

Tenth Series, Vol. XLII, No, 38

Monday, May 30,1995
Jyaistha 9, 1917(Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Thirteenth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Price: Rs., 50,00

Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates
(English Version)

...

Tuesday, May 30, 1995/Jyaishtha 9, 1917(Saka)

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Col./line	For	Read
66/14 (from below)	Shri Shivlal Naggibhai	Shri Shivlal Nagjibhai Vekaria
82/2	Shrimati Dil Kumari	Shrimati Dil Kumari Bhandari
94/16,17 & 18 206/11,12 & 13	The Minister of State of the (Department of Women and Child Development) in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Shrimati Basava Rajeswari)	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Humarn Resource Development (Department of Women and Child Development) (Shrimati Basva Rajeswari)
114/13	attender	a tender
133/16 (from below)	LR. R. Mallu	Dr. R. Mallu
174/26	Prof. Uasmmareddy Venkateswarlu	Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu
178/5&6	The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Kharief)	The Minister of Railways (Shri Jaffer Sharief)
213/18 (from below)	POLLUTIOIN	POLLUTION
247/	After line 26 add [Placed in Library See No. LT 7781/95]	
277/14	Shri Gopi Gajapathi	Shri Gopinath Gajapathi
313/31	backdark	backward

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, May 30, 1995/Jyaistha, 9, 1917 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met
at Eleven of the Clock

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

Mr. Speaker : Hon. Members, it is my said duty to inform the House of the passing away of one of our former colleagues, namely Shri R.R. Morarka.

Shri R.R. Morarka was a Member of First, Second and Third Lok Sabha representing Ganganagar and Jhunjhunu Parliamentary Constituencies of Rajasthan from 1952 to 1967.

He was also a Member of Rajya Sabha from 1978 to 1984.

A veteran freedom fighter, he was closely associated with Mahatma Gandhi and actively participated in India's freedom struggle.

A businessman by profession, he served a number of Industrial and financial organisations.

A keen student of Economics, he was a fellow of Sydenham College of Commerce and Economics, Bombay.

During his membership of this august House, he had served as Member of various Consultative and Select Committees. He was also the Chairman of Committee of Public Accounts.

A widely travelled person, he had special interest in various games and sports and was member of various sports clubs.

Shri Morarka passed away on 28 May, 1995 at Bombay at the age of 72 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolence to the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

11.02 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

11.04 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS

[Translation]

PRINTED PRICES OF CONSUMER GOODS

* 761. †Shri Rampal Singh :
Shri Bairaaj Passal :

Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Union Government are aware that the printed prices of the goods being sold in the market are much more than their actual market prices;

(b) If so, whether any action has been taken by the Government to protect the interest of the consumers;

(c) If so, the details thereof; and ,

(d) If not, the reasons therefor?

[English]

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer affairs And Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) to (d) a statement in laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The Ministry's attention has been drawn to some Press articles to this effect. The price printed on package is only the maximum retail price and actual selling price may be lower than the market prices.

(b) to (d) The Ministry has constituted in February 1994 an Expert Committee comprising of representatives of Government Departments, Trade and Industry Associations and Consumer Organisations to review and suggest the best method of declaration of retail sale price on pre-packed commodities. The report of the Committee has not been received.

[Translation]

Shri Rampal Singh : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has admitted in his answer that the price printed on the package may be higher than the actual price. I would like to quote some such instances. A paint package shows marked price of Rs. 896 against the the actual retail price of

Rs. 635, the actual price of a pressure-cooker is Rs. 500 as against the printed price of Rs. 800, the salt package shows marked price of Rs. 3.50 as against the actual price of Rs. 2.50. Thus the printed prices contain much higher profit margin. It is known to all. What steps is he taking to protect the consumer from this fleece?

Shri Buta Singh : Sir, the price on packages is printed in compliance with the provisions of official price policy which is the declared maximum price. Higher price is also printed because of some competitive market factors which enable consumers to negotiate the price with retailers.

[English]

Therefore, this price is always higher than the actual price in the market. There is nothing that the Government can do. The Government, under the Act, can make the manufacturer declare the maximum price on the packaged commodity.

[Translation]

Shri Rampal Singh : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the retailers. It that the printed prices are the prices declared by the Government and the commodities have to be sold on that very price. The hon. Minister in his answer has stated that a committee was constituted in 1994 to look into this matter and its report was awaited. May I know when this report is expected to be submitted by the said committee and whether the Government have evolved any mechanism to check such irregularities?

Shri Buta Singh : Mr. Speaker, sir, this expert committee has held 3-4 meetings with the representatives of trade, industry and consumers and the matter is being considered in length. We hope the committee will finalise its report within 2-3 months and then, we shall inform this House.

Shri Rampal Singh : My question has not been answered. I wanted to know what measures the Government is taking to check these irregularities till the time this report is received?

Shri Buta Singh : Sir, the terms of reference of this committee stipulate :

[English]

- (1) "Taking into consideration the socio-economic system of our country, which is the best method for declaring the uniform retail price of a pre-packed commodity on the package as applicable for the entire country;
- (2) Which is the agency which should be made responsible for declaring such retail price, and
- (3) How the suggestions made at the points above could be enforced to provide protection."

[Translation]

Shri Balraj Passi : Mr. Speaker, sir, this is a very serious problem. The maximum retail price of Rs. 800 is printed in the package of a commodity whose actual price is Rs. 500/- only. Some times, the retail printed prices are double the actual prices. The urbanite consumers are generally enlightened and they, while making purchases, negotiate, the price, but the rural and hill people are not conscious of it, and if the retailer demands Rs. 800 for a pressure cooker, the price which is printed on the package, the simple consumer at best will hesitatingly negotiate it for Rs. 750 which the retailer will readily accept while the actual price of that pressure cooker is Rs. 500. Thus the consumer is fleeced of Rs. 250/- on one item.

Sir, even after 45 years of Independence, we have not been able to evolve a price policy with regard to a retail price and the margin of profit of retailer and the manufacturer. The hon. Minister has said that a committee has been constituted. May I know whether Government propose to formulate a profit policy and, till such a policy is implemented, whether some consumer awareness movement is proposed to be launched? I have asked the question in Hindi and I expect him to answer it in Hindi.

Shri Buta Singh : Sir, we have a National Consumer Council and in its last meeting, a suggestion was made for constituting a National Price Review Commission which is under our consideration. There is no doubt that Government cannot make any 'profit policy' since it involves the property of market competition. The maximum price is fixed keeping in view the production cost, sales tax, local taxes, freight packaging, advertisement and so on, and therefore, Government do not have any mechanism to adjust profit margin. The profit margin varied from season to season, market to market. The profit margin cannot be fixed by Government.

Shri Balraj Passi : This means any amount of profit margin, double, triple is allowed and it does not make any difference to Government.

Shri Buta Singh : Penal provision, prosecution is attracted only when the retailer charges more than the price printed on packages. If any case of such overcharging has come to his notice, he can inform us and penal action can be taken.

Shri Balraj Passi : Double price is printed in the package itself.

[English]

Shri Sudhir Giri : Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the replies of the hon. Minister it is evident that the prices printed on the package differ from the actual prices. The Minister has supported this practice. This practice actually deprives the people of the real prices. So, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government would fix up the prices of the commodities which are usually used

by the common people and takes steps to make delivery of these goods through out the country at the same prices?

Shri Buta Singh : As I stated earlier in my answer to my hon. friend's question, it is not the Policy of the Government to fix the prices or to determine the prices. I have stated the various factors which go into making the manufacturers to declare the prices on the packages or the goods. It is not the policy of the Government to fix the prices for the rest of the country for all the articles and goods. So, I have neither supported it nor have I objected to it. We are here to implement the rules which govern the MRP on the packaged goods. If there is a violation, as I stated just now, for that there is a rule. The State Governments are competent to take action. We have given the powers to the State Governments to book such people who are charging more than the declared price on the package.

[Translation]

Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya : Sir, as the hon. Minister has stated, the retail price includes many things. I would suggest that the packages should, along with maximum retail price, indicate the manufacturing cost also. However, this factor too is before the Expert Committee which is examining all these aspects.

Shri Rabi Ray : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not understood the answer given by hon. Minister. Government stand on protection of consumers interest vindicates that we are mute spectators, we cannot interfere, we have no control on margin of profit over the cost of production. The Government cannot absolve itself by merely saying this, because it involves the interest of millions of consumers. Though a committee is going into all these aspects, but Government have to have a policy for deciding the margin of profit over the cost of production.

Shri Buta Singh : Sir, as I have stated, there is no such provision under the existing law.

Mr. Speaker : He is not asking for today. He is asking about the policy to be framed for the future.

Shri Buta Singh : That is why we have constituted an Expert Committee which consists of representatives of trade, industry, consumers, Ministry of Finance and our Ministry. We can place this economic aspect before that committee but as for now, we have no mechanism to control it.

Shri Rabi Ray : Sir, no satisfactory reply has been given. He is considered to be the representative of poor classes but he has not included the margin of profit in the terms of reference of the committee which means the traders are free to charge as much as they want.

[English]

Shri Buta Singh : I have stated very categorically that the present Act and Law is a price declaration law and not a price control law.

Mr. Speaker : No, we are not worried about the present existing law. We are worried about what is happening really in the country. Are you going to give relief to the consumers or not?

Shri Buta Singh : Sir, this measure, this declaring price is not meant for giving relief to the consumers. It is meant for upper price that has been declared. The retailers cannot charge beyond this. ...**(Interruptions)**

Mr. Speaker : Please let him reply.

Shri Buta Singh : Sir, as I said, the terms of reference...

Mr. Speaker : If they should not ask for relief from you, from whom should they ask for relief?

Shri Buta Singh : If the Hon. Speaker desires, I can recommend to the Expert Committee to have this element also.

Mr. Speaker : It is not the desire of the Speaker. It is the desire of the House.

Shri Buta Singh : I am prepared to share with the hon. House that in the last meeting of the Expert committee, the terms of reference have been improved and amended. It has also been made obligatory.. **(Interruptions)**

Mr. Speaker : You hear him first

Shri Buta Singh : It has been made obligatory for the Expert committee to suggest, to include and to take up the issue of marking of indicative price. This has been the recent addition to the terms of reference and in that I can always convey the feelings of the House to the Expert committee to keep this also in mind.

Mr. Speaker : The House can depend on your sympathy

Shri Buta Singh : It is always there, Sir, in abundance

Mr. Speaker : Both justice and sympathy.

Shri Indrajit Gupta : I am afraid the hon. Minister, as a result of the replies he has been giving just now, is making the confusion worse confounded. He began by saying that it is not the job of the Government to fix the price.

Shri Buta Singh : It is under the present law.

Shri Indrajit Gupta : Because the prices, according to him, are fixed entirely by the law of supply and demand in an open market, in a free market. Then, who fixes the price which is called the maximum retail price which is stamped on the commodity or the packet of whatever it is?

Who fixes that if the Government does not fix it? He has already said : "the Government does not fix the price." Some times it is written 'Maximum Retail Price inclusive of local taxes' which is stamped on the packet, we would like

to know who fixes that price. The Government does not fix it. He says the Government's job is not to fix the price. That means that price is the price, which is fixed or demanded by the producer or the stockist or the wholesale trader. I do not know who, which is accepted without question by the Government. Now he says, 'If anybody is made to pay more than the maximum retail price then you please come to us and we will take action against the person who is selling that commodity.' Who is fixing the price?

Whatever price is fixed by the manufacturer is accepted by the Government and is put on the packet as the 'maximum retail price.' Please explain because we do not understand what is the purpose of this. How does it help the consumer at all, in any way?

Shri Buta Singh : Sir, as I said in the beginning, the 'maximum retail price' is fixed by the manufacturer. In some countries, like the UK, it is fixed by the retailer, but in our country, as I said, it is fixed by the manufacturer. But what the law states I can read out to the hon. Member.

Shri Indrajit Gupta : Which law?

Shri Buta Singh : It is the Standards of Weights and Measures Packaged Commodities Rules, 1977 and also the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1976.

Mr. Speaker : Buta Singhji, for you, for the Parliament and for the Union Government, law can be changed. It cannot be changed by the State Government or by any other organisation. But if it is not serving the purpose, if it is not helping the consumer and if it is helping those who produce, should we not have a look at it?

Shri Buta Singh : Very true, Sir. As I have already submitted to the House that keeping in view the feelings of the house, we in the Government will definitely look into it. But for the time being I cannot go beyond the law. I have to function within the law.

Mr. Speaker : Yes, you are bound by it.

Shri A. Charles : Sir, the quantity of sugar issued to the PDS is not sufficient even for the ordinary families

Mr. Speaker : No, that is altogether a different question.

Shri A. Charles : Sir, I am coming to this question. The question is, whether any relief can be given to the consumer from the open market. The cost of production of sugar is known and under OGL...(Interruptions)

Shri Buta Singh : That is another question.

Shri A. Charles : Sir, I am coming to that.

Mr. Speaker : I think, you are coming to the sugar which is just next question.

Shri A. Charles : No, Sir, I am coming to the question. On the basis of what the hon. Minister has just now said, can the Government think of a policy for framing some

rules, fixing the maximum profit that can be taken on the imported sugar and on the sugar produced in the factories so that the price can be fixed with reference to actual cost and the actual imported price?

Mr. Speaker : Would you like to reply?

Shri Buta Singh : Sir, this question is going to be covered in the next question.

Mr. Speaker : All right.

Shri Buta Singh : But if you want, I can reply to it.

Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha : Sir, I would like to give a little background about the whole question.

Mr. Speaker : No, you do not have to give anything. You have to ask for it.

Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha : Sir, there is a confusion in the House and in your mind also. So, I would like to explain the whole thing.

Mr. Speaker : No, I am not replying to your question. Mr. Minister will reply. Even if there is a confusion in my mind, it is all right but there should not be any confusion in your mind and his mind

Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha : Sir, I am a Member from the Treasury Benches, I must explain certain things.

Mr. Speaker : No, please ask the question. You are not expected to explain, you are expected to ask the question.

Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha : Sir, I know the whole thing because this law was made by me...(Interruption)

Mr. Speaker : Please. We sympathise with the father of the law. You can ask the question, if you want.

...(Interruption)...

Mr. Speaker : I am just formulating what the members want.

...(Interruption)...

Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee : Sir, I fully sympathise with the Minister. It is true that it is the manufacturers who fix the price as an instrument to see that the traders do not make profit in excess of what is prescribed by the manufacturers. That is how the retail price is fixed. There is no doubt about that. But the point is this. Have you asked them to fix the price? You do not fix the price. They do it. But you have desired that such a price, the maximum retail price, be mentioned on the packets, why do you do that? You wanted that the consumers be not treated by the traders apart from the manufacturers cheating them and they are not further cheated by the traders. So, your interest is ultimately that of the consumers. Now two things are happening. Firstly, the maximum price is quite often very highly fixed. Secondly, in the market, even the maximum price is not

adhered to and still higher price than the maximum price is charged.

The question that the whole House wants to put is this. Do you have a role to see that the consumers' interests are not violated in this manner? If so, what is that?

Shri Buta Singh : As on today, my role starts if somebody charges higher price than the maximum retail price. Upto that, it is the manufacturers, who fix the prices. If the retailer sells beyond that price, he comes under the purview of the law and steps can be taken and he can be booked by the State Government. This is the position...(Interruption)

Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee : Sir, this is a clear abdication of his responsibility. He can say by taking the argument from Dr. Singh, No We do determined by the market. He can take that position...(Interruption)

Mr. Speaker : Some steps have taken. If more steps are required, probably they would take...

Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee : Sir, he is not agreeing to that. He is abdicating his responsibility.. (Interruption)

Shri Buta Singh : Sir, as I have already said, in view of the suggestions made by the hon. Members and the hon. Speaker .(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker : I am just crystallising the views of the hon Members and putting them before you and you are not bound to accept my views.

...(Interruptions)...

Shri Buta Singh : These are very important suggestions and we will take into consideration the suggestions made by the hon. Members.

Shri Shreesh Chandra Dikshit : Sir, while there is some check on the traders, there is absolutely no check on the manufacturers and it is the consumer who ultimately suffers. And then where is the point in printing any price? Let it be charged by the manufacturer or the trader. How does it matter to a consumer whether extra profit is being made by the manufacturer or the trader and the consumer is being cheated in any way? So, how does it matter to a consumer that it is not the trader who is charging the higher price but it is the manufacturer who is cheating the consumer?

Shri Buta Singh : If this is the view of the BJP, I accept it...(Interruption)

Shri Shreesh Chandra Dikshit : What the BJP can do about this? I want the Minister to clarify this...(Interruptions)

Ma. Gen. (Retd.) Bhawan Chandra Khanduri : Sir, what the Minister has said should be taken out of the records...(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker : You should be happy that you have a comprehensive view which protects the consumers from those who sell and from those who produce. You should be happy about it.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker : Please sit down. Do not spoil a very important question.

Shri Anna Joshi : He has said, it is BJP's view...(Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Speaker : If it is the BJP's view, you should be more happy about it

...(Interruptions)...

Mr. Speaker : Please sit down. Please do not create confusion unnecessarily.

...(Interruptions)...

Mr. Speaker : This is wrong, Shri Dau Dayal Joshi

...(Interruptions)...

Shri Shreesh Chandra Dikshit : I submit one thing. The answer to my question has not come. I said, 'how does it matter to the consumer whether it is a trader who is cheating the consumer or whether it is a manufacturer who is cheating the consumer'. In any case, the consumer is being cheated. And to this question, the answer given by the Minister is, that is the BJP culture. What does he mean by this?

Mr. Speaker : Let us understand. He has already said that the existing law is this. If something more has to be done, he would look into it and at the same time, he says that if this is the view of one of the Parties, it is more acceptable.

[Translation]

Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav : Sir, the Finance Minister of this Government, of which Shri Buta Singh is also a Minister, repeatedly assured this House during his budget speech that if the concessions being offered to industries do not reach the consumers, Government would take stern action and even withdraw those concession, since the aim of given these concession it to provide relief to the consumer. Sir, this is not only the opinion of this House, it is the question of protection; of the interest of common man. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, in case the present law does not provide for intervention and, is a hurdle in the process of price reduction and ensuring the benefit to the consumer, whether he will, like the Finance Minister, assure this House that he will take all the steps necessary, including amendment in the existing law, to see that the benefits percolate down to the common man and he is not put to disadvantage.

Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha : You allow some members to make a speech and do not allow others to put questions even if I rise even for two minutes once in a while, you do not allow me to speak

[English]

Mr. Speaker : I will go by your advice

[Translation]

Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha : I am sorry for this attitude of yours

Mr. Speaker : You ask question and also deliver a speech

Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha : What type of speech the hon Member has given just before?

[English]

Mr. Speaker : Please sit down. This is not for you to decide. It is for me to decide. I think he is well within his right to ask this question.

[Translation]

Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha : This is not fair

[English]

Mr. Speaker : You are crossing the limit. Now you please take your seat.

[Translation]

Shri Buta Singh : Sir, Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav has asked as to what implementation measures have been taken by the Government to ensure that the benefit of the concessions given in the budget reach the consumers. I would like to tell the House that advertisements have been given officially in all the national dailies about the excise duty concessions given in the budget and I have myself written to the Chief Ministers in this regard. Our department has also written to the states to ensure that the benefit of the concessions reaches the consumer and we are bound. (Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker : Let him speak please. If you want to put a question and do not want to listen, please take your seat.

Shri Buta Singh : We have again written to the Finance Ministry to take stern action against those who have availed of the benefit of excise concessions but have not passed it on to the consumer. We are conscious of it and of our Commitment, and if there is any legal complication or hinderance in honouring our commitment, we are prepared to amend the law even

[English]

Mr. Speaker : I will allow you.

Dr. Kartikeswer Patra : Hon Speaker Sir. The consumers of the country should be protected. That is why on every commodity, the reasonable profit on production price should be fixed up. Sir, beyond the reasonable profit, if any producer or trader is selling his commodity, he should be punished under some penal provisions. My question is: Is the Government considering to make some penal provisions for the traders or the producers who are selling their commodity beyond a reasonable profit? The percentage of the reasonable profit should be fixed by the Government.

Mr. Speaker : All the details may not be given now.

Shri Buta Singh : There are already provisions to take action against those who contravene the maximum retail price (MRP) printed on the packet. The penalties can also be imposed. But the only thing is that the State Government has to initiate the action. There has to be a proper complaint on which the action can be taken. The provision exists to take action against those who contravene the declared price printed on the packet.

Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee : The other day while I was going in Rajdhani Express I bought one packet of Nice brand biscuits. On the inside packet the maximum retail price was written as Rs 12.30 and on the oil paper surrounding that packet it was written Rs 30.00. The seller took Rs 30.00 from me. Under such circumstances, what are we the consumers to do?

Shri Buta Singh : The prices are declared at a particular time. There are different batches of the same commodity. It might be possible that a different batch might have come to the hon Member. I also suffered the same thing. Therefore, it can be time variation, it can be different batches of the same commodity, same product, but if it is the same batch and the declared price differs, then legal action can be taken.

Shri Syed Shahabuddin : Sir, the point I wish to make, is this and the question arises from it. We make a distinction between making profit and profiteering. I am sure that the Government is anxious that neither the producer nor the wholesaler nor the retailer should profiteer.

Shri Ram Naik : Are you sure?

Shri Syed Shahabuddin : I hope that they have been elected by the people and, therefore, they think on these lines. I personally feel that the Committee which the hon Minister has mentioned has to have a much wider terms of reference. The Committee must be asked to fix a reasonable limit for profit for the manufacturers as well as for the wholesalers and for the retailers. Once the maximum retail price is printed on the packet, anybody who charges even a penny, a paise more than that should be subject to Prosecution. Is the hon Minister prepared to make the law stringent in this specific regard that if the maximum retail price is printed on the package of a specific packet, then

anybody who charges in excess of that shall invite a penalty?

Shri Buta Singh : As I said earlier, there already exists a penal clause in the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977. But the hon Member has made a very valid suggestion which was accepted by me earlier also. These suggestions will be forwarded to the expert committee and we will ensure that the views of the hon. Members are given due weightage before the committee submits the report to the Government.

[Translation]

Shri Phool Chand Verma : Sir, the basic question is that more prices are extorted from the consumer over the prices printed on packages. I want to know, through you, Sir from the hon. Minister, whether any agency has been constituted to oversee all these things, whether the consumers are fleeced and if so, what steps have been taken by the agency to check such fleecing and whether action has been taken against those found defaulting and if so, full details of the action taken?

Shri Buta Singh : As I have said, we have formed a National Consumer Council, a National Commission headed by a retired Supreme Court Judge where grievance of consumers are heard and if any case of contravention of the Consumers Act is found, the guilty persons are looked, prosecuted. Such consumer forums and judicial forums have been set up at every state and district level. As for the number of persons prosecuted for default throughout the country, I can only say that Government is prepared to take and has taken all constitutional legal and administrative steps to protect the consumer interest.

There is now awakening among the consumers and it is a welcome development. We are thankful to both This House and the consumer council for creating this awareness.

Shri Rajveer Singh : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the reasons why a dual pricing policy has been enforced in the country? The prices of wheat, of sugarcane produced by the farmer is decided by Government while the prices of industrial products are determined by the owners themselves.

Mr. Speaker : Mr. Rajveer Singh, it will create misunderstanding. Cane prices are the minimum while the manufacturers prices are the maximum. Please do not create confusion.

Shri Rajveer Singh : No, Sir. There is no question of confusion. My submission is that whether Government have ever evaluated tried to know the production cost of cars, tractors etc. manufactured by industrial houses and also the percentage of profit they are entitled to earn? Minimum and Maximum prices have been fixed for

us, for agricultural produce, while the industrial manufacturer is extorting the price of his product arbitrarily, there is no control on him. Whether Government is in league with him?

Shri Buta Singh : Sir, the hon. Member knows very well that the minimum price for the farm produce is fixed to protect the farmer so that his sugarcane is not purchased below the officially fixed price, while the price fixed for industrial manufacturer is the maximum so that he is not able to charge higher prices from the consumer. This is done to protect the interest of consumer.

[English]

Mr. Speaker : That is correct.

[Translation]

Shri Buta Singh : Therefore, both policies aim at serving the nation and the people, both are without malice or prejudice.

As for the evaluation of profit margin of manufacturers, this has been suggested by several other hon. Members also and as I have said, we shall place this factor before the Expert committee and in case the Committee forms an opinion on this aspect, I shall inform this House accordingly.

Shri Ram Nalk : The Committee constituted in 1994 is likely to submit its report after 7-8 months. This is what the hon. Minister has perhaps said. Create problems, appoint committees and keep the problem hanging—this is what the Congress culture is. However, the question now is, whether the Expert Committee will submit its report during the tenure of this Tenth Lok Sabha and this Government will take a decision thereon?

Shri Buta Singh : Sir, we feel that the committee will hold its last meeting in September and submit the report and as soon as the report is received Government will consider it and inform the House.

PRODUCTION OF SUGAR

*762. **Shri Harisinh Chavda :** Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) the contribution of Sugar by Sugar producing State in the Central Pool during 1994-95, State-Wise; and

(b) the percentage of increase in Sugar production as compared to the last year, State-wise?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) No Central pool of sugar is being maintained by the Government.

(b) The required information is given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

Statewise Percentage Increase/Decrease in Sugar Production upto 30th April During 1994-95 Sugar Season Over the Production on the Corresponding Date During the last Sugar Season i.e. 1993-94.

Sl. No.	State	Sugar Production (P) upto 30th April, during		Percentage increase (+) Or decrease (-) during 1994-95 season over 1993-94 season
		1993-94 season (Lakh Tonnes)	1994-95 season (Lakh Tonnes)	
1.	Punjab	3.22	3.14	(-) 2.48%
2.	Haryana	3.09	3.42	(+) 10.68%
3.	Rajasthan	0.15	0.18	(+) 20.00%
4.	Uttar Pradesh	26.68	34.35	(+) 28.75%
5.	Madhya Pradesh	0.37	0.68	(+) 83.78%
6.	Gujarat	8.03	7.68	(-) 4.36%
7.	Maharashtra	27.08	46.49	(+) 71.68%
8.	Bihar	2.14	3.57	(+) 66.82%
9.	Assam	0.04	0.06	(+) 50.00%
10.	Orissa	0.25	0.44	(+) 76.00%
11.	West Bengal	0.03	0.06	(+) 100.00%
12.	Nagaland	0.03	0.01	(-) 66.67%
13.	Andhra Pradesh	6.11	8.04	(+) 31.59%
14.	Karnataka	6.81	10.60	(+) 55.65%
15.	Tamil Nadu	8.29	11.75	(+) 41.74%
16.	Pondicherry	0.36	0.48	(+) 33.33%
17.	Kerala	0.02	0.07	(+) 250.00%
18.	Goa	0.07	0.15	(+) 114.29%
ALL INDIA		92.77	131.17	(+) 41.38%

(P) = PROVISIONAL.

[Translation]

Shri Harisinh Chavda : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I feel that either no answer has been given or wrong answer has been given to part (a) of my question. In his reply, he has stated "No Central pool of sugar is being maintained by the government" and if it is so, where from is sugar supplied through fair price shops, and as far I know, it comes from central pool.

Second, I want to know, what is the total sugar production in the country and by what amount it falls short of our requirement and what steps are being taken by the Government to meet the shortfall, if any? What incentives are given to farmers and whether there is any demand from their side and if so, what steps have been taken to meet the demand?

Shri Ajit Singh : Mr. Speaker, sir, we have dual

pricing system so far as sugar is concerned; one is levy price—the price at which sugar is supplied to P.D.S., and the other is free-sale price, both are determined by the Government. Certain percentage of sugar production is purchased by Government on levy-price and the remaining production is left for free-sale. There is no central pool for sugar. Last year, the ratio was 40 : 60 for levy and free-sale sugar respectively. The levy sugar is allocated to state Government and we do not maintain any central pool.

As for incentives to farmers, we grant licences for setting up sugar factories, for augmenting cane production. The assessment of needed crop area is left to the sugar factories. They will plant cane, keeping in view the price they get. This year, we are estimating a production of 143 lakh tonnes and we are offering different types of incentives. There is no shortage of sugar production capacity.

Shri Harisinh Chavda : May I know what quantity of sugar was imported during those two years and at what price and also how did it compare with the price of indigenous sugar?

Mr. Speaker : There is a separate question on sugar price, you can ask this price question when we take up that question. You are speaking on sugar production. We have question after question. You ask questions as to what is to be done to increase production, or what is the total production etc.

Shri Harisinh Chavda : The figures show that sugar production has fallen in four or five states as a result, farmer's income has come down. What steps are being taken to help and provide incentives to such states?

Shri Ajit Singh : A short-fall of just 4 or 5 percent was registered only in Punjab and Gujarat this year, may be because of weather factor or increased supply of sugarcane to khandsari mills. But the shortfall is insignificant.

[English]

Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan : Sir, this year we have had a record production of sugar; from 96 lakh tonnes we are expecting 145 lakh tonnes. In order not to repeat the situation of last year, the Government has decided to create a buffer stock of about 10 lakh or 15 lakh tonnes. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether a concrete decision has been taken to create this buffer stock and get the sugar from the sugar factories so that in turn the sugar factories can clear the cane arrears to the farmers.

[Translation]

Shri Ajit Singh : No final decision has been taken on this so far because we have not received final figures of sugar production. Still, we are conscious in ensuring full cost to farmer and if necessary, we will create buffer-stocks.

Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan : There is the problem of buffer stock.

Shri Ajit Singh : There is no problem.

[English]

SUGAR PRICE

* 763. **†Shri Indrajit Gupta :**
Shri Pramotes Mukherjee :

Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Sugar prices fixed during the last two years and comparison thereof with the prevailing prices of the sugar supplied through public Distribution System, percentage-wise and year-wise.

(b) whether in the absence of definite sugar pricing large number of consumers have been adversely affected in the country;

(c) where even import of Sugar has not reduced the suffering of the consumers at all and they are subjected to high pricing in the open market as well as less availability of sugar;

(d) whether the Government is yet to set up a National Pricing Board for sugar;

(e) if so, the facts and details thereof, and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The retail issue price of levy sugar supplied through the Public Distribution System (PDS) was fixed at Rs.8.30 per Kg with effect from 17.2.1993 and Rs. 9.05 per Kg. with effect from 1.2.1994. Levy Sugar supplied through the public Distribution System is to be sold to the consumers at the aforesaid uniform retail issue price throughout the country.

(b) Under the present policy of partial control with a dual pricing system, 40% of the production of each sugar factory (effective average about 33% on account of various incentive schemes) is procured at pre-determined ex-factory prices of levy sugar for distribution through the PDS at a uniform retail issue price throughout the country. The remaining quantity is released in a regulated manner as free-sale sugar for sale in the open market at prices determined by market forces.

- (c) Sugar has been placed under OGL (Open General Licence) since March 1994. Under this facility, Government agencies imported 9.77 lakh tonnes of sugar to meet the shortfall for the public Distribution System. In addition, about 9.84 lakh tonnes (as per last available information) was imported by various parties. This import had the desired effect of reducing the open market price of sugar. The wholesale price index of the sugar which stood at 247.1 in June 1994 has come down to 228.0 in October 1994 and further to 218.4 in March 1995.
- (d) to (f) During the last sugar Ministers conference held on 6.5.1995, majority of the States/UTS supported the proposal for the setting up of a National Pricing Board for sugarcane, but a final view in this regard will be taken only after obtaining detailed comments from the state Governments.

Shri Indrajit Gupta : Sir, after going through the statement, I am apprehensive that we may be heading for another sugar scam like we had recently, though it may be a sugar scam in reverse this time. Last time, as we all know, there was acute shortage of sugar and fall in production. From many quarters the Government was being warned that unless imports are arranged for in time there is likely to be great scarcity and rise in prices. The Government, as we all know, delayed this import decision for quite a long time and the prices went up at one time to Rs. 18 or Rs. 20 a kilo of sugar. Huge profit were made by the sugar mill owners and big and wholesale sugar traders.

Sir, I want to know why this year-where it is being anticipated, as we heard just now, that there may be a record bumper crop and bumper production going upto 145 lakh tonnes-the Government, as reported in the press and not being contradicted yet, this time has already contracted for import of sugar. I do not exactly know what quantity is being imported. The Minister can tell us. When there is going to be bumper crop production in the country and they are even thinking of having a buffer stock and all that, why are they importing? On what consideration foreign exchange is going to be spent to import several thousand tonnes of sugar from abroad?

In the year in which it was actually required, it was delayed so much that there was a big crisis. This time it is the reverse. It is all confusing. So, I would like to know what is the Government's policy.

[Translation]

Shri Ajit Singh : Mr. Speaker, sir, as the hon. member has stated, last year, there was shortage of sugar and we had to import it. A decision was taken in December last to import sugar as the production in January was estimated to 11.8 million tonne which was even less in December. Since there was no estimate of bumper production, it was decided

to import 5 million tonne and, by March-April, when production estimate went up, we had already contracted 4 lakh tonne and the contract for remaining one lakh tonne was cancelled because of increased production.

Shri Indrajit Gupta : Will we have to import 4 lakh tonnes ?

Shri Ajit Singh : Contracts for 4 lakh tonnes had been signed. It was to be imported in July-August, but later it was rolled for September. We have to build buffer stock; a decision for further import will be taken by government on receipt of final firm production figures.

[English]

Shri Indrajit Gupta : Sir, this is way I am saying that I am very apprehensive of some other scam or scandal taking place. It is very strange that the Government agency, for example, the one which is supposed to forecast or to make an estimate of the actual production in each season, does not coordinate at all with the agencies which are looking after imports and exports. He says that he did not have the knowledge that there was going to be a bumper crop. So, I would like to know from him as to which are these separate Government agencies that are functioning in this totally uncoordinated manner. One does not know what the other is doing.

Secondly, in this statement it is said that sugar has been placed under Open General Licence for import since March, 1994. We are now in the middle of 1995. Under this Open General Licence facility, the statement says that Government agencies imported 9.77 lakh tonnes and private agencies imported 9.84 lakh tonnes. These two figures add up together to 19.61 lakh tonnes. It was all imported after March, 1994 utilising this facility of the Open General Licence. All this sugar has been imported and now they have again contracted for five lakh tonnes, of which they have cancelled one lakh tonnes. They cannot cancel the remaining four lakh tonnes. So, that four lakh tonnes will also come. I want to know whether they are going to be faced, this time, with a surplus of sugar and a fall in prices. Is there going to be any fall in prices as far as levy sugar is concerned, as far as free market sugar is concerned? What about the kisans who are not getting crores and crores of rupees of arrears of their sugarcane price? Are they going to get remedy or relief out of this?

[Translation]

Shri Ajit Singh : Mr. Speaker, sir, the hon. member wants to know the names of agencies engaged in import and has alleged that there is no coordination, but this is not so. We obtain estimates from the Agriculture Ministry, from ISMA, Sugar manufacturers organisation, from sugar cooperatives. There is also a Committee of Secretaries. At that time a decision was taken to import sugar...(interruptions) I have with me the figures of January. It was 11.8 million tonnes. This is not a fact that MMTC of STC are importing sugar on their own. At that

time, it was decided to import 5 lakh tonnes. The production estimate depends on several factors. It is difficult to make an estimate of sugarcane crop in December. Sugarcane can also be diverted to khandsari and gur. One of the reasons for lower sugar production last year was diversion of sizeable quantity of sugarcane to khandsari and Gur factories. We update our estimates every month. The decision to import sugar was taken as a precautionary measure to ward off any apprehension, as also expressed by the hon. member, of shortage of sugar that we faced last year; there was no harm if the stocks become surplus but there should, in no case be shortage.

As far the comparability of import price and levy price of sugar. the levy price was increased in February 1994. And, as you know, thereafter, cane prices were increased, cost of production went up, cost of transportation increased and still we did not raise sugar price to ensure its supply to consumer at fair price.

Shri Indarjit Gupta : What fair price? It is more than Rs. Nine per Kg.

Shri Ajit Singh : He has just now pleaded that farmer should get remunerative price. We have to keep three factors in mind in the matter of sugar industry, namely, stability in sugar prices, viability to sugar mills and remunerative price for sugarcane. If the industry is not viable, then there is the question of arrears of cane growers. So, as I have stated, levy sugar price has not been increased since February 1994. About estimation of manufacturer's cost, as some hon. Member had asked Shri Buta Singh just before, the BICP is there is to workout the production cost but the issue price of levy sugar is less than the production cost.

Regarding increase in open market price of sugar, I have figures with me for the last three-four months for Delhi; it was Rs. 13 in May, Rs. 13 in April and also Rs. 13 in March. The sugar price in Delhi is constant at Rs. 13 or Rs. 13.25 Per Kg. since January. It is Rs. 13 to Rs. 14 per Kg. in Bombay. There has been no significant rise in sugar prices during the last 5-6 months sometimes it is Rs. 1 more sometimes Rs. 1 less. Import can be one of the factors for increase in sugar prices in June last year, but the major factor was lower release of free sale sugar in June which, I think, was around 5.75 lakh tonne, but in June this year we have released 7 lakh tonne free sale sugar.

As far as farmers cane arrears are concerned, they stood at Rs. 600 crore at the end of March. It is a huge amount and we are very much concerned over it. We have written to each Chief Minister to enforce legal provisions of payment at interest if payment is delayed beyond 15 days. Rs. 600 crore is a staggering amount, but it is only 13 per cent this year, it was 28 to 30 per cent two year ago. We have a bumper sugarcane crop this year and sugar production is also increasing. Although the arrears amount

is huge still we are trying to reduce it and ensure early payment to farmers.

[English]

Shri Pramotes Mukherjee : Sir, I have gone through the statement and I find that it is not up to the mark ;or satisfaction it appears to me that the Government is not alert on the present sugar scenario and is not aware of the present sufferings of the people due to the present sugar scenario.

Anyway, Sir, I put two questions before the Minister for his comments. Firstly, what is the stock of the sugar and what is the present arrangement for the distribution of sugar at fair price to the consumers? Secondly, is there any scheme for cutting down the duty on molasses to push up the sugar prices?

[Translation]

Shri Ajit Singh : I do not have the figures with me. But as I have said, 13.7 million tonne sugar has been produced till 7th May and he should not entertain any apprehension of shortage. About duty on molasses, 40 per cent of import...(Interruption)

[English]

Shri Pramotes Mukherjee : Mr. Minister, please mention the figures.

Shri Ajit Singh : Figures about what?

Shri Pramotes Mukherjee : I want the figures pertaining to the present stock position.

[Translation]

Shri Ajit Singh : I have already stated that the sugar production stood at 13.3 million tonne as in May and we have perhaps released nearly 5.7 million tonne free sale sugar so far.

Mr. Speaker : This works out to 40 per cent.

Shri Ajit Singh : If we add levy sugar, the sugar supply per month comes to 3.35 lakh tonne. I will write to states also. There is no shortage of sugar. The duty on molasses has been reduced to 10 per cent.

Shri Ram Nagina Mishra : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will raise only 2-3 points for want of time. The workers of sugar factories are supplied monthly quota of sugar at levy rate. I would like to know whether the cane supplied and cane workers will also be given sugar at levy price? The cost production of southern state mills is less compared to that of North Indian Mills. The percentage of recovery is higher, the production is also higher in South India Mills while the levy sugar rates are same for both. This causes loss to North India Mills. In the circumstances, whether he will offer some concessions to North India Sugar Mills; my third

questionisabout molasses...(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker : Time is up.

Shri Ram Nagina Mishra : He has spoken about sugar cane pnces. The cane growers of Utter Pradesh are suffering because they have not been paid arrears by the Mills. I have raised this issue several times...(Interruptions) I would like to know by what time he will get the arrears liquidated, paid to the cane growers?

Shri Ajit Singh : As regards the closing stock of last year as on 7th May, we have more than 91 lakhs tonne of stock, Regarding payment of arrears, as I have already stated, we have written to the state Government and the orders are to be implemented by that Government. They can ensure payment of cane dues to farmers in the way they are making the revenue recovery. I have already written and will write again to impress upon the state government that they should make early payment of farmers dues. As for the levy sugar, It's price is uniform for the entire public distribution System but the cost of levy sugar paid to factories differs from zone to zone. Separate zones have been fromed based on recovery factor and other factors

WRITTEN ANSWERS

[English]

EXPENDITURE ON CENTRAL SCHOOLS

*764. **Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee :**
Shri Santosh Kumer Gangwar :

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) Whether per capita amount being spent on the students in Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya vidyalayas is very little;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in view of the above Government propose to bring the expenditure on Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas under the plan Expenditure; and

(d) if so, the ditails thereof?

The Minister of Human Resource Development (Shri Madhavrao Scindia) : (a) & (b) the per capita amount spent in 1993-94 on students in kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodoya vidyalayas is Rs. 2710 and Rs. 9889 respectively.

(c) & (d) Novodaya Vidyalaya Scheme is provided adequate plan funds since inception and provision for 1995-96 for the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti is Rs. 200 crores. For the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan porvision of plan funds has been made for the first time in 1995-96 and provision is Rs. 10.50 crores.

NOISE POLLUTION

*765. **Shri Shiv Sharan Verma :** Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state .

(a) the level of urban noise acceptable under international standards and the level of noise observed in major towns/cities in India;

(b) The reasons therefor;

(c) Whether the Government have conducted any study in regard to noise pollution in various cities/places;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) The steps/measures taken by the Government to reduce noise pollution?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) to (d) The urban noise levels acceptable under international standards have been prescribed by the World Health Organisation. Noise pollution surveys have been conducted by Central Pollution Control Board in the major cities of the country during 1990- 1994. The details are given in the enclosed Statement-I The noise levels were found generally within the prescribed limits in industrial areas, but exceeded the standards in respect of commercial, residential and silence zones during certain times. The increasing trend of noise in these cities is due to increase in human activities including vehicular traffic.

(e) Statement-II is enclosed.

STATEMENT-I

Recommended Noise-Exposure Limits by World Health Organisation (WHO) 1980 :

Environment	Recommended Maximum Level
Industrial/Occupational	75 decibels
Community/Urban	
Day-time	55 decibels
Night-time	45 decibels
Indoor/domestic	
Day-time	45 decibels
Night-time	35 decibels

List of Major cities in India where noise pollution surveys have been conducted :

Sl. No.	City
1.	Ahmedabad
2.	Aurangabad
3.	Bangalore
4.	Bhopal
5.	Bombay
6.	Calcutta
7.	Cochin
8.	Coimbatore
9.	Delhi
10.	Hyderabad
11.	Indore
12.	Jaipur
13.	Kanpur
14.	Lucknow
15.	Madras
16.	Mangalore
17.	Vadodara
18.	Vishakhapatnam

STATEMENT-II

The Steps taken by the Government to reduce noise Pollution include the following .

- Noise Pollution has been included in the amended Air (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act, 1987. Ambient standards in respect of noise for different categories of areas (residential, commercial, industrial and silence zones) have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- Noise Limits have also been prescribed for automobiles, domestic appliances and construction equipment at the manufacturing stage itself.
- Code of practice for controlling noise at sources other than industries and automobiles have been evolved by Central

Pollution control Board. These include : Public address system, aircraft operation, railway operation, construction activities and bursting of crackers. State Governments have been asked to implement these codes of practice under the relevant local rules.

- Regulating the movement of heavy vehicles and segregating industries from residential areas.
- Environmental awareness campaigns have been initiated through governmental and non-governmental organisations about environmental obligations.

[Translation]

MARKETING FOR HORTICULTURAL PRODUCE

*766. **Shri Rameshwar Patidar :**
Shri Rajveer Singh :

Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state .

(a) Whether the Government propose to accelerate the efforts in regard to marketing of Horticultural produce;

(b) if so, the efforts being made at present for marketing it in various states;

(c) Whether inadequate importance has been given to publicity and marketing of fruits grown in certain states;

(d) if, so, the factors responsible therefor;

(e) Whether the Union Government propose to further strengthen the basic facilities and propagate about the post-harvesting technology for the Agro-horticulture sector;

(f) if so, the steps being taken/proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(g) the amount earmarked for the said purpose?

The Minister of Agriculture (Shri Balram Jakhar) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is assisting in strengthening market infrastructure facilities such as cold storages and pre-cooling facilities, grading/packing centres, processing units, refrigerated transport facilities etc. and providing national and international market interligence support, promotion and generic publicity.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) to (g) Statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

The Government have taken following schemes for facilitating marketing of Horticultural produce :

S. Schemes No.	Outlays (Rs. in lakhs)	
	VIII Plan	1995-96
(i) Schemes of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation Schemes administered by N.H.B. :		
(a) Integrated project on management of post harvest infrastructure of fruits and vegetables	4700	1500
(b) Development of marketing of horticulture produce through participation in soft loan	5000	1650
(c) Alternate structure for marketing of fruits juices/fruit-based beverages.	135	30
(d) Market information service for horticulture crops.	1150	150
Schemes Administered by Department :		
(e) Promotion of marketing for spices	90	10
(f) Setting up of farmers cooperatives for marketing value added products in spices.	100	-
(g) Marketing and processing of cocoa Schemes administered by NCDC.	30	2.50
(h) Assistance to fruit and vegetable marketing societies	1225	485
(i) Assistance to set up processing units	125	10
(j) Cold storage facilities	1400	225
(ii) Allocations made by other Ministries/ Departments under their schemes		
(a) Ministry of Food Processing Industry		1550
(b) Ministry of Commerce:		
(i) APEDA (Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority)		4630
(ii) Spices Board.		194

[English]

ADMISSION IN NAVODAYA VIDYALAYAS

*767. Shri K. G. Shivappa : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) Whether the students who migrate from one place to another place the problem of admission in schools particularly in Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) Whether Government have a special scheme for the benefit of migrant students;

(c) if so, whether the scheme is being modified; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Human Resource Development (Shri Madhavrao Scindia) : (a) Navodaya Vidyalayas admit fresh students only in class VI and not thereafter. The

scheme does not envisage admission of students coming on migration from other schools.

(b) kendriya Vidyalayas have been set up primarily to provide education to children of transferable Central Government Employees.

(c) & (d) Do not anse.

PROCUREMENT BY FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA

*768. Shri Phool Chand Verma : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) Whether procurement of wheat and rice by food

corporation of India is equal to the actual demand of the States during 1994-95.

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, State-wise?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) The quantity of wheat and rice procured during 1994-95 Rabi/Kharif Marketing season was more than the quantity lifted by the States during 1994-95 for PDS/RPDS.

(b) A statement is Enclosed.

(c) does not anse.

STATEMENT

State-wise Procurement and Offtake (Lifting) of Wheat and Rice for the Year 1994-95 (P).

(in lakh tonnes)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Rice		Wheat	
		Procurement (As on 22.5.95)	offtake	Procurement	offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	33.00	21.88	—	1.10
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	—	0.75	—	0.14
3	ASSAM	0.01	3.11	—	2.77
4	BIHAR	0.01	0.40	Neg.	2.22
5	GOA	—	0.39	—	0.17
6	GUJARAT	0.05	1.88	—	3.79
7	HARYANA	—	0.39	Neg.	1.18
8	HIMACHAL PRADESH	14.06	0.06	30.47	0.31
9	JAMMU & KASHMIR	—	1.54	—	1.10
10	KARNATAKA	0.43	6.49	—	2.69
11	KERALA	—	11.18	—	3.87
12	MADHYA PRADESH	7.50	1.62	0.66	1.43
13	MAHARASHTRA	0.62	2.85	—	4.64
14	MANIPUR	—	0.31	—	0.13
15	MIZORAM	—	1.13	—	0.24
16	MIZORAM	—	0.80	—	0.17
17	NAGALAND	—	0.76	—	0.59
18	ORISSA	3.14	1.93	—	1.82
19	PUNJAB	58.21	0.01	72.85	0.02

1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	RAJASTHAN	0.24	0.15	0.65	5.28
21.	SIKKIM	—	0.34	—	0.08
22.	TAMIL NADU	2.90	12.24	—	1.55
23.	TRIPURA	—	1.26	—	0.08
24.	UTTAR PRADESH	6.54	1.97	14.06	2.03
25.	WEST BENGAL	1.36	4.34	—	7.52
26.	A & N ISLANDS	—	0.00	—	0.00
27.	CHANDIGARH	0.23	0.04	—	0.01
28.	D & N HAVELI	—	0.00	—	0.00
29.	DAMAN & DIU	—	0.02	—	0.00
30.	DELHI	0.04	0.54	—	2.05
31.	LAKSHDWEEP	—	0.07	—	0.00
32.	PONDICHERY	—	0.03	—	0.00
Total		128.34	78.48	118.69	46.98

Note : Offtake (Lifting) From April 1994 to March, 1995.

Procurement—Rice : October, 1994 to 22.5.1995. Wheat : April, 1994, to March, 1995.

Neg. Below 500 tonnes

Gujarat, J & K and Tamilnadu do not contribute Rice to Central pool.

NEHRU YUVA KENDRAS

*769. **Shri Prabhu Dayal Katheria :**
Shrimati Krishnandra Kaur (Deepa) :

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Nehru Yuva Kendras function through District organising Committees .

(b) Whether these committees comprise any public representatives particularly those from the panchayati Raj institutions; and

(c) If not, the steps proposed to be taken to give them representation in these Committees?

The Minister of Human Resource Development (Shri Madhavrao Scindia) : (a) Each Nehru Yuva Kendra is headed by a youth coordinator. The programmes and activities of Nehru Yuva Kendras (NYKs) are conducted by the Youth Coordinator. However, to ensure effective coordination with other Departments and agencies in the district for proper implementation of the programmes of the

Nehru Yuva Kendras, District Advisory Committee on Youth Programmes (previously called as District Organising Committee) has been formed in every district where NYKs are in existence. The district Advisory committee is chaired by the District Magistrate/Deputy Commissioner of the District with the Youth Coordinator as Member-Secretary.

Thus, the district Advisory Committee on youth Programmes provided guidance for the Youth Coordinators, and helps to ensure the establishment of proper linkages with other Departments and agencies in the district

(b) Out of the 17 persons in the district Advisory Committee on Youth Programmes, six are non-officials. However, the composition of the Committee does not specifically mention whether public representatives particularly those of the Panchayate Raj Institutions are to be nominated as members.

(c) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

NEW RAILWAY ZONES

*770. **Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) Whether there is a proposal to set up a new zone for the South Western part of the country for better and effective operation of Rail Traffic;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :
 (a) to (c) The study group, which had been constituted for examining the existing geographical distribution of zones and divisions in the wake of Project Unigauge and the construction of Konkan Railway, has suggested a need for its rationalisation. This exercise may also entail the creation of some new zones and divisions and, in this regard further processing for formulation of proposals and other related matters is being undertaken.

[Translation]

ZOOS

*771. **Shri Narain Singh Chaudhary :** Will the **Minister of Environment and Forests** be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Government are aware that Zoos are being set-up illegally at various places in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether animals and birds for these Zoos are being brought from other Zoos or protected places/areas.

(d) the number of persons arrested so far in this connection and the action taken against them; and

(e) the remedial steps taken by the Government to have check on such Zoos?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) Central Zoo Authority, has received reports of establishment of some zoos without getting the recognition from Central Zoo Authority

(b) Narainpur Deer Park, West Bengal; Thenzawl Deer Park, Mizoram; National Mineral Development Deer Park, Donimalai, Karnataka Suryavan Zoo, Maharashtra, Bhadra Zoo, Madhya Pradesh and Parassinikkadavu snake park, Kerala are such zoos

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) & (e) State governments have been asked to take appropriate action as per Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 on these Zoos and not to allow setting up any Zoo in future without getting approval from the Central Zoo Authority.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

*772. **Shri Rajesh Kumar :**
Shri Tej Narayan Singh :

Will the **Minister of Agriculture** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified different areas on the basis of soil and weather etc. with a view to increasing the Agricultural Production in the country during the last year;

(b) if so, the numbers of such areas identified, State-wise;

(c) whether the maps of these areas were published to publicise about these areas so that farmers in general can be benefited by it;

(d) whether the Union Government have made any arrangements to publicise the high yielding crops in these areas;

(e) if so, the outline of aforesaid arrangements, and

(f) the total expenditure incurred by the Union Government on the arrangements for the aforesaid scheme and on publication of maps relating to identified areas during the Year 1994?

The Minister of Agriculture (Shri Balram Jakhar) :
 (a) Yes, Sir The National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning, Nagpur has published in 1990, an Agro-Ecological Regions of India Map based on soil-scape bio-climate and the length of crop growing period

(b) and (c) The country has been delineated into 20 agro-ecological regions and further into 60 sub-eco-regions. The agro, ecological regions cut across state boundaries. Agro-ecological regions with soil moisture deficits during crop growing season have been identified to help in planning for appropriate crops and varieties and managing aberrant weather situations. In addition soil resource maps of different states in 1 : 250000 scale are being prepared. So far, maps pertaining to 11 states and 2 union territories have already been released. Maps for Haryana, Punjab, Gujarat, West Bengal and Pondicherry have been printed earlier. Printing of soil maps for other states is in progress. These maps are also useful in crop planning and agriculture technology transfer

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The high yielding varieties of crops are recommended for adoption in different Agro-ecological regions on the basis of trials conducted by the ICAR Institutes and the SAUs. These varieties are promoted by the Agriculture Ministry.

(f) For the year 1994-95, budget of Rs 520 lakhs (Plan and Non-Plan) was provided to the National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning, Nagpur for conducting soil surveys required for preparation of soil resource maps of the states/union territories. The Agro-ecological Regions Map of India has already been published in the year 1990 and was subsequently updated in 1992

[English]

FOODGRAINS PRODUCTIVITY

*773. **Shri P. P. Kallaperumal :** Will the **Minister of Agriculture** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Inter-State and Inter-District imbalance existed and continues to exist with regard to the foodgrains productivity;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the factors that contribute to these disparities,
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to end these disparities,
- (e) whether uneven water supply is a major contributing factor for the disparities, and
- (f) if so, the steps taken to remedy the unevenness in water supply?

The Minister of Agriculture (Shri Balram Jakhar) : (a) There are Inter-State and Inter-District variations in foodgrains productivity per hectare

(b) Yield of foodgrains per hectare ranged from as low as 607 Kgs in Rajasthan to as high as 3683 Kgs in Punjab during 1993-94. Similar variations in foodgrains productivity per hectare exist at the district level

(c) The yield per hectare of various foodgrains varies from state to state and district to district depending upon differences in soil fertility, rainfall and weather conditions, irrigation facilities, use of yield increasing inputs like chemical fertilisers, high yielding variety seeds, pesticides and other agro and socio-economic factors

(d) The Government is implementing various crop production oriented programmes including Integrated Cereal Development Programme (ICDP)—rice, wheat and coarse-cereals and National Pulses Development Programme (NPDP) with a view to raise productivity per hectare of various foodgrains in low yielding districts. Besides, programmes for increasing the use of fertilisers in low-consumption districts/areas and extension of irrigation facilities are being implemented to improve the productivity of foodgrains in low yielding areas and reduce disparities

(e) Uneven rainfall and irrigation facility, in different States/Districts may be attributed as one of the important factors contributing to yield disparities

(f) Extension of irrigation facilities in relatively less developed areas and implementation of National Water Shed Development Programme to harness the rain water are some of the programmes to improve the unevenness of water availability

[Translation]

BIO-FERTILIZERS

*774 Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state .

(a) the Regions and the Agricultural Universities where experiments are being carried out on bio-fertilizers and vaccines are being developed for protection of important crops,

(b) the total quantity of bio-fertilizers being produced and disposed of in the country, annually;

(c) whether bio-fertilizers have proved effective in increasing the fertility of land and controlling the pollution,

(d) if so, the details in this regard, and

(e) the effective steps being taken by the Government to increase the production and propagate the use of bio-fertilizers?

