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Thursday, March 29,1990
Chaitra 8, 1912 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES
(English Version)

Second Session
(Ninth Lok Sabha)



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, March 29, 1990/Chaitra 8, 1912
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees in Orissa

+
*247. SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tamil refugees from Sri Lanka have reached Orissa for settlement;

(b) if so, the details thereof including their number and time since they landed there;

(c) the circumstances in which they are to be settled in Orissa and whether this has approval of Union State Governments;

(d) whether they are to be settled in Orissa permanently and if so, the scheme drawn up in this regard; and

(e) any other State or States where

such refugees are to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) **Yes, Sir.**

(b) 1315 refugees reached **by ship on 10.3.1990** and 277 by air on **11.3.1990.**

(c) After consultations with the State Governments concerned, it was **decided** that these refugees should be temporarily lodged in camps in Koraput District, Orissa.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Government's attempt would be to **ensure that** Sri Lanka refugees return to their **country as soon as** situation there normalises.

SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO: Sir, the Minister in the last part of his reply has used the words to this effect viz. "As soon as situation there normalises." As we understand, the normal situation has already returned because the Indian Peace Keeping Force has already come back. We hear that this is a fight between the Eelam Peoples' Revolutionary Liberation Front and LTTE. So, it means that the situation there still continues to be serious. So, under the circumstances, I would like to know by which date the Minister expects normalcy to return, so that the refugees can go back.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: Sir, my hon. friend would have known that the number of total refugees in Orissa is about 1600-odd. Compared to that, in Tamil Nadu we have a much larger number of refugees. And the return of IPKF was not linked with the normalisation of the situation. But we are hoping and wishing that the situation there will become normal enough for the refugees to

feel safe in going back to their homes. In the meantime, our culture demands that we treat them as our honoured guests.

SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO: We agree with the Minister. Orissa is a very poor State and the problem of these refugees is causing tension there. The local people are resenting this because the Government have accepted them. But we would like to know whether the ~~wh~~'s cost will be borne by the Central Government.

Secondly, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister the following. He said that there are some refugees in Tamil Nadu. Would it not be better if all these refugees are shifted to Tamil Nadu, so that they will be more at home where there are more refugees? A poor State like Orissa will be relieved from this burden, if it is done.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: So far as the financial burden is concerned, it is not on the Budget of the Orissa Government. The entire financial burden will be borne by the Centre. So, Orissa does not have to bear this.

So far as putting them together in Tamil Nadu is concerned, there are difficulties.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: The hon. Minister has been pleased to say that the Government hopes that normalcy will return soon in Sri Lanka and that that will create a condition for the return of those refugees, who are now at Koraput in Orissa to Sri Lanka.

As you know with the complete re-induction of the IPKF only two days ago and the collapse of the Government of Mr. Perumal, the LTTE militants as far as I know have already moved into the key locations in the North-Eastern Province. It seems that the situation there presages a return to a pre-1983 situation' meaning thereby a face to face confrontation between the hostile Sinhala Army and the Sri Lankan Tamils which would create conditions for further exodus of Sri Lankans Tamils for India.

As far as I know, the Government of late have conveyed its willingness to the Government of Sri Lanka to sign a Friendship Treaty with Sri Lanka in principle.

Now, my question is this: (1) Under the new proposed Friendship Treaty with the Sri Lankan Government, would there be any obligation on the part of the Government of India to provide safety and security for the Sri Lankan Tamils in Sri Lanka during condition of abnormalcy there? (2) May I know whether it is a fact that the IPKF itself arranged for the transport of these refugees by two Ships of the Indian Navy? My friend Mr. Unnikrishnan will confirm it. The Ships are M.V. Harshavardana and M.V. Tippu Sultan.

May I know whether the IPKF took consent from the Government of India with regard to these arrangements made by the IPKF for the transport of these refugees from Sri Lanka to India?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: Sir, the IPKF acted in consultation with the Government of India. About 1600 refugees did come in the Indian Ships. The reasons were very simple. We apprehended that their lives were really in danger. All these years, we have been feeling concerned about the safety of Tamils and we felt that they were in danger, we helped them out. It was only a humanitarian thing that had been done.

So far as the Treaty is concerned, there is no further move as yet. But I have only seen in the Press that the Government of Sri Lanka is wanting to enter into a discussion with us. When it comes to us, we will deal with it.

DR. THAMBI DURAI: I am very thankful to the Minister for giving his reply, regarding these Sri Lankan Tamil refugees in Orissa. He said, in his reply, that in bringing the Sri Lankan Tamil refugees to Tamil Nadu, there is some problem—he mentioned this. There is also a Press Note recently—I have seen it—that there is a movement going on in Orissa also, to see that the Sri Lankan Tamil refugees are sent to some other place. That

movement is going on. I want to know from the Minister what his stand is regarding this situation, because the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has said that by allowing these Sri Lankan Tamil refugees in Tamil Nadu, Tamil Nadu will become another battle-field. He also commented on how IPKF had operated. Yesterday, the Chief Minister also have the reason why he did not participate in the reception for IPKF; it was because IPKF had killed 5,000 Tamil people in Sri Lanka. I want to know the reaction from the National Front Government, because DMK is a part of their Ministry. Therefore, I want to know their stand, on whether this Government is also of the same opinion as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu regarding what he said yesterday—that also, in the Tamil Nadu Assembly he mentioned it, and not in some other place.

I also want to know whether this kind of statements will create ill-feelings in India. This is what I want to know from the hon. Minister.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: I am not willing to enter into any controversy with an hon. Chief Minister of any State. It is for him to say whatever he thinks proper. (*Interruptions*)

DR. THAMBI DURAI: I want to know your stand—whether you are accepting what he said regarding IPKF yesterday. You just now commended the IPKF's operations: how very well they have done; but what did the Chief Minister said yesterday? He said that he did not participate in the reception because these IPKF jawans had killed 5,000 Tamil people—he said it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: I categorically affirm that IPKF only discharged its duties. It is totally incorrect to say anything else, and charge IPKF with anything which is wrong.

DR. THAMBI DURAI: Are you condemning it?

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: These 1611 Sri Lankan refugees have been settled in the Malkangiri and Satiguda region of the Koraput district. Is the Minister aware of the

fact that this area is the most backward and a tribal area in Orissa—or not? Is he also aware of the fact that earlier, the East Pakistan refugees, about 20,000 of them, were settled in the Malkangiri region—or not? Because of this reason, i.e. because of the East Pakistan refugees' settlement in this particular Malkangiri area, the tribal people have suffered a lot, economically and socially. Now, there is a lot of agitation in these tribal areas, particularly where these Sri Lankan refugees have settled.

I would request the hon. Minister to let us know whether they are planning to shift these refugees from this particular Malkangiri and Satiguda areas, to other city areas.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: I assure my hon. friend that there is no intention nor any scheme to settle these people down there. They are there only temporarily. They are in no case a burden either on the Orissa Government or on the Orissa economy. Therefore, the question of settlement, and all apprehensions that have been roused, are unfounded. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: The Minister should get in touch with the Sri Lankan Government as well as the youth organizations there, and try to convince them to take back these refugees and settle them in their own country, viz. Sri Lanka, or in their own capital.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: My hon. friend would know that the total number of refugees in India is much larger. About 90,000 refugees are still in Tamil Nadu itself; and these 1600 people are in Orissa.

Naturally, we are very keen—so are the Sri Lankans so far as I know—that these refugees go back; I am hoping and wishing about it and we are doing our best to persuade the Sri Lankan Government to normalise the situation as speedily as possible so that these people can go back home in safety and security.

SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: It is appar-

ent because out of fear they came away from that place—LTTE.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: Well, LTTE is an organisation of the militants in Sri Lanka and there is some understanding now I assume between them and the Sri Lankan Government so that they both seem to be working towards restriction of peace.

SHRI ERA ANBARASU: Every Tamilian should hang his head in shame to hear that there is no place for the Tamil refugees in Tamil Nadu which is ruled by Tamilian. The reason being that LTTE is the adopted son of Karunanidhi.

MR. SPEAKER: You put a question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ERA ANBARASU: Both EPRLF and TULF are peace loving people; they are committed to democracy; they want to live peacefully in Tamil Nadu; they will feel at home if they are settled in Tamil Nadu.

MR. SPEAKER: You want to extract some reply from the Minister.

SHRI ERA ANBARASU: I heard a rumour that on the advice of the LTTE Leader, Mr. Karunanidhi, Chief Minister of Tamilnadu, refused to give an asylum to Tamil refugees in Tamilnadu. Is it a fact? If it is not a fact, are you proposed to bring them back again from Orissa to Tamilnadu so that they will feel at home in Tamil Nadu?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: My hon. friend might keep one thing in mind that Tamil Nadu and Tamil Nadu Government are already bearing a big brunt of the situation. About 91,000 refugees are already there. Therefore, to accuse the Chief Minister of not helping Tamilians is unfair.

Assistance to Farmers in Drought Prone Areas

*248. SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified the drought prone areas in different States;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to assist the farmers in those areas to grow alternative crops; and

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

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) 615 blocks in 91 districts of 13 States have been identified as drought prone areas for the purpose of the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP).

(b) and (c). In the drought prone areas, the main crops grown are coarse cereals, pulses, oilseeds and cotton in accordance with agro-climatic conditions. However, crop yields are low and production fluctuates from year to year due to a number of constraints such as inadequate and erratic rainfall, undulating topography, poor soil fertility and low level of investment in farming practices. With a view to ensure ecological upgradation and achieve agricultural stability. Central Government have been implementing the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Agriculture (NWDPRRA) and the World Bank aided Rainfed Farming Project. These programmes envisage adoption of an integrated area development approach taking watershed/micro-watershed as a unit of planning and management wherein farmers are assisted in developing their land, conserving moisture, storing and harnessing rain water and adopting more rational land use plans.

Help is also given to farmers under various crop development programmes for supply of improved seeds through mini kits, plant protection measures on a subsidized basis, besides crop demonstration being

taken up on their lands. Technological support is extended to farmers for adopting suitable cropping pattern and appropriate land use practices by the extension agencies.

SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the DPAP was started in 1980-81 in the country and backward districts all over the country have been included in this programme. Till now a sum of Rs. 764 crore 83 lakh have been spent under this programme but in spite of spending such a huge amount on it, the condition of these districts remains as it was. In Orissa, 14 blocks in Kalahandi, 11 blocks in Bolangir, 8 blocks in Phulbani and 6 blocks in Sambhalpur districts have been included in this programme. Since the commencement of this programme in 1981, the then Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi paid several visits to Kalahandi but till now no improvement has been made there. Even today girls are sold in Kalahandi area. Even today starvation deaths are taking place there as a result of which people are migrating from the area in large numbers. Last year also, girls were sold in Bolangir district. Sir, through you I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether some permanent assets have been created there with the funds allocated by the centre under DPAP. Till now Rs. 600-700 crores have been spent there, so I would like to know as to how much many acres of land have been brought under irrigation and the value of permanent assets that have been created there till now.

SHRI DEVI LAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to the question asked by the hon. Member, I would like to say that identification of drought prone areas is done on the basis of average rainfall in the area. Accordingly 615 blocks in 91 districts spread over 13 states have been declared as drought-prone areas and assistance under DPAP is being provided to them. They are being provided assistance since 1972-73.

SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA: Sir, I have not received any reply to my question.

MR. SPEAKER: It is alright, now you

please ask the second supplementary.

SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA: Sir, an amount of Rs. 600 crores has been spent under this programme. So I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will make any arrangement for monitoring this fund. I would like to know about Orissa in particular because I do not know as to what is being done in other states. The entire funds allocated for this purpose to the state have been misappropriated.

[English]

Ninety-five per cent of the money has been misappropriated by the Government officers of Orissa. Some seasoned politicians, bureaucrats and many others are involved. Will the whole affair be investigated by CBI?

Secondly, instead of spending money on the so-called water harvesting structure because water harvesting structure are very old structures in our area, the money should be better utilised. We have three types there, *Bandha*, *Katta* and *Munda*. *Bandha* means a pond, *Katta* means structure and *Munda* is also a small structure which is constructed for irrigation purposes. So, in these last 10 years the structures have been renovated and this matter has been raised in the Assembly also. We have written to different forums of the Government of India, without any result. Will the Government take a decision to spend the entire amount on lift irrigation as that would be better utilised. Or, will the entire money be spent on recreation ponds and diversion ponds on the perennial and semi-perennial Nalaoas?

SHRI DEVI LAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, many questions have been asked particularly about Orissa, so I would like to inform that under the Seventh Five Year Plan Rs. 419 crores have been spent under DPAP till December 1989. An amount of Rs. 7.2 crores has been spent on maize and coarse grains.

SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA: Sir, my

question is quite different from the reply being given.

SHRI DEVI LAL: I am giving reply to your question. The Government is paying full attention to the development of barren land in Orissa, which is totally dependent on rain. The seeds of the crops best suited for this land are provided to the farmers.

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to natural calamities, the farmers in Madhya Pradesh have been facing difficulties for the last three years and on this account the State Government has demanded Rs. 320 crores from the Central Government for waiving short term loans of farmers. Now the Central Government has also announced the waiver of farmer's loan as a result of which the recovery of loans have been stopped. Under these circumstances, the farmers are not in a position to sow their crops till fresh loans are granted to them. Therefore, through you, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government would make a provision to grant loans to the farmers for sowing *kharif* crops from NABARD and other Central Government Financial Institutions?

SHRI BHAJAMAN BEHERA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are only two sources of irrigation in drought prone areas in Orissa—first the utilisation of rain water and second the utilisation of underground water. Therefore, I would like to know about the scheme of the Government to provide irrigation facilities there. What is the total drought prone area in Orissa and what decision the Central Government has taken for providing relief to these areas?

SHRI DEVI LAL: In Orissa, 14 blocks in Phulbani district, 11 blocks in Kalahandi district, 8 blocks in Bolangir district and 6 blocks in Sambhalpur district, which means a total of 39 blocks have been declared as drought prone areas and assistance is given to each block taking into account average rainfall and quality of land in the respective areas. Possibilities are also being explored as to how the water can be provided to them

from the catchment areas. Seeds are provided to them as per their requirement assessed on availability of water and quality of land so that they may increase their production. Therefore, the Government is providing all possible help to the farmers.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not a question of Orissa or the question of drought alone. The farmers all over the country are suffering losses due to natural calamities like drought, flood and hailstorm. The loss suffered by the persons engaged in other vocations are compensated by the Government through insurance etc., so I would like to know whether the Government have any scheme to compensate the farmers if 50 per cent or more crops are damaged due to natural calamities?

SHRI DEVI LAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government is going to help such farmers but at present criterion of 50 per cent cannot be fixed but efforts are being made that the Centre and State may bear the burden at the ratio of 2:1. The Government is ready to assist the farmers as per the needs of their land.

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a scheme was formulated for the drought prone areas during the period 1971 to 1981 and some drought prone districts were included in that scheme. But there are certain districts which have not yet been included in the Drought Relief Scheme. I would like to know from the hon. Deputy Prime Minister whether the Government has any proposal under consideration to include those drought prone areas under DPAP which have not yet been included in it? I would like to inform that Rewa and Satna districts in Madhya Pradesh have been experiencing drought for the last six years. Similarly, 26 districts of Madhya Pradesh have been experiencing drought situation for the last five years. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government have any proposal to bring these districts under DPAP programme?

SHRI DEVI LAL: The hon. Member has

asked a good question. The drought prone areas, whether they are in Madhya Pradesh or in Rajasthan or in Orissa, are being identified by the Inquiry Committee. The Government is endeavouring to provide maximum assistance in those areas which totally depend on rain and efforts are being made to provide irrigation facilities in such areas.

[*English*]

SHRI KOTLA VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY: Sir, Rayalaseema area in Andhra Pradesh is known for drought for centuries. The statement of the Minister is vague. The relief which has been mentioned in the statement will not give any benefit to the farmers. In addition to this, for further development, he should also industrialise this area. May I know from the hon. Minister whether he is thinking of having any plan of industrialising the drought prone areas particularly Rayalseema area?

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVI LAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not a question of Rayalseema area only but it is the question related to entire country. The Government has to see as to what sort of assistance should be provided to the farmers in different areas. For this purpose, the Department of Agriculture has appointed committees to make on the spot study and submit recommendations to the Government. The Government will act according to the recommendations of these committees.

Electronic Telephone Exchange at Aonla

*251. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the capacity of the existing telephone exchange at Aonla in U.P. is inadequate to meet the demand of the telephone subscribers;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up an electronic telephone exchange

at Aonla; and

(c) if so, when; and if not, the reasons therefor?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKISHNAN): (a) No, Sir. The Exchange has a capacity of 100 lines Auto, with 89 connections working and there is no waiting list.

(b) and (c). However, it is planned to provide an electronic exchange when the demand builds up.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the reply it has been stated that there was a capacity of 100 lines in the Exchange, out of which 89 lines are working and there is no waiting list but my question is as to how many subscribers have disconnected their telephones because of the poor service and by which time the electronic telephone exchange would start functioning there? It has been stated that 'electronic exchange would be set up' whereas my question is by which time it would be completed. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many subscribers have surrendered their telephone connections because of poor service?

[*English*]

SHRI K.P. UNNIKISHNAN: I would require notice on this particular aspect as to how many have disconnected telephones because of poor service. However, I shall try to find out and lay it on the Table. I can assure the hon. Member that according to the information available, there is no waiting list and that is the criterion which we have to apply. As per the norms, at the moment, there is no justification for an electronic exchange there. But as hon. Members are aware, our plans are to have electronic exchange everywhere and we will certainly consider the suggestion given by the hon. Member.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that it is planned to provide an electronic exchange when the demand builds up. My question is not that. By which time the plan will be implemented? Will the exchange be started this year or will it take five ten years complete? Aonla is an important place. IFFCO has set up a big factory there and several new industries are also being set up there. If proper communication facilities are not provided there, the industries being set up there will not be in a position to make any progress. Therefore, electronic telephone exchange should be set up there immediately. I would like to know whether the electronic exchange would be set up there in this financial year or not?

[*English*]

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: I am aware of what the hon. Member has said just now. But as I said earlier, at the moment it does not justify that. Anyhow, since the hon. Member has said that it is a very important place and Tehsil headquarter of U.P. Government, we shall certainly try to see that a 524 ILT electronic exchange could be allotted for 1990-91 itself.

**WELCOME TO SPEAKER OF SRI
LANKAN PARLIAMENT**

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Before I ask hon. Members to put further supplementaries, on behalf of this House and on my own behalf. I have great pleasure in welcoming Hon'ble Mr. M.H. Mohammed, Speaker of Parliament of Sri Lanka, who is currently on a visit to our country. He arrived here on Tuesday, 27th March, 1990.

Hon'ble Speaker is seated in the Special Box.

We wish him a fruitful stay and very happy sojourn in our country. We would like to convey through him our best wishes to the President of Sri Lanka, the Parliament and the people of Sri Lanka.

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—
CONTD.**

[*English*]

**Implementation of Integrated Rural
Development Programme**

*252. **SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Government appointed Committee has revealed that anti-poverty measures like the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) suffered from various deficiencies like leakage in the administration of subsidy funds;

(b) if so, the details of the deficiencies pointed out by this Committee; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken to remove these deficiencies and make the scheme more effective and useful?

[*Translation*]

**THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI
LAL):** (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The Government is implementing a number of programmes which together constitute the total set up its anti-poverty strategy. These include the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP).

