against whom proceeding has not been completed under 'FERA' since 1995;

(b) the reasons for delay in each case;

(c) whether the Government propose to review the cases in which inordinate delay is being caused; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) The number of adjudication and prosecution cases (under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act) pending as on 31.3.1997 were 4809 and 2058 respectively.

(b) to (d) Though every effort is made for completion of the said proceedings quickly but these get delayed in the course of legal process.

[English]

Transfer of Shares

4975. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the securities and Exchange Board of India has received complaints from the investors residing in Delhi/New Delhi in the months of June and July, 1996 for delay in transfer of shares by M/s Orkay Industries Ltd., Bombay;

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

(c) the number of complaints which have been resolved so far by the company;

(d) the details of such complaints which are pending for more than six months;

(e) the reasons for such a long delay in transfer of shares, complaint-wise;

(f) whether the company is not transferring the share certificates on the plea that the same have not been received by the company inspite of furnishing certificate from the postal department by the investors supporting that the letter in question was duly delivered in the company;

(g) whether any enquiry has been conducted by the company in this regard;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) the time by which the grievance of the investors will be resolved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (i) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Contaminated Drinking Water

4976. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received reports relating to prevalence of arsenic in underground water which is commonly used as drinking water in the areas of Bashirhat, 24 Parganas, North Barhampore and Murshidabad in West Bengal;

(b) whether the Government are yet to take corrective measures for appropriate treatment of such water resources;

(c) whether the consumption of such water is seriously affecting the health of the people of these areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It has been reported that drinking water in 8 districts of West Bengal contains arsenic more than safe limits prescribed by the World Health Organisation.

The Govt. of West Bengal has prepared a perspective plan to tackle arsenic contamination by replacement of tubewells by deeper ones, construction of new piped water supply schemes, sanitary protected rigwells and rain harvesting structure for immediate relief and establishment of surface water based piped water supply schemes and establishing new spot sources for solving the problem. The 1st phase action plan for drinking water supply in arsenic affected areas was approved in February, 94 by the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment at an estimated cost of Rs. 9.62 crores, covering 4.87 lakhs population. It is to be funded in the ratio of 75:25 by the Centre and the State Government. Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment has approved another project of piped water supply through surface source for Malda District in February, 1995 at an estimated cost of Rs. 88.48 crores with the same funding pattern. The project envisages to cover 10.87 lakhs population.

In so far as the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment is concerned, a composite proposal on surface water based water supply schemes for arsenic affected urban and rural areas in South 24 Parganas District was received at an estimated cost of Rs. 260.12 crores in April, 97. The same has been technically examined and the State Govt. has been requested to submit modified proposal.

(c) & (d) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has stated that the studies conducted by All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Calcutta have shown that out of all the people using water with arsenic at various levels, about 14% were suffering from Arsenicosis which include Keratosis, rain drop pigmentation, Hepatomegaly (Enlarged Liver) and Bronchitis.

It may, however, also be noted that these diseases were also observed among the non-affected control group and is therefore less specific for diagnosis of chronic Arsenicosis.

[Translation]

Staff Selection Examinations

4977. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding publication of dummy question papers by unauthorised elements for the various Staff Selection Examinations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) No, Sir,

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

[English]

Haj Pilgrims

4978. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Haj Pilgrims from Karnataka visiting Jeddah every year;

(b) whether there is any branch of the Haj Committee in Bangalore; and

(c) if not, will the Government take steps to establish the same in Bangalore to help the Haj pilgrims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) The number of Haj pilgrims from Karnataka visiting Jeddah under the arrangements made by the Central Haj Committee for Haj 97 was 2812. Information regarding the number of pilgrims from Karnataka who perform Haj individually or in groups through private tour operators is not available.

(b) and (c) Central Haj Committee has no branch in any part of the country. However, in the States there are State Haj Committees to assist and look after the Haj pilgrims belonging to the respective states. Karnataka also has a State Haj Committee located in Bangalore to help the state Haj pilgrims.

Killing of Militants

4979. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of militants including foreign militants killed in Kashmir during encounter with Security Forces since the installation of the popular Government upto March 31, 1997;

(b) the casualty suffered by the Security Forces during this period;

(c) whether there is improvement in the Security scenario after the installation of popular Government in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) According to the information made available by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir, 457 militants including 35 foreign national/mercenaries, and 97 Security Forces personnel, were killed in Jammu & Kashmir during the period 1.10.1996 to 31.3.1997.

(c) and (d) There has been definite improvement in the overall situation in Jammu & Kashmir after the popular Government took over in the State. The sustained operations of the police and security forces which have led to significant successes in the recent months, the increased flow of information, the overall change in the mood of the people, and open condemnation by them of the militant activities, have brought the militants under substantially increased pressure and helped to isolate them and further contain their activities, notwithstanding the desperate actions against soft targets that have occurred from time to time. All efforts are being made by Government and security forces to ensure that complete peace and normalcy be restored at the earliest.

Declaration of Tribal Area

4980. SHRI GULAM MOHD. MIR MAGANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for declaring hilly areas of Jammu and Kashmir as Tribal areas; and

(b) if so, the areas proposed to be notified for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.