The Minister of Agriculture (Shri Balram Jakhar) : (a) In the National Agricultural Research System, experiments on Bio-fertilizers are carried out under the aegis of All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Biological Nitrogen Fixation and AICRP on Pulses, Groundnut and Soybean with various centres located in different State Agricultural Universities (SAU) and the ICAR Institutes. Vaccines are not relevant for the protection of crops

(b) The total estimated annual production and distribution of bio-fertilizers is about 3,200 tonnes (Rhizobium nearly 2,800 tonnes and BGA nearly 400 tonnes)

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir Nitrogen build up in the soils due to use of bio-fertilizers ranges from 30—100 Kg N/ha per crop season. Bio-fertilizers are eco-friendly and do not pollute the environment

(e) The production of bio-fertilizers is done both under government agencies, SAUs and co-operative federations and agro-industries. In order to increase production and propagate the use of bio-fertilizers Ministry of Agriculture is implementing the schemes on

- (1) National Project on Development and Use of bio-fertilizers
- (2) Development of fertilizer use in low consumption rainfed areas
- (3) Balanced and Integrated use of fertilizers
- (4) Oilseed Production programme and,
- (5) National Pulse Development Project

Through these schemes the use of bio-fertilizers is promoted amongst the farmers. These schemes have components of education of the farmers for promoting the use of bio-fertilizers

ALLOCATION OF EDIBLE OIL

*775 Shri Surajbhanu Solanki : Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state

(a) the demand of edible oils of each State at present;

(b) the extent to which the quota of these oils was actually supplied during the last three years, year-wise State-wise,

(c) whether the requests have been received to

enhance the quota of edible oils from various State Governments,

(d) if so, the details thereof, state-wise,

(e) whether the Union Government have any proposal to enhance the quota,

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) The demand for imported edible oil for the Public Distribution System (PDS) as received from various States/UTs during the current financial year 1995-96 is indicated at enclosed Statement-I

(b) The State-wise allocation and lifting of imported edible oil for PDS during the last three financial years is given in statement-II

(c) No further request has been received from any State/UT to enhance the monthly quota of edible oil for PDS than shown in statement-I

(d) Does not arise

(e) to (g) In view of reply to part (c) above do not arise

STATEMENT-I

Demand received from States/UTs for supply of Imported Edible Oil through PDS during 1995-96

(Qty in Tonnes)

S/No	State/UT	Demand (per month)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	10 420

1	2	3
2	Assam	300 (PM Apr-Jul 95)
3	Goa	300 (PM Mar 95 onwards)
4	Gujarat	3,000 (8000 in Jun 95)
5	Himachal Pr	200
6	Karnataka	3 500
7	Maharashtra	3,000
8	Mizoram	150
9	Nagaland	400
10	Orissa	2,000
11	Sikkim	100
12	Tamil Nadu	3 000
13	Tripura	100 (PN upto Sept 95)
14	West Bengal	2,000
15	D & N Haveli	80
16	Daman	75 (PM Feb 95 onwards)
17	Lakshadweep	120 (@ 30 MT from May-August 95)

Note No demand has been received from the remaining States/UTs

STATEMENT-II

Financial Year-wise Allocation. Lifting Of Imported Edible Oil (Total) by States/UTs For PDS

(Figures in Tonnes)

State Name	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95	
	Allocation	Lifting	Allocation	Lifting	Allocation	Lifting
	2	3	4	5	6	7
ANDHRA PR	10094	9037	7000	4600	33500	33115
ARUNACHAL PR	253	79	150	10	150	32
ASSAM	400	50	200	30	900	490
BIHAR	1500	230	364	50	0	431

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
GOA	1520	819	1050	758	2800	3456
GUJARAT	6150	4999	6000	4500	22695	20992
HARYANA	700	546	400	22	500	154
HIMACHAL PR	1400	1786	800	667	900	821
J & K	1100	286	500	0	0	451
KARNATAKA	9000	7611	2700	893	8500	10259
KERALA	9800	8851	9077	4994	6000	5922
MADHYA PR	2200	0	0	0	0	0
MAHARASHTRA	6500	6815	2600	2445	12500	7814
MANIPUR	761	466	200	200	1000	
MEGHALAYA	600	214	200	53	1400	2
MIZORAM	700	679	200	120	1100	268
NAGALAND	600	841	652	416	3600	2368
ORISSA	1000	2499	1000	0	8800	522
PUNJAB	700	95	0	0	0	
RAJASTHAN	700	81	1400	130	0	0
SIKKIM	685	285	300	250	600	347
TAMILNADU	7863	5999	1500	149	12000	10495
TRIPURA	250	0	200	0	150	40
UTTAR PR	1500	0	1200	0	0	0
WEST BENGAL	2000	573	2167	1586	12500	7784
A & N ISLAND	600	404	100	100	230	50
CHANDIGARH	100	12	100	0	0	0
D & N HAVELI	150	150	100	90	490	369
DAMAN & DIU	250	251	250	168	845	635
DELHI	3329	3525	4000	1218	2095	2453
LAKSHDWEEP	250	255	275	237	150	160
PONDICHERRY	1200	1037	225	208	4524	3995
ALL INDIA	73855	58474	44910	23894	137929	118364

[English]

PROCUREMENT OF WHEAT

*776 Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state

(a) whether wheat procurement till the first week of

this month has fallen despite record production and expectations of higher procurement this year,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor,

(c) whether the stock management problems in the two major wheat producing states of Punjab and Haryana are acute because of greater distance of these States from

major consuming regions and transportation bottlenecks; and

(d) if so, apart from tackling them, the precautions that have been taken to see that the wheat procurement for Central Pool is not affected due to lack of necessary storage capacity by the Food Corporation of India?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) and (b) The procurement of wheat for Central Pool as on 8.5.1995 was 68.33 lakh tonnes as against 79.37 lakh tonnes on the same date during the 1994-95 Rabi Marketing Season. Due to unseasonal rains in Punjab and Haryana during early April, 1995 and delayed harvesting, the arrival of wheat in the market was slightly lower than the preceding year. Subsequently, the arrival as also the procurement of wheat in the mandis picked up; and the quantity of wheat procured as on 26.5.95 stood at 111.8 lakh tonnes as against 113.2 lakh tonnes procured on the same date in preceding year. The current trend indicates that the procurement of wheat is proceeding on expected lines.

(c) and (d) Bulk of wheat procurement takes place in Punjab; Haryana and U.P. Releases to different States/UTs from the Central Pool take place round the year. Movement of foodgrains from North India is organised with the help of the Railways. Operational problems of movement, unloading and release of wagons are monitored by the Food Corporation of India on a continuous basis.

Important steps taken to ensure smooth procurement and movement operations include :

- (i) hiring of storage space from private parties;
- (ii) expediting the completion of construction of godowns;
- (iii) enhancing CAP capacity;
- (iv) coordinated movement of grains from procurement areas to the consuming areas; and
- (v) open sale of wheat and rice.

Procurement of wheat has not been allowed to suffer due to storage problems.

IMBALANCED USE OF FERTILIZERS

*777 **Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu :** Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have convened a conference of State Agriculture Ministers to discuss the current imbalance in use of different Chemical Fertilizers;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of recommendations made therein; and
- (d) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

The Minister of Agriculture (Shri Balram Jakhar) :

(a) to (d) Agriculture Minister held a meeting with the State Agriculture Ministers on 31.8.1994 to discuss the guidelines for implementation of the scheme for concessions on sale of decontrolled fertilizers. In this meeting there was no specific discussion on imbalanced use of fertilizers. However, the balanced use of fertilizers is promoted through the following Central Govt. schemes :

- (i) The scheme for Concessions on the sale of Phosphatic and Potassic Fertilisers initiated after their decontrol during 1992-93 has been extended for the current year.
- (ii) A scheme on balanced and integrated use of Fertilisers is being operated since 1991-92, under which integrated use of nutrients is promoted.
- (iii) National Project on Development of Fertiliser use in Low Consumption and rainfed areas has been started since 1994-95, under which assistance is given to farmers for green manure seeds and through demonstration on integrated nutrient management.
- (iv) The National Project on Development and Use of Bio-fertilisers, which has been in operation since 1983-84, promotes production, distribution & use of bio-fertilisers.

SCHOLARSHIP FOR SPORTS PERSONS

*778. **Shri S. M. Laljan Basha :** Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any proposal to introduce scheme of scholarships for sports persons in colleges;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Human Resource Development (Shri Madhavrao Scindia) : (a) There already exists a Scheme of Grant of Scholarship to sportspersons in Colleges / Universities.

(b) Under this Scheme, 300 fresh scholarships are awarded every year to University/College students proficient in sports. The value of the scholarship is Rs. 6000/- per annum.

- (c) Does not arise.

DROUGHT

*779. **Shri Mohan Rawale :**
Shri Manoranjan Bhakta :

Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether severe drought situation has affected some parts of the country during 1994;

(b) if so, the names of districts in each state which have been more affected,

(c) the extent of damage caused by the drought situation, State-wise,

(d) the details of financial as well as other kind of assistance provided by the Government to the affected States particularly to Maharashtra during 1994,

(e) whether the Government have identified the areas where occurrence of floods and droughts have become a regular phenomenon,

(f) if so, the names of such areas, separately, and

(g) the details of the existing Centrally Sponsored Schemes to meet such situations?

The Minister of Agriculture (Shri Balam Jakhari) :

(a) to (g) According to information received from the State Governments, parts of 44 districts in the country were affected by drought during the agricultural year 1994-95. 21.24 lakh hectares of cropped area in 14 districts in Andhra Pradesh, 12 tehsils of 6 districts in Madhya Pradesh and 6184 villages of 21 districts in Maharashtra were affected and crops valued at Rs 82.86 crores in 3 districts of Tripura were lost due to drought. The names of the districts affected are given in statement attached. Considering the limited area/crops affected the drought cannot be called severe.

- 2 Under the existing scheme of financing relief expenditure the State Governments are required to undertake relief and rehabilitation measures in the wake of all natural calamities utilising the corpus of the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF). Government of India had released an amount of Rs 49.21 crores to Andhra Pradesh, Rs 27.75 crores to Madhya Pradesh and Rs 1.69 crores to Tripura as Central share of CRF during 1994-95. In the case of Maharashtra the entire Central share of CRF for the year 1994-95, amounting to Rs 33.00 crores was released in advance during 1993-94.
- 3 627 blocks in 96 districts in 13 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have been identified as drought prone in the country. 131 blocks in 21 districts of 5 States namely Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Rajasthan have been identified as desert prone.
- 4 According to the report of Rashtriya Barh Ayog of 1980, the area liable to floods in the country is about 40.00 million hectares out of which 34.00 million hectares are expected to

be protected in the States / Union Territories of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Delhi and Pondicherry.

Drought Prone Areas Programmes (DPAP) and Desert Development Programmes (DDP) are being implemented with the objectives of integrated development of drought/desert prone areas by planning on watershed basis for conservation, development and harnessing of land, water and other natural resources. Flood Control Programmes are being undertaken to modify the floods. Control Programmes are being undertaken to modify the floods through specific structural measures such as reservoirs, embankments, channel improvement, town protection and river training.

STATEMENT

List of Districts Affected by Drought During 1994-95

ANDHRA PRADESH

- 1 Ananthapur
- 2 Cuddapah
- 3 Kurnool
- 4 Mahabubnagar
- 5 Rangareddy
- 6 Nalgonda
- 7 Prakasam
- 8 Nellore
- 9 Guntur
- 10 Vizianagaram
- 11 Medak
- 12 Nizamabad
- 13 Karimnagar
- 14 Hyderabad (Urban)

MADHYA PRADESH

- 1 Rajgarh
- 2 Tikamgarh
- 3 Balaghat

4. Knandwa
5. Durg
6. Raipur

MAHARASHTRA

1. Thane
2. Pune
3. Sangli
4. Satara
5. Nashik
6. Dhule
7. Ahmednagar
8. Aurangabad
9. Nanded
10. Beed
11. Osmanabad
12. Latur
13. Nagpur
14. Wardha
15. Bhandara
16. Chandrapur
17. Ghadchiroli
18. Amravati
19. Akola
20. Yeotmal
21. Buldana

TRIPURA

1. West Tripura
2. North Tripura
3. South Tripur

commodities are being supplied to the consumers through the Public Distribution System;

(b) whether complaints have been received from various States in this regard;

(c) whether three-tier system has been introduced to remove the grievances of the consumers in the Country;

(d) if so, the details of these grievances brought forward during the last two years, and

(e) the outcome thereof?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) to (e) The Food Corporation of India (FCI) has been instructed to procure, store and supply foodgrains free from infestation and conforming to standards laid down in the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA) to State Governments and UT Administrations for the Public Distribution System. Opportunity is given to the State Governments or their nominees to inspect the foodgrains in the godowns of the FCI before taking delivery of the same. State Government/UT Administrations have the right to reject the stocks not conforming to the prescribed standards. Samples are drawn at the time of the delivery and given to the State/UT agencies for display at the places where the grains are distributed. Operational responsibility for implementing the PDS rests with the State Government/UT Administrations which include distribution of quality foodgrains through the Fair Price Shops within their jurisdiction. They have been delegated powers under the Essential Commodities Act to take action against persons violating the provisions of the Act and control orders made thereunder.

Central Government has not received any major complaint from State Government/UT Administrations regarding poor quality foodgrains and other PDS items being distributed through the PDS. However, in a vast operation such as the PDS where nearly 13 million tonnes of foodgrains were distributed through a network of more than 4 lakh fair price shops throughout the country, some shortcomings here and there cannot be ruled out altogether.

There have been complaints from consumers regarding poor quality of foodgrains being distributed through PDS. For effective and quick redressal, such grievances have to be looked into by the district authorities in the State/UTs. Details of FPS level complaint are not maintained by the Central Government.

Central Government had advised State Government to set up fair price shop level vigilance committees comprising representatives of women voluntary organisations, persons belonging to SC/ST communities and local consumers to ensure people's participation in the supervision of the PDS. Such vigilance committees are reported to have been set up by most State Government. Many State Government have also set up such vigilance committees at the District and State levels also.

[Translation]

SUPPLY OF (SUBSTANDARD FOODGRAINS UNDER PDS)

*780. Shri Rajendra Kumar Sharma : Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that substandard food

[English]

RELIGIOUS SHRINES

7731. **Shri Syed Shahabuddin** : Will the **Minister of Human Resource Development** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the **Shahi Idgah** at Mathura and **Gyan Vapi Masjid** at Varanas are Protected Monuments under the **Archaeological Survey of India**.

(b) if so, the expenditure incurred on their maintenance and upkeep by the **Archaeological Survey of India** during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the **ASI** has noted threats by some organisations to destroy these religious shrines.

(d) if so, whether the Government have taken necessary steps for their protection against mob violence;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether congregational namaz is being performed in these two places of worship at present?

The **Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja)** : (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) Since the monuments are not protected by **Archaeological Survey of India**, no action can be taken by **Archaeological Survey of India**.

(d) and (e) No, Sir The question does not arise.

(f) Yes, Sir.

ROAD OVER BRIDGES

7732. **Shri D. Venkateswara Rao** Will the **Minister of Railways** be pleased to state .

(a) whether **Andhra Pradesh Government** has submitted a proposal for construction of **Road Over-Bridges** on intermediate **Ring Road** around twin cities of **Hyderabad** and **Secunderabad**;

(b) if so, whether instructions to be given to **Railway authorities** at **Secunderabad** to take up the above **Road Over-bndges** through private agencies;

(c) if so, whether action in this regard is pending; and

(d) if so, the time by which decision is likely to be taken?

Minister of Railways (Shri C. K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) to (d) Construction of a road overbridge in replacement of level crossing No 252 near **Ramakrishnapuram Gate**, sponsored by the **Andhra Pradesh State Govt.**, has been included in the **Railway's Works Programme, 1995-96**.

No other proposal for construction of **Road over bridge** on intermediate **ring road** has been received from **Andhra Pradesh Government**.

However, **Andhra Pradesh Government** propose to take up the work of construction of **Road over bridge** at **Hafeezpet** and **Bolaram** under **Build, Operate & Transfer (BOT)** concept. The concept of construction of **Road over bridges** under **B.O.T.** has already been approved by **Railways**

NATIONAL CONSUMER CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION

7733. **Shri Bhubaneshwar Prasad Mehta** : Will the **Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the **CBI** in the recent past registered criminal cases against several officers of **NCCF, Kanpur** for blackmarketing of highly subsidised **Handloom Products**;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government against the concerned officers?

The **Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh)** : (a) to (c) **CBI** had registered a **FIR** on 24 12 93 against 18 persons for investigation as a regular case on alleged irregularities on disposal of **Janta handloom textiles** at the **Kanpur branch of NCCF** during the period 1988-90. The matter was investigated by the **Vigilance Cell of NCCF** and the **Competent Authority in NCCF** after considering the report of **Vigilance Cell** did not find any **malafide intention** on the part of the concerned officials of **NCCF** and decided to close the matter. But the **Ministry** called for all the relevant documents and after examining the investigation report decided to hand over the case to **CBI**

ANDHRA NATYAM DANCE

7734. **Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde** : Will the **Minister of Human Resource Development** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to encourage "**Andhra Natyam**" a famous **Andhra Dance**; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

The **Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja)** : (a) and (b) The **Sangeet Natak Akademi** has taken several steps to encourage classical dance traditions of **Andhra** which also includes **Andhra Natyam**. Performances and demonstrations of several artistes have been presented in the **Akademi festivals** as well as recorded for the archives of the **Akademi**. Financial assistance has also been provided for **Seminars**.

LIQUID EFFLUENT STANDARDS

7735. **Shri Amal Datta** : Will the **Minister of Environment and Forests** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Municipal and Industrial liquid Effluent Standards have been fixed by the Pollution Control Boards on the basis of the self purification capacities of various Lakes and Streams into which they flow ultimately;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the manner in which the quality of water in the receiving bodies of water be sustained during the summer months when the natural flows dwindle to a trickle?

The Minister of State of the Ministry Of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) to (c) The Central Pollution Control Board recommends the maximum permissible national standards for municipal and industrial effluents on the basis of techno-economic achievability. The concerned State Pollution Control Boards are empowered to assess the quality and quantity of water in the receiving bodies and prescribe more stringent standards where ever required.

[Translation]

CHAIRMAN CONSUMER CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY

7736 **Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya** : Will the **Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution** be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria being adopted by the Consumer Co-operative Society regarding appointment of Chairman;

(b) whether the President/Chairman of the Indian Consumer Cooperative Union Limited is a Member of the body,

(c) if not, whether he can continue as the President/Chairman at present; and

(d) if not, the action taken in this regard?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) The Chairman of a Consumer Cooperative Society is elected/nominated in accordance with the Cooperative Societies Act and Rules of the concerned States and bye-law of the concerned Consumer Cooperative Societies.

(b) to (d) There is no Organisation named as Indian Consumer Cooperative Union Limited.

RAILWAY LINES

7737. **Shri Mohammed Ali Ashraf Fatmi** :
Shri Ram Tahal Choudhary :

Will the **Minister of Railways** be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Railway lines in Bihar for which survey work is being conducted or proposed to be conducted during the financial year 1995-96; and

(b) the date fixed for the completion of the survey work?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) and (b) Survey for the following new line projects in Bihar are in progress and the targets for their completion are indicated against each :

S.N.	Name of the survey	Target
1.	Survey for new line between Ranchi-Gaya Via Hazaribagh.	All these survey are likely to be completed within
2.	Survey for a new line from Rajgir to Hisua.	this financial Year.
3.	Survey for a new line from Ara-Sasaram.	

Survey for a new line between Girdih and Kodarma has been included in the budget 1995-96 and is expected to be completed during 1997-98.

[English]

OVER BRIDGES

7738. **Shri Kodikkunnil Suresh** : Will the **Minister of Railways** be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are considering any proposal for reconstruction of very old Railway Over-bridges which are Mylom and Nedumpayikulam in Qulon-Madras Metregauge line,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to start?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

RAILWAY STATIONS

7739. **Shri Mahesh Kanodia** : Will the **Minister of Railways** be pleased to state .

(a) the names of Railway Stations in Gujarat which are being expanded and developed at present;

(b) the estimated cost to be incurred thereon, Station-wise; and

(c) the amount already spent thereon and the time limit fixed for completion of the work of each Station separately?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) to (c) Details are as under :

(Figures in lakh of Rupees)

Station	Details of Work	Cost	Amount Spent Upto 31 3 95
ANKALESHWAR	Extension & raising of island platform	8 42	5 42
	Provision of cover over platform 2 & 3	4 90	2 90
DHARANGADRA	Extension of platform	8 30	3 30
HATHURAN	Provision of medium level platform	9 66	9 66
KIM	Provision of cover over platform	14 00	4 00
MANI NAGAR	Extension of cover over platform	6 00	2 00
MEHMADABAD	Extension of Dn platform	4 10	2 10
NABIPUR	Extension of Up & Dn platforms	9 80	3 56
RAJKOT	Extension of cover over platform	10 66	5 66
UTRAN	Provision of high level platform	9 73	3 73
VADODARA	Provn of entry/exrt on foot-over-brdge	4 31	2 31
	Provision of cover over platform 4 & 5	4 80	2 00
VALSAD	Extension of cover over platform	14 42	6 00
VAPI	Extension of platform	8 80	5 80
VIRAMGAM	Extension of foot-over-brdge	2 86	1 86
VISHWAMITRI	Provision of cover over platform 4 & 5	4 80	4 80
GOTHANGAON	Extension of rail level platform	8 61	3 00
KOSAD			
KUDSAD			

Works at Hathuran and Vishwamitri railway station have been completed and completion of the works at other stations will depend upon availability of funds

[English]

VIOLATION OF FOREST (CONSERVATION) ACT, 1980

7740 Shri Manoranjan Bhakta :
Shri Sriballav Panigrahi :

Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received complaints in regard to violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in several States,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) and (b) Reports regarding violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 have been received from time to time from various sources including Regional Offices of the Ministry, non-Government Organisations, individuals etc Reports mostly pertain to use of forest land for non-forest purposes without prior approval of the Central Government or non-fulfilment of the conditions stipulated by the Ministry in the approvals issued under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

(c) The concerned State Government have been

asked to ensure that violations of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 do not take place. Further cases involving violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 are decided in accordance with the guidelines issued for implementation of the Act.

FOOT OVER-BRIDGE

7741 **Shri Ram Naik** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the Mira-Bhayander Municipality in Maharashtra have paid Rs 75 lakhs to the Western Railway for construction of foot over-bridge between Bhayander East and Bhayander West

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Western Railway have started the construction of the bridge,

(d) if so, the details thereof,

(e) if not the reasons therefor and

(f) whether any time bound scheme has been chalked out by the Government to complete the work?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief)

(a) and (b) The Municipality has deposited Rs 30.41 lakhs only out of a total estimated cost of Rs 45 lakhs approx

(c) to (e) No, Sir. The detailed estimate for the work is under preparation in consultation with Municipality. The work will be taken up for execution after finalisation of tenders on deposits of full cost by the Municipality.

(f) The work is expected to be completed by Dec 1996.

EDUCATION FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

7742 **Shri Dwaraka Nath Das** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a school for Handicapped Children in Assam (Barak Valley),

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) The State Government of Assam has recently

conducted a survey of the physically handicapped population for assessing their requirements.

[Translation]

WORLD BANK AIDED FORESTRY PROJECT

7743 **Shri N.J. Rathva** : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) whether any forestry project with the World Bank aid is being launched in Gujarat,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the World Bank has approved it

(d) the number of people including Tribals and other backward people likely to be benefited by the Project and

(e) the amount spent on this Project so far?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) and (c) A forestry development project received from the Government of Gujarat was posed to World Bank which was not approved by them.

(b) to (e) Do not arise

[English]

GAUGE CONVERSION

7744 **Shri Harish Narayan Prabhu Zantye** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the Hubli-Vasco Broad Gauge Conversion Project is languishing far behind the original time schedule,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor,

(c) the details of the progress made so far and the revised time schedule for completion of the Project and restoration of rail traffic, and

(d) the details regarding cost escalation of the Project and the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief)

(a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) (i) Gauge conversion of Hubli-Londa section has been completed on 31.3.95

(ii) Work of conversion of Londa-Castle Rock is targeted for completion by 30.6.95

(iii) Work of conversion of Castle Rock-Vasco section is scheduled for completion by 31.12.95

(d) The anticipated cost of entire Hospet-Hubli-Goa project during 1992-93, when the work was taken up for implementation was Rs 312 crores, which has now gone up to approximately Rs 378 crores

The increase in cost is due to price escalation

[Translation]

FLORA AND FAUNA

7745 **Shri Sushil Chandra Varma** : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) The total number of species of flora and fauna in the country as per the survey conducted in this regard

(b) the names of flora and fauna which have become extinct during the last three years

(c) the names of flora and fauna which are on the verge of extinction and

(d) the scheme formulated by the Government to ensure that the flora and fauna in the country do not become extinct?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) The Botanical Survey of India & Zoological Survey of India have estimated the number of flora and fauna species in the country as follows

Flora	—	45000
Fauna	—	77450

(b) No reports are available of the extinction of any species during the last three years

(c) The name of flora and fauna which are under various degrees of threat are available in the following publications

- (i) "Red Data Book of Indian Plants" Vol 1 (1987) Vol II (1988) & Vol III (1990)—published by the Botanical Survey of India
- (ii) The Red Data Book on Indian Animals' (1994)—published by the Zoological Survey of India

(d) In situ and ex situ conservation of species of flora and fauna are done through a protected area network of National Parks and Sanctuaries biosphere reserves, botanical gardens and zoological parks

[English]

RATION CARDS

7746 **Shri Gopi Nath Gajapathi** : Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have directed different States to expedite enumeration of Ration Cards,

(b) if so, the steps taken by different States as on date;

(c) whether some State have introduced Door Steps Delivery System, and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) and (b) All operational aspects of distribution of commodities to consumers through the Public Distribution System (PDS), including the verification and issue of ration cards to consumers, are within the administrative jurisdiction of the State Government/UT Administration Central Government has from time to time, been advising the States/UTs to take up verification of ration cards already issued for weeding out bogus cards States/UTs were also advised to ensure of ration cards to all households living in areas covered under the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) State/UTs have reported that since 19 1991 and till 15 5 1995, a total number of 37 32 lakhs additional ration cards have been issued in the RPDS areas The States/UTs implementing the RPDS, have reported that more than 11 57 million bogus ration cards have been weeded out during the same period

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) As a component of the RPDS scheme States/UTs had agreed to introduce door step delivery of PDS commodities to the Fair Price Shops (FPS) As per reports received from States/UTs, till 15 5 1995, around 54000 FPSs out nearly 1 02 lakh FPSs in the RPDS areas are covered under door step delivery

ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS IN TAMIL NADU

7747 **Shri P. Kumarasamy** : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) the details of the projects for conservation of Environment and Forests started in Tamilnadu with assistance from Union Government and also from foreign institutions during 1993-94 and 1994-95,

(b) the amount of assistance provided by the Union Government and Foreign Institutions, separately, for each of these projects, and

(c) the propose made in each case ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) to (c) The details of the projects for conservation of Environment and Forests started in Tamil Nadu with central and foreign assistance during the last two years along with achievements both financial and physical are given in the Statement attached

STATEMENT

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the scheme	Broad objectives	Extent of funding	Status	Achievement during the two years 93-94 and 94-95	
					Financial	Physical
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Centrally Aided						
1.	Development of National Parks and Sanctuanes	To develop National Parks and Sanctuanes	100%	Ongoing	70.76	14 National Parks Covered
2.	Eco development around Protected areas	To provide alternative sustenance to communities living on fringes of National Parks	100% NR 50% R	Ongoing	8.62	2 National Parks Covered
3.	Project Elephant	To ensure long term survival of elephants	100% NR 50% R	Ongoing	40.32	Target fixed in terms of financial releases
4.	Assistance to Botanic Gardens	To upgrade Botanic Gardens	100%	Ongoing	18.55	3 Botanic Gardens covered
5.	Modern Forest Fires Control Methods	Controlling Forest Fires to protect and conserve forests	100%	Ongoing	12.72	Targets fixed in terms to financial releases
6.	Minor Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants	Raising Minor Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants	100%	Ongoing	53.30	713 ha. area covered
7.	Seed Development Scheme	To development infrastructure for quality seeds	100%	Ongoing	58.00	Target fixed in terms of financial releases
8.	Integrated Afforestation and Eco-development projects scheme	Promote Afforestation and Eco-development	100%	Ongoing	714.57	987 ha. area covered
9.	Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project scheme	Augmenting supply of fuelwood and fodder in identified fuelwood deficit districts	50%	Ongoing	152.72	5605 ha. area covered
10.	Biosphere Reserve Scheme	To implement the Management Action Plan for the 2 Biosphere Reserves set up in the State	100%	Ongoing	98.43	2 Biosphere Reserves covered

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Project Tiger	To ensure viable population of tigers	100% NR 50% R	Ongoing	68.77	One Tiger Reserve Covered
12.	Eco-development around Tiger Reserves	To Provide alternative sustenance to communities living on fringes of Tiger Reserves	100% NR 50% R	Ongoing	4.76	One Tiger Reserved covered
13.	Paryavaran Vahini Scheme	Create eonvironmental awareness through active participation of public	100%	Ongoing	1.26	Constituted in 7 districts
14.	Conservation of Mangroves	Conservation and Management of Mangroves	100%	Ongoing	5.90	2 Mangroves covered
Externally Aided						
15.	Tamilnadu Social Forestry Project	Afforestation Covering Plains and coastal areas including tribal areas				The project was started with the assistance of Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA) in 1988-89. An expenditure of Rs. 134.39 crore has been incurred and an area of 1.27 lakhs ha. covered upto September, 1994
16.	Denmark assisted Project	To set up Environmental Training Institute at Madras.				The project has been approved to set up Training Institute at a cost of 9.961 Million DM.
17.	World Bank Pollution Control Project	To prevent and alleviate environmental degradation caused by Industrial operations				The project involves a line of credit of US \$ 155.6 million and counterpart funds of US \$ 108 million to be provided by Government of India, State Governments, Financial Institutions and Industrial units availing loan. Under the project 4 States including Tamilnadu are covered. There is no specific allocation for each State.

NR—Non Recurring

R—Recurring

MEDICAL FACILITIES IN THE TRAINS

7748. **Shri Amar Roypradhan** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether Medical Facilities have been provided in majority of long distance superfast trains including Rajdhani and Shatabdi Expresses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to provide Medical Facilities in all the trains?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) and (b) All passanger carrying trains including long

distance superfast trains, Rajdhani & Shatabdi Expresses have been provided with the Firs. Aid Boxes, located in Guard's Cabins, Sick passengers are attended by Railway doctors on receipt of message on Stations having Railway Health Units/Hospitals. Serious sick patients are taken to the nearest hospitals at the next halt of the train by the Station Staff.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

SUGAR

7749. **Shri George Fernandes** : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) the total sugar production expected in the country during the current crushing season;

(b) whether this is expected to meet the total requirements of the country;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to export any sugar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) The sugar production during the current 1994-95 sugar season (October 1994 to September 1995) is expected to be around 143.00 lakh tonnes.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) No decision has been taken about export of sugar.

THOTTAPPALLY FISH LANDING CENTRE

7750. **Shri Thajil John Anjalose :** Will Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a second phase project report of the Thottappally fish landing Centre in Kerala ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in The Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A project proposal for the development of stage-II fish landing centre at Thottappally was received from the State Government in June, 1993. The proposal with an estimated cost of Rs. 98.00 lakhs is for construction of two breakwaters. On technical scrutiny of the project report, State Government have been requested to get the model studies conducted so as to ascertain the optimum length, alignment and cross-section of the proposed breakwaters and to ensure technical soundness of the proposal.

MISAPPROPRIATION OF GRANTS

7751. **Shri Lalit Oraon :** Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints from Members of Parliament regarding misappropriation of grants given by the Government on large scale by cattle breeders mafia in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government so far against the guilty in this regard?

The Minister of State in The Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

RAJDHANI EXPRESSES

7752. **Shri Tara Singh :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a number of requests to include meal charges in the fare of all the Rajdhani Expresses as is being done in the case of Delhi-Bombay-Delhi and Delhi-Calcutta- Delhi Rajdhani Expresses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A few suggestions have been received regarding inclusion of catering charges in the train fares of Hazrat Nizamuddin-Bangalore City and Hazrat Nizamuddin- Madras/Trivandrum Rajdhani Express trains.

(c) No change is proposed for the present.

PRAWN PROJECTS IN BHITERKANIKA SANCTUARY

7753. **Shri Sriballav Panigrahi :** Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that two World Bank funded Prawn Projects and many private Prawn Projects are coming up inside the Bhitarkanika Sanctuary and National Park violating the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Coastal Regulation Zone Notification;

(b) if so, the details and the locations thereof;

(c) whether the required environmental permission was obtained by them; and

(d) if not, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

OVER BRIDGE

7754. **Shrimati Vasundhara Raje :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for construction of Railway Overbridge at Atru in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the estimated cost to be incurred on this work;

(c) whether the construction of the bridge is expected to start during 1995-96; and

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

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) No, Sir

(b) to (d) Do not arise

[Translation]

EXPERTS COMMITTEE

7755. **Shri Nawal Kishore Rai :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether Experts Committee has submitted its recommendations to the Government for bringing reforms in the Railways;

(b) if so, the date on which these recommendations were made and the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received recommendations of other committees appointed for making improvement of the functioning of Railways in addition to these recommendations;

(d) if so, the names of these committees and the dates on which the recommendations of these committees were received,

(e) whether certain improvements have been made in the Railway department by the Government on the basis of these recommendations, till December, 1994; and

(f) if so, the details in this regard and the reaction of the Government there to?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) to (f) The Ministry of Railways had appointed a Committee known as Tandon Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Prakash Tandon to study organisational structure and management ethos of Indian Railways to enable Indian Railways to function as business led enterprise. The Committee's report submitted in March, 1994 conceptual in nature, suggested setting up of various committees/task forces to consider the implementability of various recommendations. Keeping in view this suggestion, Ministry of Railways have set up various committees/ task forces to .

- (i) Identity cost and profit centres—Hasan Iqbal Committee set up on 30.8.94
- (ii) Develop computer aided long range decision support system—Task Force with World Bank Assistance set up. Tenure is upto January, 1996.
- (iii) Capital Restructuring—A.V Poulouse Committee set up on 2.5.94.
- (iv) Modernising the financial management system—Task Force with Adviser Finance as Coordinator. Time frame 2 years.
- (v) To examine unification of various railway services in a common cadre—Gupta- Narain

Committee set up on 15.4.94.

The committees task forces set up to examine the above issues are yet to submit their final reports.

[English]

IRREGULARITIES IN SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

7756. **Shri Rajendra Agnihotri :** Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether Sports Authority of India (SAI) has been pulled up for faulty pay scales;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) whether internal audit for the financial year ending 1990-91 has highlighted several cases of mismanagement of the Sports Authority of India;

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

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

The Minister of State In the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mukul Wasnik) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. Internal audit for 1990-91 has pointed out some procedural errors and lapses.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Corrective measures have been taken by Sports Authority of India on the procedural lapses pointed out by internal audit so as to prevent recurrence of such errors.

SPORTS COMPANIES

7757. **Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khenduri :** Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) the intake of boys in the Boys Sports Companies to train talented boys in sports from 1992-93, year-wise;

(b) the facilities provided to the boys undergoing training in these companies and for participation in competition on completion of training;

(c) whether there is any proposal to select and train talented girls in sports in these companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) and Minister of State in the Ministry of

Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mukul Wasnik) : (a) The intake of boys in the Army Boys Sports Companies to train talented boys in sports from 1992-93 and onward in given below :

	Year	Intake
(i)	1992-93	213
(ii)	1993-94	246
(iii)	1994-95	165

(b) The Sports Authority of India provides coaches to the Army Boys Sports Companies for training. The selected children admitted in these companies are provided free board & lodging, training, sports kit, tuition fee, medical facilities, insurance, playing facilities, to and fro TA/DA for visit to their homes during summer vacation with one escort, school uniform, books & stationery. For participation in competitions, children are provided travelling charges with other facilities.

(c) and (d) The matter is under consideration.

[Translation]

ALLOTMENT OF STALLS

7758. Prof. Prem Dhumal : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether stall or trolley is allotted on priority basis to the successor of a Vendor in case of his death;

(b) whether any provision has been made for providing top priority to such Vendors;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if so, whether priority has not been fixed for the Vendors in Delhi Division; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) After the death of a catering/vending licensee, the contract is transferred to his legal heir only for the unexpired period of agreement.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

AWARD FOR RESEARCH WORK

7759. Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any provision to award the author for the excellent research work on behalf of the I.C.H.R. or to award those institutions which are publishing research work of the author;

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines prescribed for awarding the authors or institutions or for selecting the incumbent for awarding prize;

(c) whether the I.C.H.R. had given some amount of grant to the institution namely 'Sahamat' for the publication of four books,

(d) if so, the details thereof and the basis on which these books were selected;

(e) whether the 'Sahamat' was also given such grants as prior to that; and

(f) if so the details thereof and the basis on which the grant had given to it?

The Deputy Minister in the ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Historical Research, under the ICHR Research Funding Rules, awards publication subsidy to editors or publisher of a periodical publication, i.e. a journal published annually or at shorter intervals or proceedings of a conference held annually or once in two years, upon application made by the said editors or publishers subject to certain conditions.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The proposal of 'Sahamat' was placed before the Research Projects Committee of the Council.

The assessment of the books published by 'Sahamat' was done by the Members of the Committee in conformity with the Rules and also keeping in view the aims and objects of the Council as contained in its Memorandum of Association. The Committee agreed to provide Rs. 10,000/- for each of the four volumes published by 'Sahamat'.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

KONKAN RAILWAY PROJECT

7760. Shri Shivrail Naglibhai :
Shri Avtar Singh Bhadana :

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether Konkan Railway has resumed work on the disputed 25 km sector between Mayhem and Balli;

(b) if so, whether the Government have prevailed upon the State Government for expeditious acquisition of land for laying tracks and embankments; and

(c) whether the Government have ensured the completion and commissioning of the link on schedule after having mobilised adequate funds for the project by floating of Bonds?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

PALM LEAF MANUSCRIPTS

7761. **Shri Gurdas Kamat** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

- (a) whether rare palm leaf manuscripts have been smuggled out from Orissa Museum in Bhubaneswar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;
- (d) if so, the finding thereof and action taken in the matter, and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) As informed by the State Government of Orissa no palm leaf manuscripts have been smuggled out from the Orissa State Government Museum.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

CHILD WELFARE ORGANISATIONS

7762. **Shri Chhedi Paswan** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

- (a) whether complaints have been received in regard to recruitment of labourers and supply of food items to the children in the child welfare organisations;
- (b) if so, the names of such organisations; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Women and Child Development) (Shrimati Basavarajeswari) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

HOWRAH GOODS TERMINAL

7763. **Prof. Susanta Chakraborty** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Howrah goods terminal is proposed to be shifted to any other place;
- (b) whether the proposed shifting would expedite the construction of Howrah Circular Railway linking Ramkistopur-Shibpurchar-Shalimar-Santragachi-Bhattachanagar-Belanagar-Bally-Belur-Lituah to Howrah; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

- (a) Yes Sir, to Dankuni.
- (b) There is no proposal for construction of Howrah Circular Railway at present.
- (c) Does not arise.

RAILWAY LINE

7764. **Shri Kabindra Purkayastha** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the proposal of survey for a New Railway Line from Jogighopa to Silchar is viable;
- (b) whether the Meghalaya Government is agreeable to accord permission for a Railway Line through the State;
- (c) whether the construction of Broad Gauge line from Lanka to Silchar is not less costlier and easier than a Line from Jogighopa to Silchar;
- (d) whether the Government propose to review its decision and start construction of B.G. line from Lanka to Silchar;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) to (e) Updating of the survey for Lanka- Silchar railway line has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 6.26 lakhs in 95-96. Further consideration of the project will be possible once the survey report becomes available.
- (f) Does not arise.

IMPORT OF SUGAR

7765. **Dr. P. Vallal Peruman** : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

- (a) whether his Ministry have any difference of opinion with other Ministries regarding the import of Sugar; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) and (b) Different Ministries may have different viewpoints, but a collective decision is taken on behalf of the Government, after considering all the relevant factors.

FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA

7766. **Shri Ankushrao Ramesh Toppe** : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Food Corporation of India officials

have been found guilty for investing company's funds without prior permission of the Board of Directors;

(b) whether any enquiry have been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details of the action so far initiated against these officials?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) Food Corporation of India has reported that there is no such case.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) of the Question.

ACTION PLAN

7767. **Shri M.V.S. Murthy :**
Shri D. Venkateswara Rao :

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway have prepared an Action Plan for improvement of Railways in the country during 1995-96;

(b) if so, whether the Railway Minister has assured that all pending projects would be cleared soon;

(c) if so, whether any concrete measures have been worked out in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :
(a) Yes, Sir. Bringing about improvement in the services is a constant endeavour on the Railways.

(b) No, Sir. The clearnace is subject to a number of factors including economic viability and availability of financial resources.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

COMMITTEE ON SUGAR MILLS

7768. **Dr. Chinta Mohan :**
Shri Nawal Kishore Rai :

Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up an expert committee to form a Sugar Institute to explore the possibilities of bringing extensive improvements in the existing techniques of sugar mills located in various State particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

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

(c) the terms and conditions of this committee and the issues on which it has been asked to submit its report;

(d) whether there is ample scope for increasing the sugar production by bringing extensive improvements in the existing technique of Sugar Industry located in the country; and

(e) whether Sugar Industries set up in Uttar Pradesh particularly those located in Western Uttar Pradesh are more under-developed in comparison to the Sugar Industries located in other States?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) To examine the feasibility of establishing an Institute of excellence taking care of matters related to technology developments, including training and consultancy, in relation to the sugar industry, an Expert Committee has been constituted vide order dated 4th April 1995. The terms of reference of the Committee are as under :-

(i) To suggest the scope and functions of the proposed Institute.

(ii) To suggest the institutional frame work.

(iii) To suggest organisational set up of the Institute.

(iv) To suggest infrastructural requirements of the Institute.

(v) To suggest a suitable location for the Institute

The Committee has to submit its report within 3 months from the date of issue of the order.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The conversion cost is a primary indicator of the state of development of the Sugar Industry in any particular area. The average conversion cost (including escalation), computed for the purpose of levy price determination for the current season, comes to Rs. 240.85 per quintal for West Uttar Pradesh levy price zone, as compared to the all India average of Rs. 237.81 per quintal

LAND LICENCE FEE

7769. **Shri Mohan Rawale :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of accumulated arrears on account of Land Licence Fee in each Zonal Railway during the last three years, till date;

(b) the reasons for such heavy arrears on account of Railway Land Licence Fee;

(c) whether any efforts have been made to liquidate the arrears;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the outcome of such efforts made?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) The amount of cumulative arrears of licence fee during the last three years, Zonal Railway-wise, is as under

Railway	Amount of arrears accrued during the period 1 4 92 to 31 3 95 (Rs in Crores)
Central	1 13
Eastern	- 0 10
Northern	23 31
North Eastern	0 16
Northeast Frontier	-1 05
Southern	4 78
South Central	0 30
South Eastern	0 03
Western	3 55
Total	32 11

(b) Arrears of licence fee have arisen due to some licencees disputing the increase in the rate of licence fee with effect from 1 4 1986 and the adoption of updated market value of land for calculating the licence fee, and litigation resorted to by such licencees

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) The matter of payment of outstanding dues has been pursued vigorously with the licencees and all efforts have been made to sort out disputes through constant interaction with them. Court cases are being contested by Railways

(e) Several disputed cases have been settled amicably and the licencees have started making payment of dues. In some cases, part payments have been made pending final resolution of the disputes

COMMITTEE ON EXPORT PRICE

7770 **Shri Anantrao Deshmukh :**
Shri Ram Naik :

Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state

(a) the domestic price of wheat and rice during the period of export made by FCI,

(b) whether Food Corporation of India has not been able to move wheat from wheat centres to other parts of the country specially in hilly areas,

(c) whether the Government have set up a high level committee to fix a separate export price for foodgrains to

facilitate easy sale, and

(d) if so, the recommendations made by the committee?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) The Food Corporation of India has not made direct export of foodgrains (wheat and rice) during 1994-95 and 1995-96 (up to May, 95) except 2,000 M T of rice to Nepal out of an agreed quantity of 30,000 tonnes

On 17 5 95, the wholesale prices of rice in the country ranged from Rs 585 to Rs 920 per quintal. Similarly as on 17 5 95 the wholesale prices of wheat in the country ranged from Rs 350 to Rs 662 per quintal

(b) No, Sir

(c) and (d) A committee under the Chairmanship of Chairman, FCI, has been constituted, inter-alia to decide the price of foodgrains in open sale for domestic/export purposes. In April-May, 95, the open sale price of wheat decided by the aforesaid Committee varied from Rs 4100 to Rs 4550 per metric tonne

HARASSMENT BY TTEs

7771 **Shri Lokanath Choudhury :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware of the incidents of harassment and misbehaviour by TTEs to the passengers in Delhi bound Purushottam Express during the last two months,

(b) if so, the details thereof and any inquiry has been conducted in this regard, and

(c) the action taken against the culprits?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) to (c) During the last two months only one complaint which appeared in the Times of India on 19 4 95 had come to notice. In the complaint it was alleged that Smt Bhanumati who travelled by Purushottam Express on 15 4 95 on confirmed reservation was not allowed by the TTE to occupy the allotted berth and that he misbehaved with her. When the complaint came to Railways' notice, the staff against whom the complaint was made was immediately placed under suspension. Subsequent enquiries conducted revealed that Smt Bhanumati was travelling in sleeper class reserved coach with a second class unreserved Mail/Express ticket. When she was asked to pay the difference in fare between the two classes, she refused to pay. The berth occupied by her was, therefore, got vacated, but she was allowed to travel in that coach being a lady. The charge of misbehaviour could not be proved during the confronted enquiry.

RAILWAY CAPITAL RESTRUCTURING COMMITTEE

7772 **Dr. Asim Bala :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the railways are heading towards debt trap like situation as per the Railway Capital Restructuring Committee; and

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the other recommendations of the Committee; and the details thereof;

(d) whether the Railways are having any plan to revive from this situation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof.

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) & (b) The observation of RCRC in this regard is not correct since the borrowings are for the purposes of fresh investments which are likely to generate fresh income streams in the years to come adhering to the performance of the Indian Railways. In addition, Indian Railways have been meeting their dividend liability in full in the past few years and there is no outstanding dividend on date. Taking payment of dividend to General Revenues on Loan Capital including deferred dividend liability, if any, as well as the annual leasing charges to IRFC as a ratio of gross receipts, the Debt Service Ratio amounts to 12.57% in 1993-94 and 12.77% in 1994-95 (based on RE) which is within very reasonable limits.

(c) There are 19 recommendations in all made by RCRC in their first report. These recommendations seek to redefine the relationship between General Finance and Railway Finance. RCRC have also proposed a chapter defining the relationship between Indian Railway and Central Government.

(d) and (e) Position already clarified* in (a) & (b) above. Apart from this, Railways even after paying leasing charges, appropriating to various funds, and meeting with the dividend liability, from its own resources, are yielding surplus for transfer to Capital Fund for its planned investments.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

7773. Shri Khelan Ram Jangde : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Northern Railway has made wide publicity about the telephone Nos. 3348686 and 3348787 for the benefits of passengers seeking information regarding reservations etc.;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the details of the services made available at each of the above telephone numbers;

(c) whether the services made available on these telephone numbers are computerised or manually operated;

(d) whether fifteen lines have been made available at the above numbers so that those numbers may not remain

engaged for the most of time;

(e) whether the Government have made certain arrangements to ensure that these numbers may not be kept engaged deliberately; and

(f) whether the Government have taken certain measures to ensure proper monitoring of these telephone numbers so that the enquiries being made therefrom are honestly and seriously attended to?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) and (b) An advertisement for the information of public about installation of telephone Nos. 3348686 and 3348787 for convenience of public seeking reservation enquiries for upper class and lower class respectively was given in Newspapers.*

(c) The service is operated manually.

(d) There are total 12 telephone lines i.e., six lines each for Upper and Lower Classes.

(e) and (f) Strict instructions have been issued to the staff/supervisors to ensure that these telephones are not kept engaged artificially. Surprise checks are also being conducted by Officers to ensure the same.

PRIVATISATION OF MANAGEMENT OF STADIA

7774. Shri Sarat Pattanayak : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering; to privatise the management of stadia under, Sports Authority of India; and;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) and Ministry of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mukul Wasnik) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

IMPORT OF SUGAR

7775. Shri Bolla Bulli Ramaiah : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) whether the traders have pointed out that they could have brought the sugar at a rate cheaper than \$ 450.60;

(b) whether the union government have conducted any enquiry as to how this high price of sugar was purchased by the MMTC; and

(c) whether the Government have directed the MMTC and FCI not to purchase more Sugar during 1995-96?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) and (c) Information is being collected.

(c) Apart from the sugar already contracted for import, no further increase is contemplated.

PROCUREMENT OF WHEAT

7776. Shri Dharmanna Mondayya Sadul : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that wheat procurement in some parts of the country especially in Punjab was not on expected line compared to last year's procurement on account of shortage of diesel and power; and

(b) if so, the action taken by his Ministry to take up the matter with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Power to make available diesel and power?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. A quantity of 111.8 lakh tonnes of wheat has been procured upto 26.5.1995 during the current Rabi Marketing Season as compared with 113.2 lakh tonnes procured during the corresponding period last year. The procurement of wheat in Punjab was 69.5 lakh tonnes as on 26.5.1995 during the current Rabi Marketing Season as compared with 70.4 lakh tonnes procured during the corresponding period last year.

Market arrivals of wheat were relatively lower in the early phase of the season due to unseasonal rains in early April, 1995 in Punjab and Haryana and delayed harvesting. Some remedial action was taken through inter-departmental co-ordination.

The rate of arrivals in the mandies subsequently picked up; and current trends indicate that the procurement is proceeding more or less on the last year's pattern.

RAIL LINK

7777. Shri R. Surender Reddy : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rail India Technical and Economic Services Limited (RITES) had some time back undertaken a feasibility study with regard to linking of NOIDA township with Delhi,

(b) if so, whether the RITES has since submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating inter-alia the estimated expenditure involved thereon;

(d) whether in this connection, the NOIDA authorities have recently requested the Union Government stressing upon the need for Rail Link on priority basis in view of the swelling number of commuters between Delhi and Noida and vice-versa; and

(e) if so the details thereof?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) RITES had submitted its report to NOIDA Authorities in November, 1991.

(c) A statement is attached.

(d) & (e) Yes, Sir. Noida authorities have requested for provision of rail links to Noida township.

STATEMENT

With a view to provide suitable economical and workable rail link for NOIDA, following take off points were considered:

- (i) Sahibabad
- (ii) Mid-section between Sahibabad and Ghaziabad
- (iii) Maripat (on Northern Railway)
- (iv) Dadri.
- (v) Mid-section between Okhla and Tughlakabad.
- (vi) Tughlakabad via Badarpur Thermal Power House siding.
- (vii) Faridabad.
- (viii) Mid-section between Ballabgarh and Asaoti (on Central Railway).

Except Maripat on the North-East and mid-section between Ballabgarh and Asaoti, all other points have been ruled out on account of the following :

- (i) Technical reasons.
- (ii) Massive industrialization in and around places other than Maripat or Asaoti (Acquisition of land will be a very protracted affair).
- (iii) Construction of subways or flyovers at places, where ever necessary, is either not feasible or the cost involved is very prohibitive

The proposed rail link which takes off at Maripat traverses through agricultural land. It crosses the Hindon river at a distance of 9.961 kms. from Maripat take off point before it terminates at NOIDA at km. 0/100. The length of alignment from Maripat take off point to Noida is 15.061 kms.

The alignment after passing through the industrial zone of NOIDA for a distance of 9.430 kms. crosses the river Yamuna on the west. It then runs parallel to the Agra canal and crosses this canal at a distance of 34.560 kms. from NOIDA so as to meet the existing railway line between Ballabgarh and Asaoti. The length of the line between NOIDA and Asaoti is 42 kms. Thus the total length of the proposed rail link will be 57.061 kms.

Based on 1990 costs for material and man power the estimated cost of providing feasible rail link from NOIDA township to Asaoti on Central Railway and Maripat on Northern Railway, works out to Rs. 226.03 crores.

KONKAN RAILWAY

7778. **Shri Ram Kapse** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain portion of Railway Route of the Konkan Railway has caved near Revanda about twenty-two kilometres from Panaji;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the starting of Konkan Railway is likely to be rescheduled on account of this incident?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) & (b) Yes, Sir. on 17.3.95, a portion of the partly formed embankment between km. 391.524 and 391.604, 10 m. wide and 8.5 m high settled, by about 2 m. on its eastern side. A pipe culvert consisting of 3 numbers of 1.8 m. diameter RCC pipes under the embankment also settled by about 30 cm in the central portion.

(c) No, Sir

SUPER BAZAR

7779 **Shrimati Bhavna Chikhilia** : Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for reducing the operational cost and expenditure by adopting new methods of marketing in order to increase the income and to check loss of revenue in Super Bazar,

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which it has been successful;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government or through some consultative organisation in this regard,

(d) if so, the steps taken to check such losses; and

(e) the results achieved in this regard?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) and (b) Super Bazar, the Co-operative Stores Limited is a cooperative society registered under cooperative Societies Act. Its affairs are managed by the duly constituted Managing Committee of Super Bazar. Management of Super Bazar takes measures like strict control on inventory, ensuring better turnover, periodical review of uneconomical outlets/operations and procurement directly from source to bring down operational cost and expenditure. Super Bazar's sales turnover has increased from Rs. 9784.01 lakhs in 1991-92 to Rs. 11520.34 lakhs for 1993-94 and its net profit has increased from Rs. 9.33 lakhs in 1991-92 to Rs. 41.65 lakhs in 1993-94.

(c) to (e) No such survey has been conducted but this Ministry reviews the working of Super Bazar from time to time and wherever required, renders its advice to the

Managing Committee of Super Bazar. It is observed that during the last few years Super Bazar has improved its sales turnover and financial position.

[Translation]

TRANSPORTATION OF COAL

7780. **SHRI NITISH KUMAR** :
SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH :

Will the Minister of Railways pleased to state :

(a) whether the industries are likely to be closed due to imposition of ban by Railways on transportation of coal for the private sector units recently;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether representatives of several industrial institutions have also drawn the attention of the Government to this fact; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard, so far?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) & (b) No ban has been imposed by the Railways for movement of coal to private sector units and no industry has been reported to have closed down.

(c) and (d) Representations, have been received and action has been taken to meet any distress situation reported by any industry. During February, March and April'95 loading has been 3069, 3151 and 2361 wagons per day for the Cement, Fertilizer and other non-core industries respectively where most of the Private Sector units are included. Instructions have been conveyed to zonal Railways to step up coal loading for the industries.

GULF OF KUTCHH

7781. **Shri Chandresh Patel** : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) the details of the plans/schemes being launched by the Government for the development of Gulf of Kutchh which was declared as National Marine Park by the Government in the year 1972;

(b) the manner in which and since when these schemes are being implemented; and

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years, year-wise?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamel Nath) : (a) Two Centrally sponsored schemes viz. "Development of National Parks & Sanctuaries" and "Eco-development in and around the protected areas including Tiger Reserves", are being implemented for the development of the Gulf of Kutchh, Marine National Park. No other scheme is proposed to be launched by the Central Government for

this purpose at present

(b) Under the above mentioned schemes central assistance is being provided to the State Government of Gujarat for developmental activities like habitat improvement protection, creation of infrastructure, eco-development etc. The scheme of Development of National Parks and sanctuaries is being implemented since VII Plan and the scheme of Eco-development was started in the year 1991-92.

(c) Details of the funds provided to the state Government of Gujarat during the last three years for the Marine National Park are given below

Scheme	(Rs in lakhs)		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
(i) Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries	6 00	3 334	5 00
(ii) Eco-development in and around protected areas including Tiger Reserves	3 00	1 60	-

The funds released to the State Government have been utilised except for 1994-95 for which the utilisation has not yet been reported by them.

[English]

ADULTERATION IN FERTILIZERS

7782 **Shri Surendra Pal Pathak** : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware of the problems of the farmers of Uttar Pradesh in regard to adulteration of fertilizers during the years 1993-94 and 1994-95,

(b) if so the details thereof,

(c) the action taken against the persons found guilty in this matter during the above period and

(d) the further steps proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that the adulteration in fertilizers should not be made in future?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir, A complaint from Eastern Uttar Pradesh during 1993-94 and two complaints from Bulandshar during 1994-95 regarding adulteration of fertiliser were received. The quality of fertiliser is regulated under the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh have been vested with adequate powers to ensure that farmers are sold standard quality fertiliser. After detailed examination

these complaints have been referred to Government of Uttar Pradesh. Quality control laboratories have been set up in different parts of the country to draw fertiliser samples by the inspectors notified by the State Government for ensuring fertilizer quality. The periodical returns in this regard are being submitted by the State Government which are being reviewed and monitored regularly. Besides, during Kharif and Rabi Conferences every year quality supply of fertilizer is being reviewed critically to check adulteration of fertilizers.

[Translation]

NATIONAL YOUTH POLICY

7783 **Shri Manjey Lal** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to include National Youth Policy under the Fundamental Rights of the Constitution

(b) if so the details thereof and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliament Affairs (Shri Mukul Wasnik) (a) No Sir

(b) & (c) Does not arise

[English]

ELECTRIFICATION

7784 **Shri Bir Singh Mahato** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) Whether the Government are considering any proposal for electrification in Muri Chandil and Purulia Kotshila sections in Adra Division of South Eastern Railway

(b) if so, the details thereof and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be completed?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The work of electrification of Chandil-Muri-Barkakana section of which Mun-Chandil is a part, is in progress

Purulia-Kotshila is a part of Bokaro Steel City, Mun-Hatia-Kinburu-Barsuan section, the electrification of which is also in progress

(c) The electrification of the above sections is likely to be completed by March, 98

GANGA ACTION PLAN, PHASE-II

7785 Shri Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received assistance from the Netherlands for the second phase of the Ganga Action Plan to treat Tannery waste water near Kanpur,

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the amount received,

(c) the details of assistance being received from other foreign countries/agencies for the Ganga Action Plan Phase-II, and

(d) the details of projects which are to be carried out with such assistance?

The Minister of State of The Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) & (b) No assistance has been received from the Government of Netherlands under the Ganga Action Plan Phase-II to treat tannery waste water near Kanpur. However, Indo-Dutch Economic Co-operation programme for Ganga Action Plan Phase-I provides for grant assistance of 50 million Dfl which includes assistance for setting up of collection and treatment facility for tannery waste water from Jajmau tanneries in Kanpur with a reimbursible component of Rs 14.39 crores. The facilities have been created, however, the Sewage Treatment Plant is likely to be Commissioned by December 1995.

(c) & (d) The Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), Japan is providing loan of Yen 17773 billion to part finance the Yamuna Action Plan and the overseas Development Administration (ODA), United Kingdom has shown interest to finance pollution abatement works in Lucknow under Gomati Action Plan. The implementation of the Yamuna Action Plan in the three involved states namely, Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh and of Gomati Action Plan in Sultanpur and Jaunpur of Uttar Pradesh has since commenced.

POULTRY CONTROL CELL

7786 Shri J. Chokka Rao : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Poultry Control Cell,

(b) if so, the details and objectives thereof,

(c) whether the finances required for the said cell has been provided, and

(d) if so, the quantum thereof?