2. The programmes of the Government, including IRDP, are monitored regularly and

evaluated periodically. IRDP has also under-gone scrutiny through a number of evaluation studies during the recent years. Such evaluation studies have generally found merit in the programme which is aimed at providing productive assets to the poorest of the poor. The greatest strength of the programme lies in the fact that over the years it has been able to mobilise a massive element of credit from financial institutions for the poor families.

3. Some studies have also pointed out some weaknesses and deficiencies in the programme. These include an element of wrong identification, leakages of funds to some extent, non-availability of assets in some cases etc. Since the programme is administered through the State Governments, the deficiencies are brought to their notice and they take the necessary corrective measures at the district and lower levels.

4. The central Government has taken several steps to improve the implementation of IRDP, including the following:—

1. A higher investment per family including package of assistance to enable them to have proper return on investment for new beneficiaries.
2. Supplemental dose of assistance to those families assisted during the Sixth Plan who have not been able to cross the poverty line for no fault of their own.
3. For increasing the coverage of women beneficiaries a target of 30% has been set.
4. Limit for security free loans under IRDP is agriculture and allied activities has been raised from Rs. 5000 to Rs. 10,000. For industries, service and business sectors it is Rs. 25,000.
5. A uniform application-cum-appraisal form for IRDP loans has

been introduced with effect from 1.4.1987.

6. Diversification of activities under IRDP, Coordination with other schemes like Operation Flood and Integrated Child Development Services have also been emphasised.
7. For facilitating greater coverage of women under IRDP the Government, from 1.1.1990, has extended a group approach to all districts under which groups of women forming thrift and credit societies would be provided matching grant for a revolving fund equal to the amount of savings generated by the groups. The matching grant would be subject to a ceiling of Rs. 15,000 per group.
8. It has been decided recently that from 1990-1991, 3% of IRDP benefits should be earmarked for physically handicapped persons under IRDP.

Management of a programme like IRDP is a dynamic process. This calls for a continuous response to the emerging situations. The IRD programme undergoes constant review at the district/State and national levels. There is also a process of Concurrent Evaluation through research and academic institutions to provide feedback on programme performance. Based on these inputs the programme design undergoes regular review and, if the need arises, necessary changes.

[English]

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Deputy Prime Minister what had been the impact of the poverty alleviation programmes in terms of rise in per capita income among the poor households during the Sixth and Seventh Five-Year Plans. Also, I would like to know how many millions of families were

assisted during these plan periods.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: A statement has been attached with the Question No. 252. It is a written statement.

SHRI DEVI LAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Khusro Committee has been considered. I may say something in that respect. Various schemes to assist the poor were placed before the Khusro Committee. Two-third and one-third of the total provision of these schemes is given as subsidy and the interest is charged at the rate of ten per cent only. Various other measures have also been proposed to assist the poor. Subsidies are provided to the people for purchase of cows and poultry farms. It is a very successful scheme. This scheme has been implemented in 12 villages of Ludhiana district. One cow and fifty hens have been given to each of the beneficiary and one can lead a respectable life with that much.

[*English*]

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Sir, I want to know how many million families were assisted during these plan periods.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVILAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this regard, I would like to say that if the hon. Member wants to know the number of beneficiaries, he has to give a separate notice for that. At present, I can tell him that assistance has been provided to about 333 lakh people under this scheme. If the hon. Member wants to know as to what sort of assistance was given, he has to give separate notice for that to enable me to collect and furnish all relevant details.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU: Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that under the RLEGP and the NREP, the tribal areas used to get much

more assistance, but now under the JRY, the tribal areas are getting much less assistance. Would the hon. Minister consider giving them more assistance and correcting this imbalance?

[*Translation*]

SHRIDEVILAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, under the programme assistance is given specially to Harijans and tribals. As I have mentioned earlier that if the landless people intend to start a poultry farm etc. the Government provides subsidy for that also. Besides, assistance is also provided specially to the women.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU: Sir, I need your protection. The Minister is not answering my question. My question is that under the RLEGP and the NREP, the tribal areas used to get much more assistance but now under the JRY, they are getting much less assistance. I want an answer from the hon. Minister whether he will consider giving them more assistance.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member is asking whether the assistance already being given in tribal areas, has been reduced now.

SHRI DEVI LAL: We propose to give them more assistance. Under this scheme, we give priority, particularly, to Harijan and tribals and women are placed at par with them.... (*Interruptions*)....

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You should be proud of the reply given by the Minister.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVI LAL: I am mentioning here women particularly because it is said that I am against women. Earlier, coverage to women beneficiaries was 30 per cent which

has now been raised to 40 per cent under this programme.

[*English*]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the basic question is regarding the evaluation of the I.R.D.P. May I know from the hon. Minister, taking the Sixth and Seventh Five Year Plans, during which period the total assistance had been given through the IRDP, whether the Government has any proposal to evaluate the assistance given during the past or whether any evaluation has been done during the past and whether the Government is proposing to continue this programme in the 8th Plan? If they are going to continue this programme, I want to know whether any evaluation is going to be done and if any evaluation has been conducted, please state the result of the evaluation.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVI LAL: As I have said earlier, I am repeating it again that so far as the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are concerned..... (*Interruptions*)....

MR. SPEAKER: The hon'ble Member want's to know if you are reviewing it.

SHRI DEVI LAL: What I am stating is that we do review but is to see to how can we assist them.

SHRI RAM KRISHAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government certainly gives assistance to the rural poor, farmers and workers but that does not reach them. Therefore, I would like to ask the Government whether it has started any special drive to ensure that assistance sanctioned for the poor reaches them? In the Congress regime, 15 paise out of rupee one reached the poor, so I would like to know whether the Government would start a drive to ensure that the entire amount sanctioned for them reaches them.

SHRI DEVI LAL: In 1980-81, assistance of Rs. 250 crores was given as loan

which has now risen to Rs. 1250 crores in 1989-90.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.

[*English*]

**U.S. State Department Spokesman
Statement on Kashmir**

*253. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S. State Department Spokesman has reportedly made a statement asking the Indian Government to restrain its security forces from using deadly force against unarmed people in Kashmir; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has conveyed to the US Ambassador in New Delhi its concern about this obviously inaccurate statement.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, since this Government has taken charge, of course due to mismanagement, they could convince nobody of their actions in Kashmir. The people in Kashmir whether they are Hindus or Muslims or even civil servants, are not convinced of their actions. Sir, nobody is convinced of their actions in Kashmir, not even the Minister-in-Charge of Jammu and Kashmir, Shri George Fernandes. I think the only person who is convinced is Mr. Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, our Home Minister. That is about Kashmir. But internationally in world capitals we were told that a high profile diplomatic initiative is being taken, our Ambassadors were sent to various Capitals and this Government is saying that our diplomatic initiative was a success. But what is the position? Look at the statement of the U.S. State Department spokesman. That Statement shows that the well-trained, high

profile diplomatic initiative of this Government was a failure. They could not convince the U.S. State Department or even other State capitals of our stand on Kashmir. I would like to know whether this Government thinks that it is a diplomatic failure. Is it a diplomatic failure and if so, what action you take in this regard?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: My hon. friend need not do undue chest beating. The main point is that India's case has been well represented and well received and even President Bush has appreciated in his letter to the Prime Minister that we are on the right track.

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Kurien, your second question.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: What about the Statement? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You come to the second question.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Then what about the Statement of the State Department? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You put your second question.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I seek your protection. This is the basic question.

MR. SPEAKER: You put your second question now.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He is clear in his reply to your question.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: This question is about the Statement of the U.S. State Department spokesman. If President Bush has said like that, what about this statement, what is the Congress' reaction? He should

say that. There is something wrong somewhere.

MR. SPEAKER: You come to the second question.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: He has not answered it. It is not based on this statement, it is based on something else. I have not asked about Bush's reaction, I have asked about the statement of the U.S. State Department spokesman. That statement has condemned our action. My question is about that. So, he should answer on that.

MR. SPEAKER: You put the second question.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am regulating the procedure. Please come to the second question.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: I am sorry, he answered something else.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: This is how they are running the Government.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Yes. (*Interruptions*)

Sir, the Kashmir Assembly was dissolved. The democratic process in the State has been put a stop to and yesterday there was a statement by the Minister that they are going to revive the Kashmir Assembly and they are going to allow to start the democratic process.

MR. SPEAKER: It is enough. Prof. Kurien, this is about....

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Yes, Sir, about Kashmir. You should know that this curtailing or stopping of the democratic functioning in Kashmir has given a wrong perception of

our policy on Kashmir in world capitals. It is a wrong perception. Therefore, since the Government has said that they are going to revive the Assembly and start the process, I would like to know by what time the Government is going to correct this wrong and also since the Government felt that dissolution of the Assembly was a wrong step, what action does it take against the Governor who has taken the unconstitutional and illegal action?

MR. SPEAKER: It does not necessarily follow from the main question.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: I think by now the hon. Member himself has realised that his question is irrelevant.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Hari Kishore Singh.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Why it is irrelevant? Sir, I seek your protection.

MR. SPEAKER: I called Mr. Hari Kishoreji.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: How is my question irrelevant? How can you say that my question is irrelevant? *(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, I seek your protection. How can my question be irrelevant? *(Interruptions)* They have bungled in Kashmir.... *(Interruptions)* How is it irrelevant? *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have not permitted you Mr. Kurien. I have called Mr. Hari Kishore Singh.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: It does not necessarily follow the main question. If the Minister wants to say something, I have no objection; but I cannot compel the Minister.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. I want to hear Mr. Kurien.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, my only submission is that the Minister can opt not to answer my question. I have no objection; that is his prerogative, but whether my question is irrelevant or not, it is the Chair to decide and not the Minister. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: My ruling is that the second question which was put by Mr. Kurien does not necessarily follow the main question. I think the Minister wanted to say that, as it does not follow the main question.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: I am an elected Member here. Let him withdraw that word.

(Interruptions)

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: Sir, what I had submitted, I think, was right. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have already given the ruling that it does not follow the main question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: Sir, he can kindly see that record. I again quote:

"The hon. Member himself has realised that his question is not related to the main question" *(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Sir, I think, the Government should take notice of the reaction of the State Department, whether it is from the spokesman or from the White House and should make suitable protest to them. The diplomatic initiative taken by the Government in regard to Kashmir issue has been a success and Pakistan stands isolated in the comity of nations. We are not to

seek certificate from any foreign Government whether super-power or sub-super powers on the Kashmir issue or any other issue. The House may agree that we need not be exercised over it

My submission is suitable reaction should be conveyed and if necessary, openly. Will the Government convey its definite and firm reaction to the State Government of U.S.A. so that other Governments may not follow the same?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: As I said in reply to the main question, the Government has conveyed to the U.S. Ambassador in New Delhi, New Delhi's concern about the obviously inaccurate statement. After that, we notice that various State officers in various committees have tried to correct that impression.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: I fully support the view of my colleague, Prof. Kurien that the National Front Government has totally failed in placing the Kashmir problem in its true perspective before the U.S. Government and U.S. opinion-makers. This is clearly evident from the fact, to which the Minister's attention must have been drawn about the strongly worded report of 22nd March from Washington.

A very strongly worded resolution is proposed to be tabled in the U.S. Senate mirroring Pakistan's stand and supporting plebiscite in Kashmir. I suppose again, the Government would merely dismiss this as they termed it earlier, as obviously inaccurate opinion or inaccurate statement. It is because, this Government under the guise of consensus seems to be more of Government of inaction than Government of action.

I would like to know categorically what steps you propose to take to meet this anti-Indian move on the part of some of the U.S. Senators involving the territorial integrity of the nation. Do you propose to launch a diplomatic offensive to ensure that these sort of resolutions are not tabled and place the Kashmir problem in proper perspective

before U.S. public opinion and U.S. Government. In other words, would you make sure that it is properly understood by them that Kashmir is an integral and inviolable part of India?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: My hon. friend who is a very learned and knowledgeable person would know for himself that lobby is functioning in the U.S. State system. Every society that functions there tries to create lobbies there. There are certain lobbies which are operating at the behest of Pakistan also. But that does not mean that our case is going by default.

One thing I must say that we are not placing our case in the court of anybody. We have our self-respect. I think, our case is well taken and well placed. Even President Bush in his letter to the Prime Minister has recognised that.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, keeping in view these statements and resolution, I would like to urge the hon. Minister and the Government to convey to the U.S. Government that we take these developments as unfriendly acts and interference in our internal affairs. Such unfriendly acts should be stopped because they are not linked by the Indian people. Will the hon. Minister try to tell them categorically?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to assure my friend that the Government is seized of the matter and we will safeguard the interests of the country with all our might.

[*English*]

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has informed the U.S. Government of the recent pronouncement of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, that they will aid Rs. 10 crores to the terrorists in Kashmir and also that they will aid Rs. 5 crores to terrorists in Occupied Kashmir.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: We have given to the concerned authorities full evidence of Pakistan's interference in our internal affairs. We are also now bringing to the notice of all Governments of the world the type of utterances which have been made by responsible people in Pakistan.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Savour Committee Report

*249. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have implemented the recommendations of the Saviour Committee in the respect of extra departmental employees in post offices:

(b) whether Government propose to grant various advances to extra departmental employees at par with regular employees: and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) to (c). The Committee of Enquiry on Extra Departmental System (Savour Committee) had made 171 recommendations out of which 120 recommendations including 32 with certain modifications have been accepted and implemented.

Certain types of advances such as Cycle Advance of Rs. 400/- are admissible to certain categories of Extra Departmental Agents. Flood Advance of Rs. 100/- is also sanctioned to Extra Departmental Agents in flood

affected areas.

After assumption of office, the Government have started reviewing the position of Extra Departmental Agents of different categories. Preliminary discussions have also been held with Unions representing the Extra Departmental employees. The Department intends to discuss the matter further with the Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission and thereafter to formulate appropriate proposals in respect of Extra Departmental employees.

[Translation]

Concession to Handicapped (Blind) Persons in Payment of Telephone Bills

*250. SHRI RAMLAL RAHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any rebate or relaxation of time in payment of telephone bills is given to handicapped (blind) persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether any such proposal is under consideration of Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) No, Sir. No rebate or relaxation of time for payment of telephone bills are given to handicapped persons.

(b) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. However, some rebate in rental has been announced in the Parliament for institutions for handicapped persons.

(d) With effect from 1.4.90, 25% concession in rental will be admissible for not exceeding two telephones (non-residential) in institutions like homes for the aged, infirm, handicapped, deaf-dumb-mute persons, orphanages, voluntary organisations for tribal welfare and other organisations recognised by the Government.

I hope the House will appreciate the various concessions the Department has been giving to the handicapped persons, as also employment opportunities through opening PCOs, STD pay phones etc. in pursuance of the general policy directions of the Government to help such categories of persons suffering from physical disabilities.

[English]

Setting up of Regional Research Centre

*254. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up new Regional Research Centres under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR); and

(b) if so, their location and the estimated expenditure to be incurred on the establishment of each centre?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Package Deal on Assam Accord

*255. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD:
SHRI KALP NATH RAI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have evolved a package deal in terms of the Assam Accord for the betterment of that State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken so far to implement the package deal?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (c). No, Sir. However, the Government have set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri L.C. Jain, Member, Planning Commission to make proposals for speedy economic development of Assam. The Committee has not yet submitted its proposals.

[Translation]

Declaration of Khajuraho-Allahabad Road as National Highway

*256. SHRI RAM SAJIWAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to declare Khajuraho-Allahabad road via Kalingar, Chitrakoot, Rajapur as National Highway in view of the inconvenience faced by pilgrims and tourists;

(b) if so, the time by which the construction plan and survey of the proposed National Highway is likely to be completed; and

(c) when the construction work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to the effect presently.

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

[English]

Talks with Bangladesh on Chakma Refugees

257. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian delegation led by him to Bangladesh recently had held talks with Bangladesh Government to resolve the long pending problems of Chakma refugees presently camping in Tripura:

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) what are the views of the people of Tripura in the matter and whether the same have been kept in view in his talks with Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. We urged Bangladesh to create conditions to facilitate the return of the Chakma refugees. The Bangladesh Government has agreed to send a delegation from the Chittagong Hill Tracts to visit the refugee camps in Tripura shortly with a view to persuading the refugees to return.

(c) The Tripura Government have conveyed their concern at the continued stay of the refugees and have called for an early repatriation of the refugees. This was kept in view during the talks

Inclusion of Land Reforms Laws in Ninth Schedule of Constitution

*258. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government consideration that land reforms laws of various States are to be included in

the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution;

(b) whether any such Acts from Kerala are there in the proposal; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government propose to include 55 land reforms Acts in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution and a Bill to amend the Constitution for the purpose is likely to be introduced during the current session of Parliament.

Out of 55 land reforms laws two laws pertain to the State of Kerala. Details of the two laws are as under:

The Kerala Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 1978
(Kerala Act. No. 13 of 1978)

The Kerala Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 1981
(Kerala Act. No. 19 of 1981)

The 1978 Act provides for the following:

- (i) to empower the Taluk Land Board to reopen the ceiling cases where, in the original order, the Taluk Land Board has determined that the concerned persons were not liable to surrender any land, but later found that such persons were actually in possession of land in excess of the ceiling area;
- (ii) to include a provision in Section 103 of the parent Act to enable Government to prefer revision petitions before the High Court against the orders passed by the appellate authorities, the Taluk Land Boards

and the Land Board.

The 1981 Act provides that cultivating tenants shall not be liable to pay any rent from 1.1.1970 for a holding or a part of holding in respect of which an application for resumption has been rejected. The tenants are made liable to pay basic tax and other taxes for a holding or part of holding in respect of which an application for resumption has been rejected. This amendment also provides to enhance the solatium payable under section 109 (A) of the Act from Rs. 500/- to Rs. 1500/- and compensation payable to small holders from Rs. 2000/- to Rs. 5000/-. The Act is also intended to continue the proceedings for surrender after the death of the declarant.

Supply of Nuclear Reactors to Pakistan by China

259. SHRI P.M. SAYEED.
SHRI PRAKASH V PATIL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether his attention has been invited to the news-item captioned "Pak to get N-reactor from China" appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated 23 February, 1990;

(b) if so, whether the supply of nuclear power reactors to Pakistan by China would create a dangerous threat to India, and

(c) if so, the responsibility of Government thereto and the steps being taken or proposed to tackle the situation?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Our apprehensions regarding the weapons orientation and clandestine nature of Pakistan's nuclear programme have been conveyed to all concerned. Govern-

ment constantly monitor all development having a bearing on India's security and take necessary measures to safeguard it.

Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme

*260. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY:
SHRI GANGA CHARAN LODHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the implementation of the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme so far;

(b) the area covered under the scheme, State-wise.

(c) whether Government propose to extend the coverage of area under the Scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) is under implementation with effect from 1.4.1985. Upto the end of Kharif 1989, about 237 lakh farmers have been covered over an area of 427 lakh ha. insuring a sum of Rs. 5080.00 crore.

(b) A Statement is given below.

(c) Under the CCIS the State Government are free to notify any area under the scheme during a season provided they have the yield data for last 5 years as also the capacity to conduct required number of crop cutting experiments for various insured crops, at the end of every season.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Area Covered under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) from Kharif, 1985 to Kharif, 1989

<i>Sl No</i>	<i>Name of State/U T</i>	<i>Area Covered (in ha)</i>
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	7701008
2	Assam	59124
3	Bihar	2129101
4	Goa	6571
5	Gujarat	6339355
6	Himachal Pradesh	19733
7	Jammu & Kashmir	77358
8	Karnataka	1275757
9	Kerala	243151
10	Manipur	4759
11	Meghalaya	12334
12	Madhya Pradesh	5327073
13	Maharashtra	7955230
14	Orissa	1814938
15	Rajasthan	1544600
16	Tripura	18109
17	Tamil Nadu	931279
18	Uttar Pradesh	5268928
19.	West Bengal	2006142

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of State/U.T.</i>	<i>Area Covered (in ha.)</i>
1	2	3
20.	A. & N. Islands	3548
21.	Delhi	1359
22.	Pondicherry	6357
Total		42745814

Equipment for Electronic Exchange at Shrivardhan in Raigad District

*261. SHRI A.R. ANTULAY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the electronic exchange equipment landed in Shrivardhan in Raigad District, Maharashtra, was sent back to some other place on the instruction from the District Headquarters of the Telephone Department;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether the equipment is to be installed at Shrivardhan; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Electronic Exchange equipment allotted for Shrivardhan in Raigad District was diverted to Thal in the same district of Maharashtra Telecom Circle where it is under commissioning. Diversion was done by the Maharashtra Telecom. Circle.

(b) By this diversion, the 500 line Electronic Exchange would serve 284 subscribers (74%) in Thal, whereas at Shrivardhan it

would have served 220 subscribers (57%).

(c) Electronic Exchange equipment has been allotted for Shrivardhan for the year 1990-91.

(d) Question does not arise in view of (c) above.

[Translation]

Increase in Subscription Rates of Telephones

*262. SHRIGULAB CHAND KATARIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times subscription rates of telephones were increased during 1985 and 1990 so far and the extent of such increase each time;

(b) the details of any special benefits provided to telephone subscribers and employees after increase of these rates; and

(c) the schemes taken up for making telephone service more efficient?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) During the period 1985 to March 1990 the

rental (the subscription rates) have been increased twice, once with effect from 1.4.1988 and again from 1.4.90. The call charges were revised thrice, from 1.12.86, 1.4.88 and 1.4.90. The changes made from 1.4.90 also includes some reductions. The details are given in the Statement below. The increase in rental w.e.f. 1.4.88 was introduced after a gap of six years.

(b) With effect from 1.12.86 the provision of free calls was increased from 200 to 275 in a bi-monthly period. In addition, w.e.f. 1.4.89 night concessional tariff of 25% of normal charges for S.T.D. calls and trunk calls was introduced between 10 P.M. to 6 A.M.

In addition, any additional resources generated as a result of tariff revisions accrue to the Government and are utilised to meet not only the increase in operating costs but also to provide more telephones, new telecom. services as also improvement in the quality of services. The funds generated

are also used to improve R & D efforts towards self-reliance in telecom equipment on which Government lays considerable emphasis.

(c) Details of schemes taken up for making telephone services more efficient are given below:

- (1) Replacement of old and worn out equipments by electronic equipment and installation of new electronic Digital exchanges in urban and rural areas.
- (2) Upgradation of external plant.
- (3) Improvement/modernisation of Long Distance transmission.
- (4) Computerisation of services such as fault control, directly enquiry etc.

STATEMENT

Statement indicating changes effected in Bi-monthly Rentals and Local Call Charges

Tariffs as on

Sl.No.	Capacity Telephone Exchange System (Measured Rate)	1.3.82	1.12.86	1.4.88	1.4.90
1	2	3	4	5	6

Rs.

Rs.

Rs.

Rs.

RENTAL

1.	Less than 100 lines	125	No change	No change	100
2.	100 lines and above but below 1000 lines	125	—do—	140	150
3.	1000 lines and above but below 10,000 lines	125	—do—	160	200
4.	10,000 lines and above but below 30,000 lines	150	—do—	200	no change

Tariffs as on

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Capacity Telephone Exchange System (Measured Rate)</i>	<i>1.3.82</i>	<i>1.12.86</i>	<i>1.4.88</i>	<i>1.4.90</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
		<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>
<i>5.</i>	<i>30,000 lines and above but below 1,00,000 lines</i>	<i>175</i>	<i>—do—</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>no change</i>
<i>6.</i>	<i>1,00,000 lines and above but below 3,00,000 lines</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>—do—</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>330</i>
<i>7.</i>	<i>3,00,000 lines and above</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>—do—</i>	<i>330</i>	<i>no change</i>

Tariffs as on

Sl.No.	Capacity Telephone Exchange System (Measured Rate)	1.3.82	1.12.86	1.4.88	1.4.90
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					

CALL CHARGES

	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Free Calls	200	275	275	150
200-3000	40P	276-2000	276-2000	151-1000
		60P	80P	80P
Above 3000	50P	Above 2000	2001-5000	Above 1000
		80P	Re. 1/-	Re. 1.10/-
			Above 5000	
			Re. 1.25	

[English]

Shifting of Post Offices Under Calicut Division

*263. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the post offices in Calicut Division are located in dilapidated buildings posing threat to the lives of the persons working there;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to shift these post offices:

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which these post offices are proposed to be shifted?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) to (d). Two post offices, namely Meenangadi Post Office and Pulpalli Post Office in Calicut Division are located in rented buildings which are dilapidated. However, there is no threat to the lives of the persons working there. The landlords have been requested to carry out essential repairs. Efforts were made to secure suitable alternative rented buildings but the Department did not succeed. Departmental plots of land are available for construction of buildings for these two post offices. Both these projects are included in the programme for construction of buildings during 1990-91.

Foreign Missionaries in India

*264. SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign missionaries

in various States as per the latest figures available;

(b) the nationality of those missionaries;

(c) the number of foreign missionaries who have been served notice to leave the country; and

(d) the reasons therefor and follow up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Colouring of Fertilizers

*265. SHRI K.S. RAO: SHRIYASHWANTRAOPATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the feasibility of colouring fertilizers to give them specific identity is being examined:

(b) if so, the objectives behind the proposal;

(c) the steps contemplated in this regard;

(d) whether colouring of fertilizers would, increase the cost of production of the fertilizers; and

(e) if so, whether Government propose to bear the additional cost in the shape of enhanced subsidy?

• THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRIDEVI LAL): (a) to (e). The possibility of colouring fertilizers such as SSP and DAP to avoid

their misuse through misbranding is being examined, as it involves additional costs by way of equipment for handling, coating and colouring material etc. and resultant higher subsidy burden.

Assistance to Bhagalpur Riot Victims

*266. SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:
SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have provided any assistance to Bhagalpur riot victims; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) and (b). The Central Government has been in contact with the State Government to ensure speedy relief measures to the riot victims. Both the Prime Minister and the Home Minister have visited Bhagalpur

An amount of Rs. 1.00 crore has been sanctioned from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund for the Bhagalpur riot victims. Out of this amount, a sum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs has been earmarked for the families of those killed in the riots at the rate of Rs. 10 000/- each. This amount is over and above the ex-gratia relief of Rs. 1.00 lakh each being paid by the State Government. An amount of Rs. 1,500/- per handloom weaver and Rs. 5,000/- per powerloom weaver as grant for purchase of raw-materials is being provided to the affected weavers. A sum of Rs. 27.50 lakhs has been earmarked for this purpose. The remaining sum of Rs. 22.50 lakhs has been earmarked for extending hostel facilities for the students by adding one floor on the existing hostel building.

Infiltration of Afghan Youths in Kashmir

*267. SHRIJANARDHANA POOJARY:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Afghan youths have infiltrated in Kashmir to indulge in subversive activities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the step taken to check such infiltration?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) The Government have no specific evidence so far that Afghan youths have infiltrated in Kashmir to indulge in subversive activities.

(b) Some of the steps taken are: larger induction of Central Police Forces; revamping of administration; improvement in the functioning of Police Stations; better co-ordination between the State Police/Central Police and the Army; preventive action to apprehend criminals and anti-social elements; and raids and combing operations on selective basis, if and when necessary; and strengthening of vigil on the border

Shrimp Fishing

*268. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual shrimp catch in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether research and development in fish culture is proposed to be further expanded in Kerala; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (c). The annual shrimp catch in

India during the last three years has been as under:

Year	Quantity (Lakh tonnes)
1986	2.15
1987	1.93
1988	2.24

The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) Cochin and Narakkal Centre of Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture (CIBA) have stepped up research on seafarming/mariculture and shrimp aquaculture.

To support shrimp farming in Kerala, a shrimp hatchery has been established at Mopla Bay. Government is providing technical assistance to the farmers for scientific shrimp/fish farming. Under the Integrated Brackishwater Fish Farm Development, four farm projects covering an area of 149 ha. have been sanctioned. One Brackishwater Fish Farmers' Development Agencies (FFDAs) have been sanctioned. In addition, a project on integrated development of prawn farming in Kerala with Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development has been initiated at a cost of Rs. 60.00 crores for development of about 1500 ha. of brackishwater area in the State.

[Translation]

Settlement of Soviet Jews in Occupied Territories in Israel

2621. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Heads of Missions of Arab countries had held talks with him on the question of setting of large number of Soviet

Jews in occupied territories in Israel;

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks held; and

(c) the reaction of Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir. A delegation of the Arab Heads of Mission met me on March 1, 1990 to discuss developments relating to the proposed settlement of Soviet Jews in the occupied territories.

(b) and (c). I conveyed to them that India shared the concern of the Palestinians and the Arab countries in this matter. I reiterated India's well known position on the illegality of occupation of these territories by Israel and that such settlements would only compound the illegality. I also stated that such settlements would raise additional difficulties in the creation of conditions necessary for initiating the negotiating process for a peaceful settlement of Palestinian issue.

Setting up of Potato Board

2622. SHRI JAGDISH SINGH KUSHWAHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Potato Board like the Tea Board keeping in view the increasing demand of potatoes abroad; and

(b) if so, whether Government also propose to set up regional offices of the proposed Potato Board in Uttar Pradesh?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

[English]

Increase in Switching Production Capacity

2623. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecommunications department plans to increase the present switching equipment production capacity; and

(b) if so, the details of the increase in the total number of lines proposed in the country every year?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) Production Capacity for small capacity switching systems (less than 2000 lines capacity) is proposed to be increased by 400,000 lines per annum.

(ii) Regarding large switching systems, the details of increase in production capacity are yet to be finalised.

Provision of Drinking Water for Cattle Under Desert Development Programme

2624. CH. JAGDEEP DHANKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exploitation of ground water source for making drinking water available for cattle is not allowed under the Desert Development Programme;

(b) if so, whether Government of Rajasthan has requested the Union Govern-

ment for relaxation of the aforesaid condition; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (c). Exploitation of Ground Water for making drinking water available for cattle is not allowed under the Desert Development Programme (DDP). For meeting the drinking water needs of both human and cattle population, the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme is in operation under which 5% of the annual plan allocation is earmarked for areas suffering from chronic shortage of water supply due to extreme hot and cold eco-systems. The areas covered under DDP fall in this category.

The proposal of the State Government for relaxation of the guidelines has not been accepted as they have been advised to seek additional assistance, if necessary, for supply of drinking water under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Central assistance of Rs. 32.80 lakhs has been released in January, 1990 to Rajasthan Government under ARWSP to enable the State Government to complete ongoing works in DDP areas. Besides under DDP, schemes for conservation and storage of rain water are taken up which also provide drinking water to cattle besides serving the objective of ecological restoration.

[Translation]

P.C.O. in Arhit Village in Jahanabad District in Bihar

2625. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have framed

any policy to provide public call office in the post offices of some backward areas in Bihar State during the current financial year;

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

(c) whether Government are aware that P.C.Os. installed in Arhit village in Jahana-bad are out of order; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) Where population is more 2500 one PCO is being opened preferably in post offices.

(ii) MARR Scheme and single channel VHF system have also been planned to open number of LDPTs in 8th Plan.

(c) and (d). The PCO in Arhit village in Jahanabad is working alright.

[English]

Preparatory Work on 1991 Census

2626. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether preparatory work has been started on the 1991 Census;

(b) if so, the broad features of the new programme, if any, being introduced in this Census;

(c) whether any innovation has been or is being made in the method of dissemination of the Census data collected and Tabu-

lation Programme;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof;

(e) the steps being taken to train the Enumerators and other staff charged with the Census operations in this behalf; and

(f) the assistance, financial and other, proposed to be rendered to various States and Union Territories in conducting the 1991 Census?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Certain improvements have been made in the 1991 Census Schedules in consultation with data users and on the basis of recommendations of the Advisory Committee and field tests. In the 1991 Census, all the Schedules will be canvassed on universal basis and some basic data will be brought out early in a more detailed manner at village/ward level. Certain improvements are being made in respect of sampling to be adopted in tabulation. Proposals are under consideration to disseminate data through magnetic media on a bigger scale in the 1991 Census than in the past. Several improvements are also contemplated in the preparation of tables and their presentation. It is also proposed to bring out the results of the 1991 Census in a phased manner starting with the publication of provisional figures in March 1991 itself and completing the release of all the tables by the end of 1995.

(e) The Directors of Census Operations appointed for the 1991 Census in States/ Union Territories have already been trained in the Headquarters for both houselisting in 1990 and the main Census in 1991. They in turn are training other officers of the respective directorates, the District Census Officers, Charge Officers etc. The enumerators and supervisors are being appointed and

trained by Charge Officers. Instructions to enumerators are also being brought out in regional languages for training purposes. The entire work of census in each state/union territory is being coordinated by the respective census directorates.

(f) For the enumeration and supervisory staff to be provided by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for the 1991 Census Operations, suitable honorarium for conducting the field work and admissible TA/DA for attending training classes are proposed to be paid. Clerical assistance is also being given on the same scale and pattern of the 1981 Census. Necessary stationary items will be provided and POL charges for vehicles utilised during the field work will also be reimbursed.

Wheat affected by Fungus

2627. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Wheat Project Directorate of Indian Council of Agricultural Research has developed any technique/method to save the wheat from the disease caused by a fungus because of which the grain turns into black causing heavy loss of foodgrain every year:

(b) if so, the details of the said technique developed by ICAR: and

(c) the approximate quantity of wheat destroyed by this disease every year?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of techniques are as follows:—

i) *Solar heat treatment*

In hot summer months of May and June, the seed is soaked in water for 4 hours in the morning from 8 AM to 12 noon and then spread in thin layer in the Sun. This practice kills the fungus in the seed and resultant crop is free from the disease.

ii) *Chemical control*

Before sowing the seed is treated with fungicides like carboxin and carbendazim @ 2.5 gms. per kg. of seed to get disease free crop.

iii) *Roguing*

The diseased plants produce smutted ear-heads earlier than the healthy ones and are therefore clipped off by covering the ears with paper or plastic envelop. These are destroyed by burning or by burying in the soil or by dipping in kerosene oil. This procedure helps in obtaining disease-free seeds.

(c) The average damage is estimated to be in the range of 1 to 3%.

Crop Insurance Scheme

2628. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the crops in different States which have been covered under the comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme so far, State-wise;

(b) whether there is a need to extend Crop Insurance Scheme to all the crops in different States; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken

by the Government in that regard?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) A Statewise statement showing the names of the crops covered under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme, is given below.

(b) State Governments have been

making requests for coverage of other crops under the Scheme, but in view of the high claims being received so far, some more experience is necessary with the crops already being covered.

(c) Government is, on the request of State Governments, examining the feasibility of covering Cotton and Sugarcane crops under the CCIS.

STATEMENT*Names of Crops covered in Different States Under CCIS*

Sl.No.	Name of the State/U. T.	Name of crops covered
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Paddy, Jowar, Groundnut, Ragi, Maize, Caster, Bajra, Red and Green Gram, Black-gram, Horse Gram and Korra, seasumum.
2.	Assam	Mustard, Paddy, Wheat, Gram, Rape, Mustard.
3.	Bihar	Wheat, Paddy, Rape Mustard, Gram, Arhar, Til, Maize.
4.	Gujarat	Groundnut, Paddy, Bajra, Maize, Tur, Wheat, Gram, Rape & Mustard.
5.	Goa	Paddy Groundnut, Wheat, Bajra, Ragi, Pulses.
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Maize, Paddy, Wheat, Rice.
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	Paddy, Wheat, Rape and Maize.
8.	Karnataka	Paddy, Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Ragi, Safflower, Groundnut, Tur, Sunflower, Wheat.

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the State/U.T.</i>	<i>Name of crops covered</i>
1	2	3
9.	Kerala	Paddy
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Paddy, Jowar, Maize, Groundnut, Tur, Soyabean, Wheat, Gram, Rape & Mustard, Kedakudki.
11.	Maharashtra	Paddy, Jowar, Groundnut, Bajra, Tur, Maize, Soyabean, Wheat, Safflower, Sesamum, Linseed, Gram, Tur.
12.	Manipur	Paddy
13.	Meghalaya	Paddy, Wheat, Rape & Mustard
14.	Orissa	Paddy
15.	Rajasthan	Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Wheat, Gram, Rapeseed and Mustard
16.	Tamil Nadu	Paddy, Maize, Ragi, Groundnut, Til, Cumbu, Chelam, Sunflower & Gram
17.	Tripura	Paddy

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the State/U.T.</i>	<i>Name of crops covered</i>
1	2	3
18.	Uttar Pradesh	Paddy, Maize, Bajra, Urad, Groundnut, Soyabean, Wheat, Gram, Peas, Masoor, Rape, Mustard, Til.
19.	West Bengal	Paddy, Wheat, Gram, Rape Mustard, Til and Masoor.
20.	Pondicherry	Paddy
21.	A & N Islands	Paddy
22.	Delhi	Paddy, Bajra, Wheat and Mustard.

Note: The remaining States/UTs. have not implemented the Scheme.

Foodgrains received from United Nations under World Food Programme

2629. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:
SHRI BHAJAMAN BEHERA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains/edible oils received from the United Nations under the World Food Programme for distribution in Orissa;

(b) the quantity of these items actually

distributed in Orissa during the same period;

(c) whether a part of such items received were utilised elsewhere; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). The quantity of Rice, Wheat, Vegetable Oil and Pulses received for distribution and actually distributed in Orissa till 31st December, 1989 under World Food Programme are as follows:—

(Quantity in metric ton)

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Supplied</i>	<i>Distributed</i>
1	2	3
Wheat	4500	1366
Rice	15454	11518
Vegetable Oil	2040	1210
Pulses	2065	1227

(c) No item was used elsewhere.

(d) Question does not arise.

nections released for installation on the recommendations of Members of Parliament during the last 12 months?

Telephone connections provided on the Recommendations of M.Ps.

2630. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether priority is given providing telephone connections on the recommendations of Members of Parliament; and

(b) if so, the number of telephone con-

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Recommendations of Members of Parliament, for provision of telephone connections are given due consideration.

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

Coconut Plantation during Eighth Plan

2631. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring more areas in the country under coconut plantation in the Eighth Plan; and

(b) if so, the total hectares of additional land in Karnataka proposed to be brought under coconut plantation during that period?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Coconut Development Board proposes to bring an additional area of 6,000 hectares under new planting of coconut in Karnataka during the plan period.

Production of Milk in Kerala

2632. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total milk production in Kerala during 1989;

(b) whether any reports have been received from Kerala regarding problems faced in marketing of milk due to excessive production; and

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

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Estimated milk production in Kerala was 1.5 million tonnes during 1988-1989.

(b) and (c). Government is aware that

there was increased availability of milk in Kerala during the flush period 1989 when Kerala Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (KCMMF) faced certain problems in handling milk due to the absence of milk drying facilities. At the request of KCMMF, it has, now been decided by the National Dairy Development Board to set up a 10 MT capacity milk drying plant at Alleppey.