The Minister of State in The Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) No, Sir

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

ALLOCATION OF WHEAT

7787 Shrimati DII Kumari :
Shri Hari Kewal Prasad :
Shri Arjun Singh Yadav .

Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state

(a) whether any monthly allotment of wheat under integrated Tribal Development Programme is being made to Sikkim,

(b) if so the details thereof with the supply rate per kilogram,

(c) the number of families which have been distributed wheat in the Sikkim during 1994-95,

(d) whether some blocks have been identified in Uttar Pradesh to supply essential commodities in Backward Areas at concessional rates, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) to (c) Sikkim is presently being given monthly allocation of 1000 tonnes wheat and 4800 tonnes of rice. The projected requirement of foodgrains (both rice and wheat) for the population living in ITDP areas in Sikkim is 19464 tonnes per annum which works out to a monthly average of 1622 tonnes. Allocations to regions/districts within the state is a matter within the administrative jurisdiction of the State Governments.

As per estimates based on 1991 census, 41000 families are living in the areas covered by ITDP in Sikkim. Central Government issues wheat meant for distribution in Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) areas, which include the ITDP areas, at the rate of Rs 352 per quintal. State Governments have been advised to ensure that the end retail price of wheat in RPDS areas does not exceed Rs 3.77 per kg. Details of retail prices of flour and wheat, district headquarter wise are not maintained by the Central Government.

(d) & (e) At present, 145 blocks out of total number of 897 blocks in Uttar Pradesh are covered under the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS). Blocks identified for the Integrated Tribal Development Projects Drought Prone Area Programme and Designated Hill Areas in Uttar Pradesh, where a significant number of the Below Poverty Line (BPL) population in the State live, are covered under the RPDS. Foodgrains meant for distribution in the RPDS areas are issued by the Central Government at specially subsidised Central Issue Prices (CIPs) which are Rs 50/- per quintal less than the CIPs for the normal Public Distribution System.

RESERVATION FOR SCs/STs IN ICDS

7788 Shri Anadi Charan Das : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether Integrated Child Development Scheme has been kept outside the purview of Reservation Policy for SCs/STs by the Government,

(b) if so the reasons therefor.

(c) the number of employees connected with the scheme and the number of SCs/STs amongst them.

(d) whether there is any proposal to bring this scheme under the purview of Reservation Policy to provide constitutional safeguards to the persons belonging to SCs and STs and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Women and Child Development) (Shrimati Basava Rajeswari) : (a) & (b) No Sir The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is being implemented at the village level with the help of Anganwadi workers and helpers. Since these Anganwadi Workers/helpers are voluntary workers who receive fixed amount of honoraria for their voluntary effort Reservation Policy of the Government for SCs/STs is not applicable to them. However all other employees under the ICDS Scheme borne in the respective State Cadres including Supervisors Assistant Child Development Project Officers (ACDPOs) and Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs) come under the purview of the Reservation Policy for STs/STs

(c) As on 31.3.1995, 2504 CDPOs/ACDPOs and 11,422 Supervisors are in position in the country. Since these employees are borne in respective State Cadres the States are responsible for enforcing the Reservation Policy in respect of these employees under the ICDS Scheme

(d) & (e) Does not arise

[Translation]

SPORTS IN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

7789 **Shri Devi Bux Singh .
Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar :**

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether Sports Course was launched in Universities and Colleges throughout the country at degree level with the five years' financial assistance of University Grants Commission to encourage youths' participation in Sports and to train them from technical point of view

(b) if so, the total number of Universities and Colleges selected through the country for the said purpose and the names of the Universities and Colleges of Uttar Pradesh included therein,

(c) the number of non-teaching staff recruited for Physical Education Health Education and academic session of sports subjects in the above Universities,

(d) whether the Government have retrenched the non-teaching staff recruited during 1989-90 session

(e) if so the reasons therefor

(f) whether the Government propose to reappoint them in Universities and Colleges and

(g) if so the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the UGC, the three year degree course in Physical Education Health Education and Sports has been introduced in 29 Institutions. The said course has been introduced in the following colleges in Uttar Pradesh

- 1 M M H College Ghaziabad
- 2 Tilak Degree College Auraiya
- 3 PG College Ghazipur
- 4 C C R (PG) College Muzaffarnager

(c) The academic session for the said course commences in the months of June/July of a given year

The following non-teaching employees have been recruited by the concerned Colleges in Uttar Pradesh

Sl No	Name of College	Groundsmen Marker	Lab Atten- dant	Lab Tech
1	M M H College Ghaziabad	4	1	1
2	Tilak Degree College, Auraiya	3	1	1
3	PG College Ghazipur	4	1	1
4	C C R (PG) College, Muzaffarnager	4	1	-

(d) No such instance has come to the notice of the UGC

(e) to (g) Do not arise

[English]

STUDENT-TEACHER RATIO IN NAVODAYA VIDYALAYAS

7790 **Shri V. Krishna Rao :
Shri C.P. Mudala Giriyappa :
Shri K.G. Shivappa :**

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) the student- teacher ratio in Navodaya Vidyalayas in the country,

(b) is it true that there is shortage of teachers in most of the Navodaya Vidyalayas,

(c) whether it is also true that there is inordinate delay in the recruitment of teachers to these schools, and

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

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) has intimated that in a full fledged Navodaya Vidyalaya having enrolment of 560 students the ratio between students and teachers is 22 : 1

(b) to (d) Vacancies exist in NVS due to a number of reasons like non- availability of suitable SC/ST candidates reluctance on the part of teachers in work in rural area, etc

In order to expedite the recruitment process, the Samiti has notified vacancies and accelerated the process of selection. Government have also issued instructions for launching special recruitment drive for filling up the vacancies for SC/ST

RAILWAY LINES

7791 **Dr. K.D. Jeswani :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) the length of new Railway Lines laid in Gujarat during the last three years till date excluding the already converted Broad Gauge Lines from the Metre Gauge Lines and

(b) the details of the amount of expenditure spent/allotted for the state during the last three years, year-wise and the amount proposed to be allotted during 1995-96?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief)

(a) No new railway line has been laid during the last three years. However, the work of new BG line from Kapadvanj to Modasa (60.50 kms) has been taken up

(b) The details of the amount allotted for new lines are as under

Year	Amount Allotted (Rs)
1992-93	Work was frozen Only token outlay was provided
1993-94	
1994-95	
1995-96	Rs 2 crores was provided following defreezing of the work

CANOEING AND KAYAKING RACE

7792 **Shri P.C. Thomas :** Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether the Canoeing and Kayaking traditional Boat Race of Kerala has been recognised in the fields of International Sports and Games,

(b) if so, whether India has taken part in the race in the international competitions,

(c) if so the details thereof, and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to encourage the above Boat Race?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mukul Wasnik) : (a) No Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise

(d) At the international level, only recognised disciplines are competed. The traditional boat race of Kerala in which 100 Paddlers are required to paddle is not a recognised discipline in the international level. The race is organised by a local committee in which there is no Central Government involvement

SUGAR MILLS

7793 **Shri Dileepbhai Sanghani :**
Shri P. Kumarasamy :

Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state

(a) the number of sugar mills set up in Gujarat and Tamilnadu till date,

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to promote cooperative Sugar Mills in these States, and

(c) if so, the number of Sugar Mills proposed to be set up in the States during the remaining period of the Eighth Plan on Cooperative basis and the details thereof, state-wise?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) As on 31-1-1995, there were 18 and 33 installed sugar factories in the States of Gujarat and Tamilnadu respectively

(b) and (c) As on 31-1-1995, no proposal for the setting up of new sugar mills in the cooperative sector in the States of Gujarat and Tamilnadu was pending consideration in the Ministry of Food. As and when proposals from the Co-operative sector for setting up new sugar mills in these two states are received, they would be processed in accordance with the licensing policy guidelines

[Transition]

THIRD AND FOURTH RAILWAY LINE

7794 **Shri Kashiram Rana :**
Shri Mahesh Kanodia :

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for construction of Third and Fourth Railway line between Surat and Bombay via Bulsar,

(b) if so the time by which the work is likely to be completed, and

(b) the concrete measures adopted by the Government to increase the movement of traffic thereon?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief)

(a) and (b) Preliminary Engg-cum-Traffic Survey for providing 3rd and 4th line between Virar and Ahmedabad is in progress. Further consideration of the project will depend upon the results of survey report and availability of resources

(c) Various items of works for augmentation of line capacity have been taken up to meet with the growth in traffic.

[English]

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

7795 **Dr. Ramkrishna Kusmaria .**
Shri Amarpal Singh :
Shri Laeta Umbrey :

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether any evaluation of the National Service Scheme has been undertaken by the Government,

(b) if so, when and the details of the evaluation report and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken on the observations made therein?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mukul Wasnik) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The task of evaluation of National Service Scheme was given to Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi in November, 1992. The evaluation work is still in progress. The final evaluation report is likely to be submitted by the Indian Institute of Public Administration by July, 1995

(c) Does not arise

CANCELLATION OF TRAINS

7796 **Shri K. Pradhani :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to cancel some passenger trains temporarily in various parts of the country,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor

(c) the names of such trains and when these trains are proposed to be cancelled, and

(d) the number of Rail Engines likely to be detached from Passenger Trains and utilized for hauling the Goods Trains?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief)

(a) No, Sir

(b) to (d) Do not arise

TRAINS FROM KANYAKUMARI

7797 **Shri N Dennis .** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to introduce direct express trains from Kanyakumari to different parts of the country, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) .

(a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

CONDENSED COURSE OF EDUCATION FOR WOMEN

7798 **Shrimati Dipika H Topiwala :**
Shri Mahesh Kanodia :

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to expand the scheme of condensed course of education for women

(b) if so, the details of the expansion plan finalised,

(c) whether the targets were achieved during the last two years,

(d) if so, the projections made for the current financial year and for the rest of the plan period, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Women and Child Development) (Shrimati Basava Rajeswari) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) As against an allocation of Rs 800 crores provided during 1994-95, enhanced provision of Rs 900

crores has been made for the scheme during 1995-96.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) & (e) During 1994-95, a total of 517 Condensed Courses and 697 Vocational Training Courses were sanctioned.

During the current year and for the rest of the plan period, depending upon the response of NGOs, a larger number of Courses can be sanctioned.

SEATS IN ENGINEERING COLLEGE

7799. **Shri Vijay Naval Patil** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has decided to sanction more seats in Engineering Colleges financed by the Centre, State Governments and private agencies;

(b) if so, the criteria fixed by AICTE while giving sanction for more seats; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that the standard of Engineering Education is in conformity with that of developed countries while sanctioning more seats?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (c) Proposals to sanction additional seats in Engineering Colleges are considered by the All India Council for Technical Education in accordance with the criteria laid-down in its Regulations published in the Gazette of India on 23rd November, 1994. These Regulations have been framed under the AICTE Act which ensures proper maintenance of norms and standards in the Technical Education system.

ACCIDENT OF KERALA EXPRESS

7800 **Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kerala Express met with an accident on 29th Jan. 1995 between Kala-Hasti & Reni Gunta in Andhra Pradesh,

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted into the causes of the accident;

(c) if so, the findings thereof;

(d) the number of persons killed and injured therein; and

(e) the details of compensation given to the deceased Railway employees and passengers?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) Yes, Sir. On 29th January '95, at 5.25 hrs., 2625 Kerala Express dashed against a truck at unmanned level crossing No.32 near Rachagunneri station on Guntakal Division of

South Central Railway.

(b) and (c) A departmental inquiry was conducted, which found that the driver of the truck No.AP-04-T/1133 disregarded the Caution Board exhibited at unmanned level crossing crossed the level crossing in face of an approaching train. The truck driver was found responsible for the mishap.

(d) The train driver lost his life and three occupants of the truck sustained injuries.

(e) An application for the payment of compensation has been lodged by the next of the kin of the driver of the train before the Railway Claims Tribunal, Secunderabad.

[Translation]

STALLS

7801. **Shri Upendra Nath Verma** : Will The Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether stalls for sale of curd, butter, milk and milk products are not being allotted at the stations;

(b) whether even after permission being granted no such stalls have been allotted at Danapur, Patna and other Railway Stations in Bihar; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) No, Sir.

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

GAUGE CONVERSION

7802. **Shri Mohan Lal Jhikram** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) the time when the conversion of Metre Gauge lines into Broad Gauge lines from Gondiya to Jabalpur and from Mandla to Nainpur and between Sivani and Parasiya were started;

(b) the time by which the works are likely to be completed; and

(c) the criteria fixed for placing the converted lines in their order of preference?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) to (c) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) The conversion of Gondia-Jabalpur NG line to BG is proposed to be taken up after obtaining necessary approvals.

Conversion of Nainpur-Mandla and Seoni- Chindwara NG lines will be considered alongwith the remaining lines for conversion in the next phase of the Action Plan keeping

in view the traffic projections and the availability of resources. Work on Chindwara- Parasia section (28 kms.) is likely to be completed by March '96.

(c) The priority of lines taken up for conversion is based on the operational/strategic requirements to the Railways and the nation.

EXPORT BY FCI

7803. **Shri Pankaj Chowdhary :**
Shri Amar Pal Singh :
Shri Brijbhushan Sharan Singh :
Shri Satya Dee Singh :
Prof. Ummaresddy Venkateswarlu :
Shri S.M. Laljan Basha :
Shri Gopi Nath Gajapathi :

Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India propose to enter the international market through the export of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Roller Flour Mills Federation of India (RFMFI) has expressed its dissatisfaction over the entry of Food Corporation of India in the export field;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) and (b) In view of the comfortable stock position of foodgrains in the central pool, Government have authorised the FCI to export/sell for the purposes of export non-durum wheat up to 2.5 million tonnes (within the export ceiling of 2.5 million tonnes) fine and superfine-rice from public stocks upto 2.00 million tonnes during 1995-96 at export/sale prices as may be fixed by the High level Committee constituted for the purpose under the chairmanship of the Chairman, FCI. While no direct export of wheat by FCI has taken place, it has entered into an agreement with Nepal Food Corporation for supply of 30,000 metric tonnes of raw rice.

(c) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Ministry of Commerce or Ministry of Food has not received any such representation so far.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of (c) above.

DELHI ZOO

7804. **Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad :** Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Stagnant Water threat to Zoo inmates" appearing in The Pioneer dated April 21, 1995;

(b) if so, whether the stagnant water pools in animal

enclosures are posing grave threat to the animals and birds in Delhi Zoo;

(c) if so, the reasons for stagnant water pool in animal enclosures; and

(d) the steps taken and proposed to be taken by the Government to provide free flowing water to Zoo inmates?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Water in the moats around animal enclosures flows at a very low pace due to less water supply, and improper drainage outside the National Zoological Park. Although potable water is provided to animals and birds, the animals sometimes drink water from the moats. The matter was discussed in a interdepartmental meeting held recently and steps for corrective action have been initiated.

BACKWARD CLASS CELL IN BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY

7805. **Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri :** Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had directed the Banaras Hindu University to establish a Backward Class Cell;

(b) if so, the background for giving such direction;

(c) whether the Cell has been established and started working; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) No. S

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

FOODGRAINS STOCK

7806. **Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar :**
Dr. Chinta Mo. an .
Shri Nawal Kishore Rai :

Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) whether more than the annual requirement of foodgrains of the country is likely to be stored in the Godowns of Food Corporation of India during 1995-96;

(b) if so, the quantity thereof foodgrain-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether the Government have contemplated various measures to reduce the said additional quantity of foodgrains;

(d) if so, the quantum of foodgrains proposed to be

sold and the sources through which it is likely to be sold; and

(e) the financial loss likely to be incurred by the Food Corporation of India due to surplus stock of foodgrains after the implementation of these measures?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) The annual procurement of foodgrains (wheat & rice) for the Central Pool ranges from 15% to 20% of the total production in the country. Therefore, the question of Food Corporation of India holding more than the annual requirement of the foodgrains of the country does not arise.

(b) The stocks in the Central Pool as 1-5-1994 and 1-5-1995 were as under :

(in Million Tonnes)		
	1-5-1994 (P)	1-5-1995 (P)
Wheat	10.68	11.37
Rice	13.70	17.68
Total	24.38	29.05

(P) - Provisional.

(c) and (d) Government have taken a number of steps to reduce stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool. They include authorisation given to Food Corporation of India for continuance of open sale of wheat and rice, export/sale to public sector undertakings/private exporters for the purpose of export of upto 2.5 million tonnes of wheat and 2.00 million tonnes of fine and superfine rice during 1995-96 and introduction of special schemes for channelising foodgrains to the targeted groups.

(e) It is too early to estimate the offtake of foodgrains in open sale for domestic or export purposes.

[English]

PURI OKHA-DWARKA EXPRESS

7807. Shri Rabi Ray : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken steps to convert weekly Puri-Okha-Dwarka Express into a daily train;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) to (c) Daily running of the weekly Puri-Okha-Express has not been found feasible due to operational and resource constraints. However, a weekly unreserved

express train between Puri and Ahmadabad via Vizianagaram-Raipur-Nagpur-Surat is proposed to be introduced during the current year.

NATIONAL WOMEN FUND

7808. Shri Haribhai Patel : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Non-Government Organisations/Corporations engaged in the field of women development in Gujarat which have been provided with loans by the Central Government under National Women Fund during the years 1993-94, 1994-95 year-wise and District-wise;

(b) the method of spending of this amount by the Organisations; and

(c) the number of women benefited from this scheme in the State?

The Minister of State of the (Department of Women and Child Development) in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Shrimati Basava Rajeswari) : (a) No Non-Government Organisation/Corporation in Gujarat has been provided loans by the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh during the years 1993-94 and 1994-95.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

RAILWAY SYSTEM

7809. Shri Raj Narain : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Zonal Railways running into losses and the details thereof indicating the losses incurred during the last two years;

(b) whether any action plan has been prepared for improving the reliability of assets;

(c) if so, the details thereof during the last two years;

(d) what measures have been taken by the Ministry to effect economy in the Railway Ministry and its Railway operations to curb unhealthy expenditure; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) Names of zonal Railways running into losses during the last two years are as under :

	(Figures in crores of Rs.)	
	1993-94	1994-95 (Provisional)
N.E.	-380.00	-424.06
N.F.	-194.41	-156.33
Southern	-205.97	-206.66

(b) and (c) Improving reliability of assets is a continuous endeavour on Indian Railways.

The improvement in asset reliability for the Last two years is indicated as under :

	1993-94	1994-95
Rail Failures (Nos)	3536	2980
Diesel loco (BG) failures (Nos)	11822	10220
Electric loco (BG) failures (Nos)	7045	6219
Wagon Detachment (Nos)	71549	58415
Coach Detachment (Nos)	602	604
OHE Failure (Nos)	685	382
Signal Failures (Nos)	193445	161395

(d) and (e) Railways have endeavoured to achieve all round economies in working expenses, cutting down cost of projects, energy conservation by using more fuel efficient locomotive, closing of Marshalling yards and steam sheds, reorganisation of movement on alternative routes with Gauge Conversion etc.

Percentage value of consumption per person for a period of 30 days

Sl. No.	Year	Milk & Milk products		Meat, Egg & Fish	
		Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
1.	1989-90	9.65	9.91	3.61	3.83
2.	1990-91	9.42	9.90	3.50	3.75
3.	1991-92	8.99	10.04	3.36	3.64

(c) to (e) The Livestock Production Policy is based on the report of the National Agricultural Commission 1976, and other Planning Commission reports. Livestock policy perspective studies are currently in progress as a prelude to the possible formulation of policy approaches.

[Translation]

DISTRIBUTION OF COTTON SEEDS

7811. Shri Vilasrao Nagnathrao Gundewar : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of the Cotton Seeds distributed to

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION POLICY

7810. Shri Manikrao Hodiya Gavit : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have conducted any study regarding growth trends in annual consumption of livestock products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether with a view to encourage production, the Government propose the formulation of a Livestock Production Policy to provide farmers easy access to institutional credit improved veterinary and health services, marketing facilities, appropriate prices and rapid growth of livestock production through use of new technologies and labour-intensive production methods including poultry and dairy products;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) has been conducting surveys for estimation of consumption of various food items (including livestock products) and non food items

The trends of consumption of livestock products, based on the results of the 45th 46th and 47th rounds of surveys are indicated below

the farmers in Maharashtra during the last two years;

(b) the details of the different varieties of Cotton being produced in the State; and

(c) the total production of Cotton in the State during the above period and the percentage of the production exported?

The Minister of state in the Ministry of Non-conventional energy sources and the Minister of state in the ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) : (a) Cotton Seed distributed in Maharashtra State year-wise is given below :

1993-94	0.84 lakh quintals
1994-95	0.91 lakh quintals

(b) Cotton varieties under production are H-4, H-6, H-8, H-2, NHS-34, CAHH-468, DCH-32, NHB-12, JKHY-1, NHH-302 etc.

(c) Cotton production was 26.25 lakh bales in 1993-94 and 23.66 lakh bales in 1994-95. The information on percentage of cotton exported is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

GAUGE CONVERSION

7812. **Shri Dattatraya Bandaru** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the target of Gauge Conversion is likely to be achieved one year in advance;

(b) if so, what is the target fixed for gauge conversion;

(c) the time when the target was scheduled to be achieved; and

(d) the time by which it is actually to be achieved ?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) to (d) The target fixed for gauge conversion for the 8th Plan (1992-97) was 6000 kms. 4775 kms. have been completed by 1994-95, and another 1600 kms. will be completed in 1995-96. Thus the target is being exceeded in the first four years of the plan.

YOUTH CLUBS

7813. **Shri Ram Singh Kashwan** :
Shri Maheesh Kanodia :

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to revise the scheme of assistance to Youth Clubs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a final decision has been taken in this regard;

(d) if so, when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mukul Wasnik) : (a) No, Sir. The scheme of assistance to Youth Clubs was revised last in 1993-94.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

NATIONAL RAILWAY USERS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

7814. **Shri Ram Tahal Choudhary** :
Shri Arjun Singh Yadav :

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) the facilities being provided to the Members of the National Railway Users Consultative Committee; and

(b) the provisions made to ensure the effective functioning of the said committee ?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) and (b) The National Railway Users' Consultative Council is not functioning at present. However, the non-official members of this Council are provided with the free railway pass facility for undertaking their journey from their place of residence to the place of meeting and back. Travelling and Daily Allowance is given to the Members of this Council as per rules applicable in each case. For the effective functioning of the Council, representation is given to various categories of interests such as Secretaries of the important Ministries of Central Government, Chairman and Members of the Railway Board, Members of Parliament, representatives of All India Federated Chambers of Commerce, Agricultural interest and other interests which are considered necessary. The Meeting of the Council when constituted is held twice a year.

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY

7815. **Shri Ram Pujan Patel** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rajabhasha policy is being implemented in the Jawaharlal Nehru University;

(b) if so, whether names have been inscribed in Devanagari Hindi in the Premises and at the Building of the University;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action being taken in the matter ?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumar Selja) : (a) According to the information furnished by Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Policy on Official Language is being implemented in the University.

(b) JNU has informed that the names in the premises and at the building of the University have been inscribed both in Hindi and English.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

BETEL LEAF

7816. **Shri Vijay Kumar Yadav** : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether good quality of Betel is grown in Nalanda and other Districts of Bihar;

(b) whether the Farmers are incurring heavy losses for the last so many years because of the insects damaging the crop; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to overcome this problem and to give financial assistance to such Farmers?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No report from any district of Bihar is received.

(c) The Central Government is providing assistance for plant protection equipments under betelvine development programme at 50% subsidy to a maximum limit of Rs. 500 each.

[English]

UNIVERSITY CONFERENCE

7817. **Shri R. Anbarasu** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether a two-day Open Universities Conference took place in Delhi and was attended by education experts from Fourteen countries;

(b) if so, the aims of the conference and consensus reached at it; and

(c) the criteria for finding funds for the purpose?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) According to the information furnished by the Indra Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), VIII Annual conference of Asian Association of Open Universities was held in New Delhi from 20-22 February, 1995. This was attended by Education experts from 17 countries.

(b) The Asian Association of Open Universities (AAOU) has been conducting international conferences on different aspects of Open and Distance Learning to promote Distance Education in Asia. The theme of this conference was "Structure and Management of Open Learning Systems" and around 80 papers were presented in the Conference.

(c) As per the information given by IGNOU, for organising the Conference Registration Fee of US \$ 130 for AAOU members and US \$ 150 for non-AAOU members was prescribed. The UNESCO office for Asia & Pacific Region and the AAOU provided financial Assistance of US

\$ 3000 and US \$ 1000 respectively. The IGNOU also sanctioned Rs. 4.75 lakhs for the conference, but the actual expenditure of IGNOU was much less.

[Translation]

INSURANCE SCHEME

7818. **Dr. Amrit Lal Kalidas Patel** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons covered under the Railway Passengers' Insurance Scheme as on January 31, 1995, State-Wise; and

(b) the amount given to each person?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) As on 31-1-95, 631 passengers who were killed or injured in train accidents or in untoward incidents as defined under Sections 124 and 124 A of the Railways Act, 1969 were covered under the Railway Passengers' Insurance Scheme which was launched w.e.f. 1-8-1994. Indian Railways do not maintain statistics State-Wise. However, railway-wise break up of the passengers covered under this scheme is as under :

Name of Railway	No. of Passengers
Central	83
Eastern	5
Northern	29
North Eastern	126
North-east Frontier	43
Southern	175
South Central	69
South Eastern	51
Western	50
Total	631

(b) The claimant, who may be the next of kin of the dead or injured or the authorised agent, is required to file the claim under Section 125 of the Indian Railways Act, 1969, with the Railway Claims Tribunal for claiming the compensation within one year from the date of accident. Compensation is paid to the claimant by the railway administration as and when cases are decreed by the Tribunal based on the evidence and facts.

Out of the 631 cases from 1-8-94 to 31-1-95, payment in seven cases amounting to Rs. 14,00,000/- @ Rs. 2 lakh per person and Rs. 40,938/- in two injury cases has been made. The rest are under adjudication with different Benches of Railway Claims Tribunal. Compensation will be

paid by the railway administration as soon as Railway Claims Tribunal passes decrees in these cases

[English]

DEVELOPMENT OF HORTICULTURE PRODUCE

7819 Shri Arvind Trivedi :
Dr. Lal Bahadur Rawal :
Shri S.M. Laljan Basha :

Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to create a special Department for the development of Horticulture produce,

(b) whether proper attention has not been given to the development of such Horticulture produce which have a vast potential for export,

(c) if so, the reasons therefor,

(d) whether the Government have identified some areas in the country where Horticultural crops having export potential can be developed,

(e) if so, the State-wise details thereof indicating Horticultural Crops which could be developed in these areas, and

(f) the incentives being provided to promote the cultivation of such crops?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) No, Sir

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise

(d) and (e) Identification of areas/regions in a State for intensive development of crops is left to individual States/UTs. The crops having export potential are mango, litchi, grapes, strawberry, sapota, pomegranate among fruits, cashew, onion, potato, spices, mushroom, flowers etc.

(f) Incentives provided to promote cultivation of horticulture crops include financial support for production and supply of quality planting material, area expansion, improving productivity, drip irrigation, green houses training of farmers under various central sector/centrally sponsored schemes implemented for the development of horticulture during the VIII Five Year Plan.

[Translation]

SICK SUGAR MILLS

7820 Shri Lal Babu Rai : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state

(a) the number of sick Sugar Mills out of the total Sugar Mills in the country at present; state-wise,

(b) the reasons for their sickness,

(c) the loss suffered by each state on this account during the last three years, year-wise,

(d) whether the Union Government have taken any steps to revive these sick mills,

(e) if so, the details thereof, state-wise, and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) Under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, companies registered under the Companies Act, 1985 which become sick have to be referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). These provisions have been extended to cover Government companies also. BIFR has intimated that as on 23-5-95 there were 15 cases of sick sugar companies registered with them. A statement showing the State-wise list of such sick sugar companies, furnished by BIFR, is enclosed.

(b) Sickness could be due to a variety of factors, such as inadequate cane availability, size, age and condition of plant and machinery, technical and managerial competence, sales realisation not being commensurate with the cane price etc.

(c) Government does not maintain profit and loss accounts in respect of sugar mills.

(d) to (f) The rehabilitation/modernisation schemes of sick sugar mills have to be approved by BIFR/participating agencies for implementation.

Financial assistance is also available from the sugar Development Fund (SDF) at concessional rates of interest for such rehabilitation/modernisation schemes, subject to their fulfilling the conditions laid down.

STATEMENT

Statewise List of Sick Sugar Companies Registered with BIFR as on 23-5-95.

Sl No	State/Company
1	2

ANDHRA PRADESH

1 Challapalli Sugar

BIHAR

2 Champarna Sugar

KARNATAKA

3 Davnagare Sugar Company

1	2
4.	Salarjung Sugar
5.	Gangawati Sugar
MADHYA PRADESH	
6.	Jiwaji Rao Sugar
PUNJAB	
7.	Bhagranpura Sugar Mills
RAJASTHAN	
8.	Mewar Sugar
UTTAR PRADESH	
9.	Lakshmi Sugar Mills
10.	Cawnpore Sugar Mills Ltd.
11.	Shervani Sugar Syndicate Ltd.
12.	*Swadeshi Mining & Mfg. Co. Ltd
13.	*Nandganj Sibori Sugar Co. Ltd.
14.	*Chhata Sugar Co. Ltd.
WEST BENGAL	
15.	Ramnuger Cane (Khitant Agro Complex)

Under Enquiry by B.I.F.R

[English]

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

7821. **Shri Shanker Singh Vaghela :**
Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu :

Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state :

(a) whether rules pertaining to Public Distribution System differ in various states particularly in rural and urban areas of Gujarat;

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

(c) whether any steps are to be undertaken by the Government to bring about a uniformity in all the public Distribution System in the country;

(d) if so, whether this uniform design would enhance the importance of Public Distribution System;

(e) the other changes propose by the Government to improve the Public Distribution System, if any;

(f) whether any additional assistance likely to be

given to State Government to properly monitor the functioning of Public Distribution System; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) and (b) Public Distribution System (PDS) is the joint responsibility of the Central Government and the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Central Government is responsible for procurement, storage, transportation and bulk allocations of the six key essential commodities distributed under PDS. The operational responsibility for implementing the PDS including opening of fair price shops, eligibility criteria, scale of allocation of PDS commodities, issue of ration cards, etc., vests with the State Governments/UT Administrations. According to variation in local conditions, State Governments/UT Administrations, including Gujarat, may adopt different scales of entitlement and issue different guidelines for different regions/areas within the State. Such details are not maintained by the Central Government.

(c) and (d) The Advisory Council on PDS in its meeting held on 21.3.93 set up a Committee of Ministers of Food and Civil Supplies in State Governments to give the recommendations for formulating a National Policy on PDS in the country. The Committee of Ministers had, among other things, made the following observations :

(i) In a country as large and diverse as India a rigidly uniform system of PDS can not be implemented.

(ii) Unless the relatively better off sections are excluded from entitlement to PDS foodgrains, the poorer households can not be provided with more foodgrains.

(iii) All States/UTs should implement the principle of exclusion of the relatively better off categories so that access to PDS foodgrains can be restricted to the needy and deserving sections of the society.

(e) The PDS is the joint responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations. The strengthening and streamlining of the PDS is a continual process. Suggestions and measures to improve the PDS are discussed in various fora like Advisory Council on Public Distribution System and regional meetings with States/UT. The Revamped Public Distribution System is already being implemented in 1775 backward blocks of the country. The Central Government has also recently requested the State Governments/UT Administrations to set up district wise control rooms where the consumers could report non availability of PDS commodities and malpractices by fair price shop-keepers and by unscrupulous traders.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

[Translation]

MOTIHARI AND KARARIYA LAKES

7822 Shri Kamla Mishra Madhukar : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether an amount of Rs 37 lakhs has been sanctioned by the World Bank for the development of lakes at Motihan and Karanya in East Champaran Districts of Bihar,

(b) if so, the amount given to the government of Bihar and the nature of work completed so far under this head and the amount spent thereon,

(c) whether the Government have reviewed the work done so far to find out the laxity being shown at different levels, and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the targetted time by which the said development work is to be completed ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) : (a) An amount of Rs 25 63 lakhs has been allocated by the World Bank for the development of Motijheel and Karanya lakes in East Champaran District in Bihar

(b) It is for the Government of Bihar to take up the work, incur expenditure and get the amount reimbursed in terms of the agreement with the World Bank

(c) and (d) The Government holds regular meetings to review the progress of the Project in the State. The development of these lakes has to be taken up and completed before the scheduled completion of the project in 1999

[English]

OVER BRIDGE

7823 Shrimati Chandra Prabha Urs : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for construction of Over Bridge to platform Nos. four and five at Mysore Railway Station,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

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

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief)

(a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise

[Translation]

GAUGE CONVERSION

7824 Shri Arjun Singh Yadav : Will the Minister of

Railways be pleased to state

(a) the percentage of work completed in regard to Gauge Conversion from Shahganj to Mau in Jaunpur District,

(b) the construction work yet to be completed, and

(c) the time by which remaining construction work is likely to be completed?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief)

(a) Contracts for earthwork and bridges have been awarded and work will start shortly

(b) Widening of bank, strengthening and construction of bridges ballasting and track work has to be completed

(c) During the current financial year

QUALITY OF SEEDS AND PLANTS

7825 Shri Rajendra Kumar Sharma : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have not been successful in providing the International quality of seeds and sophisticated equipments for plantation available world-over to the Indian farmers,

(b) if so, whether the Government have emphasized to liberalise the rules in respect of the import of seeds and plants to overcome this problem,

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the incentives given to the farmers under the New Seed Policy, and

(d) the estimated increase in the production as a result thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) : (a) No, Sir, The objective of the Seed Policy is to provide our farmers access to the best planting material available anywhere in the world. The import of several identified machinery and equipments used for planting is permitted at concessional duty

(b) The Seed Policy, and other relevant provisions are reviewed from time to time

(c) and (d) The over all objective of the Seed Policy is to help our farmers through access to the best planting material and strong quarantine conditions to prevent entry of exotic diseases and pests, and provision of incentives to domestic industry. The above measures are intended to augment productivity and production in the long run

RAILWAY LINES

7826 Dr. Sakshiji : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) the details of the proposals regarding the Railway Lines sent by the Government of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years till date,

(b) the total length of Railway Lines district-wise as per the proposal,

(c) the schemes accepted for implementation and

(d) the progress made in allocating funds for implementation of the proposals accepted ?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) No proposals from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for new lines have been received during the last three years

(b) to (d) Do not arise

[English]

DERAILMENT OF EAST COAST EXPRESS

7827 Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether 12 coaches of Howrah bound 8046 Dn East Coast Express derailed recently between Narayangarh and Benapur station about 140 kms from Howrah in the Kharagpur Division of South-Eastern Railways,

(b) if so the number of casualties were reported therein

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard,

(d) if so, the findings thereof, and

(e) the estimated loss suffered by the Railways and steps taken to check such accidents in the future?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief)

(a) Yes, Sir 12 bogies of 8046 Dn East Coast Express derailed on 20-4-95 at 12-05 hrs between Narayangarh and Benapur stations on South Eastern Railway

(b) There was no casualty in this accident

(c) An enquiry by Senior Administrative Grade Officers has been conducted

(d) The report has not yet been submitted by the Enquiry Committee

(e) The cost of damage to railway property amounted to Rs 10,000/- approximately

The following steps have been taken to prevent derailments

- 1 Overdue track renewals are being liquidated
- 2 Stress has been given to remove track deficiencies

- 3 Track structure has been upgraded
- 4 Carnage and Wagon examination of rolling stock has been strengthened and rationalised
- 5 Nearly 17,000 drivers with less than 10 years active driving service have been specially screened and deficient drivers given out-of-course crash training
- 6 Two high-level safety Teams have been making extensive spot checks and inspections of field installations and practices
- 7 Nearly 60 000 staff attended safety camps and refresher training courses the last one year

ECONOMY MEASURES BY THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND FCI

7828 Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state

(a) the number of posts surrendered under 10% cut and other economy measures during 1993-94 and 1994-95 in the Ministry of Food and its attached offices separately as well as in the Food Corporation of India Category-wise

(b) the number of posts lying vacant during the last one year in each cadre

(c) the amount saved by reducing the strength during the year 1993-94 and 1994-95 and the amount likely to be saved during the year 1995-96, and

(d) whether in spite of imposing a 10% cut and by taking other economy measures the staff strength in the Administration remained same, if not the number of posts effected?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) (a) 36 posts have been surrendered under 10% cut during 1993-94 in the attached/subordinate offices of the Ministry of Food and 80 and 117 posts in the Food Corporation of India during 1993-94 and 1994-95 respectively

(b)

Group	Min of Food	Dte of Sugar	Other offices	FCI
A	—	6	18	200
B	—	4	14	295
C	20	10	69	3556
D	—	2	12	5731
	20	22	113	9787

(C)

Year	Amount saved (Rs. in lakhs)
1993-94	56.38
1994-95	106.15
1995-96	111.46 approx.

(d) The staff strength in the Administration remained the same.

DAMODAR RIVER

7829. **Shri Basudeb Acharia** : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state :

(a) whether the River Damodar is most polluted River in our country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to undertake this river under the Ganga Action Plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make the River Pollution Free?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests : (Shri Kamal Nath) (a) and (b) According to a survey conducted by the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur and the State Pollution Control Boards of Bihar and West Bengal, by and large, the water quality of Damodar in Bihar conforms to the desired class except in four stretches as indicated in the enclosed statement where ash slurry from thermal power stations and discharge of municipal sewage pollute the river. In West Bengal, the river is found to be only marginally polluted along the city limits of Raniganj due to discharge of municipal sewage from that town.

(c) to (e) A feasibility report on the abatement of pollution of Damodar river in Bihar and West Bengal from municipal sewage has been prepared by the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur in consultation with the concerned State Government agencies. An action plan of abatement of Pollution of Damodar from municipal sewage would be formulated after the receipt of comments of the State Governments of Bihar and West Bengal on the aforesaid feasibility report. The matter relating to the pollution of the river from thermal power stations in Bihar is under consideration of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and action will be taken as per its directions.

STATEMENT

Polluted Stretches of Damodar in Bihar

1. From down stream Rajrappa to down stream confluence with Bhairave river.
2. From the confluence of Bokaro river and Konar river downstream confluence with Damodar followed by the stretch of Damodar upto Telmuchi bridge.
3. From the confluence of Katari river to downstream about 2 kms.
4. The bending stretch of River Damodar near Domagarh Water Works.

CO-JOINT RESEARCH WORK

7830. **Shri Bhogendra Jha** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 784 on April 28, 1992 and state the specific steps taken by the Government to give preference to those Ph.d. holders who have done independent research work than those who have done it through co-joint research work in the matter of selection, appointment and promotion during the last three years?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

RAILWAY NETWORK IN ORISSA

7831. **Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for the expansion of Railway Network in Orissa during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the new Railway Lines proposed to be taken up during the above plan period;

(c) the steps taken in this regard so far;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal for the bifurcation of the South Eastern Railway and to form a New Railway Line in Orissa;

(e) whether the proposal is going to be implemented during the financial year 1995-96; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to implement the above proposal?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following lines have been taken up in Orissa in the 8th plan period :

No.	Name of the projects	Length kms.
1.	Daitari-Banspani	147
2.	Lanjigarh-Junagarh	54
3.	Khurda Road-Bolangir	289

The works to be taken up in the next year of the plan viz 96-97 have not yet been identified.

(c) All the above works are in progress.

(d) to (f) As regards bifurcation of South-Eastern Railway, a study of issues relating to reorganisation of zones and divisions has recently been completed by this Ministry and further processing for formulation of proposals and other related matters is being undertaken.

NEW RAILWAY LINE

7832. **Shri C.P. Mudalagiriappa :**
Shri K.G. Shivappa :
Shri V. Krishna Rao :

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for laying of new Railway line between Bangalore and Mysore via Kanakapura, Sathanur and Malavalli;

(b) whether a survey has been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

POLLUTION IN GODAVARI RIVER

7833. **Dr. K.V.R. Chowdary :** Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the pollution in the Godavari river being caused by the Andhra Pradesh Paper Mills and other sources;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) and (b) According to the State Pollution Control Board, Andhra Pradesh Paper Mills at Rajahmundry is equipped with an effluent treatment plant which is running satisfactorily. Effluents after treatment in the paper mills, are discharged into a number of lagoons constructed by the unit at a mid-stream island about 5 kms. upstream in the Godavari

River. The treated effluents from the paper mills are reported to be within the prescribed discharge standards. The other source of pollution of Godavari is the discharge of untreated municipal waste water from Rajahmundry, Bhadrachalam, Ramagundam and Mancherial.

(c) The Andhra Pradesh State Pollution Control Board is closely monitoring the performance of the effluent treatment plant of the paper mills. This unit has also introduced recycling of waste water which has resulted in about 30% reduction in the generation of effluents. A scheme of abatement of pollution from municipal waste water from the aforesaid four towns has been included in the draft National River Conservation Plan

REQUIREMENT OF FOOD

7834. **Shri Harin Pathak :** Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Resource Institute and FAO have expressed doubt about the efficiency of Green Revolution methodology to produce additional food to meet the requirements of India by the Year 2000 A.D;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the alternative strategy being worked out by the Government in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) to (c) The Foodgrains production in the country has observed a compound growth rate of 2.79 percent per annum during the period 1980-81 to 1993-94 whereas population growth rate has been about 2.1 percent per annum during the same period. Accordingly, the country is capable of producing additional food to meet growing requirements.

The crop production programmes aimed at increasing foodgrains productivity are reviewed periodically and modified as per requirements to increase the production in a sustainable manner

BOARD ON SUGARCANE PRICE

7835. **Shri Shravan Kumar Patel :** Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently assured the Sugarcane Growers that a high level board will be constituted to consider the reasonable rates of Sugarcane produced during the months of May and June every year; and

(b) if so, the time by which said board is likely to be constituted and the farmers will get the reasonable rates of their products?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) and (b) The Central Government had convened a Conference of Sugar Ministers of all the sugar producing States on 5.2.1994. In that Conference a Committee of Ministers of five State

Governments namely, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Tamilnadu, Maharashtra and Kamatake was constituted to recommend the pricing policy for State Advised Prices of Sugarcane. This Committee submitted its report on 3.4.1995.

Another Conference of Sugar Ministers of all the sugar producing States/UTs was convened on 8th May, 1995 to consider the recommendations of this Committee. Though majority of the States/UTs supported the formation of a National Pricing Board for sugarcane, there was difference of opinion about its terms of reference. The Government has decided to seek detailed suggestions/proposals from the State Governments/UTs in this regard so that a final view can be taken.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

7836. **Shri Syed Shahabuddin** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state .

(a) whether the World Archaeological Congress was recently held in India under the auspices of Archaeological Survey of India;

(b) if so, whether the Government had given any grant-in-aid for holding the congress;

(c) the subjects on which discussion took place in the congress,

(d) whether any material was distributed to all the delegates attending the congress; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) The World Archaeological Congress-3 was held from 4th to 11th December, 1994 under the auspices of the South Asia Chapter of World Archaeological Congress and the Archaeological Survey of India.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A statement is enclosed.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The delegates attending the congress were distributed theme papers on various academic themes and symposia officially issued by the Academic Committee of the World Archaeological Congress-3.

STATEMENT

Concept of Time, Archaeology as an indicator of Trade and Commerce, Language, Anthropology and Archaeology, Ethno- archaeology, State, City and Society, Neogene, Changes in Agrarian Systems, Cultural Property, Conservation and Public Awareness, Relationship between Archaeological Theory and Practice, Changing Perspective in Historical Archaeology, Frontiers of landscape, Archaeology and Archaeological Manifestations of

Religious Traditions and Institutions were the subjects of major academic themes whereas those of the Symposia included Indus Civilization, Archaeological source material and Reconstruction of History, Rock Art of Asia and the Pacifics, New Archaeological Discoveries, Recent Advances in Archaeological Field and Laboratory Techniques, Maritime Archaeology and Archaeology on film and video

TENDER FOR BALLASTE

7837. **Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether there was any irregularities in the processing of tender for the procurement of ballasts in Eastern Railway during 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted by the Government to look into the matter,

(d) if so, the outcome there of and the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief)

(a) to (e) Investigations have prime-facie revealed certain procedural irregularities in the processing of a tender for procurement of ballast on Eastern Railway. Action against the defaulting officials is under process.

MEETINGS OF CONSUMER ORGANISATIONS

7838. **Shri Surendra Pal Pathak** : Will the Minister Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state

(a) whether his Ministry contemplate to organise Consultative Meetings of Consumer Organisations with the Ministry of Finance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the issue of passing on full excise duty benefits on liberalisation to consumers is likely to be taken up in such meetings; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to achieve the aforesaid purpose?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

STOPPAGE OF SADBHAVANA EXPRESS

7839 **Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether representations have been received to provide stoppage of Sadbhavana Express at Bareilly of the convenience of passengers; and

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

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) and (b) Delhi-Muzaffarpur/Samastipur and Delhi-Sultanpur Sadbhavana Expresses are running via Chanethi and do not touch Bareilly

IMPROVEMENT OF LIBRARIES AND LABORATORIES

7840 Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether a Committee has ever been constituted in the history of Central Schools to improve their libraries and laboratories,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) and (b) The functioning of Libraries/Laboratories of Kendriya Vidyalayas has been one of the items taken up for specific review by the Dr B D Sharma Committee set-up by Government in 1987 and by the recent review committee under the Chairpersonship of Deputy Minister (E & C).

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

SURCHARGE UNDER BOMBAY URBAN TRANSPORT PROJECT

7841. Shri Ram Nalk : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether World Bank has proposed collection of surcharge from Mumbai Suburban Railway commuters for Suburban Railway Projects funded under Bombay Urban Transport Project (BUTP);

(b) whether the Ministry have accepted this proposal; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

AGRICULTURAL TRADE FUND

7842 Shri N.J. Rathva : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute a

separate agricultural trade fund to encourage such entrepreneurs who could make optimum use of natural and human resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Agricultural Trade Committee of the PHD Chamber of Commerce has also made a request to the Government in this regard,

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the effective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

The Minister of state in the Ministry of Non Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) : (a) and (b) No, Sir

(c) to (e) No, Sir

[Translation]

STOPPAGE AT RAILWAY STATION

7843 Shri Sushil Chandra Varma : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether Grand Trunk Express has not been provided stoppage at Habibganj Railway station, and

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

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief)

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) Examined but not found feasible

PRODUCTION OF COTTON

7844 Shri P. Kumarasamy : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) the details of different varieties of cotton being grown in Tamilnadu,

(b) the variety-wise total quantity of cotton produced in the State during 1993-94 and 1994-95,

(c) the total amount of financial assistance provided to Cotton Growers of the State during the above period, year-wise,

(d) the quantity of Cotton seeds distributed to the farmers in the State during the above period; and

(e) the steps being taken to further improve the production of cotton in the State?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) The details of different varieties of cotton being grown in Tamilnadu are as follows :

1	LRA 5166
2	MCU-5
3	MCU-7
4	Suvin
5	K-10
6	Varalakshmi
7	DCH-32
8	MCU-5-VT
9	ADT-1
10	TCHB 213

(b) The variety-wise total quantity of cotton produced in the State during 1993-94 and 1994-95 is as follows

Variety	Production (lakh bales of 170 kg each)	
	1993-94	1994-95
MCU-5	1 70	2 10
MCU 7	0 15	0 20
LHA-5166	1 50	1 70
Suvin	0 40	0 45
Hybrid	0 30	0 40
Others	0 16	0 20
Total	4 21	5 10

(c) The total amount of financial assistance provided to growers of the State of Tamilnadu under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Intensive Cotton Development programme during 1993-94 and 1994-95 are given below

Year	Amount released by the Govt (Rs in lakhs) (Central share)
1993-94	200 06
1994-95	300 94

(d) The quantity of cotton seed distributed by the State Department during 1993-94 and 1994-95 was 3702 quintals and 3445 quintals respectively

(e) In order to increase productivity of cotton in the

State a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented in the State on 75.25 per cent basis between Centre and State Government. Under the scheme financial assistance is being provided on seeds, plant protection equipments, conducting demonstration, farmers training and contingency etc.

[English]

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

7845 Shri Amar Roypradhan - Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) the details of collection of Wild animal skins in the National Museum of Natural History Delhi at present alongwith the date of collection of each article

(b) the details of electronic typewriters, photocopies, refrigerators and air conditioning plants purchased for the said Museum as on 31.3.95 alongwith date of purchase of each article

(c) the amount being spent for protection/security/maintenance of articles given in parts (a) and (b) above year wise

(d) whether in spite of all the arrangements the articles given in part (a) have decayed or destroyed and numerous articles given in part (b) are missing from the Museum and

(e) if so the reasons in details and the action taken by the government against guilty official of his Ministry/Museum so far?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) (a) The National Museum of Natural History has at present wild animal skins. The dates of their collection and other details are accessioned scientifically in the sectional register of the Taxidermy of the Museum

(b) The requisite details are as follows

Particular of items	No of item	Date of Purchase	
1	2	3	4
(1) Electronic typewriters	One	18 3 1983	
	One	6 10 1987	
(2) Photocopiers	One	10 11 1982	
	One	31 3 1989	
	One	30 3 1993	
(3) Refrigerators	One	24 3 1975	
	Three	5 5 1994	

1	2	3	4
(4) Airconditioning Plants			
(i) Window type	One	5.7.1977	
	Ten	7.7.1981	
	Four	11.6.1983	
	Four	24.9.1984	
	Four	16.10.1989	
	Three	21.3.1990	
(ii) air cooled package units of 5 tons capacity each	Two	21.9.1990	
	Five	25.9.1985	

(c) On the average, the amounts spent on overall security of the Museum and on the maintenance of the above mentioned items during the last three years are as follows :

Amount (Rs.) p.a. spent on :

- (1) Security Rs. 61,999/-
- (2) Maintenance Rs. 66,743/-

(d) and (e) Two skins, one each of Leopard and White Tiger Cub, were reported to be lost and an FIR was lodged with the Police Station Tilak Marg on 11.3.1991. As regards the other items there is no report of decay/damage/loss.

STOPPAGE AT CHAMELA

7846. **Shrimati Vasundhara Raje** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to provide a stoppage of the intercity Express at Chamela in Rajasthan; and

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

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) and (b) Stoppage of 4005/4006 Indore-Hazrat Nizamuddin Express at Chau Mahla has been examined but not found justified.

SPORTS TALENT SELECTION BY S.A.I.

7847. **Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Sports Authority of India is following a wrong sports talent selection battery in its NSTC, SPDA and ABC schemes while it has been provided with modified,

updated and correct sports talent selection method;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) and Minister of State in The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mukul Wasnik) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The battery of tests adopted by the Sports Authority of India was finalised after vetting by an Expert Committee comprising Sports Scientists, Coaches and Administrators. This was finalised after the Committee had considered certain modifications suggested by the Principal, Indira Gandhi Institute of Physical Education and Sports Sciences.

INCENTIVE SCHEMES

7848. **Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways are contemplating any incentive scheme to enthuse the employees to work efficiently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways have considered any incentive system for the Managers and Senior officers to optimise the corporate objectives of the Railways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) and (b) A statement is attached.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

An incentive scheme is already in vogue in most of the Production Units and Mechanical Workshops. Main features of the scheme are as under :

(i) An average worker is presumed to be working at 60 the rating and when he reaches 80 rating he gets a 331/3% Incentive bonus- the maximum being limited to 50%.

(ii) In computation of allowed time, standard allowances viz. fatigue allowance, contingency allowance, gauging allowance and incentive bonus allowance are given.

(iii) Essentially indirect workers are paid at the rate of 80% of the direct workers.

(iv) Supervisors upto Chargeman 'A' are paid incentive bonus.

The Rail Coach Factory's incentive scheme, which is presently under consideration of the Railway Board, Proposes a group incentive scheme directly related not only to the output of Section/Shop concerned but also to the overall output of RCF as a whole. There is no upper ceiling limit envisaged the scheme also has an in-built quality improvement aspect in as much as defects/complaints from customers would invite penalty for all concerned incentive groups.

The Diesel Component Works' incentive scheme is still being given a final shape by DCW in consultation with M/s Rail India Technical Economic Services and is yet to be submitted by them to the Railway Board for approval.

HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES

7849 **Shri Surajbhanu Solanki :**
Shri Rameshwar Patidar :
Shri Ankushrao Raosaheb Tope :

Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) the names of hazardous chemical industrial units presently operating in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps to monitor the growth of the hazardous chemical industries in these States,

(c) if so, the comparative percentage of rise in the growth of hazardous chemical industries in these States during the last two years, and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check the increase in such industries?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) (a) As per the information provided by the State Governments, there are 18 large and medium units manufacturing hazardous chemicals in Madhya Pradesh and 256 major accident hazard (MAH) units in Maharashtra. These names are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) to (d) In the last two years there has been a general growth of industries, including hazardous chemical units, of the order of 20 percent in these States. The growth of hazardous chemical industries is monitored through the implementation of the provisions of "Notification of sites" under Manufacture, storage and import of Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989 as amended on 3-10-1994. Setting up of such industries are regulated under various provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 including the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification of 27-01-1994, as amended on 04-05-1994 and other laws in force.

STATEMENT

List of Large & Medium Units Manufacturing Hazardous Chemicals in Madhya Pradesh and MAH Units in Maharashtra.

S No	Name of the Industries
1	2

MADHYA PRADESH

- 1 M/s Dharamsi Morari Chemical Co Ltd, Kumhar, Durg
- 2 M/s Rama Phosphate Indore
- 3 M/s B E C Fertilizers, Bilaspur
- 4 M/s Harshwardhan Minerals & Chemicals Jhabua
- 5 M/s National Fertilizers Ltd Vijaypur, Guna
- 6 M/s Khaitan Chemicals & Fertilizers, Khargone
- 7 M/s Unilchem Fertilizers Ltd Vijaypur Guna
- 8 M/s Grasim Industries Ltd Birlagram Nagda
- 9 M/s Hukumchand Jute & Industries Amlai, Shahdol
- 10 M/s Nepa Mills Ltd, Napanagar, Khandwa
- 11 M/s Bharat Zinc Ltd, Mandideep, Raisen
- 12 M/s Rookhard Petro Chemicals, Maxim Shajapur
- 13 M/s Indo Zinc Ltd, Pithampur, Dhar
- 14 M/s Hindustan Copper Project, Malanjkhand
- 15 M/s Rishi Gases, Tfra, Bilaspur
- 16 M/s Gas Authority of India Limited, Vijaypur, Guna
- 17 M/s International Industrial Gases, Waldan Sidhi
- 18 M/s Asiatic Oxygen & Acetylene Co Ltd Kumhar, Durg

MAHARASHTRA

- 1 Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd, Bombay
- 2 Oswal Petrochemicals, Bombay
- 3 Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd, Bombay
- 4 Indian Oxygen Ltd, Bombay
- 5 Polychem Ltd, Bombay

- | 1 | 2 |
|-----|--|
| 6. | Rashtriya Chemical & Fertilisers, Bombay. |
| 7. | Special Oil Refinery, Bombay. |
| 8. | TATA Electric Co-I, Bombay. |
| 9. | TATA Electric Co-II, Bombay. |
| 10. | Techno Products Private Ltd., Bombay. |
| 11. | The Premier Automobiles Ltd, Bombay. |
| 12. | Brihanmumbai Mahanagarpalika, Bombay. |
| 13. | Elecot Paints Private Ltd., Bombay. |
| 14. | Empire Industries Ltd., Bombay. |
| 15. | Borosil Glass Works Ltd., Bombay. |
| 16. | Parle Products, Bombay. |
| 17. | Special Steel Ltd., Bombay. |
| 18. | Bhor Industries. Bombay. |
| 19. | Mahindra & Mahindra Limited, Bombay. |
| 20. | Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bombay. |
| 21. | Metal Box Limited, Bombay. |
| 22. | Aegis Chemicals Industries Limited, Bombay. |
| 23. | Mahindra & Mahindra Limited, Bombay. |
| 24. | Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bombay. |
| 25. | Ammonia Terminal, Bombay. |
| 26. | Hindustan Petroleum Corproation Limited, Bombay. |
| 27. | Chemical Terminal Trombay Limited, Bombay. |
| 28. | Larsen & Toubro Limited I, Bombay. |
| 29. | Larsen & Toubro Limited II, Bombay. |
| 30. | Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., Bombay. |
| 31. | Bajaj Auto Ltd., Pune. |
| 32. | Hindustan Petroleum Corpn., Ltd., Bombay. |
| 33. | Padamji Palp & Paper Mills Ltd., Pune. |
| 34. | Rama Krishi Rasayan Ltd., Pune. |
| 35. | Sudharshan Chemical Ind. Ltd., Pune. |
| 36. | Sahyadri Dyestuff & Chemicals. Pune. |
| 37. | Tate Eng. Locomotive Co, Ltd., Pune. |
| 38. | Dai-Ichi Karkaria Ltd., Pune. |

- | 1 | 2 |
|-----|--|
| 39. | Jai Hind Industries Ltd., Pune. |
| 40. | Arlabs Ltd. Pune. |
| 41. | Bajaj Temp Ltd., Pune. |
| 42. | Bharat Forge Ltd., Pune |
| 43. | Ballarpur Industries Ltd., Pune. |
| 44. | Chloride Industries Ltd., Pune. |
| 45. | Deccan Mechanical & Chemical Ind. Ltd., Pune. |
| 46. | Eagle Flask Industnes, Pune. |
| 47. | Hindustan Petroleum Corpn. Ltd., Pune. |
| 48. | Indian Cord Clothing Co. Ltd., Pune. |
| 49. | Kirloskar Cummins Ltd., Pune. |
| 50. | Malegaon Sah Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Pune. |
| 51. | Morris Electronics Ltd., Pune. |
| 52. | Mahindra Sinteered Products Ltd., Pune. |
| 53. | S.M. Zachimner & Schleer & Electricals Ltd., Pune. |
| 54. | Tata Engg. Locomotive Co. Ltd, Pune . |
| 55. | Thermax Ltd., Pune. |
| 56. | Walchandnagar Ind. Ltd., Pune. |
| 57. | Ajinkyatara Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Pune. |
| 58. | Krishna Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd. Satara. |
| 59. | Sahyadri Sahakan SAKhar Karkhana Ltd., Satara. |
| 60. | Nira Valley Co-Op Distillary Ltd., Sa'ara. |
| 61. | Shri Precoated Steels Ltd., Pune. |
| 62. | Sterfite Industries (I) Ltd., Pune. |
| 63. | Satara Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Satara. |
| 64. | Yashwant Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Pune. |
| 65. | Sterfite Industries (I) Ltd., Pune. |
| 66. | ZF Steering Gear (India) Ltd., Pune. |
| 67. | Indian Oil Corpn. Ltd., Pune. |
| 68. | Kamadhenu Pesticides, Pune. |
| 69. | Pieco Electronics & Electricals Ltd., Pune. |

1	2
70.	Plychem Ltd., Pune.
71.	SKE Bearings India Ltd., Pune.
72.	Albnght Morarji & Pandit Ltd., Raigad.
73.	Asian Paints (I) Ltd., Raigad.
74.	Amal Rasayani Ltd., Raigad.
75.	Dipsi Chemicals P. Ltd., Raigad.
76.	Deepak Fertilizer & Petro Chemicals Corpn, Ltd., Raigad.
77.	Dharamsi Morarji & Co. Ltd., Raigad.
78.	Excel Industnes Ltd., Raigad.
79.	Hindustan Insecticides Ltd., Raigad.
80.	Hindustan Lever Ltd., Raigad.
81.	Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd., Raigad.
82.	Hico Products Ltd., Raigad.
83.	Indian Organic Chemicals Ltd., Raigad.
84.	Oil & Natural Gas Commission Raigad.
85.	Rukma Chemicals P. Ltd., Raigad.
86.	Rashtrya Chemicals Fertilizers Ltd., Raigad
87.	Sudarshan Chemical Ind. Ltd., Raigad.
88.	Unichem Ltd., Raigad.
89.	Anshul Chemicals Pvt. Ltd. Bombay.
90.	Bharat Petroleum Corpn. Ltd, Raigad.
91.	Vasudha Chemicals Pvt., Ltd., Raigad.
92.	Ashok Surfactance Pvt. Ltd., Raigad.
93.	Atsuam Chemicals Corpn , Raigad.
94.	Bombay Dyeing & Mgd. Co. Ltd., Raigad.
95.	Bright Chlochem P. Ltd., Raigad.
96.	Diam Organic Chemicals, Raigad.
97.	Indian Petrochemicals Corpn. Ltd., Raigad.
98.	Jaya Non-Ionice Pvt. Ltd., Raigad.
99.	Konkan Pesticines Raigad.
100.	Metasulf, Raigad.
101.	P.K. Velu & Co. Raigad.
102.	Reliance Industries Ltd., Raigad.
103.	Rama Petrochemicals Ltd., Raigad.