Repair and Maintenance of Ichhapuram-Palasa Section of National Highway No. 5

2633. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of Ichhapuram-Palasa section of National Highway No. 5 has deteriorated and needs urgent and proper maintenance; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken for its repair and maintenance?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) and (b). A sum of Rs. 50 lakhs has been released to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for immediate repair of flood damages on various National Highways including Ichhapuram-Palasa Section of NH-5. The condition of this Section is now traffic-worthy.

[Translation]

Consumption, Production and Import of Pulses and Edible Oils

2634. SHRI KESHRI LAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the average annual consumption of pulses and edible oils;

(b) the total quantity of pulses and edible oils produced indigenously and the quantity thereof imported to meet the demand:

(c) the steps taken so far to achieve self-reliance in pulses and edible oils, and

(d) the time by which the country is likely to become self-reliant in this field?

**THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI**

LAL): (a) It is difficult to make precise estimates of total actual consumption of pulses and edible oils in the absence of data regarding stocks in possession of traders and producers

(b) A statement—I is given below.

(c) and (d). The details relating to the Government strategy for achieving self-reliance in pulses and edible oils are given in the Statement—II below

STATEMENT-I

Total production and imports of pulses and edible oils from 1986-87 to 1988-89

<i>Year</i>	<i>Pulses</i>		<i>Edible Oils</i>		
	<i>Domestic Production</i>	<i>Imports*</i>	<i>Domestic production</i>	<i>Imports</i>	
1	2	3	4	5	
1986-87	117.07	6.25	33.48	14.97	
1987-88	109.62	5.87	37.67	18.19	
1988-89	137.03	8.27	49.50	3.73	

*Pertains to the financial year.

STATEMENT-II

The details relating to strategy adopted for achieving self-reliance in pulses and edible oils

I. Strategy relating to pulses

- i) Introduction of pulses in irrigated areas under double and multiple cropping.
- ii) Bringing additional area under cultivation of (a) summer pulses with irrigation after mustard, sugarcane, potato and wheat and under lentil in the rabi season, (b) short duration arhar in rotation with wheat in northern States and (c) short duration urad, moong varieties etc. in the rice fallows by utilising residual moisture of rabi season.
- iii) Inter-cropping of pulses like arhar with crops like soyabean, bajra, cotton, sugarcane and groundnut under both irrigated and unirrigated conditions
- iv) Increased adoption of inputs like improved seeds, plant protection measures, phosphatic fertilisers and rhizobium culture

The above strategy to increase domestic production of pulses is supported by two programme i.e. (a) the Centrally Sponsored National Pulses Development Programme (N.P.D.P.) and (b) the Central Sector Programme under the Special Foodgrains Production Programme (S.F.P.P.).

II. Strategy relating to edible oils:

- i) Implementation of the National Oilseeds Development Project, besides, an Oilseeds Production

and Thrust Programme (OPTP) has been introduced with 100% assistance to States for rendering help to oilseed farmers regarding seeds, plant protection and extension of technology.

- ii) Oilseeds Project of the National Dairy Development Board.
- iii) Better incentive to producers through fixation of minimum support prices.
- iv) Intensification of research efforts for increasing the productivity of oilseeds.
- v) Increase in area under non-traditional oilseed crops like soyabean and sunflower and exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, rice bran etc.
- vi) Setting up of necessary processing and infrastructural facilities to keep pace with the production programme of oilseeds.
- vii) Setting up of Technology Mission on Oilseeds Production.

As a short term measure Government has had to resort to import of edible oils as a supplemental step.

[English]

Abolition of Sales Tax in Delhi

2635. SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for the abolition of Sales Tax in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the date from which it is likely to be given effect to?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Motorable Road Tripura Bangladesh Border

2636. SHRI MANIK SANYAL Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of steps taken to expedite construction of the motorable road along the Tripura-Bangladesh border adjacent to Chitragong and the observation tower near that border?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): The study group had recommended construction of 320 kms. of road along Indo-Bangladesh border in Tripura sector under Phase-I. Road measuring 70 kms. in West Tripura district is under construction. Survey for construction of 76 kms. of road in South-Tripura district has been completed. The remaining stretch of the road is being identified in consultation with the State Government.

79 observation towers are in operation and 31 are under construction.

Cache of Sophisticated Arms in Rajasthan

2638. SHRI RAJAMOHANA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge cache of sophisticated arms, hidden by Khalistani terrorists has been found in Rajasthan near Pakistan's border recently as reported in the Times of India dated 10 March, 1990; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to information available the BSF and the local police, acting on specific information conducted a joint raid and recovered large quantity of arms and ammunition including AK-47/AK-47 rifles, rockets, and rocket launchers, explosives and detonators and publicity material for Khalistan from a field near BSF post Bijnore in village 92 GB Ganganagar district of Rajasthan on 9.3.1990. A case No. 72/90 dated 9.3.1990 under section 3, 4, 5 of the Terrorists and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, and 25 Arms Act has been registered at PS Anupgarh in this regard.

[*Translation*]

Views of Islamic Countries on India's Policy on Kashmir

2639. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Islamic countries do not agree with India's policy on Kashmir; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to project her policy in clear and unequivocal terms to these countries?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). Government have apprised the world community, including a large number of Islamic Countries, about Pakistan's interference in our internal affairs and its support to subversion and terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir. Broadly speaking, the response has been positive and helpful.

[English]

**Freedom Fighter Status to Malabar
Special Police Constables Dismissed
during British Period**

2640. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be
pleased to state

(a) whether Kerala Government has
sent any proposal for considering the dis-
missed Malabar Special Police constables
during the British period as freedom fighters;
and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a)
and (b). A proposal in this regard from the
Government of Kerala was considered and it
was decided not to recognise the Malabar
Special Police Strike as part of National
Freedom Struggle for the purpose of granting
freedom fighters' pension

**Opening of Post Offices in Madhubani
and Darbhanga Districts**

2641 SHRI BHOGENDR A JHA: Will
the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be
pleased to state

(a) whether there are longstanding
demands for the upgradation of the Branch
Post Offices in Bisfi, Baraha and Simri;

(b) if so, the steps taken to upgrade the
same;

(c) whether Government propose to tie
Bisfi and adjoining B.P.Os to Madhubani;

(d) if so, the action taken to connect
them to Madhubani; and

(e) the proposed list for opening of new

post offices in Madhubani and Darbhanga
districts including Chahuta?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANS-
PORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICA-
TIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRI SHNAN): (a)
There are demands for upgradation in re-
spect of Bisfi and Simri but not Baraha.

(b) The proposals are being examined
by Chief Post-master General, Bihar Circle.

(c) and (d). Information is being col-
lected and will be laid on the Table of the
House.

(e) At present there are no proposals for
opening of new post offices in Madhubani
and Darbhanga districts.

Cultivation of Betel Leaves

2642 SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state the steps taken or proposed
to be taken for the development of Betel
leaves cultivation?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI
LAL): There is no Central/Centrally Spon-
sored Scheme for the development of betel
leaves cultivation. However, various steps
such as laying out of demonstration of impor-
tant agro-techniques, improvement of
germplasm for supply of good planting mate-
rial, supply of inputs at subsidised rates etc.
have been taken up for development of betel
vine cultivation.

[Translation]

**Telephone Connections in Madhya
Pradesh**

2643. SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be
pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone users and the number of persons on the waiting list till February, 1990 in each Divisional Headquarters in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the details of the steps being taken, division-wise to increase the exchange-capacity for providing telephone connections to all the persons on the waiting list;

(c) the year-wise performance of telephone exchange set up Divisional Headquarters for the last three years; and

(d) the steps being taken to increase the efficiency of telephone exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) to (c). The statements I, II and III respectively are given below.

(d) Continuous monitoring of the telephone systems and replacement of un-serviceable equipments both in the internal and external plant are being taken to increase the efficiency. It is also proposed to replace the existing Penta Conta TAX at Indore with an electronic TAX during 1990-91 to improve the performance of the STD from these exchanges.

STATEMENT-I

Details of the working connections and waiting list as on 28.2.90 in the exchanges of divisional headquarters in Madhya Pradesh are as below:—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Divisional Headquarters</i>	<i>Working Connections</i>	<i>Waiting List</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	Bhopal	18622	2886
2.	Indore	24941	26014
3.	Ujjain	4249	2437
4.	Hoshangabad	379	200
5.	Jabalpur	9529	6255
6.	Sagar	1886	884
7.	Gwalior	9909	4592
8.	Morena	838	135
9.	Raipur	6568	8273
10.	Bilaspur	4524	299
11.	Rewa	1141	441
12.	Jagdalpur	749	222

STATEMENT-II

Tentative New Expansion Programme for Telephone Exchanges at Divisional Headquarters in Madhya Pradesh during 8th Plan 1990-95 subject to approval of the plan and timely availability of equipment

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Divisional Headquarters</i>	<i>Allotment of SW. Capacity during 8th plan</i>
1	2	3
1.	Bhopal	17000 lines
2.	Indore	54000 "
3.	Ujjain	4900 "
4.	Hoshangabad	600 "
5.	Jabalpur	9000 "
6.	Sagar	3000 "
7.	Gwalior	9000 "
8.	Morena	1500 "
9.	Raipur	9000 "
10.	Bilaspur	5000 "
11.	Rewa	2000 "
12.	Jagdalpur	1500 "

STATEMENT-III

Performance Report of Telephone Exchanges set up at Divisional Headquarters

Sl.No.	Name of Divl. Headquarters	Performance Indicators								
		*CCR (Local)				CCR (STD)				Trunk Efficiency
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	10	11
1.	Bhopal	91.0	93.3	98.9	55.0	55.7	76.8	64.8	67.1	74.1
2.	Indore	97.8	93.7	98.5	32.4	39.4	36.0	69.0	67.2	22.7
3.	Ujjain	96.0	93.0	98.7	30.2	33.7	52.0	75.6	75.5	79.3
4.	Hoshangabad	90.0	92.5	99.2		84.5	82.3	71.0	76.0	88.6
5.	Jabalpur	96.2	98.3	98.7	62.2	78.2	80.9	74.6	79.3	78.1
6.	Sagar	92.5	96.6	98.6	59.8	70.4	78.4	78.2	85.1	83.4
7.	Gwalior	95.5	97.5	98.5	71.0	78.3	90.0	76.8	84.2	84.0
8.	Morena	98.3	98.6	99.0	69.0	60.5	87.0	85.0	86.5	87.0

SI.No.	Name of Div. Headquarters	Performance Indicators								
		*CCR (Local)			CCR (STD)			Trunk Efficiency		
		87	88	89	87	88	89	87	88	89
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	10	11
9.	Raipur	95.0	95.0	95.4	67.0	80.0	85.3	67.0	72.0	75.4
10.	Bilaspur	95.0	97.0	95.9	78.0	76.0	74.3	69.0	74.0	75.1
11.	Rewa	85.3	100	100	65.3	91.1	100	72.7	73.5	74.7
12.	Jagdalpur	97.0	98.0	100	NA	NA	95.3	70.3	78.0	83.1

NB: NA — Not Applicable

*CCR — Call Completion rate

STD — Subscriber Trunk Dialling

[English]

Opening of Divisional Post Offices at Every District Headquarters

2644. PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of District Headquarters without Divisional Post Offices;

(b) whether there is any proposal to have a Divisional Post Office at every District Headquarter; and

(c) if so, by when the Divisional Post Offices will be opened at the remaining District Headquarters?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) There is no concept of Divisional Post Office in the Department of Posts. The number of District Headquarters without Head Post Offices is 64.

(b) and (c). Certain proposals for opening of Head Post Offices at District Headquarters having no Head Post Office were received but the same were not found justified administratively and according to the prescribed departmental norms.

Criteria of Determining the Cost of Production of Agricultural Produce

2645. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the elements (variables and non-variables) taken into consideration in determining the cost of production of agricultural produce of wheat, paddy, oilseeds, pulses, cotton, jute and sugarcane by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices; and

(b) the percentage of each such element in the total cost of production of each commodity so determined?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The elements taken into consideration in determining the cost of production of agricultural produce of wheat, paddy, oilseeds, pulses, cotton, jute and sugarcane are Human Labour, Bullock Labour, Machine Labour, Seed, Fertilisers and Manure, Insecticides, Irrigation charges, Interest on Working Capital, Rental Value of owned Land, Rent paid for Leased in land, Land Revenue and Taxes, Depreciation Charges and Interest on Fixed Capital.

(b) The percentage of each such element in the total cost of production of each commodity for the latest years for which the data is available is given in Statement I, II, III and IV below.

STATEMENT-I

<i>Cost Items</i>	<i>Paddy</i>		<i>Wheat</i>	
	<i>Assam</i>	<i>Punjab</i>	<i>Haryana</i>	<i>Punjab</i>
	1986-87	1986-87	1986-87	1986-87
1	2	3	4	5

Percentage to the total cost

Human Labour	43.50	21.75	14.20	14.89
Bullock Labour	16.70	2.16	5.84	1.81
Machine Labour	0.15	6.05	13.05	12.88
Seed	7.00	1.71	7.16	4.37
Fertiliser & Manures	0.94	13.65	16.05	16.14
Insecticides	—	2.30	1.30	1.96

<i>Cost Items</i>	<i>Paddy</i>		<i>Wheat</i>	
	<i>Assam</i> 1986-87	<i>Punjab</i> 1986-87	<i>Haryana</i> 1986-87	<i>Punjab</i> 1986-87
1	2	3	4	5
Irrigation Charges	0.02	10.35	7.94	3.34
Interest on working Capital	1.18	1.59	1.78	1.83
Rental Value of owned Land	21.39	26.34	22.10	25.48
Rent Paid for leased in land	2.27	4.92	0.02	7.21
Land Revenue & Taxes	0.41	0.06	0.26	0.05

Cost Items	Paddy		Wheat	
	Assam 1986-87	Punjab 1986-87	Haryana 1986-87	Punjab 1986-87
1	2	3	4	5
Depreciation on Implements and Farm Buildings	2.94	1.30	1.74	1.81
Interest on Fixed Capital	3.50	7.82	8.56	8.23
	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Total Cost : (Rs. per hectare)	2511.57	7389.21	4527.97	5943.42

STATEMENT-II

Cost Items	Aihar		Moong		Urad	
	M.P.	U.P.	M.P.	Orissa	M.P.	Orissa
	1985-86	1985-86	1985-86	1985-86	1986-87	1985-86
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Percentage to the total cost

Human Labour	29.68	25.59	21.26	25.68	26.24	26.31
Bullock Labour	18.39	14.78	15.33	12.01	17.54	11.32
Machine Labour	1.36	2.55	5.25	—	0.38	—
Seed	5.32	2.59	5.26	12.18	5.82	10.14
Fertiliser & Manures	0.72	1.44	1.27	1.57	7.36	0.63
Insecticides	—	0.01	—	—	—	—

<i>Cost Items</i>	<i>Arhar</i>		<i>Moong</i>		<i>Urard</i>	
	<i>M.P.</i>	<i>U.P.</i>	<i>M.P.</i>	<i>Orissa</i>	<i>M.P.</i>	<i>Orissa</i>
	1985-86	1985-86	1985-86	1985-86	1986-87	1985-86
	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>Irrigation Charges</i>	—	0.96	2.64	0.17	—	—
<i>Interest on working Capital</i>	1.11	1.03	1.31	1.15	1.30	1.06
<i>Rental Value of owned Land</i>	27.42	40.67	26.45	34.52	30.02	36.31
<i>Rent Paid for leased in land</i>	—	0.04	0.63	0.14	0.21	1.32
<i>Land Revenue & Taxes</i>	0.44	0.66	0.51	0.50	0.28	0.54
<i>Depreciation on Implements and Farm Buildings</i>	4.03	2.18	6.56	4.41	3.35	4.34

Cost Items	Aihar		Moong		Urad	
	M.P.	U.P.	M.P.	Orissa	M.P.	Orissa
	1985-86	1985-86	1985-86	1985-86	1986-87	1985-86
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Interest on Fixed Capital	11.53	7.50	13.53	7.67	7.50	8.03
	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Total Cost : (Rs. per hectare)	1468.66	2586.64	1337.62	1375.93	1652.97	1351.98

STATEMENT-III

Cost Items	Groundnut		Rape & Mustard	
	Gujarat 1986-87	Karnataka 1986-87	Rajasthan 1986-87	Uttar Pradesh 1986-87
1	2	3	4	5

Percentage to the total cost

Human Labour	17.65	18.42	18.85	21.35
Bullock Labour	10.19	8.11	10.20	14.02
Machine Labour	2.80	0.65	7.85	5.15
Seed	19.59	27.13	1.50	2.15
Fertiliser & Manure	12.10	7.18	2.42	4.93
Insecticides	0.23	1.28	0.86	0.02

Cost Items	Groundnut		Rape & Mustard	
	Gujarat 1986-87	Karnataka 1986-87	Rajasthan 1986-87	Uttar Pradesh 1986-87
1	2	3	4	5

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Irrigation Charges	7.14	0.93	5.55	3.38
Interest on working Capital	1.90	1.80	0.96	1.13
Rental Value of owned Land	22.34	27.29	33.17	39.07
Rent Paid for leased in land	0.43	—	4.99	0.26
Land Revenue & Taxes	0.21	0.14	0.26	0.46
Depreciation on Implements and Farm Buildings	0.80	1.42	1.29	2.14

<i>Cost Items</i>	<i>Groundnut</i>		<i>Rape & Mustard</i>	
	<i>Gujarat</i>	<i>Karnataka</i>	<i>Rajasthan</i>	<i>Uttar Pradesh</i>
	1986-87	1986-87	1986-87	1986-87
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Interest on Fixed Capital</i>	4.62	5.65	12.10	5.94
	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<i>Total Cost : (Rs. per hectare)</i>	4334.05	3025.56	2731.95	2628.52

STATEMENT-IV

Cost Items	Cotton		Jute		Sugarcane	
	Karnataka 1985-86	Madhya Pradesh 1986-87	Orissa 1986-87	West Bengal 1986-87	Karnataka 1985-86	Uttar Pradesh 1986-87
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Percentage to the total cost

Human Labour	20.82	21.86	50.06	43.19	19.41	25.57
Bullock Labour	8.31	7.82	6.71	12.65	2.33	4.45
Machine Labour	1.29	0.18	—	0.37	—	1.99
Seed	6.38	6.43	2.30	2.68	1.16	9.77
Fertiliser & Manures	13.62	16.26	8.85	8.68	21.32	9.70
Insecticides	6.92	2.86	—	1.00	0.15	0.12

Cost Items	Cotton		Jute			Sugarcane	
	Karnataka	Madhya Pradesh	Orissa	West Bengal	Karnataka	Uttar Pradesh	
	1985-86	1986-87	1986-87	1986-87	1985-86	1986-87	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Irrigation Charges	1.69	2.77	0.22	0.02	1.69	8.96	
Interest on working Capital	1.63	1.53	1.42	1.55	1.28	2.57	
Rental Value of owned Land	27.69	31.93	27.20	26.12	48.54	30.34	
Rent Paid for leased in land	—	—	0.10	0.96	—	0.04	
Land Revenue & Taxes	0.12	0.30	0.10	0.19	0.10	0.53	
Depreciation on Implements and Farm Buildings	2.28	1.92	1.18	0.61	0.82	1.32	

Cost Items	Cotton		Jute		Sugarcane	
	Karnataka	Madhya Pradesh	Orissa	West Bengal	Karnataka	Uttar Pradesh
	1985-86	1986-87	1986-87	1986-87	1985-86	1986-87
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Interest on Fixed Capital	9.25	6.14	1.86	1.98	3.20	4.64
	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Total Cost : (Rs. per hectare)	3228.87	2925.33	4495.05	4900.66	9691.66	5862.84

Future set up of IRCC

2646. SHRID. AMAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the decision taken in regard to future set up of Indian Road Construction Corporation;

(b) whether Government have examined the question of the fate of its employees in case it is decided to wind up the Corporation; and

(c) if so, the decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). The question of winding up the Corporation is not under the consideration of the Ministry.

(c) Does not arise.

Opening of New Post Offices in Goa

2647. PROF. GOPALRAO MAYEKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new post offices which are proposed to be opened in Goa State during the current year; and

(b) how many of them will be opened in Pedne and Sattari Talukas?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). There are at present two proposals for opening of new Post Offices in Goa but not in Pedne and Sattari Talukas. The proposed post offices are at Bombolim Complex and Bicholim Industrial Estate.

Horticulture Board in Andhra Pradesh

2648. SHRIMATI J. JAMUNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Horticulture Board in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Bus Route Permits Issued in Punjab

2649. SHRI SUCHA SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Route Permits for buses and Mini buses including private buses issued in Punjab, during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90;

(b) the number of such permits out of them issued to Scheduled Castes;

(c) whether any complaints have been received about issuance of benami permits for private transport companies and high officials; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) to (d). Information is being collected from the Government of Punjab and will be laid on the table of the House.

**Construction of Underground Tank and
Booster Pumping Station for P&T
Quarters**

2650. SHRI BHAJAMAN BEHERA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given on 29 March, 1989 to Unstarred Question No. 3764 regarding inadequate water supply in R.K. Puram and state the details of the project of the proposal of construction of underground Pumping Station in that area along with the cost and time frame?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): Water Supply in the P&T Colony Sector VI, R.K. Puram is controlled by M.C.D. M.C.D. had suggested construction of an underground water tank, a booster pumping station and a dedicated pipe line from the existing Booster Pumping Station in Sector VII to the said new underground water tank to be constructed by the Telecom. Department subject to the condition that additional water will be released only on the augmentation of the Trunk water supply system. The cost of underground water Tank and pipe line was anticipated at Rs. 15.8 lakhs and cost of booster water pump Rs. 6.5 lakhs. The time frame for completion of project is expected to be around a year. Since there is no assurance of increasing water supply M.C.D., the project has not been taken up in hand as yet.

[*Translation*]

**Setting up of Electronic Exchanges in
Mandideep and Obedullahganj Town of
Raisen District and Basoda in Vidisha**

2651. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to set

up Electronic Exchanges in Mandideep and Obedullahganj town of Raisen district and Basoda town of Vidisha of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which this scheme is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) It is planned to provide electronic exchange at Mandideep, Obedullahganj in Raisen District and Ganjbasoda town in Vidisa District M.P. As per record there is no station as Basoda town in Vidisa District.

(b) It is planned to commission electronic exchanges at Mandideep by June, 1990, Obedullahganj during 1991-92 and at Ganjbasoda by March, 91.

[*English*]

Murder and Kidnapping cases in Delhi

2652. SHRI HET RAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of murder and kidnapping cases reported in Delhi during the last three years;

(b) the number of cases solved by Delhi police;

(c) the number of officers of Delhi Police who were given out of turn promotions/awards/commendations for their exemplary roles in solving the said cases during these years; and

(d) the steps taken by Government solve the remaining cases?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a)

	<i>Murder</i>	<i>Kidnapping</i>
1987	312	611
1988	396	582
1989 (upto 28.2.90)	342	664
	52	87
	1102	1944

(b) 683 cases of murder and 669 cases of kidnapping have been worked out during this period.

(c) 27 police officers have been promoted out of turn and 513 officers/men of Delhi Police have been given awards/commendations during the years 1987, 1988, 1989 and 1990 (upto 28.2.90)

(d) Assistance from Crime Record Office, motivation of residents and gathering and developing the information from sources are some of the measures.

Frequency Distribution of Ships in Major Ports

2653. DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Will

the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the frequency distribution by draft of visiting ships in major ports during the years 1947, 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 port-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRI SHNAN): The information required relates to a period covering a span of more than forty years. All ports have not recorded or maintained this information for all these relevant years. The information as available with the ports is given in the statement below.

STATEMENT*Frequency Distribution by Draft of ships at Major Ports*

Name of the Port	Draft Classification (in metres)	1947	1950	1960	1970	1980	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Calcutta	0—5			420	255	94	129	153	104
	5—10			1385	826	1164	1347	1346	1336
	10—15	NA	NA	—	—	—	—	—	—
	15—20			—	—	—	—	—	—
	20 & above			—	—	—	—	—	—
				1805	1081*	1258	1476	1499	1440

(*Relates to Calcutta only)

<i>Name of the Port</i>	<i>Draft Classification (in metres)</i>	1947	1950	1960	1970	1980	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Para Dip	0—5						48	73	29
	5—10						139	169	168
	10—15	—	—	—	NA	NA	85	107	116
	15—20						—	—	—
	20 & above						—	—	—
							272	349	313
Vishakhapatnam	0—5					4	36	60	33
	5—10					458	457	427	513

Name of the Port	Draft Classification (in metres)	1947	1950	1960	1970	1980	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	10--15	NA	NA	NA	NA	101	149	146	210
	15--20					—	1	—	2
	20 & above					—	—	—	—
						563@	642	633	758
Madras	0-- 5		58			159	357	313	419
	5--10		802			667	1023	1133	1006
	10--15	NA	NA	NA	103	128	240	277	285
	15--20				—	—	5	13	15

<i>Name of the Port</i>	<i>Draft Classification (in metres)</i>	1947	1950	1960	1970	1980	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	20 & above	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		963	954	1625	1736	1725			
Tuticorin	0—5		56	93	138	146			
	5—10		238	338	326	369			
	10—15		—	—	—	4			
	15—20		—	—	—	—			
	20 & above		—	—	—	—			
		294	431	464	519				
Cochin	0—5	509	174	338	287	371			

<i>Name of the Port</i>	<i>Draft Classification (in metres)</i>	1947	1950	1960	1970	1980	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	20 & above								
						227	405	424	432
Mormugao	0—5				10	7	3	6	3
	5—10				603	277	240	207	255
	10—15	NA	NA	NA		226	153	163	163
	15—20					16	33	38	53
	20 & above						3	2	1
					613 @@	526 @@@	432	416	475
Bombay	0—5						1165	1152	1092

<i>Name of the Port</i>	<i>Draft Classification, (in metres)</i>	1947	1950	1960	1970	1980	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	5—10						1120	1082	1082
	10—15	NA	NA	NA			254	267	303
	15—20						—	—	—
	20 & above						—	—	—
							2539	2401	2477
Kandla	0—5					67	182	212	205
	5—10					333	534	555	555
	10—15	—	—	NA	NA	21	112	140	139
	15—20					17	35	18	23

Name of the Port	Draft Classification (in metres)	1947	1950	1960	1970	1980	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	20 & above					—	6	5	—
						438	869	930	922

- Note:**
1. Kandla figure include Vadinar
 2. Calcutta include Haldia
 3. Major port of New Mangalore commissioned in 1975
 4. Major port of Tuticorin commissioned in 1974
 5. Major port of Paradip started commercial functioning from 1966-67
 6. Information in respect of Vizag port given under year 1980 relates to financial year 1980-81
 7. Information in respect of Mormugao port information given under years 1970 and 1980 relate to 1970-71 and 1980-81 respectively.

**Waiting List for Telephone Connections
in Hassan City**

2654. SHRI H.C. SRIKANTIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications of telephone connections pending in Hassan;

(b) the number of new lines to be added during this year; and

(c) the time by which the waiting list will be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) No. of applications for telephone connections pending is 342.

(b) The number of new lines likely to be added during 1990-91 is 900.

(c) Waiting list will be cleared during 1990-91.

**Reservation of Seats for Women in
Local Bodies**

2655. KUMARI UMABHARATI:
SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAV-
INCHANDRA MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MA-
HAJAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation of seats for women in local bodies at the village, block and district levels is being considered by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the percentage

of reservation for women would be determined at different level of the local bodies?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (c). The matter is under consideration of the Government.

**Pakistan's Plan to Manufacture Fighter
Planes**

2656. SHRID.M. PUTTE GOWDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Pak plan to manufacture fighter planes" appearing in the "Hindustan Times" dated 2 March, 1990;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the precautionary steps Government propose to take to meet the challenge?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on India's security and take necessary measures to safeguard it.

**Purchase of French Mirage Fighter Jets
by Pakistan**

2657. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report in the "Hindustan Times" dated 13 February, 1990 stating that Pakistan proposes to purchase 40 Mirage-2000 fighter jets and 155 MM guns from France; and

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pakistan's continuous effort to acquire sophisticated arms and equipment beyond its legitimate defence needs, is a cause for concern. Our apprehensions in this regard have been conveyed to all concerned.

Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing of India's security and take necessary measures to safeguard it.

Connection of Telephones With Electronic Exchange in India

2658. SHRI TARIF SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) when was electronic exchange set up in NOIDA;

(b) the number of new and old telephones connected with the electronic exchange from January 1989 to December 1989 and the number of new telephones given in 1989 which have not been connected with this exchange;

(c) the reasons for not connecting the new phones given in 1989 with the electronic exchange; and

(d) whether Government propose to connect the remaining phones given in 1989 with the electronic exchange to provide better service, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISSHANN): (a)

The electronic exchange of 4000 lines was set up on 30.3.88 and expanded by 1000 lines in Feb. 1989.

(b) and (c). The number of telephone connected from Jan. 89 to Dec. 89 from Electronic Exchange are 732; the number of old telephones connected with electronic exchange during this period are 345; and number of new telephones given in 1989 which have not been connected with this electronic exchange are 288. Connections were given from strowger exchange only when the capacity of E-10B exchange was exhausted. These connections were not bulk release, but committed cases or out of turn connections.

(d) The new policy about connecting certain number from strowger exchange to electronic exchange will be formulated only after the commissioning of 5000 lines electronic exchange expansion which is expected during 1990-91.

Sri Lankan Foreign Minister's Reported Remarks About Indian Army Officials/Bureaucrats

2659. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the remarks stated to have been made recently by the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister about Indian army officials and bureaucrats; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) these remarks are entirely baseless and unacceptable.

**Drinking Water Supply to Rural Areas
of Tamil Nadu**

2660. SHRIP.R.S. VENKATESAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to improve the drinking water supply in rural areas of Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether Tamil Nadu Government has sent any proposal in this regard to Union Government for clearance: and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Union Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Construction of Yamuna Bridge Near
ISBT**

2661. SHRIBALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of the bridge over Yamuna near I.S.B.T is progressing as per schedule:

(a) Period	1.1.89	1.4.89	1.7.89	1.10.89	1.1.90
	to	to	to	to	to
	31.3.89	30.6.89	30.9.89	31.12.89	28.2.90
	18	32	37	23	17

Cases reported of
dowry death

(b) if not, whether Government propose to take some concrete steps to expedite the construction thereof; and

(c) if so, the details of steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) The schedule of completion of bridge over Yamuna near Inter State Bus Terminal has been revised twice by the Delhi Administration who are in charge of the project. The original target date of December, 1987 was revised first to December, 1988 and subsequently to June, 1991. The work is now progressing as per revised schedule.

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

Dowry Deaths in Delhi

2662. SHRI ANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dowry deaths reported in Delhi during each quarter in 1989 and in 1990 so far; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to prevent such deaths?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED):

(b) The following steps have been taken to prevent dowry deaths:—

(i) Offences under the Dowry Prohibition Act have been made cognizable and attract more stringent punishment.

(ii) A new Section has been added in the Indian Penal Code making the offences of harassment and cruelty to women by their husbands and in-laws a cognizable offence.

(iii) New sub-sections 113-A and 113-B have been inserted in the Indian Evidence Act providing for presumption by a court as to abetment of suicide/dowry death by a married woman if cruelty or harassment for dowry is proved.

(iv) Short -stay Home has been set up by the Delhi Administration for the use of women in distress

(v) Special Magistrates have been detailed for recording dying declarations

(vi) Public is being educated through the media about the evil of dowry

(vii) Instructions have been issued to get postmortem examination conducted by two surgeons in dowry death cases

(viii) A special Cell for crime against women under the supervision of a woman Deputy Commissioner of Police has been set up.

Constitutional Status to Panchayats

2663. SHRI ARVIND NETAM. Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to grant constitutional status to the Panchayats; and

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

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Abolition of Death Sentence

2665. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to abolish death sentence in the country in view of the worldwide opinion regarding abolition of death sentence?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): No, Madam.

Groundnut Cultivation

2666. SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to increase the area under groundnut cultivation in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard in Orissa during the Seventh Plan period; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two Centrally Sponsored Schemes, namely, National Oilseeds Development Project (NODP) and Oilseeds Production Thrust Project (OPTP) are in operation in Orissa during the Seventh Plan period for increasing the area and production of groundnut.

(c) Question does not arise.

Recruitment of Seamen From Calcutta Port

2667. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 30 per cent ships of the Indian Shipping Corporation and other Private Companies are earmarked for Calcutta:

(b) whether as per the recommendations of the Nanda Committee, 30 per cent of the seamen are recruited from Calcutta port:

(c) if not, the actual percentage of seamen recruited from Calcutta, and

(d) the remedial measures contemplated by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN) (a) The Shipping Corporation of India maintains job ratio of 70:30 between Bombay and Calcutta. Three other companies having headquarters at Calcutta, i.e. Ratnakar Shipping Co.; India Steamship Ltd. and Surrendra Overseas Ltd. take 100% of their crew from Calcutta roster

(b) The Nanda Committee did not recommend that 30 per cent of seamen, recruited by Indian Shipping companies should be from Calcutta

(c) As on 1.1.1990, actual percentage of seamen recruited from Calcutta comes to 22 per cent on the basis of total number of jobs available

(d) To regulate the employment opportunities for the seamen in general roster at Calcutta, the Director General of Shipping has issued the following orders:—

(i) For all categories of seamen, the company roster to be increased to 185% of jobs.

(ii) In all called musters, the selection will be in the ratio of 75:25 basis for company roster and general roster, respectively.

(iii) In some of the categories in company rosters, the strength is more than 225%. In such categories, the selection will be confined to the company roster seamen.

(iv) If the 75:25 ratio is deviated from in any selection for any reason, i.e., absence of seamen required, rejection on medical or other grounds etc., the requisite percentage will be made up in subsequent selection to maintain the ratio fo 75:25

Allotment of Land to Private Schools in Chandigarh

2668 SHRIBABANRAO DHAKNE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for allotment of land for private schools pending with the Chandigarh Administration as on 31 March, 1989.

(b) since when and the reasons therefor, and

(c) whether land already allotted has been given at concessional rates?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) 17

(b) These applications were received during the period from 5/82 to 3/89. Decision could not be taken for the following reasons:—

(i) non-furnishing of necessary certifi-

cates regarding availability of funds with the school:

- (ii) application not received in proper form and with full details;
 - (iii) non-verification of school's status;
 - (vi) non-availability of adequate land at the site asked for by the school concerned; etc.
- (c) Yes, Sir.

Fake Passport and Visa Racket

2669. SHRI R.N. RAKESH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Fake Passport, Visa Racket Busted" appearing in the Indian Express dated 26th February, 1990.

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether any inquiry has been made into the matter; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government against the person found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). On 13.2.1990, one Afghan national, who had come to collect tickets from a travel agency, was detained and 5 forged passports having forged U.S. visa on them were recovered from him. A case FIR No. 420/468/471/120-B has been registered. The investigation of the case has been entrusted to the Crime Branch. Four other Afghan nationals have also been arrested.

[*Translation*]

Appointment of Education/Cultural Secretary in Indian Missions Abroad

2670. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of appointments made in the Indian Missions abroad on the posts of education or cultural secretary/officer or equivalent posts;

(b) the number out of them from the Indian Foreign Service or Indian Administrative Service; and

(c) the number of appointments made from amongst the eminent people from cultural and academic fields, separately?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) There is a total of 6 Education posts in Indian Missions/Consulates General abroad.

(b) No Indian Foreign Service/Indian Administrative Service Officers are occupying any of the six posts.

(c) A Professor from IIT Delhi is currently occupying the post of Minister (Education) in E/1 Washington.

[*English*]

Issue of Commemorative Postal Stamp in Memory of Anathasayanam Ayyangar

2671. DR. K. KALIMUTHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for issuing a Commemorative postal

stamp in memory of Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, the distinguished Speaker of Lok Sabha, on his current birth centenary year?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISSHANN): (a) Yes, Sir. Requests have been received for issue of a stamp on this personality. A proposal in this regard was placed before the Philatelic Advisory Committee, which functions in the Department to advise the Government about issue of commemorative/special postage stamps and other such matters, at its meeting held on 29.9.89. However, the Committee could not consider the proposal due to paucity of time. The proposal will be again placed before the Committee, for consideration, at its next meeting.

Drowning of Children in Yamuna Vihar Drains

2672. **SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether four children died between 18 July, 1981 and 23 February, 1986 by drowning in the drains of Yamuna Vihar constructed by DDA;

(b) if so, whether cases registered in this regard are still pending with the area Police Station;

(c) the action taken in this regard against the persons found guilty; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (d). No, Sir. However, one child named Janender @ Kalu had died due to drowning in a drain, which was constructed by Delhi

Development Authority. A case FIR 59 dated 23-2-86 u/s 304-A IPC was registered at Police Station Gokal Puri. An enquiry was conducted by SDM/New Delhi and no one was found at fault.

Production and Productivity Growth Rate of Agricultural Commodities

2673. **SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the study made by the Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry regarding production and productivity growth rate of agricultural commodities;

(b) if so, the details of the products and the comparative production and productivity growth rate for different years as reported by PHDCCI; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A Statement giving the growth (average annual) in area, production and yield for different years as reported by Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) is given below.

In the pre-Green Revolution period i.e. 1951-52 to 1964-65, the production growth rates of all major crops were higher primarily on account of area expansion. However, the growth rates of area in the post-Green Revolution period have declined and the productivity growth rate levels are higher. In fact the production and productivity levels of rice, wheat, foodgrains and all Crops were the highest ever achieved so far, during the year 1988-89.

STATEMENT

(Per-cent per annum)

Sl.No.	Crop/period	1951-52 to 1964-65			1964-65 to 1987-88			1951-52 to 1987-88		
		A	P	Y	A	P	Y	A	P	Y
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	All Crops									
	PHDCCI	1.7	3.2	1.4	0.3	2.3	1.8	0.8	2.6	1.7
2.	Foodgrains									
	PHDCCI	1.5	3.1	1.5	0.3	2.5	2.1	0.7	2.7	1.9
3.	Non-Foodgrains									
	PHDCCI	2.4	3.3	0.9	0.2	1.9	1.1	1.0	2.4	1.0

A—Area

P—Production

Y—Yield

PHDCCI — As given by Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry in its Note on Agriculture Price Policy in India.

Four-lanning of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh

2674. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no four-lane traffic facility on National Highways passing through Andhra Pradesh as is provided in the neighbouring State of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to provide four-lane traffic facility on National Highways in Andhra Pradesh during 1990-91; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) A short length of 9 kms of NH. 9 in Andhra Pradesh is already four-lane. In addition, a length of 40.6 kms. from Anakapally to Vishakhapatnam on NH. 5 has been approved for four-laning in August, 1989. Besides this, Survey and Investigation for four-laning of Chilakaluripet-Guntur-Vijayawada (length 82.95 kms) is in an advanced stage and seven more estimates for Survey and Investigation for four-laning in different sections of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh have also been sanctioned.