1	2
104.	Reliance Industries, Ltd., Raigad.
105.	Silvo Liacal Chemicals, Mahad.
106.	Sunshield Chemicals, Raigad.
107.	Unitop Chemicals, Raigad.
108.	United Pestichem & Non-Ionics P Ltd , Raigad
109.	Vinyl Chemicals, Raigad.
110.	Vishudha Rasayani, Raigad.
111.	Reliance Industries Ltd., (Storage) Raigad.
112.	Divay Chemicals Ltd., Raigad.
113.	Mark Omega Organic Industries Ltd., Raigad.
114.	Bee-Am Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., Raigad.
115.	Guj. Petrochem Pvt. Ltd., Raigad.
116.	Sudarshan Chemical Ind. Ltd., Raigad.
117.	Vamotiwala Chemical Ind. Ltd., Raigad.
118.	Apte Amalamation Ltd., Raigad.
119.	Jalan Trading Co. Pvt. Ltd., Raigad.
120.	Sadhna Nitrochemicals Ltd., Raigad.
121.	Jaysynth Anthraquinone Ltd., Raigad.
122.	Shri Siddheshwan Sulphur Products, Raigad.
123.	Alkyl Amines Chemicals Ltd., Raigad.
124.	Shri Han Chemical (I) Pvt. Ltd., Mahad.
125.	Vinati Organic Ltd., Raigad.
126.	Maharashtra Seamless Ltd., Raigad.
127.	Precision Fasteners Ltd., Raigad.
128.	Amritial Chemaux Ltd., Thane.
129.	Alchemie Pharma Chem Pvt. Ltd., Thane.
130.	Bayer (India) Ltd., Thane.
131.	Bharat Pulvensing Mills Ltd., Thane.
132.	Chemi Equip Ltd.. Thane.
133.	Century Chemicals, Thane.
134.	Dharamsi Morarjee Chemical Co. Ltd, Thane.
135.	Globe Industries, Thane.
136.	Gopainand Rasayani, Thane.
137.	Herdillia Chemicals Ltd., Thane.

1	2
138.	Indofil Chemicals Co. Thane.
139.	Indian Dyestuff Industries Ltd., Thane.
140.	Industrial Solvent & Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., Thane.
141.	Jupiter Chemical Industries, Thane.
142.	Lubrizol India Ltd., Thane.
143.	Mulund Chlorination Plant (B.M.C.) Thane.
144.	Metroni Drugs Pvt. Ltd. Thane.
145.	Premier Dyes Corporation, Thane.
146.	National Organic Chemicals Indust. Ltd., Thane.
147.	National Rayon Corporation, Thane.
148.	Polyelefines Industries Ltd., Thane.
149.	Polfines Pvt. Ltd., (Polymer Divn). Thane.
150.	Rashesh Chemicals & Pharma Pvt. Ltd., Thane.
151.	Rajani Chemical Indus. Pvt. Ltd. Thane.
152.	Rajprakash Chemicals Ltd., Thane.
153.	Sandoz (India) Ltd., Thane.
154.	Shriwas Chemical Industries Ltd., Thane.
155.	Shroff Technical Services Pvt. Ltd., Thane.
156.	Standard Mills Col Ltd., Thane.
157.	Hico Products Ltd., Thane.
158.	Amines & Plasticers Ltd., Thane.
159.	F.C.P. Ltd., Thane.
160.	Boehringer Mannheim India Ltd., Thane.
161.	Jaysynth Dychem Ltd., Thane.
162.	Kedia Research Centre, Thane.
163.	Rallies India Ltd., Thane.
164.	Sigma Solvents, Thane.
165.	Gharda Chemicals Ltd., Thane.
166.	Henkel Chemical Indus. Ltd., Thane.
167.	Ganesh Chemicals, Thane.
168.	Jindal Dye Intermediate Pvt. Ltd., Thane.
169.	Polymers & Chemicals Industries, Thane.
170.	Savita Chemicals Ltd., Thane.

1	2
171.	Poysha Industries Ltd., Thane.
172.	Hindustan Petroleum Corpn., Thane.
173.	Pieco Electronics & Electricals Ltd., Thane.
174.	I.C. I. (India) Ltd. Thane.
175.	Galaxy Organics Pvt. Ltd., Thane.
176.	Bishen Dye & Prtg. Wearing Mills, Thane.
177.	Bharat Gears Ltd., Thane.
178.	Colcur Chem Ltd., Thane.
179.	Expanded in Corporation, Thane.
180.	Krishna Glass Ltd., Thane.
181.	Jindal Strips Ltd., Thane.
182.	Kagzi Brothers Pvt. Ltd., Thane.
183.	Shri Mahavir Dye & Prtg. Mills P. Ltd., Thane.
184.	Phin-O-Chem Industries Pvt. Ltd., Thane.
185.	Quality Industries, Thane.
186.	Space Age Chemicals, Thane.
187.	Khanna & Khanna Ltd., Thane.
188.	Sterling Auxillanses Pvt. Ltd., Thane.
189.	Special Steel Ltd., Thane.
190.	Unique Chemicals, Thane.
191.	BASF Ltd., Thane.
192.	Bombay Allum Pvt. Ltd., Thane.
193.	Truph Non-Ionice Pvt. Ltd., Thane.
194.	Imedozoles & Intermediate Pvt. Ltd., Thane.
195.	Mukund Ltd., Thane.
196.	Salviggor Laboratoris P. Ltd., Thane.
197.	Herdillia Polymeres Ltd., Thane.
198.	Cee Sulfons Ltd., Thane.
199.	K.R. Steel Unions Ltd., Thane.
200.	Herdellia Unimers Ltd., Thane.
201.	Esab India Ltd., Thane.
202.	Selectechem Pawane.
203.	Kavasmaneck Chemical Pvt. Ltd., Thane.
204.	Shree Chemicals, Ambemath.

1	2
205.	National Standard Dukan Ltd., Thane.
206.	Nirlon Ltd., Thane
207	I V.P Ltd , Tarapur
208	Zenith Chemicals, Thane
209	Vishal Synthetces, Thane.
210	Dhoopchand (I) P Ltd , Thane
211	Aarti Drugs Ltd., Tarapur
212	Spack Chemicals (P) Ltd , Tarapur
213	Jivraj Chemical Ind. P Ltd Tarapur
214	Bharat Petroleum Corpn. Ltd., Sholepur.
215	Shn Datta Sahakan Sakhar Karkhanna Ltd , Kolhapur
216	Gharda Chemicals Ltd , Ratnagiri
217	National Organic Chemical Ind Ltd , Ratnagiri
218.	Shn Warna Sahakar Sakhar Karkhanna Ltd , Sangli
219	Hindustan Petroleum Corpn Ltd Sangli
220	Samarth Organics P. Ltd, Sholapur
221	Aurangabad Oil Extraction Pvt Ltd , Aurangabad
222	Hindustan Petroleum Corpn Ltd , Aurangabad
223	Greaves Mergants Crucible Ltd , Aurangabad.
224	Godavan Drugs P Ltd , Nanded
225	Terna Sah Sakhar Karkhana Ltd Usmanabad
226.	Sipta Ceated Steels Ltd., Nanded
227	Bajaj Auto Ltd , Aurangabad.
228	Maharashtra Destillanes Ltd. Aurangabad
229	Sidheshwar Sah. Sakhar Kharknana Ltd., Aurangabad
230.	Samarth Sahakan Sakhar Karkhanna Ltd., Jalua.
231	Kirtoskar Oil Engines Ltd. Ahmednagar
232.	Mangalan Inoraganc P Ltd. Ahmednagar.
233.	Monsingka Industnes, Jalgaon
234.	Rukhma Industries, Jalgaon.

1	2
235	Rishiroop Polymers P Ltd , Nasik
236.	Sahnoy Kirwook P Ltd , Nasik
237	C P Electronics Ltd., Nasik
238	Jhote Ceramics P Ltd , Nasik
239.	Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd , Nasik
240	Vindya Paper Mills, Jalgaon
241	Bharat Petroleum Corpn Ltd , Jalgaon
242	Dovine Enterprnses, Jalgaon
243	Hindustan Farvities P Ltd Jalgaon
244	Ballapur Industnes Ltd , Chanderpur
245	Chlonna Chemicals Industnes, Bhandara
246	Gaurava Paper Mill, Chandrapur
247	Noble Explochem Ltd , Wardha
248	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation, Nagpur
249	Nippon Donro Ispat Ltd , Nagpur
250	Simplex Paper Mills, Bhandara
251	Ellara Paper Mills, Bhandara
252	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation, Ltd , Chandrapur
253.	Maharashtra Insecticides Ltd , Akola
254	Indain Oil Corporation Ltd , Nagpur
255	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation, Ltd , Nagpur.
256	Century Rayon Ltd Thane

SHIFTING OF OFFICE

7850 Dr. P. Vallal Peruman : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state .

(a) whether there is any proposal to close down and shift Control office, Northern Railway, Rewan to Bikaner (Rajasthan),

(b) if so, the reasons there for,

(c) whether Mini Control Delhi is more useful than that of Rewan; and

(d) if so, the functions and uses of Mini Control Delhi?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. K. Jaffer Sharief)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided to integrate Rewan Control with the divisional control office at Bikaner for better supervision and centralised train controlling.

(c) and (d) There is no Mini control at Delhi. One Area Manager for Bikaner division is posted for co-ordination purposes in Delhi area.

ECONOMIC REFORMS

7851 **Shri M.V.V.S. Murthy** : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether the World Bank has suggested that economic reforms should be shifted to Agriculture Sector,

(b) if so, whether the economic reforms have not so far helped the poor,

(c) if so, the reasons therefor,

(d) whether the experts have pointed out that production will have to be increased to make a proper dent on poverty, and

(e) if so whether any concrete steps are being considered in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) Yes, Sir. The World Bank has suggested agricultural structural adjustment for India to boost investments in private sectors. The suggestions for structural adjustment include

- (i) Liberalisation of domestic agricultural markets
- (ii) Globalising of agriculture and tariff reforms
- (iii) Reviewing and rechannelising public expenditure
- (iv) Reviewing and phasing out of input subsidies
- (v) Reorganisation and rationalisation of rural credit structure

(b) and (c) The structural adjustments have been suggested to involve agricultural sector in line with economic reforms in other sectors of the economy. It is not on account of any studies on poverty alleviation programmes.

(d) and (e) Increased production is one of the major strategies for poverty alleviation and many schemes are being implemented in this regard. The major schemes include

- (i) Increased use of inputs like seeds and fertilizers
- (ii) increasing access to agricultural credit for farmers

(iii) Stress on soil conservation and irrigation schemes

(iv) Stress on Integrated pest Management

(v) Stress on research and education linked with on farm development

(vi) Infrastructural development and other linkages for agricultural produce

HISTORICAL BUILDING

7852 **Shri S. M. Laljan Basha** Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to take over the building used by Nobel Laureates Mr Ronald Ross in Hyderabad from the Ministry of Defence

(b) if so the details thereof and

the further steps being taken by the Government for preservation and proper maintenance of the Building?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (c) The Archaeological Survey of India has no proposal to protect this building. However, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has issued a notification under the State Act on 26.1.95 declaring the intention to protect the building.

FOREST GUARDS/OFFICIALS

7853 **Shri Balraj Passi** : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government provide proper security and adequate facilities to the forest Guards/ Officials responsible for the Security of Tiger reserves

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

(c) whether nearby villagers of the Sanctuaries are also not satisfied with the policies of the Government and if so the reasons thereof,

(d) whether some Guards/Officials have been provided with arms and whether they can use the arms only on the orders of the Magistrate; and

(e) if so, the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to provide proper security to the Guards/Officials?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Forest Guards and other personnel of the Project Tiger areas are employees of the concerned state Governments. Their security and other facilities are concerns of and are taken care of by the State Government as far as practicable.

(c) There have been cases of some conflicts between the park authorities and the adjoining villagers on the issue of access to protected area resources. However, eco-development schemes around Tiger Reserves have been launched to reduce such conflicts and encourage peoples cooperation for the protection of the parks.

(d) and (e) Fire-arms have been provided to some forest officials, which can be used by them in self-defence only, without the permission of a Magistrate. Also, armed police personnel have been deployed in some vulnerable areas for the protection of forests and the personnel posted therein.

BEAUTY CONTESTS

7854 Shri Tara Singh :
Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad .

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received representations from Women's organisations to put a ban on the beauty contests and fashion shows in the country and

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

ANSWER

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Women and Child Development) (Shrimati Basava Rajeswan) : (a) No Sir

(b) Does not arise

SPARE PARTS

7855 LR. R. Mallu : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) The number of Public Undertaking companies designed to manufacture Railway Spare Parts Which have turned sick during the recent years in West Bengal and

(b) The number of employees and workers engaged in these manufacturing units?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) Details of Public Sector units manufacturing spare parts for Railways are not maintained State-Wise. There are four Public Sector Units in West Bengal which Manufacture complete units of rolling stock. All these units have been sick and referred to the Bureau of Industrial Finance and Reconstruction

(b) As on 31.3.1995, these units had about 20,500 employees.

SUPER BAZAR

7856 Shrimati Bhavna Chikhalla : Will the Minister of Civil Supplies Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state

(a) whether the proposal to provide 30 per cent reservation for women in Super Bazar in different categories has since been finalised,

(b) if so the details thereof,

(c) the time by when a final decision is likely to be taken to implement the proposal by the Super Bazar Management, and

(d) the number of women employees in Super Bazar as on date category-wise?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) (a) There is no such proposal

(b) Does not arise

(c) Super Bazar has its own recruitment and promotion rules duly approved by its, Managing Committee which does not envisage reservation for women employees

(d) Details are given in the Statement attached

STATEMENT

S No	Women Employees	Number
1	2	3
1	Controller of Accounts & Finance	1
2	Selection Grade Sr PA	1
3	Asstt Manager	3
4	Scientific Asstt	3
5	Selection Grade Cashier	2
6	Technical Asstt	1
7	Accountant	9
8	Asstt Accountant	8
9	Sr Accountant	1
10	Sr Supervisor	4
11	Jr Supervisor	45
12	Sales Asstt	92
13	Jr Sales Asstt	15
14	Computist	

1	2	3
15.	Accounts Asstt.	4
16.	Sweeper	10
17.	Typist	5
18.	Office Asstt./Typist	5
19.	Hindi Translator	1
20.	Cashier	8
21.	Jr. Store Keeper	1
22.	Store Asstt.	5
23.	Jr. Stenographer	7
24.	Sr. Store keeper	1
25.	Packing Cleaner	121
26.	Helper	10
27.	Packer	2
28.	Pharmacist	3
29.	Sr. Stenographer	1
30.	Personnel Asstt.	6
31.	Telephone Operator	2
32.	Stock Clerk	6
33.	Medical Officer	1
34.	Selection Grade Sweeper	1
Total		386

FEMALE INFANTICIDE

7857. **Shri P.P. Kaliaperumal** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to appoint a committee to suggest the ways and means to end female infanticide;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Women and Child Development) (Shrimati Basava Rajeswari) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Department of Women and Child Development has commenced a study of the parts of the country where there are adverse sex ratios. A view

regarding the measures required to end female infanticide can be evolved only on the receipt of the study report.

BUSINESS BASED ON ANIMAL PRODUCTS

7858. **Dr. Asim Bala** : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are thinking to promote business activities based on animal products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total GDP from the sources like vaccine, diagnostic materials, pharmaceuticals, enzymes and hormones prepared from slaughter house waste, meat, pork and veal after processing of animals?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the organisations concerned and will be laid on the Table of the sabha.

POSHIR DAM

7859. **Shri Ram Kapse** : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state . . .

(a) whether the Government have received the WAPCOSS Report regarding Environmental Impact Assessment Study and Hydrology of the Poshir Dam in Thane District.

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and time by which the Report is expected to be received?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The project proponent is required to furnish details of the project along with environmental data, hydrology in the Environmental Management Plan, Environmental Impact Assessment while submitting the proposal to the Ministry for environmental clearance. The poshir Dam proposal has not been referred to the Ministry for environmental clearance.

[Translation]

GAUGE CONVERSION AND DOUBLING OF RAILWAY LINES

7860. **Shri Rampal Singh** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the names of the Zones in which work pertaining to gauge conversion and doubling of railway lines has been undertaken during the Eighth five year Plan, Year-wise?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

The Gauge Conversion and doubling Works completed during the first 3 years of the 8th Five Year Plan are as under :

GAUGE CONVERSION

S No	Name of Section/Line	Zone (kms)	Length
2		3	4
1992-93			
1	Lucknow-Kanpur	NR	59
2	Delhi-Rewari	NR	83
3	Kotkapura-Fazilka	NR	80
4	Lalgarh-Merta Road	NR	177
5	Lalgarh-Kolayat	NR	47
6	Nadiad-Kapadwanj	WR	45
7	Sawaimadhopur-Jaipur	WR	125
8	Bangalore-Tumkur	SR	59
9	Mysore-Bangalore	SR	138
10	Guntur-Narsaraopet	SC	46
11	Bangalore-Yelahanka	SR	12
12	Dindigul-Tuticorin	SR	196
13	Bellary-Rayadurg	SC	54
14	Aurangabad-Jalna	SC	64
15	Parbhani-Parli Vajinath	SC	63
16	Burhwal-Mehmoodabad	NE	38
17	Mankapur-Katra	NE	30
18	Purulia-Kotshila	SE	35
Total			1351

1993-94

1	Daund-Baramati	CR	42
2	Bathinda-Hissar	NR	157
3	Phulera-Jodhpur-Bhagat-Ki-Kothi	NR	261
4	Patel Nager-Sarai Rohilla	NR	3
5	Merta Rd -Merta City	NR	15

1	2	3	4
6.	Mehmoodabad-Sitapur	NE	60
7	Varanasi-Allahabad	NE	126
8	Lucknow-Manaknagar	NE	5
9	Lalkuan-Kathgodam	NE	29
10	Guwahati-Lumding	NF	181
11	Tumkur-Chikajur	SR	215
12	Chikajur-Chitradurg	SR	16
13	Mysore-Ashokapuram	SR	5
14	Tambaram-Egmore	SR	27
15	Narsaraopet-Donakonda	SC	75
16	Jalna-Parbhani	SC	116
17	Falaknuma-Secunderabad	SC	28
18	Bolarum-Secunderabad	SC	14
19	Falaknuma-Mehboobnagar	SC	99
20	Gondia-Arjuni	SE	82
21	Jaipur-Phulera	WR	55
22	Jaipur-Durgapur	WR	8
Total			1619

1994-95

1	Parbhani-Puna	SC	29
2	Puna-Nanded	SC	32
3	Arjuni-Wadsa	SE	23
4	Birur-Shimoga	SR	63
5	Amritapura-Chitradurg	SR	18
6	Hissar-Rewari	NR	143
7	Rewari-Jaipur	WR	225
8	Phulera-Ajmer	WR	81
9	Khodiyar-Mehsana	WR	52
10	Delhi Cantt-DLI/NDLS	NR	14
11	Donakonda-Giddalur	SC	84
12	Chikajur-Hanjar	SR	60
13	Harihar-Hubli	SR	129
14	Hubli-Londa	SC	93
15.	Miraj-Londa	SC	188

1	2	3	4
16.	Alnavar-Ambewadi	SC	26
17.	Champermukh-Haibargaon	NF	21
18.	Jodhpur-Jaisalmer	WR	295
19.	Muzaffarpur-Raxaul	NE	129
20.	Hubli-Gadag-Harapur	SC	78
21.	Lumding-Nailalung	NF	22
Total			1805

DOUBLINGS

Section	Zone/ Railway	Length kms.
1992-93		
1. Kohli-Kamleshwar	Central	12.68
2. Majhagawan-Tikaria		13.18
3. Matatila-Basai		7.88
4. Taku-Kala Akhar		10.48
5. Betwa 'A' & 'B' Cabin		2.71
6. Pakaria Road-Amdara		9.83
7. Nathnagar-Bhagalpur	Eastern	3.83
8. Jamir Ghata-Gaur Malda		5.77
9. Haidemagar-Kosiara		6.07
10. Japla-Haidemagar		7.02
11. Kosiara-Mohammadganj		5.84
12. Barasat-Duttapukur		7.67
13. Dhamtan Sahib-Himmatpura	Northern	15.00
14. Rampur-Milak		23.00
15. Malda Town to 'B' Cabin	Northeast Frontier	2.70
16. Barsoi-Sudhani		11.91
17. Tandur-Mantati	South Central	8.49
18. Raichur-Marichetal		29.81
19. Mahi Bridge	Western	1.27
Total		185.14

1	2	3	4
1993-94			
1.	Kiratgarh-Kalaakhar	Central	12.00
2.	Metpanjara-Bharatwada		16.00
3.	Narkhed-Metpanjara		34.00
4.	Narmada Bridge		1.00
5.	Jaminghata-Khaltipur	Eastern	6.00
6.	Khaltipur-Chamagram		9.00
7.	Bonidanga Link Cabin		2.00
8.	Kiul-Jamalpur-Bhagalpur		5.00
9.	Mughalsara-Gankkharja		4.00
10.	Nizamuddin-Tilak Bridge	Northern	5.00
11.	Rampur-Azadpur		8.00
12.	Rohtak-Jhakal		11.00
13.	Telta-Dalkola	Northeast Frontier	8.00
14.	Quilon-Karunagapalli	Southern	14.00
15.	Serum-Malkhaid	South	12.00
16.	Lingeri-Narayanpet	Central	13.00
17.	Narayanpet-Chegunta		11.00
18.	Yadgir-Lingeri		11.00
19.	Thagundi-Yadgir		8.00
20.	Joranda Road-Dhenkanal	South Eastern	9.00
21.	Raipur-Vizianagaram line		83.00
22.	Bolai-Akodia	Western	12.00
23.	Mahi Bridge		1.00
Total			295.00

1994-95

1.	Narmada Bridge	Central	3.6
2.	Mahammad ganj-Satbahini	Eastern	6.92
3.	Saidraja-Chandaulimajhwar		8.4
4.	Chandaulimajhwar-Ganjkbwaja		8.5
5.	Ganjkhawaja-Mughalsara		7.00
6.	Milak-Nagariasadat-Dhaneta	Northern	16.00
7.	Bhitora-Parsakheda		5.00

1	2	3	4
8.	New Jalpaiguri-Ambarifalakata	Northeast Frontier	9.00
9.	Chittpur-Mulkhaid Road	South	9.67
10.	Sulehalli-Chittpur	Central	6.01
11.	Nawandgi-Kurkunta		7.55
12.	Rukmapur-Tandur		11.00
13.	Thirubali-Singhapuram Road	South Eastern	11.00
14.	Singhapuram Road-Rayagada		9.00
15.	Rayagada-Ladda		5.00
16.	Muriguda-Bissamcuttuck		18.00
Total			141.65

The following gauge conversion and doubling works are in progress :

GAUGE CONVERSION

Name of the section	Zone/Railway
1	2
Miraj-Latur	Central
Jodhpur-Marwar	Western
Viramgam-Mahesana	"
Dimapur-Dibrugarh	Northeast Frontier
Chhapra-Aunrihar	North Eastern
Samastipur-Darbhanga	"
Sagauli-Narkatiaganj	"
Gadag-Sholapur	South Central
Wadsa-Chandafort	South Eastern
Trichy-Dindigul	Southern
Giddalur-Guntakal	South Central
Mehboobnagar-Dronachallam	"
Purna-Mudkhed	"
Hospet-Swamihili	"
Guda Road-Kottur	"
Londa-Vasco	"

1	2
Hospet-Gadag	South Central
Mau-Shahganj	North Eastern

DOUBLING

Name of the section	Zonal / Railway
1	2
Hetampur-Gher Single line including Chambal bridge	Central
Narkhed-Metpanjara (Ph.-6)	"
Kiratgarh-Kalaakhar and Metpanjara-Bharathwada (Ph.-5)	"
Chandanpur-Gurap third line	Eastern
Sahibganj-New Farakka-Malda Town	"
Garwa Road-Sonenagar	"
Sigsigi-Bagha Bishnupur	"
Duttapukur-Habra	"
Sonenagar-Mughalsarai third line with bi-directional signalling & flyover at Sonenagar	"
Khana-Sainthia (Ph.-2)	"
Jhaptardal-Guskara (Ph.-2)	"
Rampur-Bareilly (Phase-2)	Northern
Aluabari Road-Kishanganj	Northeast Frontier
Kuttipurum-Calicut	Southern
Whitefield-Bangarapet-Kuppam	"
Kayankulam-Quilon	"
Quilon-Trivandrum Central	"
Tandur-Majkhaid Road	South Central
Vikarabad-Tandur	"
Malkhaid Road-Wadi	"
Akaltara-Champa third line	South Eastern
Bilaspur-Akkaltara	"
Joranda Road-Hindol Road	"
Talcher-Hindol Road	"
Rajatgarh-Nergundi	"

1	2
Ambodala-Bissamcuttack & Tirubali-Gumada patch doubling	South Eastern
Gumada-Bobbili Bobbili-Gajapatnagar	
Gajapatnagar-Vizianagar patch doubling (Phase.II) (Sec-III) including junction arrangement at Vizianagar	"
Bairagarh-Bakanian Bhaunri & Bakanian Bhaunri-Phanda	Western
Anas Bridge, Panchpipia Tunnel & Mahi bridge three single line stretches	"
Pirumrod-Barcha & Bolal-Akodia	"
Kalapipal-Phanda	"
Maksi-Bairagarh	"

The following new Gauge conversion and doubling works have been included in the Budget 1995-96 :

Gauge conversion

S.N.	Name of the section	Zone/Rly.
1	2	3
1.	Agra-Bandikui	Western
2.	Gandhidham-Bhuj	"
3.	Wankaner-Maliya-Miyana	"
4.	Mathura-Achnera	North Eastern
5.	Narkatiaganj-Bagaha-Valmikinagar	"
6.	Khadda-Gorakhpur	"
7.	Mysore-Hasan	Southern
8.	Yashwantpur-Salem	"
9.	Trichy-Nagore-Karaikal	"
10.	Rupsa-Bangriposi	South Eastern
11.	Luni-Jodhpur	Northern
Doublings		
	Divas-Vasai Road	Central

1	2
Dive-Panvel	Central
Daund-Bhigwa	"
Nishatpura-('A' & 'D' Cabins)	"
Gushkara-Bolpur-Ph.III	Eastern
Budge-Budge-Akra-Ph. I	"
Tundia-Yamuna Bndge	Northern
Muradnagar-Meerut	"
Ghaziabad-Muradnagar Patch doubling	"
Kanpur-Panki-third line	"
Kuttipuram-Guruvayoor	Southern
Bangalore-Kengeri	"
Raghunathpur-Gorakhnath-Rahama Patch doubling	South Eastern
Urkura-Raipur-Sarona	"
Kota-Gurla-doubling of Chambal bndge	Western
Bombay Central-Borivili	"

[English]

COMPUTER EDUCATION IN GUJARAT

7861. Shri Harisinh Chavda : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to introduce the Computer Course in all the Degree Colleges, in Gujarat;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the UGC, at present, no financial assistance is provided by the Commission to the Colleges for introducing courses in Computer Science. However, the Commission has been providing a one-time grant of Rs. 1.25 lakhs per college for procuring personal computers and relevant software. The objective of the Scheme is to create awareness among the staff and the students about the use of computers in various activities, such as administration, finance, examination research, etc. 85 colleges in Gujarat have so far been provided financial assistance for the purpose by the UGC.

[Translation]

SUBURBAN SERVICES IN BOMBAY

7862. Shri Datta Meghe : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a demand to constitute an autonomous body for the Suburban Railway System in Bombay;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken by the government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Formation of an autonomous body for suburban railway system of Bombay is not feasible because the same infrastructure, i.e. track, signals, OHE, stations is used by suburban as well as the long distance trains

Moreover, intra urban transport needs are to be met by various modes of transport, including Railways. Only a coordinated approach can bring efficiency and improvement. This subject is being dealt with by the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment.

[English]

APPOINTMENTS ON COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS

7863. Shri George Fernandes : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) the number of applications for appointment on compassionate grounds for Group 'C' and 'D' pending till date and the applications received by Vijaywada Division of South Central Railway during the last three years,

(b) the number of appointments made out of them and time taken for issue of appointment orders in each case; and

(c) the reasons for non-appointment in the remaining cases ?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :
(a) On the Vijaywada Division of South Central Railway, 447 applications are pending for Group 'C' and 'D' appointments on compassionate grounds. The number of applications received during the last three years being 841.

(b) Out of the 841 applications received, 367 were approved for appointment and concerned candidates given appointment, the time taken being approximately 9 to 12 months.

(c) Non-appointment in the remaining cases is due to various reasons like the wards being minor, documents awaited, non-availability of suitable vacancies particularly in the case of illiterate widows, etc.

UNIFORM SUGARCANE PAYMENT

7864. Shri Phool Chand Verma : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Federation of Co-operative Sugar Factories Ltd. has submitted a memorandum regarding uniform sugarcane payment system; and

(b) the action taken/to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

[Translation]

FISHING TRAWLERS

7865. Shri Khelan Ram Jangde : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether the fishing Trawlers presently in use in the country are very old;

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

(c) the efforts made by the Government so far to obtain modern trawlers ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) : (a) to (c) It cannot be said that the fishing trawlers presently in use in the country are very old. Presently about 35,000 mechanised fishing vessels below 20 metre length are deployed for fishing up to 40-50 fathom depth and about 100 mechanised fishing vessels above 20 metre length are deployed for deep sea fishing.

With a view to modernisation of the fishing fleet in the marine sector Government has approved a scheme for acquisition of modern off-shore fishing vessels under joint venture/chartering and bilaterally assisted programmes. As per the present deep sea fishing policy second hand deep sea fishing vessels not more than 15 years old are allowed to be imported if the certificate of sea worthiness and Surveyor's report on the fitness of the vessel are produced. Under the new deep sea fishing policy of 1991, permissions have been accorded for introduction of 187 modern deep sea fishing vessels for operation in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone, out of which 29 vessels have actually been introduced.

NEW RAILWAYS LINES

7866. Shri Narain Singh Chaudhary : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey for laying of new Railways Lines in Haryana during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all the projects proposed for the State have been termed as Negative rate of returning projects in the surveys;

(d) if so, the name of the agencies entrusted with the said survey work and the reasons for arriving at such conclusion;

(e) whether there is a widespread resentment among the people owing to the want of any major Railways Project in the State; and

(f) whether the Government are contemplating to review these surveys in view of the widespread resentment in the State ?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) & (b) A survey for regional bye-pass line from Khurja to Rohtak via Palwal, Rewari has been taken up. The survey covers Palwal, Rewari, Jhajjar, Nuh, Sohna & Rohtak etc. (245 Kms.) and the cost of Survey is expected to cost Rs. 14.13 lakhs.

Does not arise.

(d) The above survey is being conducted by Survey Organisation of the Northern Railway.

(e) Haryana is served by an adequate rail network. Its route Kilometre per 1000 sqm. as on 31.3.94 is 33.89 compared to All India figure of 19.06.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

TEACHING OF SANSKRIT

7867. Shri Lokanath Choudhury : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a demand for introduction of Sanskrit at Secondary and Senior Secondary level as a compulsory and elective subject in Kendriya Vidyalayas; and

(b) if so, reaction of the Government there to?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) and (b) Sanskrit is being taught as compulsory third language from Class V to IX in all Kendriya Vidyalayas. Students can also offer Sanskrit as an additional optional subject in Class X.

In Senior Secondary classes Sanskrit is offered as an optional subject in Kendriya Vidyalayas.

FISHING HARBOURS IN TAMILNADU

7868. Shri N. Dennis : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to take steps for the opening the fishing Harbours in the West coast of Tamil Nadu particularly in Kanyakumari District where fishermen live in large numbers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) : (a) to (c) The Central Institute of coastal Engineering for Fishenes, Bangalore have requested the Government of Tamil Nadu to provide necessary data for conducting prefeasibility studies in order to explore the possibility of setting up a fishery harbour at Colachel in Kanyakumari District on the West coast of Tamil Nadu.

[Translation]

PRODUCTION FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES

**7869. Shri Rajveer Singh :
Shri Tej Narayan Singh :
Shrimati Sheela Gautam :
Shri Rajesh Kumar :**

Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the various potential agro-horticultural and Sugar Crops being produced for commercial purposes, State Wise and Union Territory-Wise;

(b) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government to each State/Union-Territory for increasing the production of these crops during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the details of achievement therefrom?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[English]

SELLING OF SUGAR MILLS

**7870. Shri Pankaj Chowdhary :
Shri Amarpal Singh :
Shri Brijbhushan Sharan Singh :**

Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh propose to sell some Sugar Mills falling in Public Sector

nd Cooperative Sector to Private Sector

(b) if so, the terms and conditions laid down in the proposal.

(c) whether the permission of the Union Government have been obtained in this regard, and

(d) if not, the reasons/justification of taking such decision without prior permission of the Union Government?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) to (d) Ministry of Food has not received any proposal till yet from the State of Uttar Pradesh for the sale of any Sugar Mill failing in the Public & Cooperative Sector to the Private Sector

COMMITTEE ON SUGAR PRICE

7871 **Shri Anantrao Deshmukh :** Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state

(a) whether the Committee set up by the Government to recommend Sugar Price Policy for State has submitted its report,

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by this Committee, and

(c) the action taken by the Government on the recommendations made by this Committee?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) No, sir There is no such Committee set up by the Government on sugar price policy

(b) and (c) Does not arise

GRABBING OF PORTION OF QUTUB MINAR

7872 **Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shartri :** Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether a big portion of world famous Qutab Minar has been grabbed by land mafia as has been brought out in the Dainik Jagran of 21 4 95,

(b) if so, the facts thereof, and

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

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (c) Land measuring 47.3 bighas owned by the State Government located adjacent to but outside the protected limits of Qutab Minar has been encroached upon The Archaeological Survey of India has taken up the matter with the Delhi Police and Delhi Development Authority for removal of the encroachment from the Government land Delhi Police had already removed a part of the encroachment that had taken place on the basis of an FIR

lodged The Archaeological Survey of India is vigorously pursuing the matter with the DDA now for early removal of the remaining encroachment

SUBSIDY TO FARMERS

7873 **Prof. Prem Dhumal :** Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received any representations/suggestions for giving special subsidy to the farmers of hilly areas particularly of Himachal Pradesh to purchase power tillers to ensure more production of foodgrains,

(b) if so, the details thereof and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon and the amount of subsidy being given to these farmers?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) A number of Centrally Sponsored Crop Production Schemes are under implementation in the State of Himachal Pradesh Under these Programmes subsidy to the farmers on power tillers is not admissible No suggestions/representation from Government of Himachal Pradesh have been received for giving special subsidy to the farmers of hilly areas of Himachal Pradesh

(b) and (c) Question does not arise

PROMOTION OF ADVENTUROUS ACTIVITIES

7874 **Shri Ram Singh Kashwan :**
Shri Laeta Umbrey :

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether promotion of the adventurous activities is not getting the desired attention

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) and Minister of State the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mukul Wasnik) : (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Does not arise

LOSS TO GRAPES PRODUCTION

7875 **Dr. Vasant Niwruutti Pawar :** Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether there is heavy damage to grape production particularly in Maharashtra last year due to untimely rains,

(b) if so, whether the low production of grapes adversely affected the exports as well caused losses to farmers, and

(c) if so, the details of the plans formulated by the Government to tide over such unforeseen losses?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) There was no major damage assessed due to untimely rains in Maharashtra during the last year. Some minor damages were reported.

(b) The grape export was not adversely affected.

(c) No future plans were formulated. However, assistance was granted as under :

% of damage	Assistance Provided
50-75 %	Rs. 2,500 per ha. to a maximum limit of Rs. 5000.
Above 75 %	Rs. 5000 per ha. to a maximum limit of Rs. 10,000.

[Translation]

LOCOMOTIVES AND COACH FACTORIES

7876. Dr. Amrit Lal Kalidas Patel : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for setting up factories for manufacturing Rail Locomotives and Rail Coaches in Gujarat during Eighth Five Year Plan is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount allocated for this purpose in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) whether the Government have provided land for this purpose and the names of cities in Gujarat where these factories are likely to be set up?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

CONSUMER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTRES

7877. Shri Ankushrao Raosahed Tope : Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Consumer Education and Research Centre have suggested amendment in Consumer Courts Protection Act;

(b) whether the Government have accepted the proposals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On the recommendations of the Central Consumer Protection Council, the Government has set up a Working Group to look into the suggestions and make its recommendations.

(c) The suggestions mainly relate to enlarging the scope of the Consumer Protections Act, 1986 so as to make it more effective for protecting the interests of consumers;

(d) It is not possible to indicate any time frame in this regard at this stage.

RAILWAY STATION

7878. Shri Dharmanna Mondayya Sadul : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state .

(a) the details of the smaller works for modernisation of Railway Stations of Central Railway which were carried out during the year 1994-95; and

(b) the details of works proposed to be carried out during the year 1995-96?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) Details in respect of works costing less than Rs. 15 lakh each are as under

(Cost in lakh of Rupees)

Station	Details of Work	Cost
1	2	3
AHMEDNAGAR	Extn. of cover over platform 1	7.87
AKURDI	Provision of foot-over-bridge Prov. of cover over platform 1 & 2	7.80 6.28
BADNERA	Modification to foot-over bridge	9.80
BHIMSEN	Prov. of cover over up platform	5.91

1	2	3
BOMBAY VT	Prov of amenities on platform 14/15	4 50
COTTONGREEN	Prov of staircase of platform 1 & 2	3 93
GADARWARA	Improvements to station building	9 45
GANGBASODA	Facelifing of station building	5 25
GOTEGAON	Extn of cover over platform	5 72
GOVANDI	Prov of electronic indicators	2 45
HOSHANGABAD	Extension of foot-over-bridge	9 45
ISARWARE	Prov of cover over up & down platform	7 85
JABALPUR	Extn of washable apron on platform 1	9 03
KHARBAU	Prov of platform & amenities thereon	7 01
KHIRKIYA	Provision of foot-over-bridge	8 66
KURDUWADI	Extn of cover over platform 1/2	7 15
LALITPUR	Extension of foot-over-bridge	8 54
MORENA	Extension of platform 1, 2 & 3	8 08
MULUND	Prov of electronic indicators	8 36
NANDURA	Prov of cover-over down platform	4 67
PALWAL	Raising of platform 4 & 5	6 76
RUTHIYAI	Improvements to station building	5 09
SANCHI	Prov of cover-over up platform	5 54
SINDI	Raising of down platform	2 50
THAKURLI	Extn of cover-over platform 1 & 2	4 05
JABALPUR	Provision of battery charging facility	7 28
KATNI		
WARDHA EAST	Extn of cover-over platform 2 & 3	7 08
AJHAI	Raising of platforms	10 53
BHUTESHWAR		
SHOLAKA		
RUNDHI		

(b) Details are as under

(Cost in lakh of Rupees)

Station	Details of Work	Cost
	2	3
AMBIVLI	Extn of cover over up platform	13 00
BADNERA	Extn of cover over up & down platform	34 83

1	2	3
BALHARSHAH	Prov. of washable apron on platform 2	44.17
BALLABGARH	Extn. of cover over platform 4 & 5	12.46
BANAPURA	Extension of foot-over-bridge	10.90
BANDA	Paving of passenger platform	3.00
BELAPUR	Prov. of cover over platform 2	3.09
BHANDUP	Extn. of foot-over-bridge	9.07
BHOPAL	Extn. of cover over platform 2 & 3	13.00
	Facelifting of west side of station	15.00
BINA	Extn. of cover over platform 3 & 4	4.22
BOMBAY V.T.	Extn. of cover over platform 14 & 15	9.95
	Washable apron on platform 14 & 15	9.95
BUDNI	Prov. of foot-over-bridge	8.28
BUTTIBORI	Prov. of filtration plant	5.50
BYCULLA	Extn. of cover over platform 4	12.69
CHINCHPOKLI	Prov. of booking office	9.15
CHITRAKUT DHAM	Prov. master water coolers	4.00
	Provision of waiting facilities	9.90
DAMOH	Extn. of cover over platform	7.78
DAUND	Prov. of washable apron on platform 2	23.46
DEHU ROAD	Extn. of cover over platform 1 & 2	13.73
DHODRAMOHAR	Prov. of filtration plant	5.50
DOMBIVLI	Extn. of cover over platform 2, 3 & 4	24.13
DUDHANI	Prov. of cover over platform	4.36
FARIDABAD	Prov. of booking office	5.22
GWALIOR	Extn. of cover over platform etc	7.84
HARDA	Prov. of cover over island platform	11.50
HINGANGHAT	Prov. of cover over platform 1 & 2	6.70
IGATPURI	Prov. of washable apron on down main line	20.28
ITARSI	Prov. of battery charging facilities	9.12
	Prov. of washable apron on platform 5	20.70
JUCHANDRA	Prov. of platform and amenities	8.83
KALWA	Prov. of booking office on west side	11.24
KAMAN	Prov. of platform and amenities	8.64
KAMSHET	Prov. of foot-over-bridge	10.26

1	2	3
KATNI	Extn of platform 5	4.85
KHANDWA	Prov. of battery charging facilities	5 93
KOPARGAON	Prov of foot-over-bridge	16 56
	Extn of cover over platform 1	2 70
KURLA	Prov of staircase to connect platform	9 73
	Extn of foot-over-bridge	61 01
	Prov of additional pilot indicators	22 21
MANMAD	Prov of battery charging facilities	7 66
	Extn of cover over platform 1 & 2	11 18
MATHURA	Prov of battery charging facilities	6 28
	Prov of washable apron on platform 1	21 60
MUMBRA	Extn of cover over platform 1	35 07
NANDURA	Extn of Up and Dn platform	9 91
OBAIDULLAGANJ	Raising of platform	3 86
PALWAL	Raising of platform 1 & 6	9 71
PATHARIA	Prov of foot-over-bridge	13 17
PUNE	Extn of cover over platform 4 & 5	11 38
REAY ROAD	Prov of booking office	3.00
	Extn of cover over platform 4	23 28
RUTHIYAI	Raising platform improv. booking office	8 00
SALAMATPUR	Prov of foot-over-bridge	7 61
SATNA	Remodelling of booking office	11 98
SHAJAPUR	Improvement of water supply	12 91
SHIVAJINAGAR	Prov of cover over platform 1	51 11
SINDI	Prov of foot-over-bridge	9 98
SOLAPUR	Prov of washable apron on platform 3	24 97
	Improvement to water supply	4.00
AGRA		8.26
MATHURA	Improvement to base kitchen	
TALEGAON	Extn. of up & down platform	8 27
	Extn. of cover up & down platform	10.90
THANE	Prov. of foot-over-bridge	17.70
TILAKNAGAR	Prov. of cover over platform 1 & 2	55 82
URULI	Prov. of cover over platform 1	3 07

1	2	3
WARDHA	Prov. of master water coolers	8.00
AMLA		
VASIND	Extn of cover over platform 1 & 2	17.98
VIKHROKI	Extn. of cover over platform 4	15.14
SATNA	Prov. of battery charging facilities	5.10
KATNI		
VITHALWADI	Booking office, extn of foot-over-bridge	7.50
WARDHA	Prov of washable apron on platform 1	22.84
	Improvement to water supply	2.00
	Prov. of electronic indication board	8.50
WARORA	Prov. of cover over platform 2 & 3	3.85
JABALPUR	Prov. of master water coolers	8.00
KATNI		

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTRES

7879. **Shri Rajendra Agnihotri :**
Shri Lalbabu Rai :
Shri Chhedil Paswan :

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

- whether the Government have any proposal to set up some Youth Development Centres in the country;
- if so, the details of the such Centres proposed to be set up in each State; and
- the amount sanctioned for these Centres in each State?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) and Minister of State in the Ministry Of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mukul Wasnik) : (a) Yes, Sir Government proposes to set up Youth Development Centres which would be an appropriately selected Youth Club within a cluster of 10 villages each through Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan.

(b) Though the intention of the Government is to set up a Youth Development Centre for a cluster of ten villages due to paucity of funds it is not possible to open Youth Development Centres for groups of every ten villages at present at one go throughout the country. However, Centres will be opened in all States on the basis of proposals received.

(c) The amount will be sanctioned according to the proposals received and approved. So far no amount has been sanctioned.

NCDC PROJECT PHASE-IV

7880. **Shrimati Chandra Prabha Urs :** Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state

- whether the NCDC Project Phase-IV has commenced,
- if not, the reasons therefor;
- the time by which the NCDC Project Phase-IV is likely to be commenced;
- whether the Government of Karnataka had sent proposals to start some Sugar Mills and Spinning Mills, the Project; and
- if so, the names of the Sugar Mills, Spinning Mills proposed to be covered under the Project in Karnataka?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) to (c), The NCDC Project Phase-IV has not yet commenced. It was posed to the World Bank in August, 1990 by NCDC but it has not been approved yet. The Project is likely to be commenced as soon as it is approved by the World Bank

(d) and (e) Sectors and Sub-Projects to be covered under the NCDC Project Phase-IV would be identified by the World Bank during project finalisation. The Government of Karnataka, however, had sent proposal for setting up for Spinning Mills under the Project as listed below :

- Sahyadri Cooperative Spinning Mills Ltd., Channagiri, Distt : Shimoga.
- Sri Siddeshwara cooperative Spinning Mill Ltd., Chikkodi, Distt : Belgaum.

- 3 Sanjay Cooperative Textiles Mill Ltd, Hubli, Distt Dharwad

SUPPLY OF COACHES

- 7881 **Shri Dattatraya Bandaru :**
Shri Chetan P.S. Chauhan :

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the Railways have received orders for supply of coaches from a number of Countries,

(b) if so, the names of the Countries with which Railways has signed the contracts and

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the capacity of the Coach Factories to meet the Export requirement?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) .

(a) Yes Sir

(b) (i) An order for supply of 6 coaches to Nepal has already been executed

(ii) A Contract for supply of 15 MG coaches had been signed with Vietnam National Railways

(c) No Sir The current coach building capacity in the Country is considered adequate to meet the domestic as well as such export requirement

BOOKS UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT, 1955

7882 **Shri Mohan Rawale :** Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state

(a) whether Exercise Books for use by the student community come under the purview of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955,

(b) whether this item has been declared as an essential item covered by the 20-Point Programme,

(c) whether the prices of these books have been regularly rising,

(d) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, year-wise, and

(e) the steps taken to ensure availability of these books for students in the markets at reasonable prices?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) No, Sir

(c) to (e) Department of Education has informed that as per a quick study conducted by NCERT some increase in prices of exercise books which are produced privately has been observed

The Ministry of Industry have informed that prices of paper have increased on account of rise in the cost of coal, power, caustic soda imported pulp and other raw materials Average price of Writing and Printing Paper in July 1994 was Rs 19,500 per MT whereas the current average price is Rs 26 000 per MT There is no statutory control over price of paper which is determined by market forces However, Government is keeping a watch over the situation for safeguarding the interests of students

RAILWAYS SCHEMES

7883 **Shri Bir Singh Mahato :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) the details of the Railway Projects presently under execution in West Bengal, and

(b) the date of commencement of these projects and the time by which the work is likely to be completed ?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) and (b) The details are given below

Name of Project	Year of Commencement of Work	Target date for completion
1	2	3

I New Lines :

(i) Laxmikantapur-Namkhana (47.5 Kms)	1987-88	1996-97
(ii) Howrah-Amta-Champadanga (73.5 Kms)	1974-75	By end of IX Plan
(iii) Tamluk-Digha (87.5 Kms)	1984-85	-do-
(iv) Mandarhill to Rampurhat via Dumka (130 Kms)	1995-96	-do-

1	2	3
(14 Kms in West Bengal and rest of the line falls in Bihar)		
(v) Dum Dum-Tollygunj (Metro Railway)	1971-72	1995
II. Gauge Conversion :		
(i) Conversion of Purulia-Kotshila Phase-I	1992-93	Completed
(ii) Conversion of Purulia-Kotshila Phase-II	1993-94	1996-97
III. Doubling :		
(i) Dum Dum and Barasat (20.23 Kms)	1979-80	Completed
(ii) Duttapukur and Harba (14.49 Kms)	1990-91	During this financial year
(iii) Khana-Jhapterdal Ph-I (5.63 Kms)	1992-93	1996-97
(iv) Jhapterdal-Guskara Ph-II (15.21 Kms)	1993-94	1996-97
(v) Chandanpur-Gurap (3rd Line) (17.24 Kms)	1994-95	1997-98

NEHRU MEMORIAL MUSEUM

7884. **Shri Mohan Singh (Deoria) :** Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether the term of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society ended sometime in 1992;

(b) if so, under what rules, bye-laws of the Memorandum of Association of the Society, it is presently continuing;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

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

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) Yes, Sir. The term of some of the members of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society expired in 1992.

(b) and (c) It is continuing under clause 6 of the Memorandum of Association of the Society. Continuance of the Society has been ordered under the powers vested in the government by Clause 6 of the Memorandum of Association for the furtherance of the object of the Society and for ensuring its proper and effective functioning.

(d) Nomination of the members of the Society is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

COLD STORAGE

7885. **Dr. Sakshiji :** Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has submitted proposals to the national Horticulture Board for setting up cold storage in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds sought by the State Government from the Union Government for this purpose; and

(d) the decision taken by the Union Government over these proposals?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) No, Sir. The National Horticulture Board has not received any proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh so far setting up cold storage in the State.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[English]

PERFORMANCE OF SPORTSPERSONS

7886 Shri Manoranjan Bhakta Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether at present accountability is not ensured on the performance of sports-persons in the international events,

(b) if so the reasons therefor, and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mukul Wasnik) (a) No Sir National Sports Federations are primarily responsible for performance of sportspersons in sports events for their respective disciplines and therefore they are mainly accountable Government has been issuing guidelines to the Federations from time to time for bringing overall improvement in their functioning and greater professionalism and fairness in the management of the sports

(b) and (c) Does not arise

GROUNDNUT

7887 Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi :
Shri D. Venkateswara Rao :

Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) the production of Groundnut during the last three years in the country, State-wise,

(b) the target of production fixed for 1995-96

(c) the target fixed for Groundnut Oil that will be available from the summer crop from all the States and

(d) the extent to which the Groundnut Oil shortage will be reduced in the country during 1995?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar)

(a) Statement is enclosed

(b) Target of groundnut production for 1995-96 has been fixed at 84 lakh tonnes

(c) No target is fixed for groundnut Oil production as such Production estimate of summer groundnut 1995 is 22.3 lakh tonnes from which expected oil yield is a little over 5 lakh tonnes

(d) it is too early to indicate likely shortfall in production of groundnut in 1995-96 to be able to assess shortage of oil

STATEMENT**State-wise Production of Groundnut From 1992-93 to 1994-95**

S No	State	Production of Groundnut (thousand tonnes)		
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (Advance Estimates)
1	Andhra Pradesh	1964.8	2472.6	1857.0
2	Bihar	3.2	5.0	18.0
3	Goa	1.7	2.0	
4	Gujarat	2068.4	676.6	2369.0
5	Haryana	1.3	1.7	2.0
6	Himachal Pradesh	0.4	0.4	2.0
7	Jammu & Kashmir	0.9	0.9	1.0
8	Karnataka	1142.3	1167.3	1009.0
9	Kerala	10.4	10.7	10.0
10	Madhya Pradesh	287.6	253.9	229.0
11	Maharashtra	755.1	769.2	669.0
12	Nagaland	1.2	0.5	-
13	Orissa	108.2	114.0	260.0
14	Punjab	12.0	8.0	8.0
15	Rajasthan	271.7	208.6	258.0
16	Tamil Nadu	1766.3	1911.7	1578.0
17	Tripura	2.0	2.0	
18	Uttar Pradesh	139.2	130.8	100.0
19	West Bengal	23.0	20.8	41.0
20	Pondicherry	4.9	3.1	
ALL INDIA		8564.6	7759.8	8416.0

[Translation]

PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

7888 Shri Girdhar Lal Bhargava : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether the prices of various agricultural products like rice, pulses, spices and dry fruits etc. sold by NAFED are more than the prices of these things being sold in Super Bazar and Kendhya Bhandar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the percentage of profit earned by the NAFED on the products being sold by it,

(d) whether the Government have received a number of complaints regarding alleged irregularities in the supply, sale and purchase of these things through NAFED, and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) and (b) NAFED is primarily engaged in the task of promoting and developing marketing of agricultural produce to protect the interest of farmers. However it has also been arranging disposal of various commodities in wholesale and consumer distribution activities on a modest scale through its 4 retail outlets in Delhi, to meet the needs of employees at large, unlike Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar which have chains of retail outlets. The sale rates of most of the items being retailed by NAFED are either at par or lower than those of Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar. However in a few commodities, the rates are marginally higher on account of quality.

(c) NAFED established its retail outlets in Delhi with the objective to make available these items to the consumers at reasonable prices. There is hardly any profit earned on these items.

(d) No Sir

(e) Question does not arise

[English]

"PRAWN FARMING"

7889 **Shri Gopi Nath Gajapathi :**
Shri Amal Datta :
Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal :
Shri Sriballav Panigrahi :

Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) the estimated land area taken over for prawn farming by various companies in coastal areas with specific information to each State,

(b) whether any micro-level survey have been conducted to identify potential areas for prawn culture on commercial lines in the country,

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the area available for immediate exploitation for Brackish Water Prawn Farming and locations for the four hatcheries envisaged and appropriate models developed for commercial operations,

(d) whether shrimp farmers living on the East coast have urged the Centre to frame a Coastal Development Management Plan in all Maritime States in consultation with

the respective State Government to protect the fragile ecology, and

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

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) to (e) As per information available, the water area covered for Brackish Water Fish Farms is as follows

S No	State	Water area covered (hectares) Till December, 1994
1	Andhra Pradesh	540
2	Gujarat	797
3	Goa	128
4	Karnataka	45
5	Kerala	863
6	Maharashtra	179
7	Orissa	11 495
8	Tamil Nadu	203
9	West Bengal	1 002
10	A&N Islands	—
TOTAL		15 252

Steps have been taken to finalise the guidelines spelling out the environmental safeguards to be incorporated in setting up prawn/shrimp aquaculture farms. After finalisation of the guidelines these would need to be circulated to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for compliance.

RAIL LINK

7890 **Shri Basudeb Acharya :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the Techno-Economic Survey for linking Agartala with Pecharthal has been completed, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief)
(a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Engineering Survey report has been received. Traffic Survey Report is expected by July 95.

[Translation]

RAILWAY BRIDGES

7891 **Shri Bhogendra Jha :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for construction of 17 small, 7 big and 2 important bridges in Samastipur Darbhanga section of North-Eastern Railway,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the time by which these bridges are likely to be completed?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) to (c) Strengthening and rebuilding of all the bridges on Samastipur- Darbhanga section on NE Railway as required to suit BG have been taken up and are nearing completion. The link will be opened as BG during the current financial year.