(b) and (c). four-laning of Chilakaluripet-Guntur-Vijayawada (length 82.95 kms) is proposed for inclusion in the programme for 1990-91.

Navigability of Ganga Between Allahabad and Calcutta

2675. SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pilot Project for making

the river Ganga navigable from Allahabad to Calcutta has been completed; and

(b) if not, the progress thereof and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) The Pilot Project to identify measures required for introduction of regular navigation is confined to the Allahabad -Patna stretch of the river Ganga. The Pilot Project works have been completed in June, 1989.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Central Government Employees Killed in Kashmir Valley

2676. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central Government employees killed in Kashmir valley during the last three months;

(b) whether Union Government have taken adequate measures to ensure the safety of their employees; and

(c) if so, details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Upgradation of State Highways as National Highways in Tamil Nadu

2677. SHRI A. ASHOKARAJ: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any memorandum has been submitted by the Government of Tamil Nadu suggesting upgradation of 3350 kms. of State Highways as National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANS-

PORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A statement giving the names of the roads and their lengths is given below.

(c) These suggestions contained in the memorandum would be examined when the Eighth plan is taken up for finalisation.

STATEMENT

Sl.No.	Name of Roads	Length in kms.
1	2	3
1.	Nagapattinam-Thanjavur-Trichy-Coimbatore-Ooty-Cuddalore-Mysore State Border Road (State Highways)	504
2.	Cuddalore-Ulunthurpet-Salem Road (manor Dist. Road and State Highways)	192
3.	Trichi-Viralimalai-Thuvarankurchi-Madurai Road (Major Dist. Road)	122
4.	Trichy-Pudukottai-Karaikudi-Ramnad	185
5.	Dindigul-Palani-Udumaplet-Pollachi-Coimbatore Road (State Highways)	159
6.	Cuddalore-Vellore-Chittoor Road (S.H.)	203
7.	Madurai-Aruppukkottai-Tuticorin Road (S.H.)	133
8.	East Coast Road-Madras-Cuddalore-Kanyakumari (Major Dist. Road)	737

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of Roads</i>	<i>Length in kms.</i>
1	2	3
	(Out of this length of 737 kms 161 kms i.e. upto Cuddalore has been taken up under Asian Development Bank Assistance scheme)	
9.	Perambalur-Manamadurai Road (S.H.)	228
10.	Thondi-Madurai-Theni-Kumbam-Kottayam-Cochin Road (Major Dist. Road)	268
	(Out of this, a length of 80 kms. Madurai-Theni section is already converted as a N.H.)	
11.	Madurai-Thenkasi-Quilon Road (State Highways)	134
12.	Thiruvannamalai-Krishnagiri Road (major Dist. Road)	130
13.	Tirunelveli-Shencottah Road (State Highways)	59
14.	Madurai-Ammaiyanaickannur-Ganguvarpatti Kodaikanal Road (Major Dist. Road)	140

Sl.No.	Name of Roads	Length in kms.
1	2	3
15	Thoppur-Meittur Bhavani Road (major Dist Road)	81
16.	Vaniyambadi-Tirupathur-Dharmapuri Road (major Dist Road)	80
Total		3355 Kms

[*Translation*]**Jobs to Farmers in IFFCO Factory
in Bareilly**2678. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
GANGWAR:
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether jobs have since been provided to the dependents of all those farmers whose land was acquired for setting up of IFFCO factory in Bareilly;

(b) the percentage of local and outside labourers employed in this unit; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to give priority to local people in employment in this factory?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) It has not been possible to provide jobs to all the eligible land-losers. However, for all the unskilled jobs, the recruitment is made from among the land-losers only. The employment opportunities are over and above the compensation paid for the land acquired.

(b) 84% of labourers employed are from Bareilly Distt. only and 94% of labourers are from U.P.

(c) Following steps have been taken by IFFCO to give priority to local people for employment:

- (1) The recruitments to the post of unskilled categories are from the local population only and specially from land-losers.

(2) Land-losers with some education have been trained to get opportunities for being employed on semi-skilled jobs.

(3) Recruitment Rules have been relaxed for giving employment to local people.

(4) Priority is given to local people for contract jobs and shops in the Aonla Township of IFFCO are allotted to landlosers with a view to encourage self-employment.

IFFCO has also taken certain other steps in collaboration with State/District Administration for the overall development of the nearby villages.

[*English*]**Security Arrangements for Door-
darshan Staff in Srinagar**

2679. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the officers and staff of Doordarshan Kendra, Srinagar, have been receiving threats to stop telecasts of official news bulletins, etc.

(b) if so, whether any special arrangements have been made to provide security for the Doordarshan personnel and their families; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (c). Information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Delegations of Performing Artists Sent Abroad by ICCR

2680. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of delegations of performing Artists sent abroad by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations' during last Five Years; and

(b) the criteria adopted for selection of artists for such delegations?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) The year wise break-up of the delegations of performing arts sent abroad by the ICCR during the last five years under its normal bilateral cultural exchanges is given below:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of composite delegations of performing arts</i>	<i>Number of individual groups (i.e. group wise break-up of composite delegations)</i>
1985-86	60	80
1986-87	34	47
1987-88	58	59
1988-89	45	84
1989-90	81	81

In addition to the above, the ICCR sent abroad the following performing arts groups on the occasion of Festivals of India held in different countries during the last five years:—

<i>Name of Country</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Number of Groups</i>
USA	1985-86	16
France	1985-86	65
USSR	1987-88	134
Sweden	1987	19
Switzerland	1987	14
Mauritius	1987	19

(b) In order to select artists to be sent abroad under the normal bilateral cultural exchanges, the ICCR has set up Advisory Panels in different fields of performing arts composed of experts in

their individual fields.

The Advisory Panels finalise the names of groups and individuals for inclusion in

ent categories. From the reference panels individuals & groups are selected for participation in events abroad.

A similar procedure for selection of artists to send abroad for Festivals of India was followed in accordance with the guidelines received from Department of Culture.

New Technological Improvements in Telecom Sector

2681. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the new technological improvements in the telecom sector recently introduced in the country;

(b) whether these technologies are indigenous and suitable to tropical conditions; and

(c) if so, the names of main suppliers of the equipment for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Technological improvements in the switching and transmission equipments which are being progressively incorporated in the Telecom Network in the country viz. C-DOT Rural Automatic Exchange, C-DOT Main Automatic Exchange, ITI-ILT and Mini ILT and E-10B Exchanges are considered suitable for our requirement. Similarly, in the transmission field digital transmission systems e.g. 30 channel PCM for improving the junction cable capacities, digital line, optical fibre and micro wave systems of indigenous designs are also being progressively tested and introduced.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The list is given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT*List of suppliers and their licenced products*

(Y = Yes, N = No)

Sl.No.	Suppliers	128 Port	PBX	RAX	RAX/ MAX/II 512 P	ITI's ILT and Mini ILT	E-10B
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1.	Indian Telephone Industries	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
2.	W.S. Industries	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N
3.	Punjab Communications	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N
4.	Maharashtra Electronics Development Corporation	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N
5.	National Radio & Elect.	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N

Sl.No.	Suppliers	128 Port		RAX/ MAX/II 512 P	ITI's ILT and Mini ILT	E-10B
		PBX	RAX			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6.	INDCHEM Electronics	Y	Y	Y	N	N
7.	Instrumentation Limited	Y	Y	Y	N	N
8.	Larsen and Toubro	Y	Y	Y	N	N
9.	Bharat Electronics	Y	Y	Y	N	N
10.	Bharat Heavy Electricals	Y	Y	N	N	N
11.	Karnataka Telecom	Y	Y	N	N	N
12.	Kerala Electronics Dev. Corporation Ltd.	Y	Y	N	N	N

Sl.No.	Suppliers	128 Port		RAX/ MAX/II 512 P	ITI's ILT and Mini ILT	E-10B
		PBX	RAX			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

13.	Radiant Electronics	Y	Y	N	N	N
14.	J & K Telecom	Y	Y	N	N	N
15.	Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilisers Co. Ltd.	Y	Y	N	N	N
16.	United Telecom Ltd.	Y	Y	N	N	N
17.	Continental Device India Ltd.	Y	Y	N	N	N
18.	Arvind Mills	Y	Y	N	N	N

Sl.No.	Suppliers	128 Port		RAX/ MAX/II 512 P	ITL's ILT and Mini ILT	E-10B
		PBX	RAX			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
19.	Asea Brown Boveri Ltd.	Y	Y	N	N	N
20	Cosmo Communications	Y	Y	N	N	N
21.	Rajasthan Telematics	Y	Y	N	N	N
22	MODI-Himachal Pradesh	Y	Y	N	N	N
23	Arlem Electronics	Y	Y	N	N	N
24.	Rajasthan Communications	Y	Y	N	N	N
25.	upTRON India Ltd	Y	Y	N	N	N
26.	Suraj Communication	Y	Y	N	N	N

Sl.No.	Suppliers	128 Port		RAX/ MAX/II 512 P	ITI's ILT and Mini ILT	E-108
		PBX	RAX			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
27.	USHA-Himachal Pradesh	Y	Y	N	N	N
28.	belTRON	Y	Y	N	N	N
29.	Andhra Pradesh Electronics Corporations	N	Y	N	N	N
30.	BPL Systems and Projects					
31.	Crompton Greaves Ltd	N	Y	N	N	N
32.	Gujarat Communications Electronics Ltd.	N	Y	N	N	N
33.	Telematics Systems	N	Y	N	N	N

Sl No	Suppliers	128 Port		RAX/ MAX/II 512 P	ITIs ILT and Mini ILT	E-10B
		PBX	RAX			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
34	Webel Electronics communication system	N	Y	N	N	N
35	Assam Electronic Dev Corp	Y	N	N	N	N
36	Auto Controls (P) Ltd	Y	N	N	N	N
37	Central Electronics Ltd	Y	N	N	N	N
38	Debikay Information	Y	N	N	N	N
39	Delta Hamlin Ltd	Y	N	N	N	N
40.	Essen Telecom (P) Ltd	Y	N	N	N	N

Sl.No.	Suppliers	128 Port	RAX/ MAX// 512 P	ITT's ILT and Mini ILT	E-10B	
		PBX	RAX			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
41.	Kalindi Rail Nirmal (Engrs)	Y	N	N	N	N
42.	L'avenir Telecoms Ltd.	Y	N	N	N	N
43.	Magnavision Electronics					
44.	National Telecom	Y	N	N	N	N
45.	Superphone India	Y	N	N	N	N

Special Police Officers in Delhi Police

2682 DR BHAGWAN DASS RATHOR Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the powers and status of Special Police Officers in Delhi Police,

(b) whether the Special Police Officers are paid any remuneration

(c) if so the details and if not the reasons therefor

(d) whether these Special Police Officers are given any security and financial insurance and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED) (a) The Special Police Officers are vested with powers to arrest under Section 43 Cr P C. They are respectable members of the Police who function under Senior Police Officers of the concerned District

(b) and (c) No Sir. However they are entitled to the payment of Food Allowance in case they are detailed for duties exceeding four hours.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. However if any Special Police Officer apprehends danger to his life from bad elements security guards can be provided.

Closure of Phosphatic Fertilizers

2683 SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT
SHRI D M PUTTE GOWDA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether several fertilizer plants in the country producing phosphatic or complex fertilizers have either closed down or are on the verge of closure due to non-availability of two vital inputs, phosphoric acid and ammonia, in the last few months, and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to make available phosphoric acid and ammonia for the revival of these fertilizer units?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) On 8.2.1990, the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd (MMTC) was designated as the canalising agency for the import of phosphoric acid and ammonia.

MMTC has been authorised to import phosphoric acid and ammonia for the fertilizer industry for the period April-September 1990. It has arranged 50,000 mt of ammonia for prompt delivery. Commercial negotiations are in progress with the tenderers of phosphoric acid. Shipments would commence after the contracts have been concluded.

Sindri Modernisation Plant

2684 SHRI A K ROY Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the remaining life of the Sindri Modernisation plant producing Ammonia;

(b) whether there is any plan for its renovation or replacement,

(c) if so, the details thereof,

(d) whether the total Sindri Industrial Complex is degenerating and

(e) if so, the steps taken to save the Sindri Complex?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Sindri Modernization Plant of the Fertiliser Corporation of India produces ammonia/urea and was commissioned about 10 years ago. Its remaining life will be about 10 years assuming that the life of a nitrogenous fertiliser plant is about 20 yrs.

(b) and (c). There is a proposal for revamping the various plants at Sindri at an estimated cost of Rs. 14.77 crores.

(d) and (e). it is not true that the Sindri industrial complex is degenerating in view of the steps being taken/proposed to be taken for improvement in the performance of the plants such as rebuilding of 30 coke ovens, revamping of the plants and the proposed replacement of the old captive power plant by a new plant.

[*Translation*]

Tampering of Telephone Meters of Telephone Users by the Officers and Staff of Telephone Department

2685. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether tampering of telephone meters can be detected through local call meter, internal instrument and external lines to ascertain whether the number of calls have been inflated by tampering meters of telephone users by the officers and staff of telephone department; and

(b) whether telephone users are bound to pay inflated telephone bills in case of tampering of meter not detected?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Mechanical telephone meters are not provided in the electronic exchanges. Therefore, tampering is not possible. In case of electro-mechanical exchanges where individual telephone meters are provided for each subscriber, the Department has taken adequate precautions to see that they are not tampered. Following steps have been taken to prevent the possibilities of any malpractice that may lead to excess billing complaints;

1. Routine testing of the subscribers' meters.
2. Sealing of meters.
3. Locking of Meter-Room and restrictions in entry into the Meter Room.
4. Raising and locking of distribution points.
5. Formation of Mobile Vigilance Squads.
6. Fortnightly meter-reading in case of very busy subscribers.

In addition to the above, following measures have been taken to settle the billing complaints:

- (i) provision of charge analysing equipment.
- (ii) provision in the Telegraph Act to make the diversion of lines a cognizable offence.

(b) No, Sir. All complaints of inflated telephone bills are examined first for clerical errors and then for technical faults in the internal and external equipment. In certain cases, the telephone is also placed under

observation to check the functioning of the metering equipment and to ascertain the calling pattern of the subscriber. Wherever the number of calls recorded in the bills under dispute is more than 100% of the highest number of calls metered during the 6 billing periods immediately preceding the disputed period, the bill is split up, if so requested by the subscriber, and he is asked to pay only the average of the said six billing periods, plus 10% thereof, immediately. The balance amount is kept in abeyance, till finalisation of investigation.

If the investigations reveal/suggest the possibility of any fault in the equipment or line, suitable rebate is always given to the subscriber.

In E-10-B type electronic exchanges, detailed bills with particulars of all the STD calls made by the subscribers are provided.

[English]

Ship Repairing Yard at Haldia

2686. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI AMAL DATTA:
SHRI SUDARSAN
RAYCHAUDHURI:
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for setting up of a Ship Repairing Yard at Haldia; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the stage at which it rest now?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRI SHNAN): (a) and (b). There is no specific proposal under Government's consideration for setting up a

Shiprepairing Yard at Haldia.

However, considering the inadequacy of shiprepair facilities in the country to meet our demand, Government has initiated a Feasibility-cum-Detailed Study under the Advisory Technical Assistance Scheme of the Asian Development Bank for the development of shiprepair facilities in the country during the Eighth Plan period. This Study will, among other things, evaluate the suitability of different possible sites for any new facilities it may recommend.

World Bank and ADB Assistance for Development of Ports

2687. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to seek assistance from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank for the development of ports in the Eighth Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the ports which are likely to be developed with the assistance from these agencies?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRI SHNAN): (a) and (b). The World Bank has shown interest in funding the schemes for augmentation of container handling facilities at Jawaharlal Nehru Port at Nhava Sheva. Loan negotiations for US\$ 129 million were concluded in November, 1989 with the ADB for the modernisation of port facilities and ship repair facilities of Bombay Port and the development by the State Government of Kakinada Port in Andhra Pradesh.

The schemes of Bombay Port covered by the loan from Asian Development Bank are:

- (i) Improvement of container handling facilities;
- (ii) Replacement of Pir Pau oil pier;
- (iii) Replacement of outer lock gate at Indira Dock;
- (iv) Replacement of fire fighting vessel;
- (v) Provision of computer management information system;
- (iv) Replacement of one Caission gate each of Hughes and Merewether dry docks and repair to existing facilities at the dry docks.

Proposal regarding other Ports are yet to be finalised and would be taken up for consideration when the 8th plan is finalised.

The following works are envisaged in the development by the State Government of Kakinada Port:

- (i) Construction of three deep water berths, extension of break water and dredging of access channel.
- (ii) Provision of ancillary facilities.

Pending Applications for Telephone Connections in Hoshiarpur (Punjab)

2688. SHRIKAMAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending for telephone connections in Hoshiarpur (Punjab);

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to clear the waiting list; and

(c) the time by which the capacity of the

present exchange will be expanded?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) 1323 as on 28.2.90.

(b) and (c). To clear the waiting list the existing 2100 lines electromechanical exchange is likely to be replaced by 4500 lines Electronic exchange in the middle of the 8th Five Year Plan.

Commissions of Inquiry

2689. SHRIMATI USHA SINHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Commissions of Inquiry appointed during the last three years under the Commissions of Inquiry Act;

(b) the number out of them which have since submitted their reports and how many such reports have been made public; and

(c) the particulars of the Commissions whose reports have not been made public and the reason for not making them public?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (c). The requisite information in respect of Commissions set up under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 by the Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Accidents Involving DTC and Private Buses

2690. SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur): Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents involving

Delhi Transport Corporation buses and private buses under DTC separately during 1988 and 1989 yearwise;

(b) the number of persons killed and injured in those accidents,

(c) the action taken against the drivers as well as the owners and drivers of private

buses; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to enhance the punishment to make the same deterrent?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) and (b) Details are as under:

	<i>Total No of buses</i>	<i>Total No of accidents</i>	<i>Number of persons killed</i>	<i>Number of persons injured</i>
(i) DTC Buses				
1988	4316	4217	224	1588
1989	4328	4117	215	1824
(ii) P.O Buses				
1988	972	153	53	184
1989	729	163	65	242

(c) Following action has been taken against the drivers of DTC buses.—

	<i>1988</i>	<i>1989</i>
— Cautioned	657	703
— Warned	239	349
— Reprimand	56	42
— Censured	43	52
— Stoppage of increment	68	74
— Recovery of penalty for damage to vehicles	337	230
— Services dispensed with	84	62
— Cases under proces	59	146

Action taken against drivers/owners of P.O. buses has been as under:

	1988	1989
— Contract of private buses terminated	16	49
— Penalty imposed	Rs. 7,000	Rs. 7,300

J) The services of retainer crew and proprietors are dispensed with if they are involved in fatal and major accidents. For regular drivers, exemplary punishment is given after conducting detailed enquiry if the charge against such driver is established on the basis of evidence in the enquiry. This is besides the punishment that are awarded by the court. In fatal and most serious accidents the services of private bus and its driver is terminated. There is no proposal to change the present practice.

Installation of Edible Oil Tanks at Kandla and Calcutta

2691. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some edible oil tanks are being installed at Kandla and Calcutta;

(b) whether these tanks are a part of Oil Technology Mission or any other project, if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to hand over Veg. Oil work now handled by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) to National Vegetable Oil Development Board; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): NDDB is currently constructing an

edible oil tank farm at Kandla and has plans to construct a tank farm in Calcutta.

(b) to (d). These tanks farms are being established by the NDDB under its vegetable oil project 'Restructuring Edible Oil and Oilseed Production and Marketing' which was approved by the Government of India in 1978. This project now covers 7 States under which 3603 cooperatives in 43 districts and 7 State Federations have been formed. The project further envisages that producers cooperatives would have around 15% share of the vegetable oil market. NDDB has considerable experience in handling commodities including vegetable oil and has created a net-work of infrastructure under the vegetable oil project. It has been appointed as the market intervention agency for an initial period of 5 years from April, 1989. In view of these facts the question of appointing another agency to carry out the vegetable oil work being handled by NDDB does not arise.

[Translation]

Floods in Bihar

2692. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is wide-spread devastation every year in Bihar due to floods; and

(b) if so, the total loss suffered in 1989-90?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). Floods cause fairly widespread damage in Bihar almost every year. The tentative loss suffered in Bihar during 1989-90 is estimated to be Rs. 9.50 crore.

[English]

Setting up of Digital Electronic Telephone Exchange at Udumalpet

2693. SHRI B. RAJARAVI VARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct a new building for telephone exchange at Udumalpet; and

(b) the time by which the building will be constructed and a digital electronic telephone exchange with 2000 lines set up there?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir. there is a proposal to construct a telephone exchange building of Crossbar type.

(b) The building is likely to be completed by September 1991 and 2000 line Crossbar Exchange is expected to be commissioned by middle of 1992 subject to availability of stores. No Digital Electronic Exchange is proposed at this place.

Indo-Bangladesh Talks on Bilateral Problems

2694. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to hold a fresh round of talks with Bangladesh for the solution of the bilateral problems; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJARAL): (a) and (b). During my visit to Bangladesh from 16-18 February, 1990, all bilateral issues were discussed and it was agreed that the talks would be carried forward when the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh visits India for the third meeting of the Joint Economic Commission.

[Translation]

Telephone Exchange at Ramgarh in Bihar

2695. PROF. YADUNATH PANDEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the building of telephone exchange has since been constructed by his ministry at Ramgarh in Hazaribagh, Bihar; and

(b) if so, the time by which the telephone exchange is likely to start functioning at Ramgarh?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The bldg. for telephone exchange at Ramgarh in Hazaribagh has been completed.

(b) This telephone exchange is likely to start functioning by March, 91.

Issue of Forged Passports

2696. DR. BENGALI SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any cases of issuing forged passports from Lucknow and Bareilly Passport Offices have come to light during the last six months;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof and action taken against the persons involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise

[English]

Break Through in Coconut Tissue Culture

2697. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any break through has been made in the coconut tissue culture;

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

(c) the research institutes presently engaged in this research work?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) No Sir.

(b) Techniques have not succeeded due to the presence of phenolic inhibitors.

(c)1. Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasaragod, Kerala.

2. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Tamilnadu.

3. Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

4. National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, Maharashtra.

Loss Incurred by Cochin Shipyard

2698. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the loss incurred by the Cochin Shipyard during 1989-90;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the financial health of the Shipyard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) As the financial year is not yet over, the final audited figures of loss are not available. But the anticipated loss for 1989-90 is Rs. 25.87 crores (approx.)

(b) The main reasons for losses are:

(i) The difference between end price of indigenously built ships and the actual cost of production, as the present pricing formula is related to international parity prices and not related to the actual cost of production.

(ii) Heavy interest burden on the loan portion of the capital structure of the company and working capital loans from the banks.

(iii) Higher cost of indigenous inputs.

(iv) Longer delivery time due to long lead time required for procurement of indigenous inputs.

(v) Low productivity.

(c) Various proposals based on the recommendations made by BICP and High Level Committee

headed by Shri Lovraj Kumar for improving the financial health of the shipyard are under consideration of the Government. These include revision of pricing formula, restructuring of capital base by converting loan into equity, grant of moratorium on payment of interest/repayment of past loans etc.

Amount Allocated to Karnataka out of Central Road Fund

2699 SHRI S.T. PATIL Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Central Road Fund has been augmented.

(b) if so, the amount allocated to Karnataka therefrom for the year 1989-90, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN) (a) to (c) Because of constraint of resources, additional funds under the augmented Central Road Fund are yet to be provided

However, a sum of Rs. 6.024 lakhs has been allocated to the Karnataka during the year 1989-90 against the sanctioned schemes.

Rate of Road Accidents

2700 SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether rate of road accidents in India is highest in the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the cost, the country has to bear every year as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. According to the World Road Statistics 1987 brought out by International Road Federation, Washington, rate of road accidents per 1000 vehicles for the year 1983, 1984, 1985 and 1986 has been as follows —

<i>Name of the Country</i>	<i>Accidents per thousand vehicles</i>				
	1983	1984	1985	1986	
1	2	3	4	5	
France	7.42	6.91	6.69	6.45	
Germany	12.81	12.05	10.72	9.95	
Spain	6.25	7.06	6.61	3.66	
Sweden	3.95	4.00	3.55	4.11	
Mauritius	107.69	63.59	67.30	73.75	
South Africa	15.34	15.03	13.56	14.87	
U.S.A.	11.26	12.22	11.88	—	
Hong Kong	50.75	47.88	48.90	48.12	
Indonesia	7.82	7.11	6.16	5.20	
Japan	8.88	8.37	8.57	8.68	
Korea	90.88	84.09	80.05	72.47	

<i>Name of the Country</i>	<i>Accidents per thousand vehicles</i>				
	1983	1984	1985	1986	
1	2	3	4	5	
Kuwait	34.41	38.89	39.30	36.21	
Malaysia	24.48	31.64	21.57	19.52	
India	25.21	23.98	22.37	19.70	

(c) This has not been estimated

Enforcement of Pollution Law on Vehicles

2701 SHRI Y S RAJA SEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether the pollution law on vehicles which was to be enforced from 1 March, 1990 had to be postponed.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor

(c) whether the law has since been enforced, and

(d) if so, from which date?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K P UNNIKRIISHNAN) (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir It has come into effect from 1st March, 1990

[*Translation*]

Action Plan for Drought and Famine

2702 SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether an action plan has been prepared by Government to find out a permanent solution to the problems of drought and famine; and

(b) if so, the time by which these problems are likely to be contained in various State through this action plan?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). A number of long term measures have been taken to help the States/ Union Territories in mitigating the distress caused by drought. These include increasing area under irrigation, Drought Prone Area Programme, Desert Development Programme, Soil and Water Conservation Programme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Afforestation, etc However, no definite time schedule can be laid down for complete containment of the problems of drought.

Border Dispute Between UP and Bihar

2703 SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the border dispute between Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have been solved; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) and (b). Based upon the arbitral Award of Shri C.M. Trivedi, which was accepted by both the Government of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, the Bihar and Uttar Pradesh (Alteration of Boundaries) Act, 1968 was enacted to replace the fluctuating inter-state river boundaries by fixed boundaries. Thus there is no boundary dispute as such. However, there have been occasional disputes between private parties involving contending claims in respect of rights of ownership and cultivation of land in some of the territories transferred from one State to the other following the enforcement of the said Act. Such disputes are to be determined by a competent court of law. There are, however, some differences between the Two State Governments over the exchange of records of rights of cultivators in respect of their lands in

certain villages falling in the transferred territories.

This is essentially a matter to be sorted out between the two State Governments bilaterally at the appropriate level. The Central Government would, however, be glad to extend such assistance as may be specifically required by them.

Fertilizer Factory in Gorakhpur

2704. SHRI MAHANT ABEDYA NATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal for setting up of a new fertilizer factory in Gorakhpur during 1990-91; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) There is no proposal for setting up a new fertilizer factory in Gorakhpur during 1990-91.

(b) Does not arise.

Drug Trafficking in Delhi

2705. PROF. SHAILENDRANATH SHRIVASTAVA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of illegal drugs seized in raids conducted by Delhi Police in 1989-90 item-wise;

(b) the officers and employees awarded for displaying special efficiency in this regard; and

(c) the total number of persons apprehended by Delhi Police in connection with illegal trafficking in drugs, the number of foreigners among them and their nationality?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) No precise value of the illicit drugs seized in raids can be either estimated or assessed as this is dependent upon various factor like places of origin and seizure, purity of the drugs seized, local demand and supply position, etc.

(b) No officer/employee has been awarded.

(c) In all 1706 persons were arrested of whom 25 are foreigners. Their nationality is given below:—

	1989	1989 (upto 15.3.90)
West Germany	3	—
Nigeria	4	1
Britain	2	—
Australia	2	1
France	2	—
Nepal	5	1

	1989	1989 (upto 15.3.90)
Canada	1	—
Tanzania	2	—
Iran	1	—
Total	22	3

[English]

Conversion of Delhi Cantonment Telephone Exchange into Electronic Exchange

2706 SHRI KALKA DAS Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that the Delhi Cantonment Telephone Exchange has become outdated

(b) if so, the special facilities and concessions proposed to be given to the subscribers till the exchange in question is overhauled and renovated to the entire satisfactions of the subscribers and

(c) by when Delhi Cantonment Exchange is likely to be replaced by the electronic / microwave operated exchange with full efficiency and sufficient lines to cope with the demands in this area?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K P UNNIKISHNAN) (a) Yes Sir

(b) The equipment is given fairly satisfactory service. Question of granting any concession does not arise

(c) A Digital Remote Line exchange of

4000 lines capacity is expected to be commissioned in a month's time

Employment Guarantee Scheme

2707 SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHARY Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce a Central Sponsored Scheme in various States on the lines of Employment guarantee Scheme in Maharashtra, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL) (a) and (b) The Finance Minister, in budget speech for the year 1990-91 has announced that it is proposed to make a beginning on an Employment Guarantee Scheme for the drought prone areas and areas with acute problem of rural unemployment in selected areas of the country. The details of the scheme are being worked out

Joint Patrolling on Indo-Pak Border—

2708 SHRI RAMDAS SINGH Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Border Security Force and Pakistani rangers have taken up joint patrolling on the Indo-Pak border along

Punjab and Rajasthan from 1 July, 1989, if so, the details thereof,

(b) whether Government propose to start joint patrolling in other sectors also and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED) (a) The BSF and Pak Rangers have taken up simultaneous coordinated patrolling on the Indo-Pak border along Punjab and Rajasthan from 1st July, 1989. It was agreed that both sides will send an agreed number of patrols on each day and will cover areas identified by the two Forces, the detailed programmes for simultaneous coordinated patrolling will be jointly worked out by the Battalion Commandant of BSF and Wing Commanders of Pak Rangers on a fortnightly basis. The patrol will be briefed and de-briefed jointly by the concerned Coy Commanders. The progress will be reviewed from time to time.

(b) and (c) The simultaneous co-ordinated patrolling has been extended to some more areas in Gujarat Sector from September 1989 onwards.

[*Translation*]

Famine Conditions in Bhandara District of Maharashtra

2709 DR KHUSHAL PARASRAM BOPCHE Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that Bhandara district in Maharashtra is facing famine conditions resulting from drought,

(b) whether Union Government have received any request for relief from State Government of Maharashtra, and

(c) whether there is any proposal to send a Central team to take stock of the situation?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL) (a) No report of famine like conditions resulting from drought in Bhandara district of Maharashtra has been received from the State Government

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise

Opening of Office at Garhi Amritpuri 'B' New Delhi

2710 SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARASTE Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is no permanent post office for the residents of Garhi, Amritpuri 'B' and A and Sant Nagar East of Kailash in New Delhi and

(b) if so, the time by which permanent post office is likely to be opened there?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K P UNNIKRISHNAN) (a) There are post offices in Sant Nagar and East of Kailash but not in Garhi Amritpuri.

(b) There is no proposal at present for a post office at Garhi Amritpuri in view of the fact that there are other post offices at distances of 1 to 1.5 kms from the said area.

[*English*]

Availability of Chemical Fertilizers to Small Farmers

2711 SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the present system of distribution of fertilizers; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure the availability of chemical fertilizers to the smallest farmers?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRIDEVI LAL): (a) and (b). The requirement of fertiliser for each State/Union Territory etc. is assessed before the beginning of each crop season. This is done in consultation with State Governments, UTs, Fertiliser Industry etc.

After assessing the requirement of fertilisers, a coordinated plan is finalised for supply of fertilisers from indigenous and imported stocks of fertilisers, to cover the requirements of different States/U.Ts.

The supplies against the allocations made in the supply plan are reviewed regularly to ensure that all States etc. are being supplied fertilisers according to the supply plan. Midterm corrections are made wherever necessary.

In order to enable the small and marginal farmers to buy fertilisers in small quantities, all the manufacturers of urea and DAP have been advised to supply 10% of their production in small packs in accordance with the requirement indicated by the State Government.

The State Governments have been advised to consider exemption from registration procedures in respect of dealers holding stocks up to 10 tonnes of fertilisers at a point of time.

In order to increase the retail outlets in interior and inaccessible areas, financial

assistance is being given for opening of additional retail outlets to meet the expenses for advance stocking and for transportation of fertilisers for a distance of 20 Kms. beyond block headquarters.

Acquisition of Ships

2712. SHRIJANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to remove restriction on acquisition of ships to help shipping industry to benefit from improvement in World freight markets; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). Any person who fulfils the requirement of Section 21 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 can apply to Government for acquisition of ships. Permission to acquire vessels is given taking into consideration the need for the vessels, and in the case of second hand vessels, also the age of the vessels, reasonableness of the price, etc. The Government decision is generally communicated within 45 days to private sector shipping companies who have applied for acquisition of ships. The Shipping Corporation of India has to obtain the approval of Central Government for Purchase of ships and their proposals are considered taking into account relevant factors such as the availability of Plan and Budget provisions, the viability of the proposal and the availability of foreign exchange. There is no proposal to do away with the above requirements.

However the Ministry propose to review the procedures laid down for the Shipping Corporation of India to bring it on a par with the Private Shipping Companies.

Acceptance of Cheques for Advance Rental by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited

2713 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd accepts cheques from the subscribers towards payment of advance deposits for rentals and

(b) if not the reasons therefor and steps proposed to be taken to streamline the whole procedure in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K P UNNIKRISHNAN) (a)
Yes Sir

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above

Linking of Canning with Calcutta by S.T.D

2714 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the various cities/towns in West Bengal which are proposed to be brought on the STD system linking them with Calcutta and other important cities during 1990-91

(b) whether in view of the growing importance of Canning some steps are proposed to be taken to link it with Calcutta by STD at the earliest and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K P UNNIKRISHNAN) (a)
Berhampore, Jalpaiguri, Bankura, Bishnupur, Dinhat, Ranaghat, Raiganj, Tamruk, Ben-erhat, Habra, Birpara, Tarakeswar, Durgachak, Nalhati, Hiji, Canning

(b) It is proposed to commission an electronic exchange at Canning during 1990-91. After that STD facility will be provided

(c) Question does not arise

Setting up of Digital Electronic Exchanges in States

2715 SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the target set for the opening of new 500 line Digital Electronic Exchanges by the end of 1989-90 and

(b) the number of such 500 line Digital Electronic Exchanges set up so far and the locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K P UNNIKRISHNAN) (a)
78 units of 512 Port ILT (Digital Electronic Exchanges)

(b) 21 exchanges-locations are given in the statement below

STATEMENT

Locations of 512 Port ILT Exchanges Commissioned so far

<i>Sl No</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Circle</i>
1	2	3
1	Hebbagudi	Karnataka

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Circle</i>
1	2	3
2.	Chikodi	—do—
3.	Padubirdi	—do—
4.	Ranigunta	Andhra Pradesh
5.	Kadiri	—do—
6.	Raya	Punjab
7.	Chandigarh	—do—
8.	Minicoy	Kerala (U/T of Lakshadweep)
9.	Andreth	—do—
10.	Udayampooroor	—do—
11.	Kondetty	—do—
12.	Nagda	Madhya Pradesh
13.	Karjat	Maharashtra
14.	Rajpur	Uttar Pradesh
15.	Manakapur	—do—
16.	Ambala city 2 units	Haryana
& 17.		
18.	Chandipur	Orissa
19.	Rayagadda	—do—
20.	Rajula	Gujarat
21.	Kotkhai	Himachal Pradesh

National Average of Road Length

2716. CH JAGDEEP DHANKHAR
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT
be pleased to state

(a) the National average of road length
for the country and the average of road
length in Rajasthan,

(b) whether Government propose to
provide assistance to bring up the average of
road length in Rajasthan at par with the

National average of road level, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K P UNNIKRISHNAN) (a) There is no generally accepted yardstick for working out a National average of road length. However, on a rough basis, the density of roads worked out on the basis of total area and population is as follows —

	<i>India</i>	<i>Rajasthan</i>
i) Road length per 100 sq km	55.4 km	31.1 km
ii) Road length per one lakh of population (1981 Census)	265.8 km	310.5 km

(b) and (c) As the bulk of road length consists of the State roads it is for the State Government to consider augmenting the road length by making suitable provision in the State Plans in consultation with the Planning Commission. The Central Government is mainly concerned with the development of National Highways.

Dry-Land Farming

2717 SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether a joint research plan has been drawn up by India and USA for the development of dry-land farming,

(b) if so, the amount earmarked out of the Indo-US fund for Educational, Cultural and Scientific Co-operation to support the dry-land farming research, and

(c) the Indian Agricultural universities in which such projects are proposed to be

taken up?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The amount earmarked is Rs 4,03,75,400/- for a period of five years

(c) The Agricultural Universities in which these projects have been taken up are i) University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, ii) University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, iii) Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur, iv) Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, v) Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri, vi) Gujarat Agricultural University, Anand and vii) Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Srinagar

Coconut Production

2718 SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government had a proposal to increase the production of Coconut;

(b) if so, the targets fixed and the specific steps taken to increase Coconut production in Karnataka and other States during the Seventh Plan period; and

(c) the production expected to be achieved during that Plan period?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (c). The target of Coconut production during the Seventh Five Year Plan is 8,000 million nuts. The production expected to be achieved during the plan period is 8,500 million nuts. The steps taken by Coconut Development Board to increase the coconut production in the country including Karnataka, during the Seventh Five Year Plan are:

1. Production of quality planting material
2. Expansion of area under coconut
3. Steps for productivity improvement
4. Integrated control of pest and diseases
5. Integrated development of post harvest technology including marketing and processing.

Marketing Facilities in States

2719. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether Union Government have suggested to State Government to create better marketing facilities in their States for the agricultural produce;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the States where marketing facilities are being improved; and

(c) the financial allocation, if any, made to those States, State-wise?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The States have been requested to enact State Agricultural Produce Markets Acts where the legislation has not already been enacted. Model Bill for regulation of Markets have been circulated to the States for modifying their existing legislation/formulating new legislation in order to help the farmers get better terms of trade. The States have been requested to draw up State Master Plans for development of agricultural markets based on detailed surveys of production and markets. Technical assistance and guidance for surveys, training personnel in various aspects of marketing, assistance for designing markets are provided by the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI). The DMI enforce quality control and help grading of agricultural produce including chemical analysis in the laboratories. The DMI also authorise State Government agencies for quality control. Government of India provides financial assistance to State Governments and UTs to develop infrastructural facilities in the agricultural produce markets in the country. In order to help storage of agricultural commodities, Government of India give financial assistance for the establishment of Rural Godowns.

(c) Till the period ending 31st March, 1989, an amount of Rs. 7514 lakhs has been provided to State Governments/Union Territories to develop 3601 markets. The State-wise financial assistance provided since inception of the scheme till 31st March, 1989 is given in the statement below.