[English]

RURAL UNIVERSITY

7892 **Shri D. Venkateswara Rao :**
Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi :

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a proposal to the Union Government for setting up the rural university in the State,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether University Grants Commission has agreed to the proposal sent by the Andhra Pradesh Government, and

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

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) and (d) The University Grants Commission has informed that, in January, 1995, the Government of Andhra Pradesh had sent to the Commission a copy of the Project Report on establishment of Rural University on Science and Technology at Hyderabad for the Commission's views regarding the extent of financial assistance that could be made available to the proposed University. The State Government has been informed by the commission that no assistance can be provided to the proposed University unless it has been duly established by an Act of the State Legislature and declared fit by the UGC, in terms of the Regulations framed under Section 12B of the UGC Act., to receive financial assistance from the UGC.

CRECHES

7893. **Shri Anadi Charan Das :** Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to open creches for the children, upto certain age-limit of the working mothers in the office premises itself in order to encourage breast feeding amongst children, and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of such creches proposed to be opened during 1994-95?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Women and Child Development) (Shrimati Basava Rajeswari) :
(a) and (b) Ministry of Labour is implementing a scheme for setting up of child care centres for the benefit of women workers in which non-governmental organisations motivate the employers to set up creche facilities which the employer is statutorily to provide. No physical targets were fixed up for setting up of child care centres in the financial year 1994-95. In addition, the Grih Kalyan Kendra under the Department of Personnel is running three creche centres in office premises in Delhi for male children between the age of 90 days and 7 years and female children between the age of 90 days to 10 years.

[Translation]

IMPORTED SUGAR

7894 **Shri Vilasrao Nagnathrao Gundewar :** Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that imported sugar is being exported clandestinely by the traders, and

(b) if so the action being taken by Government in this regard,

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) Ministry of Food is not aware of any clandestine export of imported sugar

(b) Does not arise

[English]

GOLKUNDA FORT

7895 **Shri J. Chokka Rao :** Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether valuable land belonging to Golkunda fort in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh is being encroached illegally, and

(b) if so, the extent of land encroached so far and the action taken to get the same evicted from the encroachers?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Encroachment has taken place on a large part of the protected area. The Archaeological Survey of India has

lodged complaints with the local police and has taken up the matter of eviction of the encroachment with the State Government.

PRICE OF SUGAR

7896. **Shri Nawal Kishore Rai :**
Shri Guman Mai Lodha :

Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of sugar in the international market remained higher than that in the domestic markets during each of the last three years; and

(b) if not, the extent of financial loss suffered as a result of export during the said period?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) No, Sir. International Market Prices generally rule below the domestic market prices. As such, sugar exports involve losses, which are borne by the Sugar Industry as per the provisions of the Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1958.

(b) The extent of financial loss suffered as a result of export during the last three financial years, as per information furnished by the notified export agency, viz. Indian Sugar & General Industry Export Import Corporation Ltd., was as follows :

Financial Year	Estimated Loss (Rs. in crores)
1991-92	17.78
1993-93	10.34
1993-94	12.12

[Translation]

EDUCATION IN RURAL AREAS

7897. **Shri Lal Babu Rai :**
Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatri :

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether adequate allocation of fund has been made for the dissemination of education in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount allocated for education in rural areas during the last three years; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to increase this amount?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and

Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (d) Development of education in rural areas forms a part of overall development of education in the country and as such separate allocation for education in rural areas is not made. Benefits of Primary, Secondary and Adult Education predominantly accrue to rural areas. Central Plan allocations for education in 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 are Rs. 1310.00, 1541.46 and 1825.00 crores respectively. The Plan outlay in 1995-96 has increased by 18.4% as compared to the 1994-95 outlay.

[English]

SYNERGY GROUPS FOR REVAMPING EDUCATIONAL STRUCTURE ETC.

7898. **Shri R. Surender Reddy :**
Shri Bolla Bull Ramalah :

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Synergy Groups to revamp educational structure and also to look into the problems faced by the premier academic institutions including the Indian Institute of Technology (I.I.Ts) and the Indian Institute of Management (I.I.Ms) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the criteria that is proposed to be followed by the Government in selecting members of the aforesaid Synergy Groups; and

(d) the time by which the Synergy Groups are likely to be constituted, the terms of reference and the composition thereof finalised?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (d) The details about Synergy Groups on various sectors of education are under consideration. No decision has yet been taken regarding the composition, procedure of selection of members, terms of reference, etc.

SURPLUS FUNDS

7899. **Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state .

(a) whether restrained by the Centre's guidelines to public sector undertakings on investment of surplus funds, the Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) has commissioned SBI Caps to recommend alternative proposal for deployment of its investible surplus;

(b) if so, the estimated investible surplus and how far it will go to part finance the Railways' plan Expenditure;

(c) the recommendations made by the SBI Caps at this stage; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) to (d) Even before the guidelines on investment of surplus funds by Public Sector Undertakings had been issued by the department of Public Enterprises on 14.12.1994, the Indian Railway Finance Corporation had asked the SBI Capital Markets to conduct a study and suggest ways and means for optimum utilisation of the investible surplus funds of the corporation. Their final report is awaited.

These funds temporarily Surplus to IRFC do not form additional resources for Railway's plan expenditure but are being so invested as to meet the redemption liabilities of I.R.F.C. towards bond holders.

POACHING IN RANTHAMBOR TIGER RESERVE

7900. Shri P. Kumarasamy : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Concern over poacheing incidents in Tiger Reserves" appearing in the Hindu dated May 12, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts therein;

(c) the number of such incidents in Ranthambor Tiger Reserve which came to the notice of the Government during 1994 and 1995 so far; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check such incidents in Tiger Reserves particularly in Ranthambor Tiger Reserves?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There has been reports of some stray felling of trees and illicit grazing of cattle & firewood collection in the periphery of the Park. It is also a fact that ranthambore receives a very large number of tourists whose movement has been regulated in recent time to avoid negative impact on the Park. However, no reports of poaching of tigers since 1994 have been received from the State Government of Rajasthan.

(d) The steps taken by the Government are as under :

- (i) A Tiger Crisis Cell has been set up in the Ministry.
- (ii) State Governments have been advised to strengthen vigilance and intensify patrolling around the Tiger Reserves.
- (iii) Steps have been initiated to set up a Special Strike Force in the Project Tiger areas.
- (iv) Tourist traffic are now channelised to different identified routes in the Park to reduce the negative impact of the visitors in Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. The number of

vehicles carrying the tourists have been reduced by introducing bigger transport vehicles like Canters.

LOSS DUE TO CALAMITIES IN RAJASTHAN

7901. Shrimati Vasundhara Raje : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the loss suffered by Rajasthan due to natural calamities during 1994-95;

(b) the extent of Central Assistance extended to the State to meet the calamity situation; and

(c) the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) As per information received from the Government of Rajasthan, the State was affected by hailstorms and heavy rains during 1994-95. The extent of damage is as under :

Cropped area affected	—	3.33 lakh hectares.
Damage to houses (Number)	—	9654
Human lives lost (Number)	—	53
Cattle heads lost (Number)	—	2030

(b) and (c) An amount of Rs. 93.00 crores was released as Central share of Calamity Relief Fund to Rajasthan during 1994-95 to undertake the relief operations in the areas affected by natural calamities.

CATERING UNITS

7902. Prof. Usammareddy Venkateswarlu : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Sharief's fiat on Bombay catering units sparks row", appeared in the Statesman dated March 1, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and peremptory allotments of the nature cited in Bombay have been cleared; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to review such allotments on out of turn basis in Bombay?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee of Members of Parliament for the Ministry of Railways has been set up to look into the issues pertaining to congestion at Railway Stations on suburban sections including in Bombay owing to allotment of catering/vending stalls. Instructions have also been issued to Western and Central Railways to ensure that no further stalls are allotted on Bombay Suburban Stations.

RAILWAY NETWORK

7903. **Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plan for the development of Railway Network in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this direction?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following works falling in state of Bihar are in Progress :

RESTORATION

1. Bagaha-Chhitauni Rail-cum-Road Bridge.

GAUGE CONVERSION

2. Samastipur-Darbhanga
3. Chhapra-Aunrihar
4. Sagauli-Narkatiaganj
5. Gauge Conversion of Narkatiaganj-Valmikinagar has been included in the Budget 1995-96

DOUBLING

6. Mughalsarai-Sonnagar 3rd line
7. Garwa Road-Sonnagar (Ph.-II)
8. Aluabari-Kishanganj, New Jalpaiguri-Ambari Falakata.

SURVEYS

1. Survey for New Line between Ranchi-Gaya via Hazaribagh.
2. Survey for New line from Rajgir to Hasua.
3. Survey for New Line from Ara to Sasaram.
4. Survey for Gauge conversion from Duraunda to Maharajanj and provision of new BG line from Maharajanj to Masrakh.
5. Survey for Gauge Conversion of Mansi-Forbesganj.
6. Survey for Second Bridge over river Gandak.

Survey for a new line between Giridih and Kodarma and Gauge conversion of Mansi-Saharsa-Banmankhi-Katihar have been included in the Budget 1995-96

ELECTRIFICATION

1. Chandil-Tiruldih & Ilu-Muri-Barkakana (Part of Chandil-Muri-Barkakana).
2. Gumia-Patratu & Balance portion of Sonnagar-Patratu.
3. Chittaranjan-Barakalan (part of Sitarampur-Mughalsarai).
4. Jamadoba-Mohuda.
5. Bokaro Steel City-Pundag, Muri-Orga, Karampada-Kiriburu (Part of Bokaro Steel City-Muri-Hatia-Kiriburu/Barsuan).

(c) Funds and Materials as required are being provided to the Railways.

PERIPHERAL ACTIVITIES

7904. **Shri S.M. Laljan Basha** : Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways are considering proposals to spin off ancillary and peripheral activities like running of residential colonies, clubs, institutions, etc., to the employees or other institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which such peripheral activities be a distraction to the Railways;

(d) whether any unions in South Central Railways have come forward to undertake to run schools and other establishments; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Railways provide residential and recreational facilities as a matter of Staff welfare subject to availability of resources. These are not considered a distraction.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

FCI UNITS

7905. **Dr. P. Vallal Peruman** : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to dispose of the units of Food Corporation of India anywhere in the country;

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

(c) the number of Food Corporation of India units situated in Tamilnadu, so far;

(d) whether the condition of these units is in deterioration;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to improve the Conditions of these units?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) (a) and (b) The Food Corporation of India has decided to dispose of the plants and machinery of 12 modern Rice Mills and a Solvent Extraction Plant located in five States, because their operations had become highly uneconomical. The State-wise details of these units are as under

State	No of Modern Rice Mills	No of Solvent Extraction Plants
Tamilnadu	4	1
Andhra Pradesh	4	—
Punjab	2	—
Haryana	1	—
Utter Pradesh	1	—
TOTAL	12	1

(c) Four of the twelve Modern Rice Mills and a Solvent Extraction Plant are located in Tamilnadu

(d) and (e) The operation of the five Food Corporation of India units in Tamilnadu had become economically unviable due to a number of factors which include non-availability of millable paddy, obsolete plants and machinery, frequent power cuts and labour problems

(f) Efforts were made to improve the functioning of these mills by undertaking necessary repairs and renovations of the plants and machinery. These did not succeed. Studies were also made to see if the mills can be run on commercial lines by purchasing paddy from the open market. The findings of the techno-economic study carried out in this regard were not encouraging.

UNIFICATION

7906. Shri Ram Naik : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the unification of Electrical and the Mechanical Divisions of the Railways is under consideration of the Ministry;

(b) whether the Ministry had appointed any Committee to study this proposal;

(c) if so, the names and designations of the committee members and its Chairman; and

(d) the time when the report of the Committee was received?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Kharief) (a) to (c) The Ministry of Railways had appointed a Committee known as Tandon Committee under the chairmanship of Shri Prakash Tandon, to study organisational structure and Management Ethos of Indian Railways to enable Indian Railways to function as business led enterprise. The Committee's report, conceptual in nature, suggested/required setting up of various Committees/Task Forces to consider the implementability of various recommendations including unified recruitment to Organised Railway Services. A committee known as Gupta-Narain Committee was set up to suggest methodology for the implementation of the recommendations of the Tandon Committee relating to organisational restructuring. The committee was headed by Sh J P Gupta, former Chairman, Railway Board and former Chairman, Union Public Service Commission. Sh Prakash Narain, former Chairman, Railway Board was member of the above Committee.

(d) The Gupta-Narain Committee have submitted Part-I of their report and their final report is awaited.

SUBSIDY ON CATALYTIC CONVERTERS

7907 Shri Tara Singh : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Delhi have sent proposal to the Government to provide subsidy for fixing Catalytic Converters in vehicles in Delhi to check the level of pollution,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise

[Translation]

VOCATIONAL COURSES

7908 Shri Ram Pal Singh :
Dr. Ramkriehna Kusmaria :
Shri Satya Deo Singh :

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state .

(a) whether there is a proposal to introduce Vocational Courses in various colleges of Delhi University during the academic year 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of colleges where these courses are likely to be introduced?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (c) The University Grants Commission, in consultation with the University of Delhi, had identified 16 affiliated colleges of the University for providing financial assistance under the scheme of Vocationalisation of Education at First Degree Level for introducing vocational subjects as part of their existing B.A./B.Sc./B.Com. courses from Academic Session 1994-95. Only four of these colleges could introduce the approved vocational subjects from this Session and the remaining 12 are expected to introduce such subjects from Academic Session 1995-96.

A statement indicating names of these 12 colleges and the vocational subjects approved for them is annexed.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of College	Approved Vocational Subject
1.	Miranda House	Functional Hindi
2.	Shivaji College	Foreign Trade Practices & Procedures
3.	Lady Shri Ram College for Women	Computer Applications
4.	Gargi College	Industrial Micro-biology
5.	Maitrey College	-do-
6.	Shri Venkateswara College	Tourism and Travel Management
7.	St. Stephens College	-do-
8.	Dayal Singh College (Evening)	-do-
9.	Kalindi College	Advertising, Sales Promotion and Sales Management
10.	Janki Devi Mahavidyalaya	-do-
11.	Delhi College of Arts & Commerce	-do-
12.	Kamla Nehru College	-do-

PASSENGER AND GOODS TRAFFIC

7909. Shri Datta Meghe : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been an increase in passenger and goods traffic;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the work pertaining to manufacture of wagons and coaches is on the decline despite the increase in passenger and goods traffic;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the Manufacture of wagons and coaches?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) : (a) and (b) The details of passenger and Goods traffic during the last three years are as under :

(Figures in Million)

	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (Provi.)
No. of Passenger Originating	3749	3708	3955
Originating Tonnage	350.05	358.72	364.96

(c) to (e) The Wagons requirement is need based and is related to transport output and wagon utilisation efficiency. Coach acquisition is also need based. Adequate coaches and wagons are being acquired to meet the needs of traffic.

[English]

WELFARE OF FISHERMEN

7910. Shri Phool Chand Verma :
Shri N. Dennis :
Shri Thayil John Anjalose :

Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether the economic condition of fishermen in India is pitiable;

(b) if so, the details of the various schemes launched or proposed to be launched for the protection and welfare of fishermen including those who engaged in deep sea fishing; and

(c) the assistance provided under each of the schemes during each of the last three years, State-wise?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) : (a) The economic condition of fishermen in India varies from State to State, and within a State it varies from resource to resource, and may not be generalised as pitiable.

(b) The following schemes have been launched by

this Ministry for the development of fisheries and the welfare of fishermen

I. Development of Coastal Marine Fisheries Scheme

(i) Motorisation of traditional craft

Under this scheme a maximum subsidy amounting to Rs 10,000 per Out Board Motor/Rs 12,000 per Inboard Motor plus Rs 6,000/- per unit of gear is provided to the traditional fishermen for motorisation of their craft

(ii) Reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on High Speed Diesel (HSD) Oil supplied to mechanised fishing vessels below 20 meter length

Under this scheme the mechanised fishing vessel (below 20 meter length) owners are provided a Central Excise Duty relief amounting to Rs 351.75 per kilolitre of HSD Oil supplied to them

II National Welfare of Fishermen Scheme

(i) Group Accident Insurance Component

Under this component fishermen are insured for a sum of Rs 25000/- in case of death or permanent disability and Rs 12 500/ in case of partial disability. The annual premium for insurance is shared equally between the Centre and the States

(ii) Development of Model Fishermen Villages

Under this component houses, tubewells and community halls are provided in selected villages for the fishermen and the cost is shared equally between the Centre and the State Govts subject to a ceiling of Rs 35 000/- per house, Rs 25000/- for a tubewell and Rs 1,25,000/- for a Community hall

(iii) Savings-cum-Relief

This component provides financial assistance for manne fishermen during monsoon/close period. Under this component contribution of Rs 45 per month for 8 months in a year collected from the individual, matched by the Central Govt and the State Govt is distributed to the fishermen in four equal monthly instalments during the monsoon/close period

III. Marine Fishing Regulation Act and Introduction of Artificial Reefs and Sea Farming Project

Under this scheme cent-percent grant-in-aid is given to States/UTs which have enacted Manne Fishing Regulation Act towards Capital

cost for procurement of patrol boats to safeguard the interest of traditional fishermen

Fishermen engaged in deep sea fishing are also the beneficiaries of Government policies for development of fisheries and the welfare of fishermen

(c) The assistance provided under each of the above Schemes during each of the last three years State-wise is given in the enclosed Statement I, II and III

STATEMENT-I

S No	Name of the State	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	Andhra Pradesh	35 00	—	39 00
2	Gujarat	173 60	233 00	361 76
3	Goa	4 70	5 45	3 00
4	Karnataka	29 00	45 00	66 00
5	Kerala	26 75	24 12	26 00
6	Maharashtra	21 20	175 44	268 65
7	Orissa	59 95	74 54	60 00
8	Tamilnadu	50 00	42 00	231 00
9	West Bengal	—	—	23 46
10	Pondicherry	0 50	0 65	7 50
11	A & N Islands	3 81	0 08	1 88
12	Lakshwadweep	0 50	0 80	0 40
13	Daman & Diu	4 70	8 38	10 72
		409 71	609 46	1099 37

STATEMENT-II

Assistance Released Under National Welfare of Fishermen Scheme During Each of the Last Three Years State-wise

(Rs in lakhs)

S No	Name of the State/UT	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	50 00	25 00	150 00
2	Assam	6 00	—	19 95

1	2	3	
3. Bihar	—	12.00	—
4. Gujarat	1.38	—	—
5. Himachal Pradesh	0.10	0.11	0.10
6. Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	0.02
7. Karnataka	28.60	82.08	79.40
8. Kerala	297.14	152.85	251.58
9. Madhya Pradesh	2.00	10.06	2.34
10. Manipur	15.08	—	0.11
11. Orissa	22.94	20.08	46.82
12. Tamilnadu	346.93	578.44	519.28
13. Tripura	—	6.31	10.48
14. Uttar Pradesh	15.96	11.08	36.66
15. West Bengal	6.00	7.00	38.00
16. A & N Islands	0.27	1.00	0.88
17. Lakshadweep	0.03	—	0.03
18. Pondicherry	48.37	53.00	100.00
	840.80	959.01	1255.65

STATEMENT-III

Assistance Released Under Enforcement of Marine Fishing Regulation Act and Introduction of Artificial Reefs and Sea Farming Project during each of the last Three Years, State-wise.

(Rs. in lakhs)				
S. No.	Name of the State	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	100
2.	Karnataka	-	-	150
3.	Kerala	-	330	300
4.	Maharashtra	-	-	10
5.	Orissa	-	90	10
6.	Tamilnadu	-	180	225
		-	600	795

PRODUCTION OF CASHEW

7911. **Shri N. Dennis :**
Shri Gope Nath Gajapathi :

Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Cashew growing States and the performance of different States in the production of Cashew during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the area under Cashew plantation during the Eighth Plan period;

(c) if so, the details of programme drawn up for this purpose;

(d) the location identified by the Government where area under Cashew plantation can be expanded;

(e) the details of financial assistance and other incentives provided to the State Governments for cultivation of Cashew during the last two years; and

(f) the amount of assistance allocated for 1995-96 for the purpose, State-wise?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) State-wise production of Cashew during 1992-93 to 1994-95 is given below :

S. No.	State	Production (MT)		
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1.	Kerala	151600	140200	149000
2.	Karnataka	31260	31540	33000
3.	Goa	33810	34590	37000
4.	Maharashtra	25590	28280	31200
5.	Tamilnadu	10100	19200	20000
6.	Andhra Pradesh	44880	46570	50000
7.	Orissa	39060	43420	46500
8.	West Bengal	3660	3990	4100
9.	Others	340	360	370
	TOTAL	349390	348150	371170

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) During 8th Plan, under the Centrally Sponsored Integrated Development Programme for Cashew, it is proposed to bring additional area of 42700 ha. under Cashew plantation for which an outlay of Rs. 1860.17 lakh has been earmarked.

(d) Besides, states indicated at (a) above, the cashew is being extended in Tripura, Madhya Pradesh and Manipur

(e) For cultivation of Cashew, financial assistance is provided to State Governments in respect of new Planting, replanting/rejuvenation, adoption of plant protection measures, adoption of comprehensive production technology, development of model clonal gardens and setting up regional nurseries. An amount of Rs. 1665.91 lakhs was released to State Governments during last 2 years.

(f) State-wise amount of assistance approved for 1995-96 for cultivation of cashew under the Centrally Sponsored Integrated Development Programme for Cashew in India is given below :

State	Amount of assistance approved for 1995-96 (Rs. in lakhs)
1 Kerala	137.01
2. Karnataka	78.32
3 Goa	127.97
4 Maharashtra	343.25
5 Tamilnadu	117.76
6. Andhra Pradesh	145.28
7 Orissa	38.37
8 Madhya Pradesh	21.92
9. West Bengal	14.16
10 Manipur	8.14
11 Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1.70
Total	1033.88

POLLUTION BY LEAD

7912. Shri Ram Kapse : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received the Report of the National Environment Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur regarding air pollution caused by land in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the salient features of the Report; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in accordance with the findings of the Report?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) The Central Pollution Control Board, under the administrative

purview of the Ministry of Environment and Forests have received the report on 'Air Quality Status, 1994' from the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur.

(b) This report presents a summary of the data obtained during 1991 and 1992 for ten cities namely Ahmedabad, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kanpur, Kochi, Madras and Nagpur. The data indicates that, the lead concentrations ranged from 0.006 to 2.19 micrograms per cubic meter in these ten cities. The average lead concentration was observed to be more than 0.15 micrograms per cubic meter in Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, and Kanpur. The highest concentration of 2.19 micrograms per cubic meter was observed in Bombay during the winter season whereas Kanpur and the remaining three magacities registered high levels of lead in all the three seasons. Low levels of lead were observed in the remaining cities. The occurrence of lead in these cities has been correlated to automobile exhaust and lead based industries

(c) The steps taken to check the pollution from lead include the following :

1. Emission and effluent standards have been notified for the major categories of polluting industries.
2. Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment within a stipulated time-frame and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.
3. For control of pollution from vehicles, emission norms for both petrol and diesel driven vehicles have been notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. More stringent norms for vehicular emissions have been notified under the Central Motor vehicles rules which would come into effect from April, 1996.
4. Gross and emissions standards for all vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.
5. Lead free petrol has been introduced from 1.4.95 in the four metropolitan cities of Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras for use in cars fitted with catalytic converters.
6. Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.
7. Fiscal incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and also for the shifting of polluting industries from congested areas.
8. Customs and Excise Duty exemption are provided to the industries for pollution

control/monitoring equipment.

9. Public Awareness Campaigns on the effects of pollution have been launched.

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

7913. **Shri P.P. Kaliaperumal** : Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of Ration Cards issued to the poor and needy families out of the total number of Ration Cards issued under P.D.S. and R.P.D.S.; State-wise;

(b) the steps being taken to ensure effective supply of the Public Distribution System commodities to poor and most needy sections of the society;

(c) the steps being taken to provide easy access to Fair Price Shops to agricultural labourers who attend their work from dawn to dusk;

(d) whether the scheme of "Mobile Retail Outlet" is in force in Tamilnadu; and

(e) if so, the number of such outlets functioning in Tamilnadu and the financial assistance provided for the purpose during the last three years, year-wise?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) As per present policy of the Central Government, access to the Public Distribution System (PDS) is universal in nature and the entire population in the country is covered under the PDS. However, operational responsibility for implementing the PDS, including the issue of ration cards, is that of the State Government/UT Administrations. Income category-wise details of ration cards issued are not maintained.

(b) and (c) Central Government has in consultation with State Governments, identified 1775 backward Blocks in the country, where a significant number of the Below Poverty line population reside, for coverage under the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS). Foodgrains meant for distribution in RPDS areas are issued by the Central Government at specially subsidised Central Issue Prices (CIPs) which are Rs. 50/- per quintal lower than the normal CIPs for the PDS. Central Government makes additional allocation of foodgrains to the extent of 3.2 million tonnes per annum to enable the State Governments/UT Administrations to increase the allocation to RPDS areas. Most State Governments have reported setting up of Fair Price Shops (FPS) level vigilance committees to supervise proper distribution of commodities.

(d) and (e) Central Government provides financial assistance to States/UTs for purchase of vans/trucks to be used either as mobile FPSs and /or for door step delivery of PDS commodities to FPSs. The details of financial assistance provided to Government of Tamilnadu for purchase of vans, during the last three years is as follows :

Year	No. of Vans	Amount
1991-92	-	-
1992-93	8	Rs. 32.00 lakhs
1993-94	8	Rs. 32.00 lakhs

The State Governments/UTs provide the utilisation certificates to the Central Government as and when they purchase these vans.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR BUS SERVICE

7914. **Shri Anantrao Deshmukh** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state .

(a) whether Railways have made arrangements/plan to make arrangements of bus service to carry passengers from Railway Stations to Hill Resorts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) .

(a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

7915 **Dr. R. Mallu** :
Shri Lalit Oraon :

Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state .

(a) the names of Voluntary Organisations which were given grants for environment protection, pollution control, afforestation and other social purposes during each of the last three years, State-wise,

(b) the amount of the grants given and the purposes for which it was given to each of the Voluntary Organisation State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have examined the utility of the funds granted;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) to (e) The information with regard to the Voluntary Organisations which have received grants from the Ministry of Environment and Forests is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

IMPORT OF SUGAR

7916. **Shri Syed Shahabuddin** : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of sugar contracted for import by Government and the actual quantity imported during the year 1994,

(b) whether the undelivered balance under these contracts may be delivered during 1995 at the same price,

(c) whether the contracts provided for cancellation or for confirmation with or without refixation of the price for supply during 1995, and

(d) whether the Government have decided to accept the delivery of the balanced sugar to be supplied under these contracts during 1995 and if so the quantity and the CIF cost thereof and the agency therefor?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) (a) The quantity of sugar contracted for import into India by State Trading Corporation of India Ltd (STC) and Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India (MMTC) and the quantity actually arrived during 1994 is as under

(in lakh tonnes)

	Quantity Contracted	Quantity arrived
(i) STC	4.97*	4.72
(ii) MMTC	5.19	5.05
Total	10.16	9.77

* This does not include the trial order for 12,500 Metric Tonnes placed on non-RSA supplier which was not fulfilled by the party

(b) No Sir

(c) and (d) As per information furnished by the MMTC the contracts did not provide for refixation of price for supply during 1995. However, the contract provided for imposition of suitable delay penalty in case delay was within acceptable limits. In case of delay beyond acceptable limits there was a provision for cancellation of the contract if delay was not because of force majeure.

According to MMTC, there were no balance left from 1994 contracts to be supplied during the year 1995.

As regards contracts of STC, they have intimated that action has been initiated against the suppliers who have defaulted in fulfilling their contractual obligations in respect of 3 cargoes.

ECO FRIENDLY PRODUCTS

7917 **Shri Balraj Passi** : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) whether the scheme for eco-friendly products envisages comparative testing of products by Voluntary

Consumer Organisations,

(b) if so, the details of such proposals pending before the Government for comparative testing, and

(c) the extent to which the Government support to these proposals?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) (a) to (c) The scheme of labelling of Environment Friendly Products Launched in 1991, envisages assistance to consumer organisations for comparative testing of products. In this regard, Government has so far received three proposals one each from Consumer Education & Research Centre (CERC), Voluntary Organisation in Interest of Consumer Education (VOICE) and Super Bazar. A limit of Rs five lakh per proposal has been provided in the budget for assistance for comparative testing.

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

7918 **Dr. Asim Bala** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) the performance of Chittaranjan Locomotive Works during the last three years

(b) whether Chittaranjan Locomotive Works is going to close down and

(c) if so the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief) (a) The performance of Chittaranjan Locomotive Works during the last three years is as under

Year	Target	Actual
1992-93		
Electric Locos	120	125
Diesel Locos	30	30
1993-94		
Electric Locos	135	140
1994-95		
Electric Locos	150	150

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise

FOOD SUBSIDY TO NORTH EASTERN STATES

7919 **Dr. Vasant Niwruutti Pawar** :
Shri Gopi Nath Gajapathi :

Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state

(a) whether there are any special schemes to give

food subsidy to North Eastern States,

(b) if so, the total subsidy earmarked during the last two years, State-wise, year-wise, and

(c) whether this scheme will be implemented elsewhere in the country also, if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) (a) and (b) Apart from general food subsidy arising from the difference between the Central Issue Prices and the economic costs, the Central Government is executing a scheme of "Hill Transport Subsidy" Under the scheme, the Central Govt reimburses transportation charges from the nearest FCI godowns to certain Principal Distribution Centres which are approved by the Central Government in consultation with the State Governments. The amount of Hill Transport Subsidy reimbursed in 92-93 and 93-94 to North Eastern states are as under

	(Rs /Crores)	
	1992-93	1993-94
Arunachal Pradesh	6 56	4 31
Assam	0 07	0 62
Manipur	2 12	1 01
Meghalaya	0 06	0 30
Mizoram	7 76	8 35
Nagaland	2 54	2 16
Tripura	2 45	1 80

(c) Apart from North Eastern States Hill Transport Subsidy scheme is in operation in Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshdweep No decision to extend the scheme to other States/UTs has been taken

[Translation]

PRODUCTION OF SUGARCANE

7920 Shri Surajbhanu Solanki : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state

(a) whether the production of sugarcane was less in comparison to its demand during the financial year 1993-94, and

(b) if so, the rationale behind setting up New Sugar Mills in the country despite the non-availability of Sugar cane?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) (a) and (b) No, Sir The production of Sugar cane in 1993-94 has been finally estimated at 2270 59 lakh tonnes, as against the requirement of 1237 4 lakh tonnes of sugar cane for the installed capacity of 8,24,931 tonnes cane/day during that

year, assuming an average duration of 150 days

[English]

CONSUMER ACT

7921 Shri Rajendra Agnihotri : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the statement of Vice-Chancellor of Delhi University that Consumer Act must cover Universities,

(b) if so, reaction thereon

(c) whether the Government propose to consider bringing Universities under the said Act, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) (a) to (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

SUGAR MILL

7922 Shrimati Chandra Prabha Urs Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka had sent any expansion plan of the Hemavathy Co operative Sugar Mill in Hassan

(b) if so whether the clearance has been given and

(c) if not the time by when it is likely to be cleared?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) (a) to (c) A proposal of M/s Hemavathy Sahakara Sakkare Karkhane Ltd Srinivaspura, Distt Hassan (Karnataka) for effecting substantial expansion in capacity from 1250 tonnes per day to 2500 tonnes per day was received on 3 12 1993 through the Department of Industrial Development Ministry of Industry

The Central Government is at present reviewing the licensing policy for sugar industry A decision on the pending applications for grant of letters of intent for setting up of new sugar mills/expansions of the existing units would be taken thereafter

[Translation]

AEROPLANE

7923 Dr. Laxmi Narayan Pandeya Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that an aeroplane belonging to his Ministry had crashed last year,

(b) whether it is also a fact that three persons died in the plane crash,

(c) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in this incident, and

(d) if so the findings thereof

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) (a) Yes Sir

(b) Four persons died in the plane crash

(c) and (d) Enquiry is being conducted in this incident by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation and the findings are yet awaited

RAILWAY STATIONS

7924 **Shri N.J. Rathva** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) the facilities provided to Rail Passengers in the Tribal areas of Gujarat during the last three years till date alongwith the numbers of Railway Stations in respect of which the construction work has already started and the position in regard to levelling the platform of above stations,

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon,

(c) the works yet to be completed, and

(d) the time by which these works are likely to be completed?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief)

(a) to (d) Details are as under

(Figures in lakh of Rupees)

Station	Details of Work	Cost	Amount Spent Till 31 3 95
MADHI	Extension of platform	9 20	4 20
GODHRA	Improvement to lighting	2 10	1 60
DAHOD	Rewiring of station building	2 50	1 50
UDHNA JALGAON	Extension of platforms at 5 stations	3 40	3 40
UDHNA JALGAON	Imp to waiting hall/latrines-2 stations	3 00	3 00
GODHRA-NAGDA	Extension of platforms at 8 stations	9 40	9 40
DAHOD	Provision of retiring room	2 20	2 20
DAHOD	Improvement to lighting	3 00	1 00

Works on Udhna-Jalgaon and Godhra-Nagda Sections and provision of retiring room at Dahod have been completed and completion of other works will depend upon availability of funds

[English]

LICENCE TO SUGAR MILLS

7925 **Shrimati Bhavna Chikhila** : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy to grant licences of persons belonging to SCs/STs/OBCs and backward communities for setting up of Sugar Mills in the country,

(b) whether the Government have received any proposals from various States in this regard during the last three years,

(c) if so, the details thereof State-wise and year-wise and

(d) the outcome thereto?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) (a) No Sir

(b) to (d) There is no column in the prescribed industrial licence form to indicate categories such as SCs/STs/OBCs and backward class etc and therefore such records are not maintained

TREATMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

7926 **Shri Mohan Rawale** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that sixty percent of Indian school children carry throat infections which can develop into heart disease,

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto, and

(d) the action taken by the Government for regular check up and treatment of these school children?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and

Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) (a) No Sir

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Indian Council of Medical Research convened a meeting of representatives of Medical Colleges from 18 States/Union Territories to consider the measures to be taken at Primary Health Centre level in collaboration with the State Health Officers to treat streptococcal sore throat infection

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

7927 Shri Bir Singh Mahato : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) the details of the proposals for financial assistance received from voluntary organisations of West Bengal during the last three years,

(b) the number of proposals approved so far and the number of proposals still pending, and

(c) whether the Government have since released the amount of assistance sought for?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

[Translation]

CONTROL OVER NATIONAL PARKS AND SANCTUARIES

7928 Shri Rajendra Kumar Sharma : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have started any Environment Development Programme for participation of local people in Forests Conservation and Wildlife Protection

(b) if so, the details thereof including the amount spent during the last three years thereon and the amount earmarked for the year 1995-96,

(c) the details of the benefits likely to be yielded by this programme,

(d) whether there is any proposal to give control of Sanctuaries and National Parks to local people and local organisations,

(e) if so, the details thereof, and

(f) the reaction of environmentalists and others to the proposal?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath)

(a) The Government is implementing the Centrally

Sponsored Scheme of "Eco-development in and around protected areas including tiger reserves," since 1991-92 which involves participation of local people in forest conservation and wildlife protection. The scheme is being implemented in 17 States covering about 85 protected areas

(b) The amount spent during the last three years and the amount earmarked for 1995-96 is given below

Year	Amount Spent (Rs In lacs)
1992-93	296 434
1993-94	484 280
1994-95	346 150
1995-96	680 00 (earmarked)

(c) The scheme is aimed at ensuring generation of forest biomass outside protected areas finding alternative to existing biomass use and socio-economic development of the communities living in and around wildlife protected areas so that their co-operation and support can be enlisted for reducing the pressures on the wildlife habitats. This would bring about an improvement in the conservation status of the protected areas

(d) No, Sir

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

[English]

SUGAR MILLS

7929 Shri M.V.S. Murthy : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have decided not to consider fresh applications for loans for Sugar Mills of those States where recovery towards repayment of Cane Development is below 75 per cent;

(b) if so, whether this has not been approved by the State Government,

(c) the states which are likely to be affected by this decision,

(d) whether any alternative has been suggested, and

(e) the efforts being made to recover the loans?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) Yes, Sir it has been decided that fresh loan application for Cane Development Schemes based on State Government guarantees will not be considered from the mills of those States where recoveries towards repayment of cane development loans of the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) are below 75 per cent

(b) Under SDF Rules, State Governments' approval is not required. However, the decision of the Central Government has been conveyed to the State Governments.

(c) Based on the recovery position as on 31.3.1995, the States affected by this decision are Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Punjab, Bihar, Pondicherry and Assam.

(d) Yes, Sir. The sugar undertakings situated in the defaulting States can avail of SDF loans by furnishing Bank guarantees as security, instead of State Government guarantees.

CENTRAL SCHOOLS IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

7930. Prof. Prem Dhumal : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) how many new Central Schools are proposed to be opened in Himachal Pradesh during 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether there is a proposal to shift any Central School in Himachal Pradesh to another place within the State; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) and (b) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has intimated that there is no proposal to open any new Kendriya Vidyalaya during 1995-96 in Himachal Pradesh.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

CULTURAL SOCIAL VALUES

7931. Shri Surendra Pal Pathak : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether activities of most of the Multinational Companies are affecting the various fields of our national life and are affecting our cultural and social values;

(b) If so, whether the Government propose to inquire into it and to evolve a mechanism for monitoring of the activities of these Multinational Companies;

(c) If so, the details of the action likely to be taken; and

(d) If not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (c) An official Committee under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting with Secretary, Department of Culture, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and

other senior officers has been constituted to take an overview of culture vis-a-vis the globalisation of media and tourism; and to recommend possible inter-linkage and developmental activities in these fields.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

ISSUE PRICE OF FOODGRAINS

7932. Shri D. Venkateswara Rao : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of A.P. passed a unanimous resolution urging the Union Government not to hike the issue price for the Public Distribution System in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have considered the proposal and the outcome thereto?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that the State Legislature has passed a resolution requesting Government of India, inter alia, not to increase the price of rice being released for PDS/RPDS in Andhra Pradesh in future.

(b) No decision has yet been taken by the Government on the aforesaid resolution.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION

7933. Shri Manjay Lal : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to make the education compulsory for the children upto 8th or 10th standard;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the specific measures being taken by the Government in this regard alongwith the funds earmarked for the purpose ?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (c) The National Policy on Education 1986 as revised in 1992 states the resolve of the Government to provide free and compulsory education of satisfactory quality to all children upto 14 years of age before we enter the twenty first century. The specific measures taken up by the Government in pursuance of this policy are enumerated in the Annual Report of the Ministry.

MANUSCRIPTS EXHIBITION

7934. Shrimati Bhavna Chikhila :
Shri Balraj Passi :
Shri Manoranjan Bhakta :

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Persian Manuscripts exhibition was proposed to be held in Tashkent during 1994-95 under the aegis of National Museum,

(b) if so, whether the exhibition was held

(c) if not, the reasons therefor,

(d) when it is likely to be held, and

(e) how much amount is likely to spent on the exhibition?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture (Kumari Selja) : (a) No, Sir

(b) to (e) Do not arise

FOODGRAINS STOCK

7935 Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "States cool to rice levy option" appeared in The Hindu Business Line, New Delhi dated April 24, 1995,

(b) if so, the facts therein and the reaction of the Government thereto,

(c) the policy of Government over making levy optional as one of the ways of reducing the pressure caused by the burgeoning stocks of foodgrains and the increasing carrying costs of Buffer Stock and the reasons for the general decline in PDS offtake which is leading to piling up of stocks?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) The news item, inter alia, reports that the response of the State Governments to the suggestion that levy on rice be made optional for traders and millers, is lukewarm

Taking into account the overall stock situation of rice in the country, the State Governments of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh were requested in March 1995 to make levy on rice optional for the rice millers/traders for the rest of the Current Kharif Season, if the State Governments so desired in response to this, Punjab has communicated its decision not to accept any more levy rice during the current Kharif Season instead

of making the levy optional. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed that since there is still enough space in the FCI godowns in the State for the incoming levy rice during the Current Kharif Season, the time is not ripe for making levy optional. Other States have not taken a decision on the subject so far.

Earlier, in September, 1994 the Central Government had also decided to export non-basmati superfine rice meant for export from levy Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, West Bengal and Rajasthan have given effect to this decision. Government of Orissa intimated that no rice mill in the state is engaged in export activities. While Mizoram have intimated that no non-basmati rice is being exported from the State, Manipur informed that no levy order existed in the State.

The off-take of rice and wheat through PDS has declined mainly due to adequate availability of foodgrains in the open market at prices not very different from the retail prices in the Public Distribution System.

[Translation]

ANGANWADI CENTRES

7936 Shri Kesri Lal : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) the details of the amount made available to the State Governments under the Anganwadi programme being launched in rural areas for the upliftment of women and children during each of the last three years,

(b) whether the Government have received complaints in regard to misuse of funds allocated under the Anganwadi programme in UP, and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to check the misuse of funds?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Women and Child Development) (Shrimati Basava Rajeshwari) : (a) A statement containing details of amount released to the States/Union territories under the ICDS Scheme during last 3 years is annexed

(b) No such complaint has been received

(c) Does not arise

STATEMENT

Statement showing State-wise amount of Central Grant released to States for last three years for the continued implementation of ICDS Scheme.

S No	Name of the State/U T	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (Rs in lacs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	3,209.68	3,319.26	3,410.630

1	2	3	4	5
2	Arunachal Pradesh	254.72	501.43	364.430
3.	Assam	875.90	1,129.93	2,006.100
4.	Bihar	3,456.41	4,296.11	6,279.485
5.	Goa	102.20	180.26	144.575
6.	Gujarat	1,496.87	2,270.17	1,986.580
7.	Haryana	597.30	829.86	703.745
8.	Himachal Pradesh	471.48	587.34	519.900
9	Jammu & Kashmir	572.17	710.25	708.325
10.	Karnataka	2,123.30	3,201.45	2,874.870
11	Kerala	839.39	1,259.01	1,252.620
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3,406.00	3,506.69	7,388.095
13	Maharashtra	2,484.09	3,484.91	3,527.815
14.	Manipur	300.24	409.47	338.685
15	Meghalaya	334.21	462.88	333.720
16.	Mizoram	206.53	315.19	280.415
17.	Nagaland	304.76	316.38	467.620
18	Orissa	2,952.50	2,222.40	3,653.320
19	Punjab	672.50	1,285.40	762.480
20	Rajasthan	1,463.98	2,258.40	1,972.640
21	Sikkim	49.84	115.23	22.030
22	Tamilnadu	1,551.48	2,104.08	1,418.405
23	Tripura	274.12	245.96	237.845
24	Uttar Pradesh	4,721.76	6,977.27	7,287.725
25.	West Bengal	2,855.99	3,588.95	3,648.895
Union Territory				
26.	Delhi	446.01	494.41	605.095
27.	Pondicherry	74.00	115.33	105.895
28.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	51.84	53.07	58.54
29	Chandigarh	29.80	42.84	35.91
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	15.62	17.24	14.59
31.	Daman & Diu	24.80	32.83	21.43
32.	Lakshadweep	14.90	14.70	18.19
33.	R.K. Mission	12.00	17.24	17.85
34.	Miscellaneous	13.41		
Grand Total		36,259.80	48,366.00	52,470.00

[English]

RECRUITMENT OF SC/ST IN UNIVERSITIES

7937 **Shri Anadi Charan Das** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) the names of the Universities in the Country getting grants from the University Grants Commission and still not following the Reservation Policy in favour of SC and ST in recruitment and promotions in various categories of posts.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor,

(c) whether Government would enforce Reservation Policy as condition for these Universities to become eligible for U G C grants, and

(d) if not, what steps Government propose to take to provide constitutional safeguards for SC/STs in these Universities?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (d) While 13 Central Universities receive both maintenance (Non-plan) and development (Plan) grants from University Grants Commission, grants are provided to 184 other Universities too. The Central Universities are required to follow the Reservation Policy for SCs/STs as announced from time to time. The University Grants Commission has advised the Universities to adhere to the Reservation Policy of the Government. Since the Universities, Central as well as State, are autonomous organisations, they have their own decision making mechanisms. As per the Reservation Policy reiterated by the University Grants Commission from time to time, Central Universities are required to reserve 15% and 7.5% seats/positions for candidates belonging to SCs and STs respectively in admissions, hostel accommodations & recruitments and promotion up to posts equivalent to Group 'A' posts in Government State Universities are required to follow the reservation percentages as prescribed by the State Governments.

In order to ensure that the grantee institutions adhere to the reservation policy, the UGC, while conveying approval of any scheme, incorporates the following clause regarding implementation of the Government Policy on reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

"The University/College shall take all possible measures to ensure effective implementation of policies of the Government of India/UGC relating to reservation policy in favour of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes."

ADVANCED TECHNICIAN

7938 **Shri Mohan Singh (Deoria)** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government had started advanced technician course in selected technical institutions of the country since 1980-81,

(b) if so, the names of the such institutions,

(c) whether the Department had ever received the feed back on the performance of the said scheme through some expert committee, if so what are the recommendations of this committee

(d) whether the Department has provided sufficient grants for these schemes according to the recommendations of expert committee, and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) and (b) The scheme of Advanced Technical Course was initially introduced in 1980-81 in selected diploma level technical institutions

Under the scheme the following institutions were selected

- 1 YMCA Institute of Engg. Faridabad
- 2 Institute of Engineering & Rural Technology Allahabad
- 3 Khaitan Polytechnic Jaipur
- 4 SBM Polytechnic, Bombay
- 5 Govt Polytechnic Khurai
- 6 Govt Polytechnic, Porbandar
- 7 CM Kothari Tech Institute Madras
- 8 Kamla Nehru Polytechnic for women Hyderabad
- 9 JC Ghosh Polytechnic Calcutta
- 10 KG Engineering Institute Bishnupur (W B)

(c) To review the implementation of the scheme Regional expert committees were constituted during 1988-89. The following are the broad recommendations of these committees

- (i) Provision for stipend to the advanced technicians course, on the line of Post-graduate programmes
- (ii) Continuation of scheme wherever running,
- (iii) Rationalisation of staff structure for the course on the pattern of norms prescribed by AICTE,
- (iv) Recognition of the course for superior services and necessary directives to the employing agencies in this regard

- (v) Curriculum updating from time to time to keep pace with industrial requirement,
- (vi) Waiving the condition of sponsorship by industry as it is not possible for industry to sponsor their staff for two years.

(d) and (e) Grants have been released to the concerned institutions upto 1992-93 for conducting the ATC courses. The question of subsequent grants is linked to continuation of the scheme with enhanced scope and coverage.

NAVYUG SCHOOLS TEACHERS

7939. **Shri Shashi Prakash** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether many Navyug Schools under NDMC have been upgraded and the teachers working in these schools have also been promoted simultaneously as Vice Principal, Principal although they were juniors to many teachers working in similar schools;

(b) whether it has created anomaly in the seniority of teachers working in Navyug Schools as seniors working in other schools are yet to get the promotion;

(c) whether the teachers working in Navyug Schools are stagnating in the same scale of pay for the last twenty years; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to remove these anomalies in the seniority of these teachers as well as in the pay ?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by the New Delhi Municipal Committee, of the six Navyug Schools, governed by the Navyug School Educational Society, four were upgraded Promotion to the post of Vice Principal has been given to a seniormost Headmistress as per laid down selection procedure. As such, there is no anomaly in the seniority.

The teachers of Navyug Schools have been prescribed the pay scales corresponding to the Senior Scales applicable to the teachers of the Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi, MCD and other NDMC schools after 12 years of service. The issue of pay scales is, however, sub-judice as a writ petition has been filed in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi by some teachers.

[Translation]

ANGANWADI CENTRES

7940. **Shri Kesri Lal** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) the persons mainly responsible for the selection of maids/head maids working in the rural areas under Anganwadi programme;

(b) whether the Government have issued any directives for their selection to State Governments;

(c) if so, the details thereof and how the compliance of these directions is ensured;

(d) whether the Government have received any complaints in respect of bungling on large scale in the selection of head maids in Uttar Pradesh recently;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether any remedial steps have been taken by the Government in this regard ?

The Minister of State (Department of Women and Child Development) in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Shrimati Basava Rajeswari) : (a) There are no maids or head maids working in Anganwadi Centres in rural areas under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme.

(b) to (f) Do not anse.

[English]

CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEME

7941. **Shri Syed Shahabuddin** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes in which the total allocation for the year 1993-94 or budgeted for 1995-96 is less than rupees ten lakhs for the entire Country;

(b) the year of inception of the schemes, scheme-wise;

(c) the total amount spent on these schemes upto March 31, 1995, scheme-wise;

(d) the total number of beneficiaries of such schemes, scheme-wise ; and

(e) whether the Government propose to review such minor schemes which have little impact on the country as a whole ?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) and (c) A statement is attached.

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

(d) and (e) These are not individual beneficiary oriented schemes but are essential supportive programmes and their progress is periodically reviewed.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the Plan Scheme	8th Plan approved outlay	Approved Outlay in Annual Plans			
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1. Strengthening of Administrative, Monitoring and Evaluation System in Higher Education	32.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	1.00
2. National council for Higher Education	50.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	1.00
3. Training University Administrators	175.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
4. Urdu University	Nil	Nil	1.00	1.00	Nil
5. Cultural Exchange Programme	50.00	5.00	5.00	25.00	25.00
6. Preservation of oral Tradition of Vedic Recitation	35.00	7.00	7.00	Nil	13.00
7. Rashtriya Sanskrit & Classical Language Commission	100.00	Nil	25.00	25.00	5.00
8. National Book Development Council	20.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
9. Book Promotional Activities and Voluntary Agencies	30.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
10. Setting up of National Society of Authors	15.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
11. Strengthening of External Academic Relations	25.00	3.00	3.00	5.00	5.00
12. Education Consultant India Limited	10.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
13. Centralised Management Information System	117.00	5.00	7.00	7.00	7.00

[Translation]

NEW VARIETIES OF PULSES AND OILSEEDS

7942 **Dr. Chinta Mohan :**
Shri Nawal Kishore Rai :

Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether the farmers have fully exploited the research and experiments done by the Agricultural Research Institutes in the fields of Pulses and Oilseeds production

(b) if not, the reasons therefor,

(c) whether a number of superior Varieties of pulses and oilseeds have been developed during the last three years,

(d) if so, the names of the varieties and the rate of yield given by these varieties,

(e) whether the actual average rate of yield at the national level in the pulses and oilseeds sector had been quite low as compared to the rate of yield given by these varieties

(f) if so, the facts in this regard, and

(g) the reasons for which the farmers are unable to make full use of the research and experiment work conducted in this field?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture. (Shri S. Krishna Kumar) . (a) The farmers are gradually exploiting research results of agricultural research institutes in the fields of pulses and oilseeds production

(b) The reasons for gradual adoption are

- (1) cultivation on marginal and sub-marginal lands,
- (2) rainfed farming with no life-saving irrigation,
- (3) increasingly expensive labour and inputs,
- (4) complex pest-disease syndrome,
- (5) persistent degradation of natural resource base, etc

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir A list of superior varieties of pulses and oilseeds developed during the last 3 years alongwith rate of yields and actual national average crop yields is given in Statement-I

(e) to (g) Yes, Sir Some of the primary issues responsible for yield gaps are

- (1) Selection of crop and variety recommended for specific area/situation/season,

(2) Use of quality seed in recommended quantities, and adoption of technology package in full,

(3) Application of fertiliser and plant protection schedules at critical stages of crop growth /infestation

STATEMENT-I

INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

List of Improved Varieties of Pulse Crops Developed during the last three years.

Crop	Variety	Yield Potential Q/ha	National Av Yield (Q/ha)
1	2	3	4
Pulses			
Chickpea	BG-372	25-30	6.75
	Sada Bahar	25-30	
	ICCV 10	20-21	
	Uday (KPG 59)	22-25	
	H 86-18	20-21	
	GF 89-36	20-21	
Pigeonpea	KWR 108	19-20	6.65
	ICPL 87119	20-25	
Mung bean	Paras	25-26	4.71
	BM-4	10-11	
	MUM-2	12-13	
Urdbean	MH 88-111	12-13	5.60
	TPU-4	9-11	
	LBG-402	9-11	
Fieldpea	WBU 108	9-10	9.03
	JP-885	20-25	
	KFP-103	18-20	
Lentil	Pant lenti-4	16-18	6.47
	Shivalik	14-15	
	KL 133	13-15	
Rajmash	HPR-35	14-15	

1	2	3	4	
		Oilseeds		
Groundnut	ICGV 86590	17-19	9 26	
	RSHY-1	24-26		
	Somnath	18-20		
	J (E) 2 (GG3)	14-16		
	CSMG 84-1	26-28		
	CG-20 (VB)	19 21		
	CG-12	13-15		
	Tirupati-2	20-22 (K) 34-36 (R)		
	BAU 13	21 23		
	DRG 12	17-19		
Soyabean	ICGV 86325	13-15	10 89	
	JS 71-85	20-24 (K) 13-20 (R)		
	JS-80-21	23-24		
	MACS 5057	26 (S), 30 (K)		
	JS 335	25-30		
	PK 564	30-35		
	MACS 124	25-30		
	NRC-2	25-30		
	Rapeseed	Pusa Bahar		17-19
	Mustard	Subinoy (YSB-90)		9-11
RH-813		11-13		
RH-781		18-20		
TM-68		16-18		
PCR-7		18-20		
Bio-902		18-20		
Sunflower	KBSH-1	13-15	5 21	
	PAC-36	12-14		
	PSCL-5015	11-13		
	PKVSH-27	13-15		
	GAU-SUF-15	9-11		
	TNAU-SUF-7	11-13		

1	2	3	4
Sesame	OMT-11-6-3	5-7	2 60
	RT-54	7-9	
	RT-103	7-9	
	RT-125	7-9	
	Gujarat Til-2	6-8	
	YLM-11	7-9	
Castor	TLM-17	7-9	9 34
	SVPR-1	6-8	
	DCS-9	9 11	
Linseed	SKI-73	20-22	3 53
	RLC-29	11-13	
	Triveni	10-12	

[English]

ORGANISATION WITHOUT CHIEF

7943 **Shri Prabhu Dayal Katheria** : Will the **Minister of Human Resource Development** be pleased to state

(a) whether many organisations in his Ministry are functioning without the Chief Executives

(b) if so, the details of each organisation

(c) since when these posts have been lying vacant, and

(d) when these posts will be filled up?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

[Translation]

LEAKAGE OF POISONOUS GAS

7944 **Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan** : Will the **Minister of Environment and Forests** be pleased to state

(a) whether there was a leakage of poisonous gas recently in a Beer factory set up in the Govindpur Industrial Area of Bhopal,

(b) if so, the details in this regard along with the seasons therefor,

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter, and

(d) If no action has been taken the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) and (b) An incidence of ammonia gas leak occurred on March 24, 1995 during the maintenance of oil separator tank of the refrigeration plant of M/s Lila Sons Breweries Ltd, Govindpura Industrial Area, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. The release of ammonia took place for about 15 minutes. No case of death or injury has been reported.

(c) The Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board initiated action against the unit under provisions of the (Air Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

(d) Does not arise

[English]

HUMAN RIGHTS COURSES

7945 Shri Gurudas Kamat : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether Government proposes to start Human Rights Courses in the colleges and

(b) if so the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) Universities are statutory autonomous organisations and the decisions regarding the introduction of various courses in different disciplines in higher educational institutions are taken by these organisations themselves.

(b) Does not arise

POLLUTION CAUSED BY DISTILLERIES

7946 Shri Datta Meghe : Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are considering to exempt the distilleries from treatment of their liquid discharge at the second stage,

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the environmental pollution caused by the distilleries?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) The steps taken by the Government to control the pollution from distilleries include the following

(i) Effluent and emission standards for distilleries have been notified;

(ii) Distilleries have been directed to instal necessary pollution control equipment on a

time-bound basis and legal action is taken against the defaulting units,

(iii) Fiscal incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and also for shifting of polluting distilleries from congested areas,

(iv) Customs and Excise duty exemptions are provided to the industries for pollution control/monitoring equipments,

(v) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries

MOLESTATION OF GIRLS IN UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

7947 Dr. Vasant Niwrucci Pawar : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether Jawaharlal Nehru University and Delhi University are facing worst menace of molestation threat by outsiders,

(b) if so the number of cases reported in Delhi University/JNU campuses during the past two years and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to maintain the sanctity of these campuses and protect girls from harassment?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House

SEMINAR ON EDUCATION

7948 Shri Srikanta Jena : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether a seminar of financial and educational experts of the capitals was organised at the University of Delhi by the All India Research Scientists Association recently

(b) if so, the matter discussed and observation made in the seminar, and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House

[Translation]

HIRING OF PROPERTY BY F.C.I.

7949 Shrimati Surya Kanta Patil :
Shri Avtar Singh Bhadana :
Shri S. N. Vekaria :

Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state-

(a) whether FCI can retain any accommodation till fourteen years after the expiry of lease deed,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) if not, the reasons for not vacating the properties so far,

(d) the policy of the Government to provide required financial relief to the owners at market rate to compensate the loss in the form of difference between the rent received and the market rent for the entire period of 14 years, and

(e) the time by when it is likely to be implemented?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) and (b) The Food Corporation of India generally do not retain accommodation beyond the expiry of the lease-deed. However, due to operational exigencies they have been constrained to retain premises at F-40 and D-74, East of Kailash, New Delhi even after the expiry of lease-deed.

(c) The FCI has taken a conscious decision to have its own space in order to vacate hired accommodation. The Central Training Institute complex at Gurgaon on completion shall pave way for vacation of the hired accommodation at East of Kailash, New Delhi.

(d) and (e) The FCI had constituted a committee to negotiate with the respective landlords for enhancement of rent and persuade them to agree to a long-term lease deed/agreement. The Committee offered them 25% increase over the existing rent w.e.f. 1.6.92. The offer was repeated on 7.1.94, 9.2.94, 15.4.94 and 14.12.94 but no response has been received from the owner of the premises No F-40, East of Kailash. The owner of House No D-74, East of Kailash has in turn sought for the vacation of the accommodation.

[English]

NATIONAL CONSUMER COOPERATIVE FEDERATION

7950 Shri Shankar Rao D. Kale :
Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar :
Shri Devi Bux Singh :

Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Cooperative Consumers Federation (NCCF) has suffered heavy losses in the recent years,

(b) if so, the reasons and factors responsible,

(c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry into the matter,

(d) if so, the outcome thereof, and

(e) the action taken against the persons found responsible for the losses ?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Non-availability of sufficient working capital, decline in sales turnover consequent upon non-availability of controlled cloth for distribution, disproportionate increase in overhead expenses and dependence on borrowed funds for financing the business operations, are the main reasons for the losses.

(c) The Government conducted an inspection of the NCCF (in 1985) through a Joint Secretary in this Ministry.

(d) and (e) The Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies superseded the Board of NCCF in October, 1987 citing various reasons of inaction as per the inspection report. The Management was however restored to the Board of Directors in August, 1990. The NCCF had also taken action against a number of officers through vigilance and administrative enquiries over the years.

[Translation]

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

7951 Shri Ram Nihor Rai . Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) the purposes for which "Swatantrata ki Aur Pariyojna" was started under the auspices of National Archives and the year in which work was started under this project,

(b) the total amount spent under this project so far and the number of times its tenure was extended and

(c) whether the tenure of the Officer on Special Duty appointed for the work of this projected National Archives is being extended once again, and

(d) if so the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) The Project 'Towards Freedom' was started in the year 1973 with the purpose of writing the history of the Indian Freedom Struggle (1937-1947) on the basis of source material available in various Archives and other places.

(b) An amount of Rs 199.22 lakhs had been spent by the National Archives of India for the Project till 31st March, 1992 after which Government Funding was stopped. The tenure of the Project was extended thrice viz. December 1979, January 1980 and January 1991.

(c) and (d) The National Archives of India are still supplying to the Indian Council for Historical Research the date being received from various Archives. The tenure of the post of Officer on Special Duty in the National Archives of India has been extended till 29th February 1996, for the purpose.

BAN ON USE OF POSTERS ETC.

7952. **Shri Ram Kripal Yadav** : Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state :

(a) the action being taken by the Government for imposing ban on the use of posters, labels and wrappers depicting the pictures of greatme, Gods and symbols of religious importance for sale, propaganda and advertisement of commercial commodities which hurt faith and religious feelings of the people;

(b) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards this situations; and

(c) if so, the details there of?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) to (c) Under the provisions of the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950, the use or continue to use, for the purpose of any trade, business, calling or professional or in the title of any patent or in any trade mark or design any name or emblem specified in the Schedule is not permitted without the previous permission of the Central Government or of such officer or Government as may be authorised in this behalf by the Central Government. The Schedule includes the category of prohibited items, names etc as given in the State-ment attached.

STATEMENT**Schedule**

1. The name, emblem or official seal of the United Nations Organisation.
2. The name, emblem or official seal of the World Health Organisation.
3. The Indian National Flag.
4. The name, emblem or official seal of the Government of India of any State, or any other insignia or coat-of arms used by any such Government or by a Department of any such Government.
5. The emblems of the St. John Ambulance Association (India), and the St. John Ambulance Brigade (India) consisting of the device of a white eight pointed cross embalished in the four principal angles alternatively with a lion passant quadrant and a unicorn passant, whether or not the device is surrounded or accompanied by concentric circles or other decoration or by lettering.
6. The name, emblem or official seal of the President, Governor (Sadar-I-Riyasat) or Republic or Union of India.

7. Any name which may suggest or be calculated to suggest :
 - (i) the patronage of the Government of India or the Government of a state; or
 - (ii) connection with any local authority or any corporation or body constituted by the Government under any law for the time being in force.
8. The name, emblem or official seal of the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisations.
9. The name or pictorial representation of Rashtrapati, Rashtrapati Bhavan, Raj Bhavan.
9. A. The name or pictorial representation of Mahatma Gandhi, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, Shrmati Indira Gandhi, Chhatrapati Shivaji or the Prime Minister of India or the words 'Gandhi', 'Nehru' or 'Shivaji', except the pictorial use thereof on calenders where only the names of the manufacturers and printers of the calenders are given and the calenders are not used for advertising goods. (Ins. by Notification No. S.O. 1503 dated the 8th April, 1970).
10. The medals, badges or decorations instituted by the Government from time to time or the miniatures or replicas of such medals, badges or decorations (or the names of such medals, badges or decorations or of the miniatures or replicas thereof).
11. The name, emblem or official seal of, the International Civil Aviation Organisation.
12. The work "Interpol" which is an integral part of the International Criminal Police Organisation.
13. The name, emblem or official seal of the World Meteorological Organisation.
14. The name and emblem of the Tuberculosis Association of India.
15. The name, emblem and official seal of the International Atomic Energy Agency.
16. The names "Ashoka Chakra" or "Dharma Chakra" or the pictorial representation of Ashoka Chakra as used in the Indian National Flag or in the official seal or emblem of the Government of India or of any State Government or of a Department of any such Government.
17. The name of the Parliament or the Legislature of any State, or the Supreme Court, or the High Court of any State, or the Central Secretariat, or the Secretariat of any State Government or any other Government Office or the Pictorial

representation of any building occupied by any of the aforesaid institutions.

18. The name and emblem of the Ramkrishna Math and Mission consisting of a Swan floating on waters, with a lotus in the foreground and the rising sun in the background, the whole being encircled by a wild serpent, with the words तन्नो हंश प्रचोदयात् superimposed on the bottom portion. (Ins. by Notification No. S.O. 2356 dated 4th August, 1973).
19. The name and emblem of the Sri Sarada Math and Ramakrishna Sarada Mission consisting of a Swan (facing right) floating on waters, with a Lotus in the foreground and the rising sun in the background, the whole being encircled by a wild serpent (facing right with the words तन्नो हंश प्रचोदयात् superimposed on the bottom portion (Ins. by Notification No. S.O. dated the 1st Sept., 1973).
20. The name of the 'The Bharat Scouts and Guides' with the 'Emblem'. (Ins. by Notification No. S.O. dated the 10th July, 1974).
21. The name Emblem of the International Olympic Committees consisting of five interlaced rings (Ins. by Notification No. S.O. 2457 dated the 18th August, 1978):
22. The name and the emblem of the National Youth Emblem which is in black and white and carries the profiles of the faces of two onward looking young persons-male and female-inscribed with a circle. Both faces are turning towards the right and the profile of the male face is in black and is situated behind that of the female face. The back of profile of the female face forms the tail and wing of dove flying in the opposite direction with its back extending outside the circle and carrying a twig with leaf. The profile of the dove is in white and the balance space of the profile of the female face is covered with horizontal lines in black. The space between the back profile of the male face and the circle is also covered by horizontal lines in black. The space in between the profile of the dove and the circle to the left of the dove is shown in the form of a dot. (Ins. by Notification No. S.O. 373(E) dated the 23rd June, 1986)

SALE OF WHEAT

7953. **Shri Lakhmi Narain Mani Tripathi** : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to sell wheat at the rate of Rs. 2/- per kilo to the people living below the poverty line in the Country,

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) to (c) The Central Issue Price of wheat for releases from the Central Pool through the PDS/RPDS is fixed by the Government after considering relevant factor like the Minimum Support Price paid to the farmers, procurement incidentals, distribution cost and the market price.

However, CIP of wheat for Revamped PDS/ITDP areas is fixed at a rate lower by Rs. 50 per qntl. as compared with normal CIP for PDS.

The difference between the economic cost and CIP is borne by Central Government as Food Subsidy.

[English]

ARSENIC CONTAMINATION OF DRINKING WATER

7954. **Shri Chitta Basu** : Will The Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Human Right Commission has sought a report on the arsenic contamination of drinking water in several districts of West Bengal,

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

(c) whether the Government have since submitted the report; and

(d) if so, the salient features of the report ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) The Government has given a copy of the report on the problem of arsenic contamination of drinking water in several districts of West Bengal to the Human Rights Commission.

(d) The salient features of the report include the following :

- (i) Information about schemes approved by the Government for arsenic removal from drinking water sources;
- (ii) Information regarding surveys conducted on the status of drinking water supply in rural areas by Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment during 1991-93; and
- (iii) Information on various projects and studies approved under Research and Development programme for developing appropriate technology for arsenic removal from drinking water sources.

STUDENT MAFIA IN BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY

7955. **Shri Narain Singh Chaudhary** : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether a student mafia is operating in Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi;

(b) whether it is a fact that murderous attacks have been committed upon a few students in the University Campus in the recent past;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the University Administration to book the culprits and details of compensation being paid to the aggrieved student;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to check such incidents in future in the Universities ?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the Sabha

SUPER BAZAR

7956 Shri Amar Roypradhan : Will the Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution be pleased to state ,

(a) the number of employees who have opted for voluntary retirement in Super Bazar during each of the last three years,

(b) the details of the retired persons including those who opted voluntary retirement from Super Bazar have been given other types of assignments in different offices of Super Bazar, and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Shri Buta Singh) : (a) Voluntary Retirement Scheme is not in operation in Super Bazar

(b) and (c) Do not arise

BAN ON GUR

7957 Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government are proposing to bring a legislation regarding ban on Gur

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) steps being taken to rehabilitate the unemployed workers of gur industries and recover the loss of revenue on account of this ban?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise

REGULAR PROGRAMME OF N.Y.K.

7958 Shri Amar Pal Singh : Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state

(a) whether the targets fixed in respect of the regular programmes of Nehru Yuva Kendras for 1994-95 have been achieved,

(b) if so the details thereof

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and

(d) the steps taken to achieve the targets during 1995-96 ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mukul Wasnik) : (a) The final progress reports for the year 1994-95 are yet to be submitted by the various Nehru Yuva Kendras

(b) The information as on 31.12.94 is given in enclosed statement

(c) Does not arise

(d) Following steps have been taken

(i) Realistic targets has been set keeping in view the approved budget

(ii) Rationalization of the budget programme-wise and scheme-wise

(iii) Timely release of first instalment of funds to the field offices

STATEMENT

Performance report of Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan for the year 1994-95

S No	Name of the Programme	1994-95			
		Actual Target Set	Target Set Upto 31/12/94	Target Achieved	% Age Target Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Training in Self-Employment Project	1860	1100	972	88%

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Youth Leadership Training Programme	1860	1000	790	79%
3.	Work Camp	1860	1000	832	83%
4.	Sports (Block Level & Distt. Level) & Equipment purchase	1860	1000	999	99%
5.	Vocational Training (Technical & Non-Technical)	1860	1860	1860	100%
6.	Block Level Campaign	1860	1100	1016	92%
7.	Youth Awareness Drive	1860	900	474	52%
8.	Celebration of International National Days & Weeks	2400	2400	2076	87%
9.	National Youth Day, Weeks, Awards	450	450	408	90%
10.	Social Campaign*	—	—	593	—
11.	Panchayti Raj Training	450	450	328	72%
12.	Cultural (Block Level)	—	—	699*	—
13.	Youth Festival	01	01	01	100%
14.	Vocational Training & Sports Equipment purchase	450	450	450	100%

* Programme is on voluntary basis i.e. no funds involved

FEMALE LITERACY

7959: **Shri Manikrao Hodiya Gavit :**
Shri Rajendra Agnihotri :

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Council of Educational Research and Training has conducted any study regarding the female literacy;

(b) if so, the details regarding the total fertility rate, state-wise; and

(c) whether there have been made some recommendations realising the need to accelerate the Universal Primary Education Programme for rural girls?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : (a) to (c) The Study entitled, 'Universal Primary Education of Rural Girls in India' largely draws upon the Vth All India Educational Survey, 1986 in regard to educational data; it demonstrates the correlation between female literacy and socio-economic indicators. The National Policy on Education, 1986 and its Programme of Action (POA)

were reviewed in 1992 taking note of all the available information including the Vth All India Educational Survey, 1986. POA 1992 specifically enunciates the strategies for women's education for Women's Equality. The updated National Policy on Education and its Programme of Action were placed in Lok Sabha on 7.5.92 & 19.8.92 respectively. The Study was also taken into account in designing the District Primary Education Programme.

COASTAL REGULATION ZONE

7960. **Dr. R. Mallu :** Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government approval is mandatory for projects which envisage reclamation of level particularly in the back waters in the coastal regions under the Coastal Regulation Zone;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of projects received by the Government seeking approval for projects which envisage reclamation of land along the coastal areas during the last three years;

(d) whether several such projects have received approval; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir The proposals envisaging reclamation of land in the coastal regions should acquire environmental clearance from the Ministry under the coastal zone regulations notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986

(c) and (e) This Ministry has received some proposals from port authorities, and other agencies seeking such environmental clearance A list of such projects received/cleared since 1990-91 is given in Statement attached Each proposal is examined on its merits and environmental clearance if accorded, is accompanied by various environmental safeguards

STATEMENT

Details of Projects received since 1990-91, which envisage reclamation of land along the coastal areas.

S No	Name of the Project	Status
1	2	3

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLAND :

1	Construction of Berth No 3 & 4 Haddo in Port Blair	Approved
2	Construction of Ramp at Aberdeen Jetty in Port Blair	Approved
3	Construction of two numbers Transit Godown and Development of the area at the root of Chattam Causeway in Port Blair	Approved

ANDHRA PRADESH :

4	Construction of Multi-purpose berth in the inner Harbour at Visakhapatnam Port	Approved
5	Construction of Multi-purpose berth in outer Harbour of Visakhapatnam Port Trust	Approved
6	Construction of LPG Handling Jetty in outer Harbour of Visakhapatnam Port Trust	Approved
7	Seawater Magnesia Project at Chippada in Visakhapatnam.	Approved

GOA :

8	Construction of an Additional General Cargo Berth at Mormugao Port	Approved
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1	2	3
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9	Construction of Fishing Jetty at Chucalim Bay for Mormugao Port	Under consideration
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GUJARAT :

10	Development of full-fledged container handling Facilities at Kandla Port	Approved
11	Captive berth in Village Kovaya, Rajuka Taluka, Amerli for cement project of M/s Larsen & Toubro Ltd	Under consideration
12	Expansion of Mangrol Fishing Harbour Stage-II	Under consideration
13	Construction of a Port terminal at Dahej in the Gulf of Combay for handling the liquid hydrocarbon and other chemicals-proposal of M/s Indian Petrochemical Corp Ltd	Under consideration
14	Construction of captive jetty near Dahej Port by Indo-Gulf Fertilizers & Chemicals Corp Ltd for copper smelting plant at Lakhigam	Under consideration
15	Construction of Fishery Harbour at Jakhau in Kutch Distt	Under consideration
16	Construction of 4th oil jetty at Kandla Port	Under consideration
KARNATAKA :		
17	Port facilities for handling crude POL products at New Mangalore Port	Approved
KERALA :		
18	Construction of Fishing Harbour at Molpa Bay in Cannanore Distt Kerala	Approved
19	Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Quilandy in Calicut Distt. Kerala.	Approved
20.	Construction of Fishing Harbour at Ponnani Malappuram Distt of Kerala	Approved

1	2	3
21.	Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Kottoor-Pollathai, Kerala.	Approved
22.	Construction of fish landing Centre at Arthungal in Kerala.	Approved
23.	Construction of Fishing Harbour at Chambol in Kerala.	Approved
24.	Construction of Break Water Berthing and Landing Facilities at Thastapalai, Kerala.	Approved
25.	Construction of second stage fish landing facilities at Malpe Fishing Harbour.	Approved
26.	Construction of Fish Landing Centre at Punnapra in Kerala.	Approved
27.	Fisheries Harbour Stage-II Development at Cochin, Kerala.	Under consideration
28.	Development of Than-gassery Fishery Harbour Stage-II in Quilon Distt.	Under consideration
29.	Integrated Development of Islands at Cochin Proposal of Goshree Islands Development Authority, Cochin, Kerala.	Approved

MAHARASHTRA :

30.	Construction of New and All-Weather Jetty at Elephanta Island.	Approved
31.	Construction of Shore Facilities in Sasson Dock in Bombay Port Trust Harbour.	Approved
32.	Construction of an Approach/bridge service berth at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust.	Approved
33.	Bombay Sewage Disposal Project.	Approved
34.	Land Reclamation of Frere Basin by Bombay Port Trust.	Approved
35.	Environmental clearance for Captive Jetty for sponge iron project in Tashel pen, Raigad by M/s. Nippon Denro Ispat Ltd. (Maharashtra State).	Approved
36.	Construction of Worli-Bandra Link Road in Bombay.	Under consideration.

1	2	3
ORISSA :		
37.	Construction of multi-purpose cargo berth at Paradeep Port Trust.	Approved
TAMILNADU :		
38.	Setting up of a New Satellite Port at Ennora North of Madras.	Approved
39.	Madras Fishing Harbour Stage-II.	Approved
40.	Replacement of RCC Jetty with Block Work paer at Extension Port by Tuticorin Port Trust. (Tamilnadu).	Approved
41.	Extension of South Quay-III and Medernisation of East Quay Berths at Madras Port.	Rejected
42.	Extension of container Terminal at Bharathi Dock at Madras Port.	Rejected
WEST BENGAL :		
43.	Development of Calcutta Port Trust Land in Boat Canal Area.	Rejected
44.	Development of Calcutta Port Trust Land in Strand Area.	Rejected

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

12.03 hrs.

[English]

STATEMENT RE : SHORTAGE OF DRINKING WATER DUE TO HEAVY POLLUTION IN THE RAMGANGA RIVER

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Kamal Nath) : Consequent to the matter raised by Hon'ble Member regarding shortage of drinking water due to heavy pollution in the Ramganga river, inquiries were made from Central Pollution Control Board and Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board in this regard. It has been informed that out of 27 industries, which directly or indirectly discharge waste water to the river Ramganga, 20 industries conform to the prescribed standards laid down by the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board (UPPCB)

The following units are not conforming to the prescribed standards for discharge of industrial effluents and the cases against these units are before the Supreme Court :

(i)	M/s ITRCO Ltd., Bareilly	(Distillery)
(ii)	M/s Kesar Enterprises, Bareilly	-do-
(iii)	Synthetics & Chemicals Ltd., Bareilly	-do-
(iv)	M/s Ajudha Distillery, Moradabad	-do-
(v)	M/s Bajpur Coop. Sugar Factory Ltd., Nainital	-do-
(vi)	M/s Dharampur Sugar Mills Ltd., Bijnore	-do-
(vii)	M/s Upper Ganges Sugar & Industries Ltd., Bijnor	-do-

Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board is continuously monitoring ramganga basin for the control of pollution and have directed all industries to conform to the prescribed standards.

The board is also regularly monitoring the river water quality at Kannuj. The main problem of drinking water quality in this area is due to lean discharge during the summer months. In order to prevent pollution of the river from industrial wastes, the necessary steps for control of pollution have been taken and in case of the 7 defaulting units, the cases are before the Supreme Court of India. The issue of supply of drinking water, however does not come under the purview of this Ministry...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

Shri Rajveer Singh (Aonla) : Mr. Speaker, I want to ask one question.

Mr. Speaker : You please see him later on.

...(Interruptions)...

[Translation]

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this session is coming to a close, but several questions remain unanswered and one such question pertains to Kashinath Seth Bank. It has already been raised by several hon. Members but Government has given a deaf ear to it. This Bank was set up in 1948 and continued to function efficiently till 1985. It opened its branches throughout the country. It has nearly 600 employees and a clientele of 2.68 lakh but today both are in deep trouble. This Bank has been closed because of financial irregularities for which the bank management and Reserve Bank inspectors both are responsible, both are guilty. The bank has a deposit worth Rs. 70 crore and advances worth Rs. 49 crore. 20 percent advances have gone to the proprietors, and their family members.

Now the question is, when the Reserve Bank carries out annual inspections in all the private banks, why did it not take note of financial irregularities committed in this

Kashinath Seth Bank? Fraudulent activities have been continuing since 1985 but the Reserve Bank issued directions on 14th December 1993 under the sections of Banking Regulation Act to make payment of Rs. 5000 each to the deposit holder. This created a panic among the depositors and there was a stampede for withdrawal of their money, as a result the bank sank.

Today, the work of the bank is being managed by Board nominated by the Reserve Bank. The Reserve Bank directors have been working on this bank since 1993 but the situation has not improved in any way. When the bank employees launched an agitation, the Reserve Bank notified handing over of this bank to the Torrent Group of Gujarat in 1994, but the work did not proceed further and the working of the bank is restricted even today. The employees have been rendered jobless and the deposit holders are knocking at different doors.

The employees demand that the Kashinath Seth bank should be amalgamated with a nationalised bank and the crisis being faced for about last two years should be resolved. The Reserve Bank alongwith bank management is responsible for the failure of this bank. The Reserve Bank inspectors helped in covering up the misappropriations and thus derelicted in their duties. The question is why the deposit holders and bank employees should be penalised for the offence committed by the managers and inspectors? I request the Finance Minister to intervene immediately in this matter.

The Government is, on the one hand, issuing licenses for setting up new private banks and on the other, refusing to take action on the frauds committed in this private bank. This situation is intolerable...(Interruptions)

Shri Santosh Kumar Ganghwar (Bareilly) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this bank is located in my constituency and the small deposit holders are in great trouble. I have come to know that this bank has been closed with effect from 31st without fixing responsibility for Rs. 70-80 crores. There is no positive reaction from the Government. We have met the hon. Minister many times. The people are greatly perturbed.

Mr. Speaker : This question has been put up in an lucid manner. The Leader of Opposition has raised this issue. So, Government will definitely take note of it.

Shri Santosh Kumar Ganghwar : Sir, we want the Government to take note of it and we request you to give direction to the Government in this regard.

Maj. General (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri (Garhwal) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to invite, through you, the attention of the Prime Minister, who is also holding Defence Portfolio, to the injustice being done to Indian Armed Forces. So far, all the three wings of our Armed Forces—Army, Navy and Air Force used to be issued ration cards on PDS pattern and they were supplied the same quantity of ration, and at the same price as is available under PDS. Recently, about 1 or 2 months ago, the Ministry has taken a decision which has created resentment among

the service personal and ex-servicemen. The prices of commodities supplied on their ration cards have been increased. Under PDS, the issue price of sugar is Rs. 9.05 per K.g. but the armed forces are being charged more than Rs. 12 per Kg. against the ration cards issued to them. They are paying Rs. 3 more per kg. Secondly, they are getting half the quantity supplied under PDS, that is, half of 900 gms per unit. This is the result of the order issued by the Defence Ministry. The funds allocations under this head have been reduced and the armed forces headquarters do not have enough money for making advance payment for the issue of ration, they are entitled to. This has created great dissatisfaction which is totally justified. The Defence State Minister is here. I will requests him to bring this situation to the notice of the Prime Minister because he is perhaps not aware of this injustice being done to armed forces and of the dissatisfaction arising out of it. This system should immediately be rectified and armed forces must get their sugar quota on the same price and in the same quantity as available under PDS.

Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mallikarjun) : I have had a talk this morning with the Army Chief and other officers on the same issue.

[English]

We will try to do something.

Shri Salfuddin Choudhury (Katwa) . Sir I wish to draw the kind attention of this house to a very serious thing. Obnoxious things are happening in this country. As we all know, if the various constitutional authorities do not mutually respect each other, then the functioning of democracy will be at peril. Every constitutional authority has to set an example of his own behaviour so that the respect for democracy is enhanced in the minds of the people. But what I have seen in the current issue of India Today is an interview given by a high constitutional authority.

Mr. Speaker : Please give me the extracts of that. Let me know of it.

Shri Salfuddin Choudhury (Katwa) : I have already given it. I have given you a notice. I have enclosed everything.

Mr. Speaker : You might have given the notice at 10 a.m. But I am not expected to go through it.

Shri Salfuddin Choudhury : I have already given the enclosure.

Mr. Speaker : When did you give it?

Shri Salfuddin Choudhury : I gave it before 10 a.m.

Mr. Speaker : How do you expect me to read it.

Shri Salfuddin Choudhury : I read it for you.

Mr. Speaker : No, it is not correct. Then, you conduct the House for me also.

Shri Salfuddin Choudhury : This is a very serious thing. It is not to denigrate an individual.

Mr. Speaker : Let me look into it. I should know what you are raising. If you are dealing with the persons who are occupying high positions, I should be very careful.

Shri Salfuddin Choudhury : I am not at all dealing with the persons...(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker : Before allowing you, I should know what you are raising. If you have given the notice at 10 a.m., let me look into it.

Shri Salfuddin Choudhury : I have not mentioned who is this authority.

Mr. Speaker : This is exactly why I should be more careful.

Shri Salfuddin Choudhury : All right, I take it that you are going through this today and will allow me tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker : No. I am not giving you any promise. Let me have a look into it.

...(Interruptions)...

Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee (Dumdum)*Is it not a serious matter to the House?

Mr. Speaker : Before deciding upon that, should I not know what you are referring to.

...(Interruptions)...

Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee : ...**

Mr. Speaker : These things are not going on record...

...(Interruptions)***

Mr. Speaker : You may be right . But let me have a look at it.

...(Interruptions)...

Shri Salfuddin Choudhury : This should not be ignored like this. There is a limit to everything.

Mr. Speaker : Should I not know what you are referring to ?

Shri Salfuddin Choudhury : You have got the right to know of it...(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker : Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee, why are you butting in unnecessarily?

Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee : It is because the matter is so serious. Otherwise, I would not have butted in.

* Not recorded.

** Not recorded.

*** Not recorded.

Mr. Speaker : If it is serious, you take it seriously

Shri Salfuddin Choudhury : All right, I take it that you will allow me tomorrow. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

Shri Vilasrao Nagnathrao Gundewar (Hingoli) Mr Speaker, Sir, I want to raise the following point through you Tehsil Kinvat under Nanded district of Maharashtra is a predominantly tribal and forest area and no significant development has taken place there

During a survey conducted 15 years ago by the Ministry of Industry it was found that the Paradi-Bodhadi Forest of Bodhadi area have limestone in abundance for manufacturing cement and draft report for setting up a cement plant had also been prepared but the proposal was not pursued further

I will request the Central Government to set up a medium cement plant there to ensure development of this area and create employment potential to remove the poverty prevailing in the area

[English]

Shri Dwaraka Nath Das (Karimganj) Sir, Hailakaudi District of my constituency Karimganj, Assam is a backward one. The percentage of literacy here is low particularly among tribal population. The number of schools in this District beginning from primary to higher secondary stage is much less in proportion to its population which is well over five lakhs. So there should be a Navodaya Vidyalaya for spreading of education among children specially amongst SC/ST ones

So I request the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, to set up a Navodaya Vidyalaya in the backward District of Hailakaudi of my constituency Karimganj, Assam at an early date

[Translation]

Shri Surya Narayan Yadav (Sahasra) Mr Speaker, Sir, a Delhi based Directorate for the welfare of handicapped provides engineering and medical training to disabled persons. On February 2, a strike was observed in this Directorate and such hunger strikes are often held there and demands are put forth before the concerned officials but the Director does not pay any heed to these demands. Members of the delegation have been threatened to be expelled from the hostel

12.16 hrs.

(Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

These disabled persons demand that such Directorates, Handicapped welfare Directorates throughout the country should run diploma and degree courses to enable the handicapped students to receive higher technical education, I had written a letter to the Government

earlier also and I am requesting them again to take the demands of handicapped students seriously and also take action in regard to the misbehaviour being meted out to the students by the Director. The Directors should be appointed on the recommendation of Public Service Commission. He should not be a nominated person

This is necessary to stop the harassment of students

I request that immediate action should be initiated in this matter

Prof. Prem Dhumal (Hamirpur) Sir, I want to draw Government's attention to an important issue

Several private agencies have started distribution of LPG and have appointed many dealers and agents under the liberalisation policy. They have collected crores of rupees by offering gas connections, but in spite of large scale collection LPG connections are not being given. Some agencies who have their own bottling plants they are issuing gas connections in excess of their bottling capacity. This creates a problem in the issue of refills. The agencies are issuing gas connections to consumers liberally in the greed of collecting money without augmenting their capacities. The government is not showing any interest in these cases and the common man is being fleeced and inconvenienced

I shall request the Government to fulfil its obligation and frame some regulations for these private sector dealers who issue cylinders to consumers but do not issue refills

Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh (Shahjahanabad) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have been repeatedly demanding increase in general category passenger bogies in which poor people travel. These compartments are untidy and lack drinking water facility. This should be looked into. The passenger trains should be extended from Calcutta to Mughalsara and provision of reservation in these trains should be withdrawn to enable general category passengers to travel comfortably. These trains also lack catering facility. There is now greater interference of private agencies in the sale of tickets

I would like the hon. Minister to look into all these things and increase operation of ordinary passenger trains

Shri Ram Naik (Bombay North) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have raised this issue which I am going to raise, several times in this House and now I assure you that I shall not raise it any more

Sir, on 17th May, while speaking on Appropriation Bill I demanded that Bombay should be spelled as Mumbai both in Hindi and English. I also made a reference of the October 1994 judgement of Bombay High Court. The hon. Speaker had enquired from the hon. Home Minister as to who filed a writ petition in the Supreme Court, but the latter did not give the information. Despite this right of the House to know the information,

[English]

he suppressed the information. Suppressing the information and not disclosing vital information without the plea of confidentiality is actually a breach of privilege.

[Translation]

Now, I have come to know that Central Government had filed on 30th March in the Supreme Court a special Leave Petition after the BJP-Shiv Sena had come to power in Maharashtra. The right to change names belongs to State Government under the jurisdiction of Revenue Court. The Kerala Government renamed 23 cities during the period of 90 years. The Maharashtra Government had done nothing in this regard. Now the Maharashtra Government issued a notification on May 22 that Bombay shall hereafter be called Mumbai. Shri Murlidhar Deora and Shri Sharad Dighe are sitting here. The Mayor of Bombay was also here. He has made a statement that he met the Prime Minister and the latter has accepted this suggestion. So, my point is that the Home Minister refuses to do it but Shri Murlidhar Deora and Shri Sharad Dighe make statement outside the house that the Prime Minister has agreed to it.

I would therefore like to know whether we have to go by the opinion of the Prime Minister or the Home Minister? I have three demands. First, the Central Government should withdraw the special leave petition it has filed in the Supreme Court. Second, the Central Government should approve the renaming of Bombay before the close of this session. Third, the Prime Minister and not the Home Minister should make a statement clarifying their stand so as to clear the confusion that has been created. I want Murlidhar Deora ji to support me in this matter.

[English]

Shri Murlidhar Deora (Bombay South) I fully support my colleague from Bombay, Shri Ram Naik. (Interruptions) Let it come officially and then I will be in the highway traffic.

The Bombay Municipal Corporation has passed an official resolution on this unanimously. There is nothing wrong at all to change the name of Bombay to Mumbai. If Peking can be Beijing and several other cities throughout the world have changed back to their original names, the city of Bombay and the citizens of the State of Maharashtra will welcome this move.

Shri Ram Naik has brought to the attention of the House about our meeting the Prime Minister. When we met the Prime Minister with the Mayor of Bombay, the Prime Minister himself assured up that he is not against this. He is for this move actually.

The hon. Member is right that there is an appeal to the Supreme Court by the Home Ministry. But I am told by the Home Secretary that this is pertaining to the Language Department of the Home Ministry. It has nothing to do with the name. Anyway, whatever it is, I would very humbly request the Home Minister to withdraw in case there is an appeal against

this move to the Supreme Court and fulfil the wishes of the people of the State of Maharashtra and the city of Bombay.

Shri Sharad Dighe (Bombay North Central) I would also support this demand of renaming Bombay as Mumbai. For that purpose, whatever Shri Ram Naik has said, we support it. This is the unanimous demand of the people of Bombay that it should be hereafter named as Mumbai. When we met the Prime Minister also along with Shri Murlidhar Deora and the Mayor of Bombay, we conveyed the feelings of the people of Bombay as far as this issue is concerned. We are confident that there is a positive response and the matter would go before the Cabinet and thereafter a proper decision would be taken. That is what we have understood from the Prime Minister.

Shri Bhogendra Jha (Madhubani) I would like to say a word on this issue.

Mr. Deputy Speaker · No. This should not be a general discussion.

Shri Bhogendra Jha (Madhubani) Only on this issue, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker · No, please. You will have a chance afterwards. My point is there are so many other hon. Members whose subjects do not reach at all. Every day their subject does not reach. They go from this House with an agitated mind. Kindly excuse me.

Shri S.S.R. Rajendra Kumar (Chengalpattu) I would like to raise the matter regarding interim relief to the Central Government employees and the pensioners pending the outcome of the Fifth Pay Commission's Report. The employees and the pensioners have been made to bear a lot of burden due to the rise in prices of essential commodities and due to increase in the price of other commodities after the recent Budget. They have been agitated over the long delay in the outcome of the Pay Commission's recommendations. I would therefore request through you the hon. Finance Minister that he may please inform the House and the employees and pensioners about the interim relief, particularly to the pensioners.

Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar (Madurai) In the period of the last one-and-a-half years there have been ghastly attacks with explosives on the office of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh and also the office of the Hindu Munnani in Madras city. A renowned Hindu Munnani leader was also killed in the attack. Our respected leader Shri Advar had visited the office. He has gone to the site also. He has seen the feelings of the people. No doubt, the Government of Tamilnadu has taken measures to give security to the place and the people living in and around that area. But now again people who are living in that area are apprehending that there may be continued attacks on either the office or on the living place of the people living in and around that area. So, I would request the Government of India again to persuade the Government of Tamilnadu to tighten the security, so that the people who are living in that locality may live in peace and the

apprehension in their mind is removed

I would request the hon Minister Mukul Wasnikji to kindly respond and convey the feelings to the Government of Tamilnadu so that the security could be tightened

Shri Shraavan Kumar Patel (Jabalpur) Sir several hundreds of people have arrived yesterday by two separate trains—one is the Gondwana Express and the other is the Mahakaushal Express—to demonstrate peacefully for the just demand of establishing a Central Railway Zonal Headquarters at Jabalpur. We should appreciate that they are living at the railway station in the scorching heat of summer

The Sareen Committee, which was established by the Railway Board in the decade of the 80s had clearly stated that the most suitable place for establishing the tenth Zonal Railway Headquarters is Jabalpur. Recently, the Railway Board have again appointed a committee to go into the details and this Experts Committee has once again reiterated that Jabalpur is the most suitable place. However some vested interests—after knowing the findings of the Committee—are trying to scuttle the move and are trying to delay the decision making process of the Government. The public of the Mahakaushal region are greatly agitated on this count. They have been indulging in rail roko agitations in the Mahakaushal region. There have been dharnas also. And now we find several hundreds of people here. I therefore request the hon Railway Minister through you to meet these demonstrators who have come to Delhi to express their just demands peacefully and to declare Jabalpur as the tenth Central Railway Zonal Headquarters.

Sir six Members of parliament gave a memorandum to the Prime Minister. And the Prime Minister assured us—in fact he has given us a written reply—that he was studying it and would go into the details of the aspect in consultation with the Railway Minister. The Members of Parliament have met the Prime Minister several times. I hope the Railway Minister will definitely meet these demonstrators and take an early decision.

[Translation]

Shri Ram Tahal Choudhary (Ranchi) Mr Deputy Speaker Sir I want to draw the attention of the Railway Minister towards inadequate Railway facility in Ranchi which is my Parliamentary Constituency. Ranchi is an industrial area but it has no direct train link with Delhi. The lone train takes 36-40 hours to reach Delhi. In this connection, Chambers of Commerce and the Citizen Committee organised dharnas and the local M Ps also took up this matter with the Railway Minister. But it is a matter of regret that despite assurances given, no super fast train has been introduced between Ranchi and Delhi in the absence of which this area is encountering great inconvenience. The people of Hazarbag and Palamu are also facing difficulty. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to introduce a super fast train between Ranchi and Delhi otherwise the local people will be forced to take to agitation.

Dr. Girija Vyas (Udaipur) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, the benefit of electoral reforms has not reached us. The first phase of this process is issue of photo identity cards but the State Government of Rajasthan is not taking up this work seriously. They are either indifferent or are politicising it. In this context, I would like to give an example of my constituency and some other places which I have visited. There the process of photo identity card has been completed twice but in spite of that identity cards have been issued to only 30-40 percent voters.

Sir, people have not become conscious of their right to vote even after 48 years of independence. The people do not go for casting their votes on their own. How can we expect them to line up for hours together without information or issue of proper slips etc, for only to be told later that photo identity cards had not been prepared that day. So I would request the Government to direct the State Governments to be more vigilant, more responsive to this matter.

Only yesterday Hon Advaniji had said that there is no denying the fact there has been great progress in the electoral reforms process. He had also said that he would welcome early President rule if the State Government has become fully inactive or is not fully impartial. I don't know how serious he was in saying so but we are bearing the brunt of other party Governments there who are playing politics in this way. I want to bring this to the notice of this House.

Sir, the Patwaris and other lower rank staff delivers notices only in those areas where the BJP has its vote banks. (Interruptions) The information is not notified to other parties vote banks. This is so in places where women stand in long queues. They line up the whole day but only to be told ultimately that photo identity cards will not be made today and they are not informed of any future date.

Sir through you I would like to request the Election Commission to accord priority to this process and continue it till at least 80 percent voters have been issued photo identity cards. I think, the House will also agree with me that only 30-35 percent photo passes have been issued in many areas. If the first phase of the electoral reforms is wrong then can we expect that this democratic structure of ours will remain intact and the right to vote that has been granted to us after continuous struggle for independence will be fully justified? Only yesterday, there was a press report in Delhi that the photo identity card shows the age of the mother as 30 years and that of her son 19 years. This is a serious problem and the Election Commission should view it with greater seriousness.

Shri Rajveer Singh : Sir, I want to invite the attention of the Railway Minister and the Surface Transport Minister to the fact that the bridge over the Ganga at Kuchara village between Bdayun and Kashganj is in the most dilapidated condition. It is a rail-cum-road-cum-pedestrian bridge and

traffic gets jammed there for hours together. The problem will continue till a new bridge is constructed there I will requested the Surface Transport Minister to construct a separate road bridge and the Railway Minister to reconstruct the existing Railway bridge because this bridge, is in a very bad condition and nobody knows as to when it may give way and some train may fall in the river. The traffic passes through this bridge at a snails pace and the buses are stranded for 5-6 hours and the passenger have to bear the heat of scorching sun sitting in the buses on the bridge over river. The position is very pitiable and there is total chaos. Potable water is not available and the people are greatly inconvenienced. I will request the Government to take note of it and make provision for the construction of a bridge.

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker : My request is this. If the hon Members cut short their submissions, all the Members can have a chance. We will sit up till 1 o'clock. Each can take one minute please.

[Translation]

Shri Kesri Lal (Ghatampur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I have been continuously giving a notice for the last one week but I have not been given time to speak-neither during question hour nor during zero hour. Have I been elected and sent here to sit as a mute spectator. Therefore, in protest I boycott this House till session ends on the 2nd

Mr. Deputy Speaker : No, no. there is no need to do this [English] You will have a chance today. Why should you go out. Some other Hon. Member can go and convince him.

12.40 hrs

At this stage Shri Kesri Lal left the House.

...(Interruptions)...

[Translation]

Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat (Ajmer) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to refute what the honourable Lady Member had said about the Rajasthan Government and say that no discrimination of any type is being done in Rajasthan in matter of issue of photo identity cards

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker : No, no. You need not. prof Rasa Singh Rawat, you know your limitations. What is your subject?

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava (Jaipur) : No discrimination is being done in Rajasthan.

Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat : Sir, I want to raise the problem faced by the blinds in our country...(Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Is it the procedure Mr. Justice?

...(Interruptions)...

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Lodhaji, you are over-enthusiastic. Kindly resume your seat

...(Interruptions)...

[Translation]

Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat : Sir, 5 percent of the population in the country is suffering from one or other eye disease. The Nation has a population of 12 million blind and if the Government makes serious effort 80 percent of them can be cured. If the incidents of blindness continues with the present speed it will touch a figure of 40 million by 2000 A.D. So, through you, Sir, I will request the Government to mobilise greater resources for making the National Blindness Eradication programme more effective and more viable

I would like to say one more thing. The National Institute for Blind is located at Dehradun and 50 blind persons are staging a Dharna here at Jantar Mantar. This Institute has an annual budget of Rs. 4 crore but not even one third of it is spent on the blind. They placed their demands many times but they were never considered and as a result, they are compelled to sit on this dharna

Recently, the blind belonging to the National Federation of the Blind also staged a demonstration in front of the Minister of Personnel and the Ministry of Social Welfare. It does not behave to a welfare state, if the blinds are compelled to take to demonstrations. I would request the Government to launch a special recruitment drive for the blind and fill the entire backlog of reservation for them in different states. The blind should be offered scholarships and the conditions laid down by the U.G.C. for qualifying the National entrance examination by the blind for being appointed as lecturers in the universities should be waived. Alongwith this, the welfare rehabilitation programmes should also be implemented so that the blind become useful citizens and serve their Nation

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker : I think if you all cooperate, we could sit upto 1 O' Clock, I can call all the names. It depends upon your patience and cooperations

Shri Dattatraya Bandaru (Secunderabad) : Sir, in my state of Andhra Pradesh..

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Mr. Dattatraya Bandaru, please hear me.

The problem regarding shortage of drinking water is a State Subject. It is the state which shall have to provide facilities so far as drinking water is concerned. How does the Centre come into the picture? Who is going to answer that? Can you expect any answer on the floor of the

House? It does not come under the jurisdiction of the Central Government

...(Interruptions)...

Shri Dattatraya Bandaru : Sir it is a very serious problem

Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal (Chandigarh) Can they raise any matter? What is this Sir?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Mr Dattatraya, drinking water comes under State subjects It is the State which is highly responsible for providing drinking water in all municipalities or the villages So, how does the Centre come into the picture?

Shri Dattatraya Bandaru : Sir, I demand that the hon Prime Minister should treat this project as a national project As he is from Andhra Pradesh he knows the problems of the city of Hyderabad In the earlier days, earlier Prime Ministers also have given special priority for drinking water in Rajasthan

Even Shri Rajiv Gandhi at Diamond Jubilee Celebrations in Bombay

Mr. Deputy Speaker : You are urging the Central Government to provide even drinking water facilities, because of its scarcity in the towns where the Government is not in a position to meet the demand of the people

Shri Dattatraya Bandaru : Sir, the financial constraint is there in our state financial crunch is there A large number of people particularly from my constituency Secunderabad and Hyderabad are facing this problem since seven years continuously In spite of that rains are also not coming in Hyderabad area Only the tanks which were built in the Nizam Period of 1930 are left over Osman sagar and Himayat Sagar are the two sources of water dried up to tally there Also Manjira river is not fulfilling the demand of water The only alternative is Krishna Water diversion to Twin Cities Even the Central Government has given all the clearances Even the State Government also say that they are trying to talk to the Central Government or the World Bank So, since the last Congress Government said that they were depending on the World Bank, I demand the hon Prime Minister to look into the matter to solve this very serious problem (Interruptions)

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Mr Dattatraya there are other Members who also want to speak Yours seems to be a general speech I am requesting You to be brief But my repeated requests do not appear to be touching your heart

Shri Dattatraya Bandaru : I am just concluding Sir I request the hon Prime Minister to treat this as a national project In many of the villages and tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh, people are facing a lot of problems I demand that the hon Urban Development Minister may please see to it that at least Rs. 100 crore is sanctioned to Andhra Pradesh

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Bhargavaji, be brief

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : I will be brief and complete my submission within half a minute The Department of Union Telecommunications appoints Telephone Advisory Committees in each State every year The committee constituted in Rajasthan this year by the Union Government does not include as a member any Member of the Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha from Rajasthan This is a serious matter I think non-inclusion of M Ps in this committee is a dishonour to the Members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha I, through you Sir, request the Union Telecommunications Department to appoint the Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha elected from Rajasthan as Members of Telephone Advisory Committee Appointment of people of non-entirety does not serve the purpose Therefore Parliament Members from Rajasthan should be given representation in this committee This is my demand ... (Interruptions)

Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal : Did you want to be included as a Member of this committee? You remain here in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha... (Interruptions) Do all of you want to get involved everywhere I am placing my viewpoint I want to say the Members appointed in the committee are not small people (Interruptions)

Prof. Rana Singh Rawat : This is the question of entire Nation .. (Interruptions)

Shri Rabi Ray (Kendrapada) Mr Deputy Speaker, through you I want to raise a very vital issue

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Mr bansal, will you please listen to me or not ? Should I ask Shri Rabi Ray to take his seat, so that you can continue?

[Translation]

Shri Rabi Ray . Sir in the morning during the course of discussion Shri Indrajit Babu made a reference of a prospective sugar scam I am placing before you and the entire House a very vital point The way the prices of certain essential commodities and newsprint are going up Some of the specialists apprehend a paper scam in the near future, You will agree with me that during the last two year the paper prices have registered an increase of 120 percent and for books paper is a major input, about 75 percent input Today our children need paper parents require paper, authors, publishers, printers also need paper and I feel in the intellectual field a desert like situation is tending to develop

Sir, the paper price was Rs 26 50 per Kg in January 1994 and today it has gone up to Rs, 42.00 per kg during the course of 1 year Our 1986 national education policy says

[English]

"The availability of books at low prices is indispensable for people's education. Efforts will be made to secure easy accessibility of books for all segments of population. Measures will be taken to improve the quality of books, promote reading habit and encourage a greater variety."

[Translation]

It is stated in our National Education Policy announced in 1986. Has it been said on papers only? We MPs have interest in reading books, we purchase books and if the paper prices go on increasing like this we will not be able to purchase books for ourselves, for our children and the literacy campaign launched by the Government will come to an end.

So in order to awaken the public

[English]

Federation of Indian Publishers, All India Printers Association, Delhi Printers Association, Urdu Association, Authors Guild.

[Translation]

Women Writers Association, Parents Teachers Association, All India Hindi Pracharak Sangh, National Book Trust and State Level Associations of Publishers of various languages have demanded that the essential commodity like the paper which is necessary for creating intellectual property, should be made available to the people at reasonable price. If the price of paper goes up by 120 per cent annually, then you can imagine what intellectual development our country will be able to achieve in the coming years? Earlier, the Government had enforced paper price control order. Now when Government think that market prices of paper are increasing it can also think in terms of regulating paper prices. This is very important. I will demand that in order to keep the prices of paper under check, government should immediately enforce paper price control so that there is no further increase in paper prices. Government must take necessary steps to check the increasing prices.

[English]

Shri Rupchand Pal (Hooghly) Hon. **Rabi Ray** has raised a very important question. Our country is facing a grave danger in respect of education itself. Though we have declared our goal to have 'education for all' we find that in the matter of textbooks a very critical situation has emerged. We have shortage in paper and a portion of what we produce in our country is being allowed to be exported. As you know, the world over there is a feeling to have an eco-friendly growth of the society and the economy. This prevents the felling of trees. The development Western countries are more and more dependent on paper being

produced by others and exported to their countries.

The Publishing industry in our country provides 80 per cent of the text books to the students of different categories and different standards. The books as such have become so costly that even the professionals cannot buy them, leave alone the students. So the publishers have made a number of demands. Firstly that the export of paper should be banned. Indian paper should not be allowed to be exported.

Secondly 68-69 percent of the tax is being imposed on the imported paper. They have demanded that the books should be allowed to be imported without levying any tax on them. They have demanded that it should be considered as an item which is essential for the growth of our economy and for the growth of our education and hence it should be totally exempted from tax.

The government should sit with the publishing industry and listen to their problems so that a way can be found out in the interest of education and in the interest of our country as a whole.

Mr Deputy Speaker Next is Mr. Ram Vilas Paswan. Paswanji, we have hardly got another six seven minutes and two or three more Members are to be accommodated within this time. I am not particularly saying this to you but I am informing the whole house about it.

[Translation]

Shri Ram Vilas Paswan (Roseria) **Mr Deputy Speaker** Sir, I want to draw your attention to a very vital issue. Under the liberalisation policy of the Government it has been decided to grant permission to Pepsi Foods Limited for setting up 60 restaurants out of which 30 are meant for Pizza Hut and 30 for Kentucky Fried Chicken. I have repeatedly placed before the Government the way the entire country is suffering because of liberalisation policy still they are following the same policy. Does the Government believe in the philosophy of

'Yavat Jivet Sukham Jivet
Rinam Kritva Ghrntam Pivet'

Which means enjoy life till you are alive even if you have live on borrowings.

Sir, this report is very disturbing. Opening of such restaurants is reported to be very dangerous for the Country. We have figures that 80 million Americans are suffering from heart diseases or cancer after eating Kentucky Fried Chickens. This is not good for health and many people are perturbed over this. Whether the government has examined these aspects from health point of view before according approval for opening these restaurants? Earlier, it was said that liberalisation will open doors for greater employment but this report indicates that this sort of action will tend to increase unemployment. If we employ machines for all types of work, the poor people

will be rendered jobless. All the dhabas, tea stall etc. will wind up. (Interruptions)

Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal : This is not true.

Shri Ram Vilas Paswan : If it is not true let the Government say so. Shri Jakhari is sitting here. Why do you say that this is not true. (Interruptions)

We are the nation where 56 dishes used to be prepared and today we have reached a situation where a foreign company is being invited for preparing a chicken dish. The chicken preparations made here in India are most delicious and nowhere in the entire world such delicious preparation is available. In foreign countries, people have great liking for our recipes. I do not know what Kentucky chicken you are importing at the cost of your dhabas create pollution problem, environmental problems. (Interruptions)

Shri Saituddin Choudhury (Katwa) : Sir, we want a reply on health aspect.

Shri Ram Vilas Paswan : Sir, I will request you and also the House that this is not an ordinary thing. We want a report on this. On what terms and conditions Pepsi Food Limited was allowed entry in this country? There is a lot of difference in the terms and conditions of which we have some information and the way they are functioning there. Therefore, I demand that Government should not allow them to open such restaurants here. They are playing with our life from every angle, whether it is the health point of view, employment point of view, or pollution angle and so on. You have played with the Nation, you have played with the economy, with the coming generation, with the youth. The people of this country will never tolerate these things.

I want to urge upon the Government to place before the House a full report on this issue.

Shri Kesri Lal : Sir, there is a long standing demand for setting up a Krishi Vigyan Kendra in Kanpur Dehat. Government has also given an assurance for this, but no action has been taken in this direction so far whereas these Kendras have been set up at several smaller places. Kanpur Dehat is a new district and an agriculture farm is located at Deeg. Land is also available there for setting up Krishi Vigyan Kendra. You must make available to farmers agriculture techniques and other facilities in conformity with their expectations.

I will request the Government to open a Krishi Vigyan Kendra at Deeg in the Kanpur Dehat to meet the long standing demand of local farmers and to ensure improved cultivation. The Kanpur Dehat district is a new district of U.P. and has borders with Bundelkhand. I again request the Government to open a Krishi Vigyan Kendra there.

(English)

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Mr. Devendra Prasad Yadav, if

you cut it short, Shastriji will also get a chance.

(Translation)

Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav (Jhanjharpur) : Sir, the Public Distribution System is proving a complete failure both in rural as well as in urban areas. The rural areas get much less quantity of ration than it is supplied to urban areas. 40 to 50 percent of our population is living below poverty line. Some special mechanism should be introduced for them on national level. They should be supplied rice at Rs. 2.00 per kg. or at the minimum price. This is necessary because their purchasing power is continuously declining. A situation has arisen where rickshaw-pullers, cart-pullers, agricultural labourers and the other working classes are not able to live their average longevity of life. This is a national issue. The Fair Price Shops are not proving to be helpful to the poor. It is the prime duty of a welfare state to protect the human being from dying of starvation. The most backward states are U.P. and Bihar and as long as starvation continues in such States the turmoil will continue on earth.

13.00 hrs.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

(English)

ANNUAL REPORT AND REVIEW ON THE WORKING OF CENTRAL ZOO AUTHORITY, NEW DELHI FOR 1993-94 AND THE STATEMENT SHOWING THE REASONS FOR DELAY IN LAYING THESE PAPERS.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : On behalf of Shri Kamal Nath, I beg to lay on the Table

- (1) (i) A cope of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A cope of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi for the year 1993-94.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(Placed in Library See No. LT 7779/95)

**REPORT OF COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR
GENERAL OF INDIA (GOVERNMENT OF
JAMMU & KASHMIR) FOR THE YEAR
ENDING MARCH, 1994 AND FINANCE
ACCOUNTS AND APPROPRIATION
ACCOUNTS OF THE GOVERNMENT
OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
FOR 1993-94**

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri
M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy) :** I beg to lay on the Table

- (1) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (Government of Jammu and Kashmir) for the year ended the 31st March, 1994 under article 151(2) of the Constitution read with clause (c) (iv) of the Proclamation dated the 18th July, 1990 issued by the President in relation to the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

[Placed in Library See No. LT- 7780/95]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under clause (c) (iv) of the proclamation dated the 18th July, 1990 issued by the President in relation to the State of Jammu & Kashmir
- (i) Finance Accounts of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir for the year 1993-94.
- (ii) Appropriation Accounts of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 7782/95]

**ANNUAL REPORT ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AND REVIEW
ON THE WORKING OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION MANAGEMENT
HYDERABAD FOR 1993-94 AND STATEMENT
FOR DELAY IN LAYING THESE PAPERS.**

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture
(Shri Arvind Netam) :** On behalf of Shri S. Krishna Kumar I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Agriculture Extension Management, Hyderabad for the year 1993-94.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Hyderabad, for the year 1993-94, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Hyderabad, for the year 1993-94.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) above.

[Placed in Library See. No. LT 7783/95]

**REVIEW ON THE WORKING OF AND ANNUAL
REPORT OF RAJASTHAN STATE DAIRY
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED,
JAIPUR FOR 1992-93 AND STATEMENT
FOR DELAY IN LAYING
THESE PAPERS.**

**The Minister of State in the Minister of Agriculture
(Shri Arvind Netam) :** I beg to lay on the Table

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956
- (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Rajasthan State Dairy Development Corporation Limited, Jaipur, for the year 1992-93
- (ii) Annual Report of the Rajasthan State Dairy Development Corporation Limited, Jaipur, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 7784/95]

**ANNUAL REPORT AND REVIEW ON THE WORKING
OF CENTRAL SOCIAL WELFARE BOARD,
NEW DELHI FOR 1993-94, AND
STATEMENT SHOWING REASONS
FOR DELAY IN LAYING
THESE PAPERS.**

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human
Resource Development (Department of Education and
Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) :** On behalf of Shrimati Basava Rajeshwari I beg to lay on the Table

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) above

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7785/95]

ANNUAL REPORT AND REVIEW ON THE WORKING OF TECHNICAL TEACHERS TRAINING INSTITUTE, CHANDIGARH FOR 1993-94 AND STATEMENT SHOWING REASONS FOR DELAY IN LAYING THESE PAPERS ETC.

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture) (Kumari Selja) : I bag to lay on the Table

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Technical Teachers Training Institute, Chandigarh, for the year 1993-94 alongwith Audited Accounts

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the Working of the Technical Teachers' Training Institute Chandigarh for the year 1993-94

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above

[Placed in Library See No LT 7786/95]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi for the year 1993-94 together with Accounts

(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan New Delhi, for the year 1993-94

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above

[Placed in Library See No LT 7787/95]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Open School, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94

(ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Open School, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94

(6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above

[Placed in Library See No ST 7788/95]

(7) A copy of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 24 of the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1997

(i) The All India Council for Technical Education (Grant of approval for starting new technical

institutions, introduction of courses or programmes and approval of in take capacity of seats for the courses or programmes) Regulations, 1994 published in Notification No F-304-4/CCF/REG/94 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd November 1994

(ii) The All India Council for Technical Education (Constitution and Functions of Regional Committees) Regulations, 1995 published in Notification No G S R 63 in Gazette of India dated the 4th February, 1995

(iii) The All India Council for Technical Education (Constitution and Functions of Board of Studies) Regulations, 1994 published in Notification No G S R 81 in Gazette of India dated the 18th February 1995

[Placed in Library See No LT 7789/95]

(8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the North Eastern Hill University Shillong for the year 1993-94

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the North-Eastern Hill University Shillong for the year 1993-94

(9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above

[Placed in Library See No LT 7790/95]

(10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jamia Millia Islamia New Delhi, for the year 1993-94

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Jamia Millia Islamia New Delhi for the year 1993-94

(11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers, mentioned at (10) above

[Placed in Library See No LT 7791/95]

(12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94 alongwith Audited Accounts

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi for the year 1993-94

(13) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing

reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 7792/95]

- (14) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 1993-94.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 1993-94 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 1993-94.

- (15) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (14) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 7793/95]

- (16) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1987-88.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1987-88 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1987-88.
- (17) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (16) above.

[Placed in Library See, No. LT 7794/95]

- (18) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1988-89 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1988-89.
- (19) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (18) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 7795/95]

- (20) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1989-90.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1989-90 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1989-90.

- (21) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (20) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 7796/95]

- (22) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh for the year 1990-91.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1990-91 together with Audit Report thereon

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1990-91.

- (23) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (22) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 7797/95]

- (24) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1991-92.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1991-92 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1991-92.

- (25) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (24) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 7798/95]

- (26) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English

versions) of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1992-93

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1992-93 together with Audit Report thereon
 - (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh, for the year 1992-93
- (27) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (26) above

[Placed in Library See No LT 7799/95]

13.05 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

Secretary General Sir I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary General of Rajya Sabha

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha I am directed to enclose a copy of the Delhi Rent Bill 1995 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 29th May, 1995"
- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha I am directed to enclose a copy of the Assam University (Amendment) Bill, 1995, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 29th May, 1995"

13.05 1/2 hrs

BILLS AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

Secretary General Sir I lay on the Table the Delhi Rent Bill, 1995 and the Assam University (Amendment) Bill, 1995, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 29th May, 1995

13.06 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need To Provide Better Railway Facilities at Bilaspur, Madhya Pradesh.**

[Translation]

Shri Khelan Ram Jangde (Bilaspur) Mr Deputy

Speaker, Sir, the Bilaspur Railway Divisional office is the highest revenue earning Railway Division throughout the country, but adequate facilities are not available there. Provision of better facilities can lead to further increase in revenue. The Bilaspur railway platform is too small to receive the rail traffic and it should be expanded. The vending stalls out-side Bilaspur station should be shifted to some other suitable place. Usulapur Railway station, near Bilaspur station should be made a terminal point to reduce increasing pressure on Bilaspur station. The Delhi bound trains and those coming from Raipur on Katni line should be halted at Usulapur. It will be more convenient. Some difficulties are being faced in completing the third phase of converting the Bilaspur station into a model railway station. Two phases of it have already been completed. So talks should be held with concerned parties and they should be shifted to some other paces so that the work of third phase is also completed.

I will request the union Government to pay special attention all these points in public interest

[English]

- (ii) **Need to discontinue charging of Examination Fee from unemployed youth applying for jobs.**

Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal (Chandigarh) With high rate of unemployment and rising inflation, it often becomes difficult for the unemployed youth to afford the payment of fee prescribed for appearing in examinations, written or oral, for recruitment to any Government job. At times this results in deprivation of a chance to even apply for a job if the candidate belongs to a poor family. With the number of applicants for a job being disproportionately high in comparison to the number of vacancies, the levy of such a fee sometimes sounds wholly unreasonable and without rationale.

At a time when the State is not in a position to provide jobs to all the unemployed youth, it becomes imperative that at least no examination fee is charged from them. The recent decision of the Government to give concession to such candidates for railway travel is appreciable but much more needs to be done to arrest frustration amongst the youth.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to immediately declare that no fee shall be charged for any test from job applicants.

- (iii) **Need to Sanction Adequate Funds for Early Completion of Kolayat and Gajner Lift Projects in Rajasthan.**

[Translation]

Shri Manphool Singh (Bikaner) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Indra Gandhi Canal passes through Bikaner district in Rajasthan. Kolayat and Gajner, two lift schemes on this canal were sanctioned by Rajasthan Government and sent

for approval of Union Planning Commission but its clearance is still awaited. The excavation work of these projects was done under famine relief scheme. Funds have not been allocated by the Planning Commission for these two lift projects despite repeated requests from Rajasthan Government.

The Kolayat and Gajner Lift Schemes will bring under irrigation nearly four lakh acres of land which is plain and most fertile. This area has a large livestock and sufficient milk production, which is supplied to Delhi also.

The water lifted by these two Lift projects will be supplied to Bikaner and Nagaur districts which will result in bumper production and development of a vast area.

I, therefore, request the Union Government to get these two projects cleared by the Planning Commission and allocate adequate funds for them.

(iv) Need to set up Lift at Janjgir or Champa Town in Bilaspur district, Madhya Pradesh.

Shri Bhawani Lal Verma (Janjgir) Sir, Janjgir-Naila and Champa, two towns of Bilaspur district of Madhya Pradesh are located within a radius of ten kilometres. They have a population of about 30 thousand each and are the major industrial and trade centres of the region. A number of central and state administrative offices, railway junction and education centres are also located there. There is a long standing demand for setting up low-power transmission TV centres in these two towns. A relay centre is already located at Bilaspur at nearly 50 kilometres away but, it is not fully catering to the need of 40 lakh strong population of the district.

The Central Government are, therefore, requested to take immediate steps for opening a low-power TV relay centre at one of these two towns.

(v) Need to introduce New Trains between Delhi and Lucknow Via Bulandshahar.

Dr. Chattrapal Singh (Bulandshahar) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, my Parliamentary Constituency, Bulandshahar, is an area in the country where adequate rail facilities are not available to the people. No direct train service is available to them for Delhi or for State capital Lucknow in spite of the fact that it is a commercially developed area and is predominantly an agriculture district.

I, therefore, request the Railway Minister to initiate steps to introduce a new train service between Delhi and Lucknow via Bulandshahar to meet the aspirations of the people of this area.

(vi) Need to Provide Stoppage of 3307/3308 Kisan Express at Kanth in Moradabad District, Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Chetan P.S. Chauhan (Amroha) Mr Deputy

Speaker, Sir, Kanth is a major town of Moradabad district having a population of nearly 40 thousand. It is also a major railway station and is situated on Saharanpur-Calcutta main railway line. A cement factory and a sugar mill are located there and it is a major centre of Khandisan, sugar and gur.

There is a long standing demand for providing a stoppage of 3307/3308 Kisan Express at this place. No up or down train stops here between 6.00 p.m. and 10 a.m. Some trains stop there but only during the day and no train is available there after 6 p.m. because of which the passengers intending to go to and come from Saharanpur and Moradabad face considerable difficulty.

I have written several times to the Railway Minister and railway authorities.

The people who go to Moradabad for service and business face great inconvenience in returning to their homes. In the absence of train service, they are forced to travel by buses and taxis which entails more time and expenditure.

I, therefore, request the Railway Minister to issue orders for stoppage of 3307/3308 Kisan Express at Kanth railway station in Moradabad district to provide relief to the local passengers.

(vii) Need to provide adequate Irrigational Facilities in St. Dominated Area of Kodarma (Bihar) so as to prevent drought.

[English]

Dr. Mumtaz Ansari (Kodarma) Sir, so far as South Bihar is concerned, the lands are dry in absence of sufficient irrigational facilities. The entire South Bihar depends upon vagaries of monsoon. If monsoon is good and favourable, the harvest is also good. If monsoon fails, the harvest also fails and the people face a state of starvation. Drought and famine generally looms large over this area.

Kodarma is located in three districts namely, Hazaribagh, Kodarma and Giridih. There is complete dearth of irrigational water and generally the people use traditional methods, e.g. ponds, wells, etc. as the means of irrigation which are entirely insufficient.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to provide proper, adequate and permanent irrigational facilities in this area of the country where large number of poor and ST people reside, after making proper survey and study in this respect.

(viii) Need to reintroduce Quota System for allotment of kerosene and wax to the industrialists in Erode of Periyar District, Tamilnadu.

Dr. (Shrimati) K.S. Soundaram (Tiruchengode) Sir, there are 2000 employees working in Batik, Screen Printing Industry in Erode, Periyar District in Tamilnadu.

They were getting kerosene and wax till the year 1994 through quota system. But from the year 1995 the quota allotment of kerosene and wax was withdrawn. The matter was taken up with the Director of Industries, Tamilnadu. But they have given a reply that there is no quota system hereafter. So they have to buy kerosene and wax from the open market where the prices are too high. There is no standard price for kerosene and wax so the small manufacturers have to face huge loss.

I request the hon. Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas to look into the matter and introduce the quota system again for allotment of kerosene and wax for industrialist at the earliest, otherwise at least fix a price for kerosene and wax in the open market.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Now, the House stands adjourned for lunch to meet again at 2.15 p.m.

13.12 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fifteen Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

14.22 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Twenty-Two Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

RECOVERY OF DEBTS DUE TO BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL—Contd.

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Now let us take up further consideration of the Bill to amend the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993.

Shri Chitta Basu (Barasat) : Sir, let me at the outset make it clear that I do not mind if the Government gets the opportunity or permission of extending the time for the superannuation of the Presiding Officers under the Act. It is not a subject which involves great debate. But I have got some grouse to make against the Government and its policy. It appears to me that the Government considered this as the only malady for the mal-performance of the Tribunal in so far as recovery of huge amount of bank loans is concerned. I do not know whether the Government is aware of the enormity of the problem. So far as the information available with me is concerned, it says that more than Rs. 35,000 crore have been declared to be debts and the Reserve Bank of India has issued circulars which suggested or rather directed that no bank should give further loans to those who have defaulted.

An hon. Member of this House and a former member of the Council of Ministers made an allegation in this House that more than Rs. 30,000 crore have been advanced to

these parties who have defaulted.

Then taken together it is a scam of more than Rs. 75,000 crores of the bank loan. I want to know the reaction of the Government to this allegation made by one of your colleagues, who was one of your colleagues only a few months ago.

My second point is that it is not the inadequacy of the Tribunal which is responsible for the sorry state of affairs in the banking industry. There are other issues, maladies and ailments also. I take the opportunity and your permission to take advantage of these discussions to pinpoint, to bring to the notice of the Government and particularly the hon. Minister certain maladies of this banking industry. I will try to restrict myself because the time at my disposal is very short.

One of the major and vital roles of the bank is to make the poverty eradication programme of the Government successful. Sir, you may agree and you would agree with me that IRDP is one of the instruments for the eradication of poverty in our country. Now, the banks have got a very crucial role to play in the matter of implementation of the schemes under IRDP. I bring to the notice of the Government through you, the 95th Report of the Public Accounts Committee which have stated and commented that the IRDP has failed dismally in the direction of poverty eradication.

Again the Annual Report of the Rural Development Department for the year 1994-95 has stated that since 1980-81, assistance was given to 4 crore 40 lakh families under IRDP. The Public Accounts Committee Report concludes that only 14.81 per cent of the loanees have been able to move upward from the poverty line. So only 14 per cent of the people who have been granted the IRDP loan have been able to rise themselves above the poverty line. This is exclusively due to the mal-performance of the banking industry and banking branches.

Another point I would like to bring to the notice of the Government is that during these years the number of recipients of the IRDP is declining. For example in 1980-81 the number of recipients was 27.27 lakh. In 1991-92 it has been reduced to 25.37 lakh. In 1992-93 it has been further reduced to 20.69 lakh, in 1993-94, it has been reduced to 25.39 lakh, and in 1994, the target has been only 21.15 lakh. **(Interruptions)** Do not become an advocate of this Government, saying that it is because of the reduction of the poverty, recipients have been reduced. It is not true. My allegation is that it is the deliberate policy of the Government and non-performance or mal-performance of the banks to grant IRDP loans. Therefore, the number is gradually coming down instead of increasing because 30 per cent of the population of our country is below the poverty line. Therefore, the banks have not done their duties. The crucial role which the banks have to play has not been played by them. This is one of the major

complaints of mine. If the Government gives an argument that the banks could not recover the money because of the inadequacy of the number of Tribunals and inadequacy of the number of Presiding Officers available with the Government, this is nothing but to cover up the failure of the Government.

I come to another point and you will find that great injustice has been done by the nationalised banks in West Bengal.

Take, for example, the self-employment schemes. In 1993-94, West Bengal was to provide financial assistance for self-employment to 4,585 young men and women. The State Government identified 5,448 young persons, the banks sanctioned loans only in 980 cases, that is, less than one-fifth, and actually the banks have advanced loans to only 671 persons. This is not the position for one year only. Take the year 1994-95. West Bengal was to provide such assistance to 22,900 young men and women. The State Government identified 34,586 persons, banks approved loans for 6,871 persons and actually the loan was given to 426 persons. This is the performance of the banks so far as poverty eradication programme is concerned. I would have been happy had the Government brought in certain amending measures to see that this kind of ailments, this kind of maladies were corrected as early as possible in the interest of the nation.

Another point that I would like to mention is that the bank employees and officers—I think the Minister might be knowing about this—have given a strike notice. They are going to have a strike right from the 6th of June.

Shri Syed Shahabuddin (Kishanganj) : But do you have any sympathy for them?

Shri Chitta Basu : That is a different issue. Yes, I have got sympathy for the employees.

Shri Syed Shahabuddin : Customers do not have any sympathy.

Shri Chitta Basu : I am not a customer. I am a trade unionist. I have no money to put in the bank. Anyway, what are the reasons for their going on strike? The officers say that the agreement which was reached between the Officers' Association and the Indian Banks' Association is not being implemented. They are going on strike on the 6th of June demanding the implementation of the bipartite agreement already reached. This is an unfair labour practice. The bank employees as a whole have also decided to strike work on the 6th of June in sympathy for the officers' strike. They have also decided to go on indefinite strike from 16th of June. I do not want to enter into a debate on this issue, but this is exactly the condition in the banks. Whether Mr. Shahabuddin supports me or does not support me, that is a different thing, but the banking industry, in a way, is in the red. The Government should have done better had the Government's attention been drawn to these areas of weaknesses in the banking industry.

My last point is regarding the credit-deposit ratio. I think Mr. Shahabuddin would raise that issue. Bihar's case is the most tragic one. West Bengal's case is also not very happy. West Bengal's credit-deposit ratio is 46.6 per cent as per the State Government's figure, and the national average is sixty per cent. So far as I am concerned, I have got no enmity or animosity against any State, but there are States where this ratio exceeds eighty percent. So far as Orissa is concerned, I would be doing injustice to the people of Orissa if I do not mention about that State. That is also a State where the credit deposit ratio is abnormally low. Would the Government take suitable steps to see that regional imbalances in the matter of credit deposit ratio is eliminated, removed or at least reduced to the minimum, to the extent possible?

I would, therefore, conclude by saying that if the Government feels that the recovery process can be expedited, the rate of recovery can be improved upon and that there are chances of enhancement of age limit for superannuation. I have got no strong objection to this Bill. I am prepared to support it, but I cannot forgive the Government for these lapses, only a few of which I have mentioned. Yet I am confident that these points would be taken note of, particularly in matters regarding the reduction of poverty, because that is an important matter, that is in the nation's interests. Because of the seething discontent of the young men and women in our country, the country is sitting on a volcano. Having regard to all these factors, I think, whatever is possible by the Government in this matter should be done. With these words, I conclude.

Shri Syed Shahabuddin : Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the entire country today feels that the banking industry is sick. I do not say it is terminally sick, but with the scam, so many bad debts, write-offs and the Government putting in more capital every year, it seems that the banking industry is not able to cope with the responsibilities that it was assigned to when we nationalised the banking system.

To take the first point, Sir, confidentiality has been the bugbear and with due respect to Shakespeare, I would say: "Confidentiality what crimes are being committed in thy name?" Recently, a report appeared in the Press—I am sure the hon. Minister is aware of it—that the Reserve Bank of India has compiled a list of eminent persons who owe the banking system more than Rs.10 lakhs. The list had more than 5,000 names and the amount involved was nearly Rs. 30,000 crores.

Shri Chitta Basu : Some say it is Rs. 45,000 crores.

Shri Syed Shahabuddin : It is Rs. 30,000 crores. That is what the report said. What is being said however is, that perhaps, the very same persons continue to draw money from the banking system without any hitch and maybe from the other banks, because a bank does not quite know as to who the bad debtors are.

Therefore, I have been pleading in this House time and time again that there are three categories of cases, bad

debts which are under negotiation, bad debts which are written off and bad debts which are then submitted to a tribunal for a judicial determination. At least when you have lost the hope of collecting it, when you have finally gone to the public domain and when you have written off a loan, at that stage you should publish the names of these people who have cheated or defrauded the public and who have drawn upon the public money. At least at that stage, they should be socially accountable. I am not saying that their names should be published when they do not pay their first instalment or the second instalment, but when all your negotiations fail and either you are compelled to write off the loan or compelled to go to a judicial tribunal that is to say into the public domain, at that stage you must make the list public so that a certain degree of social pressure is brought to bear on these individuals.

Sir, I would say that a certain degree of restraint is exercised by the management of these banks which often act in collusion with these eminent persons. They give them loan after loan because of personal considerations because of personal connections. If you publish the list of defrauders then at least they would be deterred from playing with the public money. So my first plea would be if necessary to amend the law, but make it possible for such names of defrauders to appear in public when they reach that stage.

Secondly, Sir, my plea would be that the RBI should immediately and regularly circulate those names which it collects from various banks after compiling the list to the entire banking system and make it penal for any bank management to extend any further credit to those particular individuals. If any management violates that list or does not check that list and does not exercise due scrutiny then that management must pay for its follies or for its crimes.

Thirdly, Sir, the banks are suffering losses every year. Something must be done about the cost of management. We have a bank at one end of the country and it has branches all over the country. It obviously adds to the overhead costs, the administrative cost, the management cost goes up. Therefore, why cannot the banking system be reorganised? India is a huge country, every bank has a certain traditional base. I would plead with the hon. Minister to reorganise the banking system so that every bank has a certain defined territorial jurisdiction. It should operate largely in one such State or maybe two or three contiguous States so that each State has to deal not with a dozen banks. And you know, each bank is an empire in itself, each bank is a kingdom in itself. And any State Government finds it impossible to deal with the banks, then if it has to be only with two or three banks, perhaps, it may find it easier. I am not applying this condition on the State Bank. I am not asking specialised State banks to be circumscribed in this manner. I am not asking for the functional banks to be circumscribed in this manner. But the commercial banks which are under public sector must have a defined territorial jurisdiction, each bank limited to one or two States and

each State limited to one or two banks. At least that will make the task of scrutiny much easier.

Sir, I have got something to say about the population ratio. I am told that the average population per bank branch is of the order of 10,000. But in my State, Sir, it is of the order of 20,000 and I am sure there are other States in the country where it is even higher which means that the access of the people to the banking system is limited. They have to cross rivers and mountains in order to get to an assigned bank and the entire idea of service area has been dropped and banks have been authorised to close down their unprofitable branches which means that the rural-urban ratio of the bank is again going to tilt much more on the urban side, that the rural population is going to be deprived of the banking facility. And it is not only a question of urban-rural ratio, it is also a question of disparity as pointed out by hon. Member Shri Chitta Basu between State and State and within one State between one district and another district. I would therefore once again plead that one of the social functions of the nationalised system of banking was to provide banking facility to the common man and therefore this average ratio of 10,000 should be maintained everywhere and the particular bank which is assigned the responsibility of providing the banking facility for a particular State should then have the responsibility of opening as many branches in the rural areas as required in consultation with the State.

Sir, I will not harp on the credit deposit ratio. We know that it is very bad. And I am sure it is receiving due attention from the Government. But I am sorry to say that the hon. Finance Minister who visited my State some three years ago and held a meeting had promised to the people of Bihar that this credit deposit ratio will rise in favour of Bihar. Unfortunately, in the three years since then, it has fallen further, it has now come to the level of 25 per cent. Where is this money going, I would like to know. Is this money going to those eminent persons who are defrauding the banking system? Is the money going to the big industrial cities or the metropolitan centres for their growth? After all I am not speaking against Maharashtra if some States attract all the foreign investment it is also because they are playing with the money of the entire people of India. The entire money is getting attracted to one or two or three metropolitan centres and then once you are rich, you can attract more money.

Finally, Sir, I would like to emphasise one more point. The Government has been speaking about the differential rate of interest for the priority sector. And in the priority sector, apart from certain functional sectors, certain social groups have been mentioned including the minorities. But with the best of my effort over the last four years, I have been unable to get from the hon. Minister a clear idea as a member of a minority community, of how much of the total public credit of the nationalised public banks is going to the minorities.

They shed tears for the minorities and express

sympathy for the minorities. They said that they have identified certain districts of concentration of minorities although those districts cover only to 35 per cent of the minority population. But I am not speaking of those districts. I am speaking of the country as a whole. I am not speaking of the priority sector's lending. I am speaking of the bank lending as a whole. I would like to know what is the share of a defined social group whom we consider to be economically backward in the public credit system. Exactly in the same way I plead for SC, ST the mazdoors and for the kisans. I plead also for the minorities and for other weaker sections.

I hope that the hon. Minister will find some time to get these figures compiled and that he would not give me that stock reply that our reporting system is not designed to give this information. If it is not designed, it is not Heaven born. That system can be re-designed. But the system can be designed in a manner so that it can answer the political questions that do arise in our very complex and very cruel society where every section of society wants to have a place under the Sun, a small part of the cake. It is not an unfair wish. It is not an unfair demand. It is a legitimate demand of every community which is backward that it should get due aspiration to the national credit.

These are some of the things that are happening. I know that for the IRDP loan the banks are adopting a policy of very tight credit. In my own district I made a survey for the last year and I found that the performance of many of the national banks whatever was the target either in terms of numbers or in terms of money, whether financial target or physical target for groups of panchayats, was of the order of 25 to 35 per cent. Of course, some of them also achieve 70 per cent. But most of them have achieved 25 to 30 per cent. I propose to write to the hon. Minister to instruct those banks to improve their performance. If this is the picture in one district, it cannot be different in other districts. These small creditors get an average of Rs 2,000/- to Rs 4,000/- If they do not pay back in time banks take all sorts of steps to recover the credit. But if the sharks eat up Rs 30,000 crores of the public money not a single finger is raised. It is totally unfair. The banking system is losing its credit, its credibility, its social conscience and its social image. It has become a tool in the hands of private interest and I wish that the Government would see to it that the original ethos of the nationalised banking system which was to serve the people under social control is restored.

I have nothing to say against the Bill, The Bill is a very technical one. I can only hope that the Government will succeed in its efforts after we pass the Bill to establish these Tribunals without any further delay so that these cases which have been submitted by the banks for adjudication can be handled expeditiously and at least some public money can be recovered which can then be diverted to the weaker sections and to the areas which have been deprived of bank credit for their development.

[Translation]

Shri Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri (Simla) Mr Deputy speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Bill brought by the hon. Minister. Many things have been said therein. Larger amounts of bank loans are yet to be recovered which perhaps come thousands of crores of rupees. If the States are also taken into account. Generally, the loan amount, whether it is bank loan, or corporation loan, is repaid by the poor people, but the big capitalists are always defaulters, they consider banks as their own property and even defame the Government. Our attention should go towards them and they should be dealt with severely.

Regarding appointment of retired High Court Judge as judicial officers some of my friends have already put forth their view points and in this respect I would like to say that appointment to some retired judges is alright but you must appoint some younger officers also as they are known for having the work done, their method of work is somewhat different from old guards as the latter take much more time in deciding cases. So I would suggest appointment of younger officers to ensure better results.

I have seen prosecution cases continuing in courts for years together. People move the courts right from lower courts to the Supreme Court and get the loan recovery stalled. They know the delaying tactics and how to go scot-free.

Loans were advanced for the purchase of trucks in U.P., Bihar and other states and all those people who took loan have become defaulters. An advertisement had appeared in the press that 'Ford vehicle can carry more load than any other make of vehicles and the entire nation can benefit out of it, but the same never proved successful. In Himachal Pradesh none of those purchased this vehicles repaid the Government loan.

Government loans were obtained for setting up factories etc in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, hills of Uttar Pradesh etc. Schemes were prepared and submitted loan obtained against them, but the same has not been repaid. The modus-operandi is that loan will be obtained from Delhi for setting up industry in Delhi but when the loan is unable to repay the loan, he will try to set up a factory in Haryana with other name and obtain fresh loan from Haryana, and in this way he will go from one state to another. Therefore the hon. Minister has to look into this practice and the public money must be recovered.

One of the hon. Member has said that a loan upto Rs 10,000 was written off when their Government was in power, a coalition Government was in power. The loans of such persons were waived who could not have repaid the loan. This is all right, but those who repaid the loan were not appreciated. Such decisions never protect national interest. Now the Government has taken a good steps and has brought forward a good legislation. For effective implementation of this Bill, I would suggest that young lawyers who, after completing seven years practice become

eligible for being appointed as Sessions Judges, and after 15 year practice, for High Court Judge, should be appointed as judicial officers. People belonging to SC/ST may also be included to ensure smooth functioning. Today, the position is that no responsibility has been fixed about the cases to be disposed of by the judges within a stipulated time. They only go on fixing dates after date for hearing demanding this proof and that proof. This leads to delay and the defaulter gets time to connive with loaning institution. I want that Government must recover these loans and utilise them in national interest.

With this suggestion, I thank you for giving me time to speak. I also congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing forward this Bill, but I will again stress that younger people should be given chance in it to secure better results.

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava (Jaipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister had on 27th August 1993 introduced a Debt Recovery Bill with the aim and objectives of prompt and speedy recovery of loans advanced by banks and banking institutions. The Bill provided for setting up of 10 Tribunals throughout the country to ensure recovery of loan amounts. The intention of the Government was to ensure speedy recovery of loan amount but so far, out of 10 only 5 Tribunals have been set up which implies that it never wanted to work with full speed but wanted to go with half speed, that is why it has been able to set up only five Tribunals so far.

The Government nationalised 14 private banks on 19th July 1969 and 6 more such banks were nationalised in April, 1980. At that time, it was said that the aim of those banks was not only to earn profit but to extend benefit to the people, but I think, after nationalisation, not only the customer service standard declined, their funds too went on sinking. Today, a staggering amount of Rs. 30 thousand crore is no liking to be recovered and 90 percent of it is outstanding against big industrial houses and brokers. This is not my statement, it is based on what Shri Kumaramangalam, a Member of his party, had said during Zero hour. Since the hon. Minister has not refuted the charge, I think the statement is true.

I want to know why only 5 Tribunals have been set up when the original legislation provided for 10 Tribunals. It is said that suitable persons within the prescribed age limit are not available for these Tribunals. I would like to know the definition of suitable persons. Does he mean that a suitable person is one who has attained the age of 60 years and will work with the Tribunal till the age of 62 years and, one who is of 62 years, who will work till he attains the age of 65 years. This means he is not concerned with the young people, with their qualification; he wants to favour only those persons who have retired from judicial service.

As the hon. Member who spoke just before, has said that lawyers who have completed the practice of 15 years in a District Court and are enrolled under Legal Practitioner Act become eligible for being appointed as District Judge.

Then why does he want to appoint only judicial officers aged 60 who continue to work till the age of 62 years? Similarly, he wants to appoint in the Appellate Tribunals, persons aged 62 years and allow them to continue till they attain the age of 65 years. This means he wants old judges. I fail to understand why he wants to appoint old, retired judges in those Tribunals. Why does he want to allow the judges to continue after they have attained the age of 60 years and 62 years to work in these Tribunals where honesty is a prerequisite for discharging the job of recovery of loans? Why does he not want to appoint in these Tribunals the persons who have become qualified for District Courts in place of old judges? Earlier, there were provisions for both but now he wants to make a provision only for some selected persons. I think, under this provision, Government intends in a way to purchase retired judges to appease them which in my opinion is improper. If the Government is sincere and really wants to recover the loans, it must appoint judges on the basis of their qualifications. Only the persons who join as District Court Judges should be appointed in these Tribunals, only then would it be possible to make effective recovery of loans, otherwise there is no possibility of loans being recovered.

Therefore, I want to say that Government's intention of making this provision and of setting up of Tribunals is not honest which is evident from the fact that only 5 of the proposed 10 Tribunals have been set up and because only age factor is being taken into consideration for appointment of Judges.

15.00 hrs.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government is in this way only deceiving the people and it does not want to recover the loans because it wants to benefit and serve the interest of those who have taken loans from financial institutions. If the loans are to be recovered from the farmer, Government would have seized his plough, attached his field, if it is the case of a small industry, Government would confiscate the tools, but it does not want to take action against big industrialist whom it wants to benefit. This has happened. They went to High Court and the judgement went against Government. As a result it has to file for leave to appeal in the Supreme Court. After all, there are Reserve Bank guidelines, the banks maintain, weekly fortnightly, monthly and half yearly diaries, there is internal and external auditing, all types of accounts are maintained, still large amounts of loans are outstanding against big people. Whether Reserve Bank guidelines were not followed by the banks? The Government, in the first instant, must consider all those points and only then appoint Tribunals.

15.02 hrs.

(Shri Sharad Dighe in the Chair)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it has been provided that it shall be incumbent upon the Tribunal to give a judgement within six months. 10,595 cases involving Rs. 10 lakh and above

were pending as on 1.8.94 and Government wants to cover two lakh crore rupees by the end of March out of three lakh crore rupees. So, how do the Government propose to recover the amount defrauded in Harshad Mehta scam? Now a drive to recover outstanding loans has been launched. It has been provided that a case history of economic offenders shall be prepared, a list thereof shall be maintained by the nationalised banks and the loan applications will first be referred to Tribunals, the Tribunal shall prepare a list of industries and categorise them as industry not set up, industry set up for name sake and then consider the application and decide whether the loan amount is huge or it is small or the loan amount has been refunded but the industry is eying sick and so on.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, loan amounting to Rs. 3,100 crores is outstanding against sick and small industries and Rs 5,586 crores is outstanding against sick medium industries. Rs. 2,600 crores loan is outstanding against medium major industries. Thus a total of Rs. 11,533 crores is outstanding. Now the Rajasthan Government is criticised for announcing waiving of loan of farmers upto an amount of Rs. 10,000. The Rajasthan Government has implemented this decision to honour its commitment. The political leaders, national leaders of the party made promises of waiving of loans during election speeches. This has also to be taken into account. A list of the persons who have defrauded the banks should be made public and the question of the loan written off be also taken into consideration. The recommendations made in the reports of Janaki Raman Committee, Narsimha Committee, Goepuriya Committee, should also be considered.

Sir, my submission is that if the big industrialists who are advanced bank loans for setting up industries fail to repay the bank loan, under stipulated time, their factories attached and an amount twice of the bank loan taken, recovered and in this way the excess amount that accrues to government is not refunded to the industrialists as a result they are unable to take to some other trade. Therefore government should come here with a clean heart, and we will not have any objection to setting up of ten tribunals in place of five tribunals. The clause which prescribes age limit of 60-62 and 62-65 should be deleted and competent lawyeres, qualified lawyers should be appointed in these tribunals. This bill has been brought only to receive applauses from the people and not sincerely to recover the loan amount outstanding against big industrialist. Government is not sincerely interested in recovering the loan amount, it fail to set up tribunals. For it also government is to be blamed because suitable judges were not found for being appointed in these tribunals. The Government should honestly try to increase the efficiency of working of the banks and also make sincere efforts to recover the loan from the big industrialists. The Government should be honest in the implementation of this Bill. Now the elections are on the corner and this Government has to go. It will be better if this Bill is not brought at all. This Bill

has been brought only to impress. The people that this government brought such a bill for recovering the loans and, get it passed by the Parliament.

I would urge upon the Government not to bring this Bill for appeasing the people. It should be sincere in its efforts.

[English]

Mr. Chairman : I think, the time allotted for the Bill is over. I would ask the Minister to speak now. Yes, Mr. Minister.

Shri P.C. Thomas (Muvattupuzha) : Sir, our names were announced yesterday. Yesterday, four names were mentioned and my name was second in that list. I will take only three minutes

Mr. Chairman : Be brief please

Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat : Sir, my name was also there.

Mr. Chairmen : So many people have spoken on this Bill. We have to complete this by 3.30 p.m. Now, come on Mr Thomas, you can take three minutes only.

Shri P. C. Thomas : Sir, I support the Bill, which is only to raise the age limit for the retirement of the officers concerned.

Now, I would like to submit a few points with regard to recovery of loans. As per the statistics on 30.9.1990. 1.5 million cases were seen to be pending before courts and about more than Rs. 6,000 crores were due from these cases to the public sector banks as well as financial institutions, including Rs. 391 crore to the financial institutions. Now, from the reply to an Unstarred Question (No. 3305 dated the 25th April, 1995), it seems that as per the statistics then available in April, 1995, Rs. 5,691.09 crore—that is the correct amount were due from these cases to eighteen public sector banks, which were either transferred or were proposed to be transferred to the new Tribunals.

Sir, ten Tribunals were to be set up, out of which five have already been set up and the functioning has to start. In some of them, I think, the functioning has already started. However, due to some problems, including infrastructure problems—I think, that is one of the problems which has caused some difficulty—in some of the Tribunals, the functioning could not be started. For example, it is seen from the report that the Tribunal set up in Bangalore, with a sitting in Hyderabad could not function because thought the Judicial Officers concerned were appointed to the Tribunal, the Registrar was not appointed. So, the functioning could not take place and it got delayed. These are not very small things, which could be just brushed aside. I think, the very main aspect of providing infrastructure to the Tribunals has to be considered on top priority so that the intention of the Government in bringing forth this Bill and also the present intention of the Government to bring forth this aspect into the Bill can fructify. This can happen only if the

infrastructure is provided correctly and in a timely manner

Now, another point that I would like to make is regarding lawyers. Now, in many of the new laws which are being framed the lawyers are not allowed even to represent the parties. I do not think that after making provisions in the Act lawyers should not be preferred or lawyers should not be given their share or their right of appointment as per the Act itself. I think, there are good lawyers and very many of them are competent to be in the Tribunals. They should be appointed and the Tribunals should start functioning without looking for Judicial officers alone.

Sir, my third point which I would like to submit is that the youngsters should be brought into the field of judiciary. This point was also submitted yesterday by one of the hon speakers. Of course, in this field where we have the tribunal, we should have a new forum in the judicial service. I also support the view that the Indian Judicial Service be formed without delay.

Now I come to the point of outstanding loans. We have seen from the statistics available that the loans have been given to the loanees of higher grade—I would call them 'higher grade' because they even enjoy the status of the higher grade now. Such persons should be identified and the recovery should be expedited. We can say that the loans for social purposes and for agricultural purposes should be more and it should be a type of recovery culture that has to be built up. It is not a forcible culture that should be built up but it is a voluntary culture that should be built up and that is not by way of thesis but some kind of a propaganda which is very much necessary, should be made by the Government and the Social organisations to see that loans which are given by the banks are repaid. I think this culture can be very well brought amongst the small firms. But regarding the big firms, it is very difficult. Therefore, the arms must be strong enough to catch them.

Mr. Chairman : Mr Minister may please reply

Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat : Sir, I want to say one thing

Mr. Chairman : You have been speaking always on many Bills

Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat : Only two minutes Sir

Mr. Chairman : I will give you the chance to speak in the third reading

The Minister of State in Ministry of Finance (Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy) : Mr Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to those Members who have already participated in this discussion and many of the Members who have given valuable suggestions which are duly noted

Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat : Sir, kindly permit me, so that the Minister may reply

Mr. Chairman : I will give you a chance later

Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy : Mr Chairman,

Sir, we have come before this House with only minor changes. This Bill which became an Act in 1993 was discussed threadbare in both the Houses of Parliament and many Members spoke on this Bill. They have also participated in the earlier discussions and they have given their valuable suggestions. I wish to invite the entire House to join together and unanimously support this Act.

Sir, we are proposing only two minor changes just to increase the age of Presiding officers—in the case of Debt Recovery Tribunal from 62 years to 65 years and in the case of Presiding Officers of Appellate Tribunal from 62 years to 65 years. These are the only minor changes we are proposing.

Anyway, many of the hon Members—even the discussion has been initiated by the hon Member Shri Dhananjaya Kumar and Justice Guman Mal Lodha—have pointed out that we have made no efforts to get the qualified persons. But it is not correct. Applications were called for. The Chief Secretaries, the State Governments and the High Courts were informed. But very few applications were received from competent persons. The appointment of a sitting judge—we all agree on this point—definitely gives more credibility to the Tribunals and many of the hon Members have pointed out, why to increase the age from 60 years to 62 years and 62 years to 65 years. In most of the Tribunals it is like that. In the case of AIFR, the maximum age of retirement is 65 years. In the case of BAFR, it is 65 years.

In the case of CAT viz the Central Administrative Tribunal, it is 65 years.

Sir, many hon Members have given valuable suggestions and they have raised certain points also.

The Recovery Tribunals have not only powers to give decree but they also have powers to recover the dues. The Recovery Officer is attached to the Tribunal to execute orders. The powers of attachment as also arrest are vested with the Tribunals. That is why, we are changing this age limit so that we will be able to attract more competent persons such as the members of Bar and sitting judges.

Hon Member Shri Charles is not present. He has stated that the appeal can be filed before the appellate Tribunal only after depositing 75 percent of the amount to be recovered as decreed by the Tribunal. I may clarify that 75 percent is the maximum amount to be deposited. But as per the provisions of the Act, the Appellate Tribunal can waive or reduce the amount depending on the merits of each case.

Hon Members Prof Susanta Chakrobarty and Shri Syed Shahabuddin have pointed out that a list of about 5,000 defaulters has been circulated by the Reserve Bank of India. It is true. This list has been circulated by the RBI to all the public sector banks. This communication is confidential in nature and it is between the RBI and the Banks concerned so that they are able to decide on the pending applications. The decision of lending loans entirely lies with the banks concerned.

We have also informed this August House that the RBI will publish a list of suit-filed cases of one crore rupees and above once every six months. The first list has already been published and the recovery in such cases will now be handled by the Recovery Tribunals.

Shri Chitta Basu has pointed out about the strike by the bank employees on the 6th of June. I wish to inform the August House that the RBI is negotiating with the officers association on modalities of giving the amount in such a way so that it does not affect the award already given to the staff and to ensure that it does not become a cause of action for the staff.

Many of the Members have given suggestions for better functioning of the banks. They have also pointed about the priority sector lending. I wish to inform the House that all the Banks, on an average, have reached the targets in priority sector. In 1994-95, they have already achieved more than 37 per cent.

Some of the Members are worried about the CDR position. I will definitely take their suggestions into consideration. The Government will certainly try to improve the CDR position in respect of some States.

With these remarks, I appeal to the hon. Members to support this Bill.

Mr. Chairman : The question is :

"That the Bill to amend the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993, be taken into consideration."

The Motion Was Adopted

Mr. Chairman : Now, we shall take up clause by clause by consideration.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1

Amendment made :

Page 1, line 4,

for "1994" substitute "1995"

(Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy)

Mr. Chairman : The question is :

"That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Enacting formula

Amendment made :

Page 1, line 1.

for "Forty-fifth" substitute "Forty-sixth" (1)
(Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy)

Mr. Chairman : The question is :

"That the Enacting formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Mr. Chairman : The question is

"That the long Title stand part of the Bill "

The motion was adopted.

The long Title was added to the Bill.

Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy : Sir, I beg to move .

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed

Mr. Chairman : Motion moved .

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

[Translation]

Prof. Rana Singh Rawat (Ajmer) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister only three questions. This Bill is getting support from the whole House and it is going to be passed also. My first question is that a Committee, J.P.C. was appointed to enquire into the bank-scam. Some names were given by this committee but the Government said that as those officers have retired no action could be taken against them. The irony is that the Government on the one hand is making enquires from those officers who were in service when former Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated but have now retired and on the other, it says that no action can be taken against the persons named and found guilty by the JPC in bank securities scam as they have since retired. Secondly, the bank service charges have been increased enormously and a result, common man is facing difficulty. A common subscriber, a poor farmer is finding it difficult to open his account in the bank because the minimum initial deposit amount has been increased. This minimum amount is not justified. Third, the recommendations contained in Narsinhman Committee, Janaki Committed and Goipadia Committee reports should be implemented as early as possible. The judges being appointed in the Tribunals

should be paid fair remunerations I would also like to know the names of places where branches of these Tribunals are proposed to be set up ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Mr. Chairman : I allowed him to speak, by way of exception, in the third reading

Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy : Sir in many cases, as per the recommendations of the JPC the Government have taken action and the Action Taken Report has already been placed on the Table of the House As regards the service charges it is for the banks & associations to decided on that

Mr Chairman The question is

"That the Bill, as amended be passed "

The motion was adopted.

15.25 hrs.

[English]

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr Chairman : Now the House will take up item No 13—the National Highway (Amendment) Bill 1995 Shri Jagdish Tytler

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Shri Jagdish Tytler) : I beg to move

That the Bill further to amend the National Highway Act 1956 be taken into consideration

Sir with your permission I would like to say a few words while moving the National Highways (Amendment) Bill, 1995 for consideration and approval The activities of the National Highways and other matters connected therewith are governed by the National Highways Act, 1956, (48 of 1956) The total length of National Highways in the country at present is 34,058 km Though National Highway Network constitutes only about 2 per cent of the total road length in the country it is carrying nearly 40 per cent of the total traffic carried by all categories of roads In view of the constraint of budgetary resources and growing requirements of the Highway sector there is need to augment resources through mobilisation of extra budgetary resources for proper development and upkeep of National Highway system In this context, and in the background of the current environment of economic liberalisation, this ministry has initiated a number of measures to explore the possibility of involving private sector participation in the highway sector With this in view, the Government has taken a number of measures like declaration of road sector as industry, relaxation of provisions of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, declaration of road sector

as infrastructure and reduction of customs duties on import of construction equipments A number of private investors including foreign investors have shown interest in the proposals of the Government to open the road sector for private investment However, in the absence of an enabling provision in the National Highways Act 1956 to permit private participation it has not been possible to do so

Under Section 5 of the Act, it is the responsibility of the Central Government to develop and maintain in proper repair all National Highways The Central Government may by notification in the official Gazette direct that any function in relation to the development or maintenance of National Highways shall also be exercisable by the State Government or by an officer or authority subordinate to the Central Government or to the State Government This provision does not empower the Government to allow private sector to develop and maintain National Highways Similarly under Section 6 of the Act, the Central Government can levy and collect fees for the use of ferries, permanent bridges Sections of National Highways etc It is necessary that the private party is allowed to collect such fee for services or benefits rendered by him It is also necessary to authorise him to regulate traffic on the facility developed by him It is also necessary that the Central Government may, through suitable mechanism take effective measures for the prevention of encroachment and misuse of National Highways and punish any person found indulging in such activities

It has now been proposed add subsection 8A and 8B after Section B which will enable the Central Government

- (i) To enter into agreement with any person in relation to the development and maintenance of the whole or any part of a National Highway
- (ii) To levy fees and authorise the person who has undertaken to develop the whole or any part of a national highway to collect such fee,
- (iii) To empower such person to regulate traffic on such national highway, and
- (iv) To provide for punishment for mischief by injury to such national highways

In the circumstances, I now move the motion that the Bill to further amend the National Highways Act, 1956 be taken into consideration

Mr. Chairman Motion moved

"That the Bill further to amend the National Highway Act, 1956, be taken into consideration "

[Translation]

Shri Dau Dayal Joshi (Kota) Sir there is no doubt that the number of vehicles on roads is increasing day-by-day It was 3 lakh in 1951 and now it has gone up to more than 25 crore Sir, when I was very young, we used to raise a slogan My friend Uttambai Patel is sitting here

with red-cap. We had a socialist Party in Rajasthan which had a popular base. I was just a child and was a new entrant to politics. We used to raise the slogan, "Roti, Kapara aur Makan, mang raha hai Hindustan." This Government has not been able to meet these popular demands, people are dying of starvation even today. Today India is the only nation where people die of sun-stroke for want of roof over their head, where people die of cold while sleeping on footpaths, again for want of roof over their heads. This ineffective Government, inactive Government had not been able to meet the minimum needs of bread, cloth and house.

The second important need of mankind is of roads, electricity and water. These are the essential needs to lead a good life. It is true that roads are the parameters of development.

[English]

Mr. Chairman : Mr. Joshi, you can continue your speech next time.

15.30 1/2 hrs.

[English]

RESOLUTION RE : STEPS TO PREVENT ATROCITIES ON SC/ST—Contd.

Mr. Chairman (Shri Sharad Dighe) : Now, the Private Members' Business. We shall now take up further discussion on the Resolution moved by Shri Satya Deo Singh on the 16th December, 1994.

Shri Rajveer Singh may speak.

[Translation]

Shri Rajveer Singh (Aonla) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the motion moved by Shri Satyadeo Singh Today, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, particularly the latter, have become most convenient places for committing atrocities on women and poor. The situation has worsened to the extent that women in Uttar Pradesh do not feel safe in going out with honour. We have the instances of atrocities committed on women, Harijan women in Allahabad, Fateh-pur, Hamirpur during the past one and a half years where politicians stripped women and paraded them nude. These misdeeds received the support of State Government there.

Sir, the culmination of these atrocities was the incident of Rampur ka Tiraha in Muzaffarnagar, when the batches of women who were demanding Uttarakhand and coming to Delhi to put their demand before the Centre were raped by none else, but the police men on orders from their officers. These policemen did the job of goondas. Buses were stopped on the main road crossing and the women folks were dragged out and taken to nearby cane fields and

raped. Their clothes were torn and they were lathi charged leaving dozens of them injured.

The Government ordered a CBI inquiry into it. Mr. M.P. Sayeed is sitting here. The CBI report confirmed that women were raped, molested, tortured, men were lathi charged, fired at, but no action has been taken thereon so far.

This is the weakness of our law. Committing such atrocities on women is a sin, a crime.

This Parliament has passed the Panchayat Raj Act which provides golden opportunity to women for participation in Panchayats. But there also, women were misbehaved. You must have read a press report that a woman who was the candidate for the office of Chairman of Lucknow Zila Parishad was kidnapped. She was taken to the house of a Minister and was molested. Her clothes were torn. Still the Minister says, does not matter, we will get her a new Sari. The Minister is still in council of Ministers. This is the situation in Uttar Pradesh.

Sir, thereafter, elections to District panchayat were held in the neighbouring district Ghaziabad. A women voter Umlesh Chauhan, had been permitted by the High Court to caste her vote. Voting was to be over by 12 O'Clock. So she wanted to reach the polling station before 12 noon, but in the presence of women police, the muslimen threw her out and did not allow her to vote. This is the Panchayat Raj, where women are prevented from casting their vote and dishonoured and misbehaved. After all, where will this country go? We talk of entering 21st century. While woman is being rendered helpless. They do not dare go out without the company of their husband, brother and other family members. There are reports, Even foreign women are not spared. They are raped. But Government is sitting mute. It is not taking suitable action. How long this jungle rule will continue to prevail in India?

Mr. Chairman, Government must make some law in this regard. This Bill should be passed and most stringent punishment should be awarded to these culprits. The plight of women is pitiable. It is deteriorating. We do not take these things very seriously. The incident of rapes are more in respect of poor women who work in fields, in factories. A report has appeared that a father, not an ordinary man, but a Government officer, raped his own daughter. What phase of progress is it? Why such things are not being checked. We have completed 50 years of our Independence and have set very high standards and traditions. Still, where all women are seen as mothers, a father is committing rape on his own daughter. The woman today is considered an commodity, an object of entertainment. Somebody has to think over this, somebody has to make a legislation for this. At the same time, we must educate our society, we must flush out this filth. I would request both this House and the Government to adopt this Bill and make laws which may provide for such rigorous punishment to the culprit as he would remember through out his life and as would deter others from doing such acts. Some State Government for

political considerations do not take action against such culprits. Where such cases are registered, the offenders manipulate things by visiting Lucknow or Patna, get political patronage and have the enquires transferred to CID. The result is that the cases are either hushed up or delayed for two to three years, and in the meantime, witnesses are changed, pressurised and the murders, Rapists openly roam in streets without restriction.

Sir, I would request the Government, the treasury benches to extend full support to this Resolution of Shri Satyadeo Singh and convert it into a legislation and take most stringent action against the criminals. With these words I conclude.

[English]

Shri Gopi Gajapathi (Berhampur) Thank you, Mr Chairman, Sir indeed the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are the weakest of the weak section. Stringent laws should be made enacted to curb atrocities on the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. They are subjected to harassment, racial exploitation, neglect and atrocities. At every step they are humiliated and exploited. It is the duty of the Government to protect the interests of these exploited class of the people. The country would not march ahead if a big part of its population remained backward and neglected. Thus it is necessary to give every person from all sections of the society an opportunity to develop for the multi-faceted development of the nation.

Further, the condition of the people, particularly women in the country is extremely pitiable. The Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe women suffer even worse fate among this exploited category. The Government must formulate more schemes for the development, protection of equal rights of the Scheduled Casts and the Scheduled Tribe women in particular and others in general.

A section of these communities has not yet got freedom from the traditional unclean profession. There should be an end to the practice of carrying night soil on the head and more **Sulabh Shouchalayas** must be constructed in villages and towns so that men and women of these sections may get rid of this traditional unclean profession. Scavenging should be made fully mechanised in the urban areas and the scavengers should be given the status of Grade 'C' employees with all facilities including enhancement of scale of pay, etc.

The persons practising untouchability should be severely punished so that others may take a lesson from this. We have to fulfil the dream of the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi to bring these sections of the society on a par with the others.

I also call for implementation of urban and rural land development policy to achieve Gandhi's vision of "land to the tiller". The Government must launch special recruitment drive to fill up about 1,20,000 posts of various categories reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled

Tribes and pass orders to punish the errant officers for not filling these posts on one pretext or the other. It brings a bad name to the Government in its fairness if it fails to implement the policies meant for these weaker sections.

Sufferings of these communities would not come to an end unless and until more and more Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people are appointed in senior and powerful positions such as Governors, High Commissioners, Ambassadors, Commerce Attaches, Supreme Court Judges, Vice-Chancellors of Universities, Chairman and Managing Directors of Central and State Government Undertakings, Members of Public Service Commissions, Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Financial and Banking Organisations, Secretaries, Additional Secretaries, etc. of important Departments.

I would also demand that the colonies meant for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the Government Housing Scheme be constructed along with the houses of other and not outside the villages and towns. It is regrettable that in spite of the commitment of the Government for amelioration of the economic condition of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes there has not been much improvement in their condition even after so many years of obtaining Independence.

The atrocities committed on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with respect to UP and Bihar States are innumerable and really alarming. This is no less true in the case of my home-state of Orissa mainly in Phulbani, Koraput, Kalahandi, Bolangir, Mayurbhanj, Konyhar Gajapati and Ganjam Districts, I wish to particularly highlight the unfortunate plight of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in some of my Assembly segments of Ramgiri, Mohana, Gopalpur and Chhatrapur in particular. They are generally a neglected and deprived lot. Very partisan attitude is meted out to them because of their caste and poverty conditions. Their basic living conditions are sadly lacking. Further, not much encouragement is being provided for their basic livelihood as well, from the Government side.

Further, there is also another class of fishermen on the coastal regions of Ganjam District of Orissa State, predominantly in the Gopalpur and Chhatrapur Assembly segments. These poor and oppressed lot of fishermen, depend on fishing for their livelihood. However, they are being subjected to a lot of hardship by the big industrial houses, who have taken to fishing as a major business activity, using deep-sea trawlers. The helpless fishermen, with their small country boats, are no match *vis-a-vis* the industrial giants (who frequently invade the coastal territorial waters) and are thus under constant oppression for their basic livelihood.

These backward classes and the fishermen are treated as untouchables and are given inhuman treatment. Even now, they are being offended at public places like hotels, schools, shops, rivers, wells, etc. Basic needs like

education, health facilities, jobs, electricity, water supply and other social amenities are not provided to them. They are thus denied equality and social justice. Till date, they are landless, bonded labourers and as a result, their hopes, aspirations, skills and potentialities are dashed to the ground.

The Indian confederation of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples urged the Central Government to ratify the International Labour Organisation Convention of 1957 for the protection of and development of Tribals, semi-Tribals and indigenous peoples.

In a series of resolutions passed at a ICITP meeting in New Delhi on 7th May, 1995 the Confederation urged the Government to remove the contradictions in their stand and recognise the Scheduled Tribes as the indigenous people of the country without further delay.

The meeting was organised to inaugurate the International Decade of Indigenous People for the years 1995-2004.

The Confederation demanded development of a Tribal policy for all the tribals. The Adivasis should be given the right of self-determination in respect of choosing their own system for their political, social, cultural and economic development.

The meeting stressed on the recognition and encouragement of the Adivasi languages and culture. It also demanded Scheduled Tribes status for all Adivasis.

Hence, in conclusion, I would urge upon the Central and State Government to provide adequate protection to the hapless Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from frequent atrocities being committed on them and that a comprehensive national plan also be prepared, covering schemes for upliftment of these weak sections expeditiously.

I commend the spirit of this worthy Resolution moved by my esteemed colleague, Satya Deo Singhji.

Shri Hannan Mollah (Uluberia) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I associate myself with my esteemed colleagues in supporting this important Resolution moved by Shri Satya Deo Singh.

Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is a matter of regular debate in this House and once more we have got the opportunity to discuss it.

Many aspects of this matter have been raised and suggestions also have been proposed. I agree with those suggestions. But I would like to draw the attention of this House to the other side of the coin, which is the basic reason for this problem.

You are aware, Sir, that Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, as we understand by the very word, are the victim of casteism. Casteism is the worst crime against

humanity in this world. Though, we, the Indians, feel pride in saying that we are one of the oldest civilised countries in the world, at the same time, we also feel ashamed that we are carrying on this oldest crime of casteism in our society. Under the cover of religion also, this crime continues. As we have seen, most of the crimes against humanity have been organised in the name of religion because the criminals use religion as a cover to serve their narrow interests, to perpetuate their class rule and class domination, to maintain their domination over the majority of the common people. We can call this casteism as apartheid. We condemned South Africa for practising apartheid but we do not condemn ourselves for practising this kind of apartheid. We are still continuing with casteism which is a crime against humanity and civilisation.

Many people are even proud of talking about casteism and talking about their caste. We are all human beings and we have equal rights in this world. Casteism is against humanity, it is against democracy and it is against civilisation. So, if we do not organise a very strong social movement and mobilise all the people against such backward, feudal and obsolete ideas, the basis of this casteism will remain and the oppression against the poor people will continue.

Sir, who are the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes? Socially, they are looked down upon under the cover of religion and caste and economically they are the most oppressed. Most of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are landless. They are agricultural labourers. They work in brick-kilns and they work as scavengers which the so-called upper caste people will hate to do and which they impose on the weak shoulders of this vast majority of our brethren. So, this is the biggest crime. In spite of our glory in our past history and culture, we still are not in a position to wash off this crime from our society. So, I appeal to the House to rise to the occasion to fight against this crime. As long as this casteism remains, we will shed crocodile tears in every Session, in every meeting, in every street corner and we will make the wives of the Ministers and the bureaucrats to organise some camps for distributing some doles and pose before the television. By doing all this, they will serve their own narrow purpose, keeping the sorrows of these thousands and thousands of peoples of our country. So, I want to fight against the root cause of this evil. First, we should make ourselves conscious that we should fight against social crime and then, we should try to mobilise our people against this social oppression.

Secondly, Sir, these people are economically oppressed. When they have an economic base the oppression will be less. Socially and economically the oppression will be reduced if they have an economic base. But these people have no economic base of their own. So, that issue should also be brought into focus now. For that, I would suggest that land reforms should be taken up. In spite of repeated talk of land reforms since Independence, land reforms are not taken up in most parts of our country.

Without land reforms, we cannot create an asset base for the rural poor, the majority of whom are the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. As long as they do not have an asset base on their own, they will not be able to stand up on their own and they will not be able to see that they are also a part of the society.

Then, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are very much oppressed socially and oppression against their women is very common in this country. The women and children belong to the families of the Scheduled Castes are not treated as human beings. The so-called upper caste people, like grey hounds go into darkness and ill-treat the weakest section of the people in our society, as they have no protection from the law, as they have no protection from the society, as they have no protection from the religion and as they have no protection from many sides. They are always the victims. This is the basic cause which we should take up first. Social reforms against casteism should be the first issue to be taken up by all concerned and by the people with consciousness in this country.

16.00 hrs.

Secondly, we should take up land reforms seriously.

Thirdly, we should provide them education and we should make proper planning to improve their education, culture and status of life so that they feel that they are human beings and they are part of the society and they are equal in all respects.

This is the first step to be taken. Along with that, other steps should be taken up, as my other colleagues have been suggesting. Reservation is one of the issues. We have taken up reservation and it has limited scope. We have provided for reservation in the Constitution. How much of this 50 years of reservation reached SC & ST? A very small strata has been benefited and the vast majority of them are not getting the benefit. Government's political will also is lacking. They always say that they will fill up the vacancies of the SC&CT but you always find that they will not find suitable candidates for those posts. In the garb of non-availability of suitable candidates, many times they will be deprived of getting their posts. We have to do reservation properly, with proper political will. We have to implement that properly, but at the same time we have to remember that only reservation will not solve the problem because for crores of people, for 22 per cent of Indian population, you cannot reserve everything and bring them up. You have to have a holistic approach to this problem and you have to see how they can get land and other economic benefits and can stand on their own feet and how they can become a part of the production system and production process of the country and also how they can get the share of the produce in this country. Then only their assets will be created and then they will be able to stand up. At the same time, we have to organise ourselves. What is necessary is to be organised. Whoever is unorganised,

they are the victims everywhere. If these weaker sections of the people are organised properly, if they, know what are their rights, who is their enemy and who is their friend, if they know what are the tactics of these enemies, if they organise themselves and they go against oppression then oppression will end for ever. For that also, we should play an important role. The Parliament and those who believe in social reform should play an important role and organise themselves and if there are atrocities, they will have to retaliate and also demonstrate that nobody will be spared if they commit atrocities on the weaker sections of our society. If we can make a combined effort, economically, politically and socially, and organisationally then only we will be able to protect the weaker sections of our society.

I hope that we will send a message through this discussion to crores of our brothers and sisters living in wretched conditions on the sea-shore, on the river sides, in the jungles, to all those who are suffering, that they should organise themselves. We will stand by them. It is not a question of mercy. It is our duty, if we do not improve their condition we cannot develop the country as a whole. If we drive them behind, our country itself will go behind. With this approach, we have to participate in the social movement and fight for the right for the SC&ST. Then only the real emancipation of the SC & ST can take place.

Finally Sir, the Scheduled Caste people are actually the working class people. They are the rural proletariat, they are the urban proletariat, they are the poorest people. And if we organise ourselves with that class approach, then only the caste barrier will go. If these poor people unite and if they fight for rights, then only we will be able to emancipate them for ever. So let us organise ourselves, come together and stand by those people and fight against the oppression.

With these words, I support the Resolution and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak.

Mr. Chairman . Now we have to extend the time for this Resolution as the time allotted for this subject is over. Shall we extend it by one more hour?

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I also have a Resolution after this. Only 28 minutes are left for this. If you go on extending time like this how will my Resolution be introduced? I, therefore, request that this should be completed within the time-frame so that I also get time to introduce my resolution which relates to Lok Pal Bill.

[English]

Mr. Chairman : There are so many Members who want to speak.

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : Sir, only 58 minutes were left for it. I shall request you to complete discussion on this resolution within the time allotted to it so that I also get

a chance to introduce my resolution on Lok Pal Bill.

[English]

Mr. Chairman : I am sorry. The time for this Resolution is still there. The balance time left for this discussion was 53 minutes and we started at 3.30 p.m.

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : Yes, Sir, you complete that time. But please do give me a chance to introduce my resolution.

[English]

Mr. Chairman : We will consider it at that stage.

Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya (Jadavpur) : Thank you Sir. I rise to support the Private Members' Resolution raised by hon. Shri Satya Deo Singh. But I have a couple of queries about this Resolution before I start my intervention.

Firstly, in this Resolution, two States have been mentioned in particular in relation to the incidents of killings and atrocities against the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, namely, Bihar and U.P. This gives an impression as if in all the other States of India the situation is much better so far as such incidents are concerned. Now I disagree with this. I think that there are very few States in the country which are exempt from the curse, which are exempt from incidents, very heinous incidents of atrocities against the Scheduled Castes and Tribes. For instance, the incident of the State Police opening fire on tribals at Nagpur did not happen in Bihar or U.P. it happened in Maharashtra. The case of horrendous death, horrendous murder of Shrimati Prakash Kaur, a Scheduled Caste lady from the village of Jatsar in Sriganganagar took place in Rajasthan and not in Bihar, U.P. in this case, we find that on a charge of petty theft by her son, this lady was dragged to the market place by her hair, kerosene was poured into her private part and she was lynched by the mob. Now this incident took place in Rajasthan and in to in Bihar or U.P. Therefore, I think, that by mentioning Bihar and U.P. in particular, we may be under-estimating the intensity of the problem that is there, that exists throughout the country.

The second query that I have is that we have to be very careful in pointing out measures which are to be taken by the Central Government. Now sometimes we find that the Central Government says that this kind of an incident is a State affair, the Centre can only request the State to take adequate measures. But I think that where the Centre can really intervene is by taking measures for prevention of such incidents in accordance with the safeguards that exist in our Constitution.

Therefore there are certain things which the Central Government can do, there are certain things which the Central Government has not done so far for the prevention of such crimes. This is something which I think is not adequately reflected in the language of the Resolution.

So far as the people that we are talking about are concerned, sometimes they are referred to as the weaker sections in our society. However, I think that they are not the weaker sections. They are, in fact, the stronger sections. They are the stronger sections in so far as they are the agricultural producers of our country. They are the artisans, they are the civil workers who keep our habitations clean. The hard physical labour is thrust upon them. The hard physical labour that their whole life consists of does not give an impression of weakness. It is a testimony to their strength.

Secondly, I feel that they are stronger because in the days of colonial rule when the Babus had more or less made a compromise with the British, when they were bending their knees to the British, it is the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, the Saontals, the Mundas, the Paiks and the Chuwars who kept up a steadfast resistance against the British rule because it was connected with the question of their survival.

Thirdly, I feel that they are not weak, but they are strong in so far as their cultural traditions are concerned. These poor people who have hardly one square meal a day in the midst of the hard backbreaking work that they have to do, in spite of that, we find that they have kept alive their cultural traditions. The cultural traditions of our rural community, the cultural traditions in our rural sector come not from educated people, but from the rural poor most of whom belong to the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes, so, culturally also in spite of the neglect that has been meted to them, in spite of the oppression that they have had to go through, they have kept their cultural traditions alive and in that I think they are stronger.

In spite of this, Sir, they are also weak. They are weak in the sense that the power is not in their hands. Politically they are weak. In the traditional feudal society there has been consistent devaluation of the kind of work that they do. Although this work is an absolutely necessary work the agricultural work, the scavenger's work and without these no society can go on. Therefore they have been doing the basic necessary work for our society, yet this work has been adjudged to be low work and again because these people do "low work", they are supposed to be lower as human beings also. It is this division of labour this compartmentalisation of labour which has led to a situation where these people have to work the hardest and at the same time they have the smallest share of our national wealth.

Even when this feudal society is about to break even when capitalism is growing in our country, this feudal oppression against the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes continues, so that even in the land of green revolution today we still find Bandhwa mazdoors most of whom come from the Scheduled Castes.

At the same time, they cannot participate in the development, they are only victims of the development. And

we find that this leads to the collapse of the system in which they have been living from time immemorial. And as the communities break up, we find that they are reduced to an even more helpless position. And oppression is intensified and as soon as they raise their heads against this oppression whenever they try to resist this oppression, such resistance leads to more oppression. So, this is the background against which violence has been increasing : intensification of oppression, resistance to that oppression, and then further oppression, more intensified oppression.

So far as the tribals are concerned, as a result of what we call development, as a result of the model of development under which we exist, we see that they are deprived of the land that they possess. The land that they have been entitled to, the land that they have owned from time immemorial. This has happened in the case of the Narmada Valley project, where tribal village have been submerged, where the tribals have been ousted from their land without being given proper rehabilitation. Wherever there have been development of this kind, tribal people have suffered, tribal people have been evicted from their land, tribal people have faced extinction. This is not to say that we are against development, but it is only to say that the model of development that we are following excludes and marginalises a large number of our people, a large section of our people, the poorest of our people.

Similarly, we find in some of the States such as Orissa and Tamilnadu that because of prawn farms, large prawn farms, which are run by large companies sometimes by multinationals the agricultural land is being converted into salty deserts. This is what has happened in Sirka district on the Cauvery delta, where thirty thousand families belonging to backward castes and Scheduled Castes are now facing eviction or extinction. The Gandhian leader, Shri S. Jagannathan has been fighting for their cause. And what has been the response of the State ? The State first of all arrests him. And then when he is released, he goes on an indefinite fast and no measures for the protection of these people, for whom he is fighting, are taken by the State. So, this is the role that State is adopting.

Sir, as I was saying, it is we have to understand the background against which violence against Scheduled Castes and violence against tribals are taking place. In the present situation at the end of the 20th century, we are about to enter the 21st century, at this stage, when we find that oppression against tribals and Scheduled Castes is increasing, this is something which really becomes a matter of concern. At the same time, because of the persistence of obscurantism, because these people have not been allowed to develop, because they have been kept backward, within the community also, there are certain incidents like witch-hunting, which are going on and particularly women are victims of this we find that the old society is not changing in a healthy way.

The old society is not changing in a way which can

benefit these communities. This is increasing the problem.

I will now come to the point which I had made at the beginning. What measures can be taken for the prevention of such incidents? This is my last point.

Of course, there are certain constitutional safeguards. But we find that these constitutional safeguards are now respected more in their violation than in their observance. About reservation, my friend Shri Hannan Mollah has already spoken. Of course, reservation had done some good. But it is not enough and at the same time it is not able to benefit the poorest, and the people who are in the most need of such help from the society. Even there is a growth of vested interests. One tribal among a thousand getting benefits gets separated from the community. Therefore, these provisions for reservation must be properly maintained and it should not become an area for vested interest to grow. It should not be an area for corruption and evasion.

As I was saying, in the name of development many of these communities are being devastated. For this also, there has to be legal protection. There must be no ousting of tribals or Scheduled Caste people from the place which they have inhabited for generation.

Again we find within our education, within our culture there is a certain element of homogenisation.

Mr. Chairman : Please conclude.

Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya : Sir, I am finishing.

The tribal does not want to go to school. He or she drops out. Why? This is because in the school, there is no provision for learning with the mother tongue as the medium. This is why we find that the cultural values, the cultural life and the language of the tribals are being neglected and there is a tendency towards enforced homogenisation which I think is aggravating the problem. If necessary, for the promotion of language, culture and social life, autonomous district councils or autonomous hill councils will have to be set up. Along with this, there will have to be a revision of the Central Land Act and the benefits of the Panchayat system should reach all these sections. Where the Panchayat system is really in operation, we find that the problems of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes becomes less to that extent. In West Bengal we have found this from our experiences.

So, Sir, there is a certain coincidence between economic deprivation and the caste oppression. Generally, the so-called lower caste people are also poor and the poor in general, are not allowed any dignity in the society. It is they who are most subjected to violence. Therefore, only with more even distribution of social benefits, this human dignity can be brought to them. This is where the Central Government can intervene if it is interested in equality and social justice.

Mr. Chairman : Now, the time allotted has expired there are four or five hon. Members who would like to

speak Then there will be reply also.

...(Interruptions)...

Mr. Chairman : So I will put it to the House the motion that the time for this Resolution be extended by one hour.

...(Interruptions)...

Mr. Chairman : The time allotted for this topic is over But there are some more hon. Members who wish to participate in the debate.

So, is it the pleasure of the House to extend the time by one hour more so that they can speak and the hon. Minister too can give the reply?

Several Hon. Members : Yes, Sir. You may extend the time by one more hour.

Mr. Chairman : So, the time is extended by one more hour.

...(Interruptions)...

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava (Jaipur) : Sir, only 57 minutes were left for this resolution and the time is over now. The mover of this resolution Shri Satyadeo Singh is not present and the Minister may reply it and thereafter, we can take up further discussion on the next resolution for which 28 minutes were left and on which discussion was not completed. Thereafter, I may be given a chance to introduce my resolution which relates to Lok Pal Bill. ...(Interruptions) You cannot extend time like this for this resolution

[English]

Mr. Chairman : The House has already extended the time. You cannot raise objections in this manner. Shri Balayogi may please speak now.

...(Interruptions)...

Mr. Chairman : Order please. Please don't argue among yourselves. I have already called Shri Balayogi and he is on his legs. I request the hon. Members to take their seats.

16.27 hrs.

Shri G.M.C. Balayogi (Amalapuram) : Mr. Chairman Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in this important discussion. I would like to speak in my mother tongue Telugu. ...(Interruptions)

Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar (Mangalore) : Sir, I am on a point of order. There is no quorum in the House.

16.28 hrs.

Mr. Chairman : The bell is being rung...

Mr. Chairman : Now, there is a quorum in the House. Shri Balayogi, you may continue your speech.

16.30 hrs.

(Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya in the Chair)

...(Interruptions)...

***Shri G.M.C. Balayogi :** Mr Chairman Sir, thank you very much for giving the opportunity to speak on the Resolution. I will speak in my mother tongue Telugu.

It is really unfortunate that even after 47 years of our Independence, the atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are continuing unabated. If these atrocities are allowed to continue for some more time, it will affect the integrity and the very survival of the country. It will adversely affect our economic progress. The Society, in fact, should feel concerned about the atrocities which are being perpetrated on the people who constitute 27% of it. If the problem is confined to only a handful section of the society, they are wrong. The society and the Government should take it as a major problem confronting the nation. It should be treated as a major social evil and necessary action taken to wipe it off as early as possible. Similarly, the Government should initiate stringent measures so that the atrocities on SCs and STs come to an end.

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : Mr Chairman, what decision have been taken about my resolution on Lokpal. There are 57 minutes more for this resolution and 27 minutes for other resolution. You can call me to introduce Lok Pal resolution at quarter of six and we can continue discussion during the next session.

[English]

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri (Garhwal) : Madam, it is a reasonable request. What the hon. Member wants to submit is, since the second extension is going on and when the time finishes, the hon. Member should be allowed to move the Resolution. You can go up to quarter to six, he does not have any objection to that. But after that he should be given 15 minutes time to move the Resolution.

Mr. Chairman : The time has been extended with the consent of the House.

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri : The hon. Member is objecting to the unlimited extension of time.

Mr. Chairman : There is no unlimited extension of time.

...(Interruptions)...

[Translation]

Shri Dau Dayal Joshi (Kota) : Mr. Chairman, the Government is charged for corruption. If the resolution on Lok Pal is not allowed to be moved it will be an injustice to

the people of the country ...(Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman : You please sit down

[English]

It has already been agreed by the House that the time for the Resolution that is going on now would be extended by one hour. After that also the Resolution to be moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava does not come in the List of Business. After this, there is a further discussion on another Resolution which has been moved by Shri Sudarshan Raychowdhury

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : Mr. Chairman if time for other resolution is also extended like this the Lok Pal resolution will not be moved ...(Interruptions)... Sir you tell me what will you do with Lok Pal resolution Will I get a chance to introduce it? You may extend the time but I must get leave to introduce my resolution at 5.45 p.m.

[English]

Mr. Chairman : We have to abide by the Rules, we have to abide by the consensus of the House

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : Discussion has already taken place for the time allotted for this resolution and according to rules the discussion should conclude now

[English]

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Mukul Wasnik) : Madam, this question by the Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava would arise only when this item on the agenda comes before the House ...(Interruptions)

As and when we dispose of the business which the House is conducting ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

It is not that this subject is more important or other subject is more important

[English]

Unless we dispose of the matters which are before us and which are listed in the List of Business, the next question would not arise. I do not think, till such time, the hon. Member should get agitated without any reason. There is nothing that ...(Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman : Please sit down

...(Interruptions)...

Mr. Chairman : I will just make one request to the speakers that they should limit their speeches as far as possible and make their pointed comments.

Shri G.M.C. Balayogi : Okay, Madam, but we do not want this kind of interruptions ...(Interruptions)

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khenduri : Madam, out of the time allotted for item No. 2 only 28 minutes are left. Thereafter it is possible that item No. 3 comes before the House. We just want a confirmation of that

Mr. Chairman : Yes certainly

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : What will happen then? How did you extend its time by one hour? How could it be completed in 28 minutes? (Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Chairman : Please let the discussion go on

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : Government does not want to allow the leave to introduce Lok Pal resolution today. I shall move the Lok Pal resolution at 6 p.m. today...(Interruptions)...

[English]

Mr. Chairman : Bhargava Ji, you will get your chance when the time comes

...(Interruptions)..

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : The time has come. Why have you extended the time? After completing 28 minutes ...(Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Chairman : Please sit down. I have explained every thing to you ...(Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman : Please sit down

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : Last time my Lok Pal resolution was listed as item No. 2 but this time it has been listed as No. 3 ...(Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Chairman : You have already heard that you will get a chance as soon as your agenda comes. You please wait till then

...(Interruptions)...

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : When will by agenda come?

Shri Dau Dayal Joshi : It will never come ...(Interruptions)

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : I will move here Lok Pal resolution at 5.45 p.m. You first decide. Will the Lok Pal Bill not be allowed to be introduced? You do justice. You are on the Chair and I want justice from the Chair. Mr. Chairman do justice to me ...**(Interruptions)**

[English]

***Shri G.M.C. Balayogi** : In this connection, let me remind what the Father of the Nation and founding father of our constitution like Dr. Ambedkar had said and done about these hapless sections. ...**(Interruptions)**

What is this, madam...**(Interruptions)**

Mr. Chairman : We have already lost 15 minutes. If we had not lost these 15 minutes there might be a chance for you for raising your issue. Please sit down.

...**(Interruptions)**...

Shri Sudarshan Raychaudhuri (Serampore) : These 15 minutes which have been lost must be given to this Resolution ...**(Interruptions)**

Mr. Chairman : Yes, what is your point of order?

...**(Interruptions)**...

[Translation]

Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav (Jhanjhar Pur) : When the House has given leave why are you insisting. The House will proceed with the consent of all. The House can be extended for one hour. ...**(Interruptions)**

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : My resolution has also been balloted. Madam...**(Interruptions)**

[English]

Shri Sudarshan Raychaudhuri : Madam, Chairperson, for half an hour we are being subjected to this sort of a thing. The House has extended the time for this Resolution for an hour more. Since twenty minutes to half an hour time has been lost, I request you to compensate that time for this Resolution...**(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat : Whether Government is deliberately avoiding introduction of Lok Pal resolution...**(Interruption)**

[English]

Mr. Chairman : I am not allowing this discussion. Nothing is going on record.

...**(Interruptions)****...

Mr. Chairman : Please sit down. I am on my legs. Mr. Bhargava, will you please listen to me?

...**(Interruptions)**...

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : Madam, Chairperson, it is my right. You decide I am allowed to move my resolution at 5.45 p.m. Government is avoiding this Lok Pal resolution.

[English]

Shri Mukul Wasnik : Madam, Chairperson, I take strong exception to what Mr. Bhargava is saying. He wants that he must go on record in order to say that the Government is trying to prevent a discussion in this House. **(Interruptions)** He will have to listen to us. This type of behaviour should not go on like this. He is trying to show as if the Government is trying to prevent a discussion. This is not true.

Mr. Chairman : Mr. Wasnik, please sit down.

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : My resolution was listed at No. 1 in the agenda which has now being shifted to No. 3.

[English]

Mr. Chairman : If the Members so desire, then the total time for a particular discussion can be extended. Time for such discussion had been extended in the past. This decision had been taken by the House.

Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat : May I request you one thing? After the completion of one hour, discussion on this Resolution should also be taken up.

Mr. Chairman : After one hour, if this item which is there in the Agenda comes, then you will get a chance and not before that.

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : I definitely charge you. It is my turn to speak but Government wants to avoid this resolution and if it is not so then it should be taken up at the allotted time.

Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat : Madam Chairperson, I have a point of order. When the time allotted by the B.A.C. or by the Committee on Private Member Bill and Resolution for discussion on these resolutions has completed, there should be no difficulty in taking up the next item. I would request you to allow the hon. Member to introduce the resolution listed as item No. 3. The time for the present resolution should not be extended. I want your ruling.

[English]

Mr. Chairman : I have asked everyone to speak as briefly as possible. That is what I have done.

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Telugu.

** Not recorded

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : You have extended one hour and 20 minutes have gone waste. We could have taken up other resolution. The Lok Pal resolution will not be allowed to be moved. You give your ruling.

Shri Virendra Singh (Mirzapur) : Madam Chairperson, you please give the ruling that even after extending the time for this resolution the Lok Pal resolution will also be taken up

[English]

Mr. Chairman : Twenty-eight minutes have been lost in this uproar Do you understand that?

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : It has taken one hour and 28 minutes have been wasted Will you extend the time again? I fear, the clock may struck six and my resolution may not be introduced...(Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Chairman : Mr. Bhargava, this is very unbecoming of you What is that? Please sit down

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : Madam, I am sitting as ordered by you. You are on your legs go I am sitting I respect the Chair but injustice is being done to me ...(Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Chairman : Please sit down We cannot break the existing rules and regulations

...(Interruptions)...

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : Madam, your ruling has done injustice to me. I am not being allowed to introduce my Lok Pal resolution. I have tried my best and my submission has not moved the Chair...(Interruptions)

Shri Rajveer Singh : This has proved that Government is opposed to the Introduction of Lok Pal Bill...(Interruptions)

Prof. Rana Singh Rawat : They want to protect corruptions and avoid introduction of Lok Pal Bill ...(Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Chairman : There are certain Parliamentary procedures according to which we have to go. Please understand that.

...(Interruptions)...

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : Madam, you have not accepted my submission. I have not been given time This has hurt me. The members belonging to other party who are sitting here have joined the ruling party and I in protest walk out of this House.

16.46 hrs.

(At this stage Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava left the house)

...(Interruptions)...

Shri Rajveer Singh : This has proved that you are also involved in corruption along with the ruling party.

[English]

Mr. Chairman : You are all senior Members. What are you doing? Please sit down

...(Interruptions)...

Mr. Chairman : Please do not disturb the House.

...(Interruptions)...

[Translation]

Shri Rajveer Singh : Such type of remarks from our friends are not fair...(Interruptions)

[English]

Shri Mukul Wasnik : Madam, I am on a point of order

Mr. Chairman : Yes, what is your point of order, please.

Shri Mukul Wasnik : Madam, I would just like to know whether these type of discussions will be allowed in the House. Madam, reckless allegations, reckless charges, irresponsible statements at this juncture are being made, they should not form part of the record.

...(Interruptions)...

[Translation]

Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar (Bareilly) : You are talking irrelevant. If you want you can permit introduction of Lok Pal Bill...(Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Chairman : Please sit down I will not allow any more of this

...(Interruptions)...

Mr. Chairman : I am not allowing. Mr. Yadav, please sit down. I do not want to listen to it any more

...(Interruptions)...

[Translation]

Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav : Very unpleasant and

baseless remarks are being made. We are discussing a very important subject which pertains to Harijans and Adivasis. This shows their mentality. They do not want to discuss the atrocities being committed on SC and ST...(Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Chairman : I am not allowing.

...(Interruptions)...

Mr. Chairman : I am not listening to this any more. Enough has been said. Yes, Mr. Balyogi, please carry on.

*Shri G.M.C. Balayogi : Madam Chairperson, one reason why the atrocities continue to be perpetrated on SCs and STs even to this day, is the failure of the Government to implement the directives provided in the Constitution for the upliftment and around development of these Sections of our society. In this connection, let me remind what the Father of Nation and founding father of our Constitution Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar had said and did about these hapless sections. They were of the view that if the economic, cultural, religious, social inequalities persist, then it will affect our integrity and social and economic development. Hence the policies and programmes should be such as to help these sections to come up on par with the rest of the society. The policy of the Government should be to remove the inequalities in whatever form, wherever they exist. As long as the inequalities exist, the atrocities continue to take place. The Government should also take stringent action against the persons who indulge in such crime. It should not hesitate to take action against such persons even if they happen to be political personalities, officials etc. It should also evolve a foolproof method to see that this social evil is wiped out completely.

Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar has provided Reservation facility for these sections in our Constitution. Yet, the Reservation Policy is not being implemented in letter and spirit. I feel sorry for it. This policy of Reservation is confined only to the recruitment of Class IV employees like peons and attendants. Reservation for I, II and III categories of posts is being totally neglected. Hence, I request the Government that the Reservation policy should be implemented in the recruitment to all categories of posts in letter and spirit.

The Atrocities on SCs and STs can come down only when these Sections advance politically, socially and economically. One sure way for the emancipation of these sections is to provide more jobs to them. More job opportunities should be created for the SCs and STs people.

Implementing land reforms is the most significant and important step the Government should take if at all they are really concerned about the well being of these people. If

Land Reforms are implemented in letter and spirit, the atrocities on SCs and STs will come down sharply. The economic condition of these people will also improve significantly. There will be a total transformation in the lives of these sections. Hence the Central and State Governments should take all necessary steps at once for the speedy implementation of Land Reforms. These sections will become independent economically. Once they are economically independent, the atrocities will come down automatically.

The Central Government and also the State Governments should allocate sufficient funds for the speedy and around development of SCs and STs There are several schemes which are now being implemented by the Central and State Governments for the economic prosperity of SCs and STs. But due to paucity of funds, these schemes are not being implemented successfully. The fruits of development are not reaching the intended beneficiaries. Hence, sufficient funds should be released by the State and Central Governments for the speedy and effective implementation of various schemes. It helps in enhancing the status of SCs and STs both economically and socially. The atrocities on SCs and STs will definitely come down.

There should be Committees consisting of the People's Representatives like MLAs, MPs and non-political and officials figures like District Magistrate, Police Superintendent etc. at the District level to monitor the situation and taking steps to control the atrocities. The formation of such Committees can go a long way in not only controlling the atrocities but also punishing the guilty. Stringent punishment should be meted out to the persons who are responsible for such heinous crimes. There should be Committees to review the situation from time to time.

The illiteracy is rampant among the SCs and STs. If we succeed in making them literate, they will come to know about their rights and fight against injustice. They will be in a better position to benefit from the help and assistance extended by the Government. They will be in a better position to advance economically. The illiteracy is almost more than 60%. Unless the illiteracy is wiped out among these sections, they cannot become independent economically. Hence, the Government should take all the necessary steps to provide education to SCs and STs. Sufficient funds should be allocated for the removal of illiteracy among these Sections. More Residential Schools and colleges should be opened for the SCs and STs boys and girls. Literacy can contribute significantly for bringing down atrocities on SCs and STs.

Certain State Government and Departments are now misusing the funds released by the Central Government for the upliftment of SCs and STs. The funds which are meant for the development of SCs and STs are being diverted for other purposes. It is one of the reasons why, in spite of many schemes and programmes for their upliftments, majority of the SCs and STs are still languishing well below

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Telugu.

poverty line even today. The Central Government should issue effective guidelines to the State Governments and also all the Departments not divert the funds allocated for the welfare of SCs and STs. The Government should take stringent action against those who violate these guidelines. The Government should also constantly monitor the progress made in the implementation of various welfare measures. Needless to say that the atrocities will also reduce considerably.

Various Government Departments are not implementing the Reservation Policy in recruitment and promotion in letter and spirit. Thus the job opportunities to the SCs and STs candidates are dwindling day-by-day. SC and ST candidates are being deprived of their right to reservation facility guaranteed in the Constitution. According to the recent Census, nearly 70% of the SCs and STs population is below the poverty line. I request the Government to take all necessary steps to implement the reservation policy strictly and see that justice is done to the SCs and STs.

In the name of economic liberalisation, all the Government Undertakings are gradually being handed over to the private sector. The Reservation policy, as of now, is not applicable to the private sector. Thus, the SCs and STs who could have got jobs in Government Undertakings under the Reservation Quota are being deprived of this benefit by the Private Sector. Private Sector is least interested in adopting the Reservation Policy. Thus, the facility of Reservation guaranteed under the Constitution is being mercilessly snatched away making these already vulnerable sections more vulnerable. Hence, the Government should at once take steps to extend reservation policy to the Private Sector as well, as guaranteed under the Constitution. By guaranteeing the required quota in the Private Sector, the Government can save these hapless sections of the society from economic inequality.

There are many cases regarding job reservations, pending before various Courts of the Country. Some officials are hand in glove with the vested interests to see that the reservation policy is not implemented. The officials who overtly or covertly help those who fight against reservation policy, should be identified and punished forthwith. If the guilty are punished, there will not be any difficulty in implementation of the reservation policy. More employment means more economic advancement and less of atrocities. There are several organisations both governmental and non-governmental, which are working for the welfare and progress of the SC and ST sections. But, unfortunately, all these organisations are starving of funds. I request the government to provide enough funds to these organisations, so that they can carry on more meaningful and fruitful work in this field.

Women belonging to SCs and STs are much more vulnerable to the atrocities than the rest of the society. One can find several registered cases of atrocities on men and

women belonging to SC/ST in several police stations across the country. These are the incidents which can make one hand his head in shame. The society should feel concerned about the treatment meted out to SCs and STs. The Government should enact a law which is more stringent than TADA, to severely punishing those who commit the unpardonable crime of perpetrating the atrocities on their hapless and innocent SC/ST brethren. A stringent law to control and prevent atrocities on SC/ST is the need of the hour. It will act as a deterrent.

The nation's progress is dependent on the peace of co-existence of all the sections of our society. A society which is free from incidents such as atrocities on SCs/STs can only progress. There will not be any danger to its integrity. Then only the dreams of great leaders like Gandhiji and Ambedkar can come true. I hope and trust that the Government will take all the necessary steps for bringing down atrocities on SCs/STs and also for the speedy allround development of these Sections.

I congratulate the mover of this Resolution for providing an opportunity to the Hon. House to discuss such an important issue.

I once again thank you, Madam for the opportunity that has been extended to me to participate in this discussion.

[Translation]

Shri Kamla Mishra Madhukar (Motihari) : Madam Chairperson, the mover of the resolution which is under discussions appears to be very anxious. In his anxiety to highlight the atrocities being committed on SC and ST and women particularly in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, show that he is unconcerned about what is happening in the entire country...(Interruptions) I am stating the truth.

Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat : It is good you are admitting the truth.

Shri Kamal Mishra Madhukar : This is not the truth. Leaving what happened in Bihar earlier...since the movement of social justice started in Bihar...(Interruptions)

Shri Virendra Singh : I object the statement of the Hon. Member. He has alleged that the resolution has been brought only to highlight the atrocities being committed in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar...(Interruptions)

Shri Kamla Mishra Madhukar : You have mentioned specially the names of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh...(Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman : This is not proper. You will get a chance to put forth your view point.

Shri Virendra Singh : In Uttar Pradesh, Indian Communist parties...(Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Chairman : Please sit down This is not the procedure Please address the chair

...(Interruptions)...

[Translation]

Shri Kamla Mishra Madhukar : The hon Member's anxiety has made me also anxious My submission is that there have been clashes in Bihar over the recent 'Jagaran' among agriculture labour farmers and on reservation issue In the recent elections in Bihar, the feudal lords had gird up their lion for throwing Laloo out of power but the SC/ST women, men foiled their designs The media people also did not leave any chance but they also had to eat a humble pie How can we believe the media who had predicated defeat of Laloo Prasad and emergence of hung State Assembly? But all their predications proved otherwise That is why I said that the situation there about atrocities is not so bad as is made act

I support the points made by Malini Bhattacharya because the atrocities on SC and ST are committed since our society is caste based

17.00 hrs

Madam, the glorious history of India is a witness to the fact that ours is class and caste based primitive society the elite class named those people as 'Shudras' who used to work in fields and were engaged in production jobs They were allowed to remain illiterate, they were made low caste citizens You should know that in olden times, the blacksmith who used to live in villages made agriculture implements for the farmer He was designated as 'Luhar' (blacksmith) and was made a low caste person One who used to spin the cotton was categorised as 'Dhuniya' Similarly a person who was given the job of shaving and hair cutting was named 'Hajjam' (barber) and was treated as low caste Thus, handful caste Hindus created this caste system by making all these majority people low caste people under the religious based 'Varnashrama'

Madam, this class struggle was lauded by the great leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Dr Ambedkar, Dr Phule and others whose names have been mentioned here The communists took up this fight from the very beginning I can say with pride that in Bihar, Kerala and West Bengal such atrocities on a particular community are reported only in news paper cases of rape and molestation of women are reported by the press Nevertheless, it is also a reality, it is an aspect of the society It has to be gone into in depth Making only laws will not help We already have several laws with us I come from the village I have seen holding 'Pooja' ceremonies of Lord Satyanarayan People listen to the story, take 'Charanamrita' and go back to their houses but next day every thing is normal They get engaged in their respective jobs We do not need such sermons We need to take steps for the amelioration of economic

conditions, restoration of economic rights of SC and ST people

Madam, the Central Government had announced land reforms May I know in which states these land reform laws have been implemented? Very few States have implemented them Even there also, the landlords have been able to corner their land taking advantage of loopholes in the law and the actual tillers have not been distributed the surplus land I can say with pride that the leftist movement whether it is in Bihar or elsewhere is aimed at struggling for rooting out the very foundation of this class exploitation We are not going to sit back till we succeed in our mission We want the dream of egalitarian society realised The land ceiling laws should be effectively implemented and the surplus land should be distributed among landless labourers, Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes in an appropriate manner The minimum wages act is also there The inspectors visit the homes of landlords to see whether the agricultural labour is getting fair wages The judgements on litigations about land disputes generally go in favour of landlords This is the result of the attitude of present administration People representing feudalism are managing administration from bottom to top They are not interested in improving the lot of exploited class The Congress party has not sincerely emancipated the poor class So, my submission is that Government must ensure effective land reforms The minimum wage laws should also be implemented strictly The Hon Minister is sitting here He should say from the core of his heart that Government will implement these laws

There is also need for imparting education to backward classes who have so far remained illiterate We will have to create conditions where under the wards or agricultural labour would be able to attend schools because in the present dispensation these children irrespective of their age, whether they are 10 years old or 15 years old, they have to work in the field because they have nothing to eat Their parents have no work Then, how can we expect them to go to schools and receive education? We will have to provide employment to the parents throughout the year if the children are to be imparted education Food will also have to be provided to them The Union Government have framed some laws in this regard but the States do not implement them Shri Laloo Prasad has said that his Government would pay Re 1 per day to the agricultural labourers if they send their children to schools The reservation laws will have to be made comprehensive Steps should be taken to implement the reservation provisions meant for various categories, classes and castes of the society in most effective manner I do not say that Government should deprive the States of their powers and take them over The States need greater autonomy This should also be looked into

There is also the cultural aspect of the society The foreign films are being shown here with great enthusiasm which do not inculcate the sense of social justice in our youth. He is so impressed by the glitter of foreign films that

he does not consider sex scenes objectionable. There is need for all round development. In order to mitigate the sufferings of human beings, we will have to look into their economic, administrative, educational, cultural and other aspects. The women should be co-partners in the power that may be. This is a class struggle and it will have to be invigorated, intensified. Therefore, I would appeal to this House that if they are sincere that atrocities are not committed on the oppressed and suppressed class, on women, then all of us should rise above party lines and work for the eradication of these evils.

The mover of the resolution should not point his finger only to Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. He should look to Rajasthan and other States also. This is a national problem and you must view it in the national perspective. It is necessary to ensure minimum needs of bread, cloth and a house to the oppressed class of the society. This is necessary for their upliftment.

The Indra Housing Scheme was launched. May know how many people have been benefited under this scheme? More funds should be allocated for this project. This will provide houses to the poor. The hon. Minister should look into this aspect in this year of elections. I support the broad provisions made in the Resolution but discount what has been said about Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. The resolution to be brought must have a national perspective. Only then will it receive the support of the House.

Dr. Satynarayan Jatiya (Ujjain) : Madam Chairperson, we are discussing this resolution threadbare and we can only discuss it, consider it but implementation aspect lies with the Government. Committing atrocities on the weak is an old tradition. The story and tragedy of exploited, suppressed and down trodden is very old. We talk of progress and prosperity but at the same time, concoct stories of injustice, atrocities and exploitation. What contribution are you making in the name of mankind and humanism? It appears that we have not been able to develop the mental attitude which is necessary for the development of the country. We have constitutional provisions. We have rules and regulations. Still atrocities on scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and women are continuing. When atrocities are committed on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled tribes, the caste aspect is seen in it. The element of untouchability and the feeling of low and high caste are also contributing factors. We have not been able to check this despite several legislations and provisions enshrined in the constitution. Our weakness lies in the non-implementation of these legal provisions. If a Government fails to enforce these provisions, it does injustice to the people of this country who are entitled to be free citizens of this country. I have no right to continue in power.

The loan system also encourages atrocities. These families encounter such difficulties because of financial weakness. Land disputes are also responsible. Drinking water disputes are also responsible for this. The Scheduled

Castes and Scheduled tribes and the upper castes cannot have potable water from the same handpump in rural areas even after so many years of independence. Their hermitages are located well beyond the main village in unfertile land and at places where other living facilities are available. If by chance any calamity visits them, nobody comes forward to help them. This sort of attitude continues even today and their conditions remain unchanged. So, all these aspects need special consideration.

In villages and towns, there are tea stalls and restaurants where the customers are allowed entry only with caste labels...**(Interruptions)**. The scavenger in the villages with the population below 10,000 is given separate cup or tumbler for tea and he is required to wash it himself. He is offered tea now, this is the progress we have achieved. He is not allowed to touch the practice of untouchability still continues

Shri Kamla Mishra Madhukar : This is a running commentary.

Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya : When these people organise festivals, celebrate Ravi Dass Jayanti, Kabir Jayanti in a grand way, the high caste people feel jealous. If some ceremony has to be done at a pious ghat, they get perturbed. This is going on even after so many years of independence. This shows that we have done nothing to create an unbiased attitude in a free country. These people are also not allowed to enter the cremation ground for conducting funeral rites. All these things have to be looked into.

As regards atrocities on women, we concede that she is weak and she has to suffer inequality in the society. She is exploited, she is oppressed and she is not allowed to live under equal conditions. Her presence is not considered auspicious on the occasion of marriage. This type of attitude towards woman will have to be changed, and she will have to be given proper place, dignity in the society. Economically also she is dependent on the head of the family. We must consider all these points relating to emancipation of women.

We have enacted several laws. Recently, one incident of murder of a harijan in Dapoti village was reported. A harijan woman is the Chairperson of the District Council the local Collector has not developed any power on this woman and if she exercises some authority, the outcome is otherwise. It is not relished. What mechanism has been evolved for dealing with cases of misuse of official authority? In another case of Rajgarh district, a woman was tied to the pole and all types of exercises were committed on her. This shows that liberty is being misused as a licence. Therefore I say :-

Kaise Hain We log?

Jinane Kal Ke Pravah Mein

Dhakele diya jinkoh,

bahjane dubane are mar Jane Ko.

Are : Kasteyan,

Jiski usne banayee,

Manjhi bankar

Patwar chalayee

Basteyan jalaker

Chillah rahe hein

Bachao! bachao!

We cannot protect them by shouting in this way.

Begar mein

Jinse nirman Karaye

Cheni hathora Paseena bahaein

Pathar tarashae aaker payein

Dhakekar bahar

Chilla rahien hein

Bachao! bachao!

Whom do you want to save? We do not talk of those whom we want to protect. This shows that we are not human beings, we have become stones, have hardened like a stone. Even stones are better.

Pathar se

Patharaon ka

Rishta Koi hota nahien hai

Patharon ke dard par

Pathar Koi rota nahein hai.

Pathar se

Patharaon ka

Hota nahein Koi vasta,

Patharaon ne

Kab bataya

Patharaon ko rasta.

Tab bhi

Patharaon ke raj ko

Janta hai pathar.

Aur

Pathar Ko Pathar Manta hai

Pathar.

Isliye

Patharaon Se bane cement se

Jurkar Pathar ho jata hai pathar,

Yah adami he hai ki

Adamiyat se jurta nahien hai

Pathar se adhik pathreela

Ho gaya hai adami.

It appears that the man has become more hard than the hardness of stone. We are unable to tie humanity with softness, gentleness and old values. The culprits are not being awarded punishment as provided in the constitution and when we talk of humanity...

Manav-manavta mein bhed nahien

Karm dharm mahan hai,

Samajik Samta manushya ka

Janamsidh adhikar hai

So, when we achieve social equality, social justice it will be a dishonesty to talk of liberty.

Pratibandh lage hoin jeene par

Samta ka adhikar nahien,

Usko jeena bhi kya jeena

Jisko Manave adhikar nahien

Shoshan mukt Samaj rachne ko

Pratibandh hamain sweekar nahien,

Manushys vibhed ko vivash kanein

Aise bandhan sweeker nahien

Asprash, dakt, shoshit, akirchan

Swatantrate ki yah arth nahien,

Vyakti-vyakti samndh na ho to

Gantantra ka koi arth nahien

Nyaya-Swatantrata-Samata-bandhuta

Sabko samanta ka adhikar,

Isse kam mein Samjhota Kaisa,

Swarg-Moksha Se bhi Inkar.

This feeling is needed for the service of humanity. Only then can we change the man to accept social equality, without social equality we have no right to be called a free nation. It is the duty of all of us to provide protection to Schedule Caste, Schedule Tribe, women and children. We will have the right to be called a free nation only when we

provide protection to them and honour them. Therefore, in the prevailing situation this Resolution is very vital and the House should adopt it a unanimously

With these words I conclude

Shri Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri (Shimla) Madam Chairperson, I am happy that Sh Satyadeo Singh has brought this resolution which has been discussed in great details. We have got the opportunity to highlight the excesses being committed on SC/ST, women in the country. Bihar and U.P. have been mentioned here. My constituency is also a hill area. Some movement has been started in hill areas of U.P. The Governments of U.P. committed atrocities on SCs/STs. As a result, these classes went against the Government. They have found a leadership who aims at creating a society based on caste. Some of such leaders are the Honourable Members of this House. I think, had the mover of this resolution any love for SCs/STs, the harijans have not revolted. The excesses committed there on hill people were enquired into by CBI. A heinous crime was committed there. The modesty of women was outraged.

Our Government intervened and ordered a CBI enquiry which has submitted a report. A protest was also organised in the court and the Judges were manhandled. A contempt of court was committed. All these incidents have taken place not only in Uttar Pradesh but in other parts of the country also. As has been said here by several other Members...(Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. Chairman : We have exhausted the extra one hour allotted to this Resolution. There are six more Members to speak. If the House agrees we can extend the time for another one hour. Is it the sense of the House to extend the time for this Resolution by another hour?

Several Hon. Members . Yes

[Translation]

Shri Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri : I was talking of U.P. and the entire country. Atrocities are committed on harijan women all over the country. In Delhi also, press reports indicate that excesses are committed on harijan girls. They are kidnapped, they are not allowed to marry the boys of their choice. A mention of Ganga Nagar has been made just now. In Rajasthan women are burnt alive. They are forced to commit Sati. Karnataka is also not far behind in such cases. There is a temple in Alwar where women folk are sacrificed. The physiology of women is very delicate. They become the victims of goonda element, of rapists easily. These people are bent upon destroying the country, we must take stringent measures to end such acts.

There are sufficient legal remedies for the protection of harijans. The law provides that in all cases of atrocities on harijans FIR will be registered and the offence shall be treated as non-bailable. But the fact is FIR is never lodged.

The poor harijan is afraid of visiting the Police Station. They are not sure that they will get justice there. The Panchayat Act also provides for women participation in Panchayats but they have not been given adequate powers. This has also to be looked into. The S.H.Os have their own law in Police Stations and the FIR is not registered. This is true in respect of U.P. Bihar, Rajasthan, M.P. and almost all the states. The central Government is blamed for these actions but there are legal provisions which check all these things. It is not possible for a Chief Minister to visit all the places and get the legal provisions enforced. It is the administrative machinery only which can bring peace. The Courts are there to punish the guilty and they award punishment to the culprits. It is not proper to blame the Government for all these.

Many things have been said about Uttar Pradesh but it was the responsibility of the Government, the BJP Government. During their rule atrocities were committed on harijans which forced them to come together and fight the administration. I think the same trend is going on everywhere. In Himachal Pradesh the former Government did not complete the reservation quota. In the matter of recruitment of teachers, they appointed their own people and ignored SC/ST women. Now the present Government is rectifying these irregularities but it will take some time to streamline things.

The criminals involved in committing atrocities on SC/ST women should be dealt with ruthlessly and such type of atrocities should be stopped. In this effort, the women should be given equal participation at all the levels whether it is the factories or agriculture or any other field. The backlog in reservations must be completed. It has to be seen as to what extent action has been taken on the recommendations contained on the reports of Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of SCs and STs. Reservation exists for Lok Sabha Seats but this Provision is not implemented in respect of Rajya Sabha Seats. I request such a Provision should be made. Recently 6 seats in Rajya Sabha have been added for Jammu and Kashmir but none has been reserved for SCs/STs. We cannot hope of all round development of the country till the people belonging to SC/ST are uplifted. I am glad that the incidents of untouchability is not there now.

It is a fact that people who remain dirty whichever caste they belong to are not liked by the people. In fact this is an economic aspect. Their economic condition needs to be improved. This will be possible only when both male and female are treated on the same footing. Both should have equal wages. There should be no discrimination. Women folk are much ahead in putting in labour whether it is at home or outside the home. Almost all the members have made a reference to the incident of rape of a girl by her own father. It is an unpardonable crime. Similarly an eight year girl was raped by his uncle in Bhoj Nagar.

In another case a 14 year harijan girl was raped and I had myself met that girl and heard her agony. These are not

the only incidents, atrocities are committed only on women in all the states. The intent of the Resolution is good but it should not have been restricted to UP and Bihar. It should have covered all the States because excesses are being committed everywhere. The BJP has its Government in Maharashtra and Gujarat. Many petty shops and huts were burnt in Gujarat. The bridge which leads to tribal areas from Sardar Sarover has caved in and there is no approach for tribal areas. The Railway department is not interested in constructing a bridge there because the area is tribal dominated. I plead that the reservation backlog whether it is in Air India or in police department or in Railway Department, must be cleared. Mere making statements that we are doing this and that will not help. I will request the Hon. Minister to direct the respective departments to honour their obligation in this respect.

The Constitution provides for 15 percent and 7.5 percent reservation for SC and ST respectively. Today many more castes such as Buddhists have been included in the SC/ST Order. Therefore the reservation quota should also be increased accordingly. The Social Welfare department should take up this responsibility of ameliorating the conditions of SCs/STs people. Whatever shortcomings and lacunae have been left, should be immediately plugged. The Government must honour its commitment to the poor. No doubt, it has made considerable progress in this direction.

Madam, the mover of this resolution will withdraw it because the Government is doing everything possible in this regard. He should also have a national perspective and should not talk of only Bihar and U.P. I think such a resolution should come here covering the entire country. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

Shri Chitta Basu (Barasat) : Madam, the House is concerned over the increasing atrocities on the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. These atrocities have taken place in the shape of increased atrocities on women, in the shape of deprivation of landless agricultural workers, in the form of denying the legitimate right of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes for education and providing for employment and guaranteeing the promotion at different levels of their services both in the Central Government and public sector undertakings.

Madam, this has caused resentment among a wide section of the young men and women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Earlier they were not so much articulate. But as the younger generation has come up with enlightened views and with wider information about the happenings around them, the young sections of these deprived communities have started becoming articulate and building up agitation so that their rightful demands and legitimate demands are conceded to.

Madam, unfortunately, the hopes and aspirations of these deprived sections of the society who have been

victims of social injustice for ages together have not been properly taken care of and the results found in Andhra Pradesh in certain areas. The extremism as witnessed today in Central Bihar where the politics of violence has become very much prominent, is causing alarm for the democratic advancement of the people of Bihar and other States.

In the background of these developments I would urge upon the Government to have a comprehensive view regarding the problems of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and come out with positive recommendations for early redressal of their legitimate grievances. It is known that the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes Commissions are there. They regularly examine their problems and produce reports. Reports after reports are being submitted and they are gathering dust in different departments of the Government.

The recommendations made by the Commission are not properly heeded to, what to speak of implementing them in any way! There are umpteen instances where these recommendations have not been implemented with any seriousness whatsoever. Therefore, this has led to a very alarming situation in different parts of the country. I have mentioned only two Congress ruled States but this will be repeated in other States as well.

Naturally, we have to go into the depth of the problem. What is the basic reason for this deprivation? Who deprived whom? The answer is the existing and ever-strengthening nexus between feudalism and vested interests prevailing in the countryside. So far as Bihar is concerned, it provides a unique example. The Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe people have become the victims of politics of extremism because they feel that they are being deprived of their basic rights and they are denied social justice. Therefore, unless this problem is treated in a comprehensive manner and is gone into in depth, there will not be a permanent solution to it. The main reason is the existence of feudalism and this feudalism is expressed in the land tenure system and in various methodologies of agriculture which unquestionably go against the interests of the agricultural workers, poor peasants and other deprived sections of the society. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes constitute an overwhelming majority of this deprived section of our society in our country even today. Therefore, the main approach should be a political one. It should be based on liquidation or total removal of the vestiges of feudalism. And the only answer to this problem is land reforms. Wherever there have been effective land reforms, be it in any part of the country, we find that there has never been this problem of oppression of or atrocities against the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Therefore, the main emphasis should be on land reforms.

The Mandal Commission has very well pointed out that until and unless there are effective land reforms, this

caste struggle is not going to be solved. Therefore, the Government should apply its mind to this problem and take effective steps so far as the amelioration of the conditions of the deprived sections of our society is concerned. We have always been demanding in this House that there should be a Central Act for the amelioration of the conditions of the agricultural workers. There is an intimate relation between the deprivation of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the deprivation of the agricultural workers of our country because the majority of the agricultural workers are from the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. There have been Committees. There have been recommendations. And there have been modal Bills too. But up till now, Government has not acted upon any of the recommendations concerning the agricultural workers' rights and privileges. Therefore, I would again draw the attention of the Government that a Bill for the amelioration of the conditions of agricultural workers at the Central level should immediately be taken up so that there can be some legal protection for the rights and privileges of these deprived classes.

Madam, you are also aware that unless we provide economic muscle to the deprived sections, we cannot aim at social justice.

Social justice can be guaranteed if these victims are provided with economic muscles. In this case and also for ensuring social justice, the question of reservation for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and OBCs has to be brought to the fore.

I would like to bring to the notice of the Government, particularly the hon. Minister, that there is an apprehension being expressed that the opportunities of promotion for the Scheduled Castes would be taken away following a recent judgement of the Supreme Court. It has been admitted by the Government that legal and constitutional protection ought to be provided for, so that the people from these sections of the society are not deprived of their legitimate rights which they have been enjoying for years and decades together.

I would like to know as to what steps the Government proposes to take insofar as the amendment to the Constitution, in order to protect the right of the Scheduled Castes in promotions, is concerned. Earlier, it was promised—I had the opportunity of attending an all party meeting which was presided over by the Minister for Welfare—that an amending Bill to the constitution would be brought before this House as early as possible. But that as early as possible has so far not come.

Madam, on the other hand, this Budget Session is going to be over by the 2nd of June, 1995. Now, do we mean to say that this Session will not have the opportunity of having that amending Bill passed? If that is so, then it will add to the discontent; it will add to the dissatisfaction of the people from the deprived sections of the society. May I, therefore, urge upon the Government to see that these

Bills—some other Bills may also be required to be passed for this purpose—are brought forward during the current Session of Parliament so that the people from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes community feel that Parliament is alert and active to defend their legitimate and rightful cause.

Similarly, there are complaints that the legitimate proportion of employment is not being guaranteed for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities. There has been a backlog. I would like to know as to what steps this Government have taken in order to remove those backlogs in employment for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

Madam, I am mentioning these matters because these things would fuel a sense of alienation; these things would fuel a sense of discontent and would result in alienation of the people from the deprived sections to the broad masses. Unless the people from these sections feel that they also belong to the society, unless they also feel that Parliament is there to defend their rights and do justice to them, dissatisfaction would grow, dissatisfaction would mount and the result would be very disastrous for the social fabric of this country. Therefore, this matter does not brook any delay.

Madam, I would not take much of your time because you have been kind enough to call my name earlier—though I was not present at the scheduled time—to express my point of views on the matter. I would end by saying that redressal of these issues should not be delayed and these should be addressed to in the right earnest. The Government should take proper steps so that these people from the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe communities may feel that the Parliament is there. Members of Parliament are there, the democratic forces are there to defend their, legitimate and rightful demands

With these words, I support the Resolution moved by Shri Satya Deo Singh.

[Translation]

Shri Balraj Passi (Nainital) : Madam, this resolution has been discussed in this House many a time and many hon. Members have expressed their views on this subject. I do not want to go into statistics because figures have already been quoted. This subject is very sensitive and by discussing again and again the cases of rape on Harijan women, by naming certain incidents and mentioning names of some women, it seems that we are defaming them.

I come from hill areas and consider myself fortunate because such incidents are almost negligible there although we have scheduled castes and scheduled tribes population in the same ratio as it is in plains, but it is a matter of concern for all of us that cases of atrocities on harijan women are on the increase for the past few years.

Just now, Shri Sultanpuri ji was pressing Shri Satyadeo Singh for withdrawal of his Resolution. But I would like to know whether Government have any concrete plan in this regard or propose to take some concrete decision on this issue? As Mr. Shahabuddin has said I was just discussing with him the subject— that a Commission on ST/SC was constituted in 1990 which submitted its first report in 1994. I am unable to understand on what basis he is pressing for the withdrawal of this Resolution although I know what fate it is going to meet. We have discussed this resolution for several hours. So, we ought to arrive at some conclusion unanimously. There are many political issues which we discuss in this House and on which we have difference of opinion, but this is a subject on which we are unanimous.

Here, two states, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have been discussed. It is a matter of serious concern that the situation there is very bad. The atrocities committed on harijan women there are so shameful that it is not possible to describe them here. In Uttar Pradesh it is difficult for an ordinary woman to come out of her house. What would then be the position of harijan women, you can imagine. The last year's Muzaffarnagar incident is fresh in our minds. We had tried to raise that issue here effectively and seriously. They women were raped and the rapists were not those having faith in feudal system, but were the police officers and policemen who had the patronage of district officer. The District officer issued a statement after this incident which was reported by the press. It is most shameful for all of us. In the context of that incident, the District officer is reported to have said that a woman will be raped if she goes to the jungle alone. Should a responsible Government official make such a statement? I come from a place where nobody dares to stare a woman with bad intention ever if she goes out alone at 12 of the night. And on the other hand, a District officer of the same State is making such statement.

Ours is an agricultural country, and it is a routine matter for a woman to go out to jungle in the night, to oversee the fields, to manage agriculture, but a District officer makes such statement which is most disgraceful for us.

The incident was probed by CBI and It submitted its first report to the Court which makes it abundantly clear that rapes were committed. The youth who dared go to protect the women, were shotdead. Those women included harijan women, hill women. What was their fault? They had no weapons, they had not come to wage a war. They only wanted place so me of their demands before the Central Government. But act to which they were subjected to was most disgraceful, shameful. Although the State Chief Minister had said at that time that if it was proved that women were raped, he would seek an apology from the entire nation, but we do not expect any severe reaction, decision from him.

Madam, now, when it has been proved in the CBI report that rapes were committed on women, a new story

was concocted by the police that these women were carrying arms, they fired shots which injured the policemen, pellets had pierced their body. I had while raising this issue last week submitted that the CBI had sent there a panel of doctors from AIIMS, Safdarjang and Guru Teg Bahadur Hospitals. This panel of Doctors submitted its own report after conducting investigations. According to this report, the policemen with the connivance of officers got themselves admitted to a private nursing home the following day where operations were performed and pellets were planted in their bodies. This has been said by the doctors in their report. Such a shameful incident had taken place. Whose door should we knock for justice?

Madam, Uttar Pradesh has been mentioned in the Resolution specifically because I belong to Uttar Pradesh, and I know better about this state. The situation there is more serious because the rulers themselves most appalling part of the story is that majority of those involved in this incident belong to B.S.P. who boast of representing the Scheduled Castes and scheduled tribes. I would like to ask them whether they have the statistics to prove that cases of atrocities are SC/ST women have declined since they assumed power in the State? The big leaders, big people say that it is not going to make and difference. The rape cases will generate resentment and people will follow their ideology. This is the attitude, mean attitude of the people sitting in the seat of the Government of Uttar Pradesh. This is a very serious problem.

Madam, Shri Sultanpuri has said that the Resolution should be withdrawn. why should it be withdrawn? Had he gone through the language of the Resolution even once, he would not have found fault with it. The Resolution says

"That this House expresses its grave concern over the incidents of killings of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and rape, molestation and harassment of women belonging to these communities, especially; in the states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, and urges upon the Central Government to take necessary steps to remedy the situation."

This enjoins upon the Central Government to take remedial steps. He should rather say that we would not sit in peace till this Resolution is adopted. Why do not Government want to give their decision on it? They should support this Resolution. During his speech, Shri Sultan Dutt Puri supported this resolution but at the end advised Shri Satyadev Singh to withdraw his resolution. This is not wise on his part.

Madam, I would say that in no case discussion should take place in this House on this resolution or otherwise over the rape incident or other atrocities committed on SC and ST women and for that matter against any woman because such discussion become simply a joke. I would suggest that the Government should take initiative and call a meeting of

the representatives of all the political parties outside this House and take a decision in the matter and prepare action line to ensure that any type of atrocity will not be allowed to be committed on the women whether they belong to SC or ST or any other community. Thereafter, we can frame as stringent a law as is necessary to deal with the problem.

Madam, I hope the Government will view this issue very seriously and take a decision accordingly.

[English]

Dr. Asim Bala (Nabadwip) : Madam Chairman, I would just like to mention that this Resolution should not be particularly for Uttar Pradesh and Bihar but it should be for all over India. So, the hon. Member, Shri Satya Deo Singh, has moved this Resolution with some motive. This Resolution should be for all over India because it is a social problem. And by simply the Government taking some actions sending police force etc., this problem cannot be solved. The main problem is the economic problem. The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are so poor and so backward culturally also that they cannot even express their difficulties. In our country, most of the agricultural labourers are from the Scheduled Castes. More than 90 per cent of the agricultural labourers are from the Scheduled Tribes.

18.00 hrs

Those who are interested in the welfare of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people should visit the remote villages, where most of them are living. Sometimes, we think that the educated Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people, who are living in the city, are not so poor and socially backward. We can realise this thing only, if we go to remote villages:

The Government should formulate pilot type projects on Educations and Culture.

Secondly, the agricultural labourers are mostly from the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe community. In most of the States, except West Bengal, Kerala and Tripura, the land reforms have not been implemented. Even in the State of Maharashtra, 85 per cent Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people cannot get permission to enter into the upper caste people's houses. So, these things are going on for quite a long time. Dr. B.R. Ambedker fought in Maharashtra with all these social taboos, especially for entry into the temples by them, using of ponds by them and he fought against the land rent for the Scheduled Tribe people.

So, all these problems are going on for quite a long time. But now our country is free and it is under the democratic Government. However, during the last 48 years,

these things are going on....(Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman : Dr. Asim Bala, how much longer are you going to speak?

Dr. Asim Bala : Madam, I will take only two or three minutes.

Mr. Chairman : In that case, you can finish your speech today. He says that he wants to finish it today. Let him finish.

...(Interruptions)...

Dr. Asim Bala : Madam, I have one report which says that from Class one to Class ten, more than 80 per cent of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe children are not able to complete their school leaving certificate. The drop-out percentage is very high. They are so poor that they cannot send their sons or daughters to school. They are sent for working as day labourers. So, all these problems are going on for a long time. If we remove the social and cultural obstacles, then only this problem could be solved.

So, this is the real picture of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people in our country. It is a continuous problem. So, we have to solve this problem and we have to make a lot of efforts in this regard. Without removing the economic differences, it is very difficult to remove all these problems in our country. That is why, the Government should take more vigorous steps.

With these words, I support the Resolution.

18.04 1/2 hrs.

[English]

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FIFTY-FIRST REPORT

Shri Peter G. Marbanlang (Shillong) : Sir, I beg to present the Fifty-first Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

Mr. Chairman : The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11.00 A.M.

18.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 31st May, 1995/Jyaishta 10, 1917 (Saka)