STATEMENT

State-wise Central Assistance Sanctioned for Development of Markets as on 31st March, 1989

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>Name of the State/U. Ts.</i>	<i>Amount (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	278.05
2.	Assam	37.50
3.	Bihar	1184.50
4.	Goa, Daman & Diu	7.00
5.	Gujarat	254.08
6.	Haryana	439.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	73.90
8.	Karnataka	495.94
9.	Madhya Pradesh	880.00
10.	Maharashtra	916.71
11.	Orissa	301.87
12.	Punjab	525.50
13.	Pondicherry	1.50
14.	Rajasthan	925.27
15.	Tamil Nadu	109.80
16.	Uttar Pradesh	688.62
17.	West Bengal	87.50
Grand Total:		7513.49 (or say 7514)

Survey by Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fisheries along Maharashtra Coast

2721. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the North-West Coast of Maharashtra was surveyed by the Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for fisheries, for providing the best infrastructure facilities for the fishermen of this region; and

(b) if so, the details of location selected and when the work on these projects is likely to start and completed?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fisheries has not surveyed the North-West coast. However, a Group was constituted in June, 1988 by the Ministry of Agriculture to identify a suitable location for the development of a deep sea fishery harbour on the North-West Coast.

(b) On the basis of the recommendations of the Group the Ministry of Agriculture have taken a decision in principle to develop two deep sea fishery harbours, one at Agar-danda in Maharashtra and the other at Okha in Gujarat, subject to the techno-economic feasibility and the availability of resources in the Eighth Plan.

[*Translation*]

Consumption of Fertilizers

2722. SHRI KESHARI LAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the average consumption of fertilizers per acre in the country and how does it compare with the consumption in other

developed countries; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to encourage the farmers to use more fertilizers for increasing the production of foodgrains?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The average consumption of fertilizers in the country is provisionally estimated to be 20.11 kg. per acre during 87-88 and 25.25 kg. per acre during 88-89. The fertilizer consumption per ha. in India is lower than in many developed countries. It is, however, higher than in Australia and Canada (statement is given below.)

(b) Some of the steps taken by Government of India to encourage the farmers to use more fertilisers for increasing the production of foodgrains are listed below:

(i) The Urea and DAP manufacturers have been directed to supply 10% of the fertilizer allocation in small bags so as to encourage fertiliser use in remote areas.

(ii) State Governments have been advised to exempt dealers upto 10 tonnes of fertilizer stocks from the requirement of registration certificate.

(iii) Government of India is providing financial support for opening of retail outlets and laying out fertiliser use demonstrations in rainfed areas. Farmers trainings are also being organised.

(iv) Soil testing services have been strengthened to ensure balanced use of fertilizers.

(v) Quality control facilities have been strengthened to ensure supply of

standard fertilizers to the farmers.

(vi) Fertiliser Industry is being involved

in taking realistic demand assessment of fertilizers and for undertaking fertilizer promotion work.

STATEMENT

Fertiliser consumption in India and other countries

<i>Sl No.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Fertiliser Consumption (1987-88)* (N+P+K) kg. per acre</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1	India	20.11
2	Canada	19.46
3	Australia	11.57
4.	U.S.A	37.72
5.	China	95.71
6	Japan	175.11
7	G.D.R	136.54
8	Italy	76.93
9	Netherland	278.39
10.	United Kingdom	143.86
11.	New Zealand	286.52

*Source: 1988 FAO Fertilizer Year Book, Vol. 39, FAO Rome.

[English]

Complaints against Management of DTC

2723. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR
MALHOTRA:

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur):

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints against the top management of Delhi transport Corporation regarding mismanagement, irregularities and malpractices prevailing in the organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have instituted any inquiry against the persons involved;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the working of DTC?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) to (e). Certain complaints received against the officers of D.T.C. as well as its functioning are detailed below:—

- (i) Printing and distribution of tickets with political slogans to the private operators of the D.T.C.
- (ii) Irregular promotion of two senior officers of the D.T.C.
- (iii) Certain senior officers of D.T.C. have managed to amend the D.T.C. regulations to bring in a provision of compulsory retirement so that inconvenient officers/employees could be victimised.
- (iv) Allegations of corrupt practices, malpractices, groupism, etc. against two senior officers of the D.T.C.
- (v) Alleged victimisation of honest and efficient officers by manipulation of senior officers of D.T.C.

Government has not instituted any enquiry against the officers concerned. Report of the management of the D.T.C. has been obtained and position in respect of the complaints is given below:

- (i) On receipt of complaints against using tickets bearing political symbol, operations of some private buses were suspended, notices of termination were issued and ultimately the buses were disengaged from the DTC operations. The

aggrieved parties filed writ petitions in the High Court of Delhi and in compliance with the court orders, the operations of buses was restored and the show cause notice would be served on them.

- (ii) The two officers whose officiating promotions were not confirmed, and who were reverted had filed writ petitions in the Delhi High Court against their non-confirmation in the promoted posts. The case is subjudice.
- (iii) The Government is reviewing the performance of the DTC and its Management. The Government is also of the view that the DTC needs total overhaul and steps are being taken in pursuance of these aims.

Guidelines for Declaration of Assets by Union Ministers

2724. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any fresh guidelines for declaring the assets (both movable and immovable) by the Union Ministers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Non-Provision of Jobs in Thal Valshet Project

2725. SHRI A.R. ANTULAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people living in and around the Thal Vaishet Project in Maharashtra are agitated over non-provision of jobs in the project to the sons of the soil; and

(b) if so, the steps taken for providing jobs to those families and their members whose agricultural lands have been taken over for the construction of Thal Vaishet Project?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). Some of the persons who do not qualify to be treated as project affected persons have been agitating for employment. Since the job opportunities in the Thal-Vaishet plant have come to a saturation point, these persons have been told that it may be possible to consider employing them only when further expansion takes place. Technical training has also been offered to the local people so as to improve their prospects for employment

[*Translation*]

Ancillary industries in IFFCO Factory at Aonla

2726. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ancillary industries have been developed in IFFCO Fertilizer factory at Aonla, district Bareilly,

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for the development of ancillary industries there?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (c). The Aonla unit of IFFCO has identified a number of items including chemicals, light engineering and HDPE/laminated

jute bags for setting up ancillary industries. A senior IFFCO officer has been entrusted with the task of coordination and development of these ancillaries.

IFFCO Fertilizer Factory at Aonla, U.P.

2727. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether it is proposed to increase the production capacity of IFFCO fertilizer factory at Aonla in Uttar Pradesh; and

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

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, there is a proposal to double the capacity of the gas based 1350/2200 tonnes per day ammonia/urea plant of IFFCO at Aonla. The time frame for the implementation of the proposed expansion project will be about 30 months from the zero date.

[*English*]

Telephone System in Calicut City

2728. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the telephone system in Calicut city is generally out of order;

(b) whether Government are also aware that the telephone directory issued there to subscribers is full of mistakes of numbers and addresses; and

(c) if so, the measures taken by Government for improving Telephone system in Calicut city?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Telephone system in Calicut city is now functioning normally and its performance is regularly watched.

(b) Telephone Directory for Calicut Secondary Switching Area consisting of Calicut, Malappuram and Wynad districts corrected upto 31.10.89 was released in the first week of December, 1989. Two bulk number changes had to be effected in December 89 and January 90 involving 1339 telephone numbers in Calicut system due to area transfer. It was not possible to include these number changes in the Directory as this would have resulted in further delay in issue of the Directory. The Supplementary directory incorporating all the number changes and new telephone numbers provided after 31.10.89 is proposed to be published shortly.

(c) Life expired strowger type exchange equipments are proposed to be replaced by crossbar/electronic exchanges during the next two years. The 1000 lines strowger equipment has already been scrapped.

Charter on Animal Rights

2729. **SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the need to adopt a charter on animal rights;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any action in the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (e). The Government's attention has been drawn to the need to adopt a Charter on Animal Rights. The details of animal rights are given in the statement below.

It is doubtful whether the Charter on animal rights has been enacted by any country in the world. Perhaps, the matter is still under consideration of the United Nations Organisation (UNO). However, it is stated that at no stage, the National Government have been refractory to these problems of the dumb creatures. The fundamental duties of every citizen as enshrined in Article 51 (A) of the Constitution is to show compassion to all living creature and protect natural assets like forests, rivers, lakes and wild life etc. The Government have enacted the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 and established an Animal Welfare Board. Unfortunately, however, animals continue to suffer in the hands of men. Governments are of the opinion that adoption of Charter or enacting legislation are no effective solution unless, those are fortified with public awareness. With the concerted efforts, of the National Government, the State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations, if it is possible to increase awareness among public, especially children on the importance of compassion, the objectives of the Charter on Animal Rights are likely to be fulfilled. It is stated that the Governments will continue to do everything possible for promotion of animal welfare.

STATEMENT

Details of Animal Rights Universal Declaration of the Rights of Animals

Final text, adopted by the International League for Animal Rights and affiliated national leagues on the occasion of the Third International Meeting on the Rights of Ani-

mals (London, 21-23 September 1977). The Declaration, proclaimed on 15th October 1978 by the international league, affiliated leagues, associations and individuals who wish to be associated with it, will be submitted to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (U.N.E.S.C.O.), and then to the United Nations Organisation (U.N.O.).

PREAMBLE

Whereas all animal have rights,

Whereas disregard and contempt for the rights of animals have resulted and continue to result in crimes by man against nature and against animals,

Whereas recognition by the human species of the right to existence of other animal species is the foundation of the co-existence of species throughout the animal world,

Whereas genocide has been perpetrated by man on animals and the threat of genocide continues,

Whereas respect for animals is linked to the respect of man for men,

Whereas from childhood man should be taught to observe, understand, respect and love animals.

It is hereby proclaimed:

Article 1. All animals are born with an equal claim on life and the same rights to existence.

Article 2. 1. All animals are entitled to respect.

2. Man as an animal species shall not arrogate to himself the right to exterminate or

inhumanely exploit other animals. It is his duty to use his knowledge for the welfare of animals.

3. All animals have the right to the attention, care and protection of man.

Article 3. 1. No animal shall be ill treated or be subject to cruel acts.

2. If an animal has to be killed, this must be instantaneous and without distress.

Article 4. 1. All wild animals have the right to liberty in their natural environment, whether land, air or water, and be allowed to procreate.

2. Deprivation of freedom, even for educational purposes, is an infringement of this right.

Article 5. 1. Animals of species living traditionally in a human environment have the right to live and grow at the rhythm and under the conditions of life and freedom peculiar to their species.

2. Any interference by man with this rhythm or these conditions for purposes of gain is an infringement of this right.

Article 6. 1. All companion animals have the right to complete their natural life span.

2. Abandonment of an animal is a cruel and degrading act.

Article 7. All working animals are en-

titled to a reasonable limitation of the duration and intensity of their work, to the necessary nourishment and to rest.

Article 8. 1. Animal experimentation involving physical or psychological suffering is incompatible with the right of animals, whether it be for scientific, medical, commercial or any other form of research.

2. Replacement methods must be used and developed.

Article 9. Where animals are used in the food industry they shall be reared, transported, lairaged and killed without the infliction of suffering.

Article 10. 1. No animal shall be exploited for the amusement of man.

2. Exhibitions and spectacles involving animals are incompatible with their dignity.

Article 11. Any act involving the wanton killing of an animal is genocide, that is, a crime against the species.

Article 12. 1. Any act involving mass killing of wild animals is genocide, that is, a crime against the species

2. Pollution or destruction of the natural environment leads to genocide.

Article 13. 1. Dead animals shall be treated with respect.

2. Scenes of violence involving animals shall be banned from cinema and television, except for human education.

Article 14. 1. Representatives of movements that defend animal rights should have an effective voice at all levels of government.

2. The rights of animals, like human rights, should enjoy the protection of law.

Reservation of Seats for Women in Panchayats

2730. KUMARI UMA BHARATI:
SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAV-
INCHANDRA MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MA-
HAJAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any provision is proposed to be made in the legislation being contemplated for Panchayat Raj of seats for women;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) on what basis the percentage of reservation would be determined; and

(d) when the proposed legislation would be brought forward?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (d). The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Defects in Construction of I.S.B.T. Bridge

2731. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:
Will the Minister of SURF / TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether defects were detected in the construction of ISBT bridge, and the contractor has been changed due to these faults;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any other action against the contractor responsible for these defects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) The Delhi Administration who is constructing the bridge near Inter-State Bus Terminus did not change the contractors due to defects in construction work but because of slow progress.

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

Action taken on Recommendations of Task Force on FCI and HFC

2732. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the action taken on the recommendations of Task Force on the working of Fertilizer Corporation of India and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): Several steps for improving the performance of the units of Fertilizer Corporation of India (FCI) and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation (HFC) have been taken in the light of the recommendations of the Task Force. Proposals for revamping of Gorakhpur plant and rehabilitation of Ramagundam plant along with a captive power plant are at an advanced stage of consideration. While the loss-making Sindri Rationalisation plant of FCI has been closed its Korba project has been decided to be wound up.

Consultants were also appointed for carrying out end-to-end surveys of the operating units of Namrup-I and II, Barauni and Durgapur of HFC and its Haldia fertilizer project. Revamping of Nitro-phosphate group of plants of the Haldia project has been approved in principle.

Nuclear Tests

2733. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some International physicians organisations for prevention of nuclear war have appealed to the Super Powers to declare a permanent cease fire to nuclear testing causing massive environmental contamination;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government of India thereto; and

(c) whether Government of India propose to place her views before the Super Powers for the preservation of environment and public health safety?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Government are aware that the well-known organization, the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in an appeal addressed to all the nuclear weapon States, issued at its 9th World Congress held in Hiroshima on October 10, 1989 called for the immediate cessation of nuclear testing to halt the nuclear arms race. The appeal also included, inter-alia, a call for the conversion of secret nuclear laboratories into open scientific institutions to redirect their efforts towards environmental problems and a 50 percent reduction of global military spending to help achieve the World Health Organisation Programme of 'Health for All' by the year 2000.

(b) and (c). Government of India have consistently advocated a total ban on the testing of nuclear weapons by all nuclear weapon States in all environments. Government have continued to press for the commencement of negotiations on a comprehensive test ban treaty (CTBT), and pending this, an immediate moratorium on all nuclear testing, as a first step towards a CTBT, both in multilateral fora and its bilateral contacts.

Ban on Opening of New Post Offices

2734. SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ban on the opening of new post offices still continues;

(b) if not, when was the ban lifted;

(c) the number of new post offices opened in Orissa since then; and

(d) the details thereof, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) and (b). There is no ban on opening of post offices. However, in view of withdrawal of powers from Administrative Departments/Ministries to sanction posts since 1984, concurrence of Ministry of Finance is required for opening of new post offices.

(c) and (d). The number of new post offices opened in Orissa during the Seventh Plan period, upto 31.12.1989, is as follows:—

1985-86	Nil
1986-87	Nil
1987-88	16
1988-89	152
1989-90 (upto 31.12.1989)	18
Total	186

Districtwise details are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Applications for New Telephone Connections in Tumkur and Bangalore Districts of Karnataka

2735. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for telephone connections from Tumkur and Bangalore districts of Karnataka still pending;

(b) the average number of fresh registration for telephone connections per month from each of these two districts;

(c) the rate of clearance per month of these applications; and

(d) the action taken by Government to clear the backlog?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN):

(a) *Tumkur District* 1612 out of which 1205 in Tumkur city.

Bangalore District 49682 out of which 46616 in Bangalore city.

(b) 100 out of which 77 in Tumkur city.

1700 out of which 1504 in Bangalore city.

(c) (Average for 1989-90)

30

1500

(d) To clear the backlog, electronic exchange of 3500 lines has been planned at Tumkur in the middle of 8th Five Year Plan

and about 1.5 lakh electronic exchange lines (gross) addition of capacity has been planned in Bangalore district during the 8th Five Year Plan. This is subject to the approval of plans and availability of resources.

S.T.D. Facility in Karnataka

2736. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of districts in Karnataka where STD facility is available;

(b) the names of the districts in Karnataka which do not have STD facility so far, and

(c) the time by which STD facility will be provided there?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) Bangalore, Bangalore (Rural), Belgaum, Bellary, Bidar, Bijapur, Chickmagalur, Chitradurga, Dharwad, Gulberga, Hassan, Karwar, Kolar, Madikere (Mercara), Mandya, Mangalore, Mysore, Raichur, Shimoga, Tumkur.

(b) Nil.

(c) Question does not arise.

Crab disease in Coconut and Oil Palm Trees

2737. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of coconut and oil palm trees affected by crab disease in the country as per statistical survey conducted by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research; and

(b) whether Government propose to establish a coconut or oil palm research centre, especially in Tumkur district of Karnataka?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRIDEVI LAL): (a) Sir, Crabs are known to cause minor damage to coconuts, only in Andaman & Nicobar Islands. No statistical survey has been done.

(b) There is a proposal to set up a National Research Centre for Oil palm during the VIII Plan. No decision regarding its location has been taken.

[*Translation*]

Agitations for Separate States

2738. SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are aware that in many States agitations are going on for creation of separate States; and

(b) if so, the views of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government's view on such demands has been that regional imbalances and economic backwardness which, basically, give rise to such agitations should be tackled through the mechanism of planning and rapid development.

Involvement of Delhi Police Officials in Corruption Cases

2739. SHRI RAMLAL RAHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Delhi Police Officials found involved in corruption on the basis of investigation by the Vigilance Department during 1989; and

(b) the number of such officials against whom action has been taken?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) and (b). On the basis of investigation made by Vigilance Branch of Delhi Police, 56 officials were found involved in cases of corruption. Suitable disciplinary/departmental action has been initiated against all of them.

[English]

Dead Telephones in South Delhi

2740 **PROF. P.J. KURIEN:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of telephones in South Delhi under the Okhla Exchange remained dead for well over twenty days since the middle of February, this year; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in repairing the telephones?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

Targets for Production of Crops

2741. **SHRI K. PRADHANI:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for the production of various crops for the year 1988-89 and 1989-90;

(b) what had been the actual yield of each crop;

(c) whether the production has exceeded the targets; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). The targets and achievements of various crops during 1988-89 and the targets for 1989-90 are given below:—

(Million tonnes/bales)

Sl.No.	Crop	1988-89		1989-90	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Target
1	2	3	4	5	5
1.	Rice	67.95	70.67	72.50	
2.	Wheat	52.32	53.99	54.00	
3.	Coarse cereals	33.00	31.89	33.75	
4.	Pulses	13.30	13.70	14.75	
5.	Total Foodgrains	166.57	170.25	175.00	
6.	Oilseeds	15.66	17.89	16.50	
7.	Cotton*	9.78	8.69	10.00	

(Million tonnes/bales)

Sl.No.	Crop	1988-89		1989-90	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Target
1	2	3	4	5	5
8.	Jute & Mesta**	9.20	7.70	9.50	
9.	Sugarcane	195.00	204.63	212.00	

*:-Bales of 170 Kgs.

**:-Bales of 180 Kgs.

(c) and (d). The targets have been exceeded for most of the crops during 1988-89. The figures for the actual yield of each crop during 1989-90 are not yet available.

Strike by Employees of Paradeep Phosphates Limited

2742. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of Paradeep Phosphates Limited had gone on an indefinite strike recently in support of their nine point charter of demands;

(b) whether the strike has since been called off after due negotiations between the workers and the management; and

(c) if so, the details of their demand and the action taken to meet them?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The strike was called off by the Union unconditionally.

(c) (1) The demands made by the employees' Union were as follows:

- i) Payment of bonus/grant of ex-gratia payment for the year 1988-89.
- ii) Wage settlement.
- iii) Formulation of promotion policy for the workmen.
- iv) Canteen facility for contract labour.
- v) Review of policy on train-

ing period of apprenticeship.

vi) Reduction of staff.

vii) Accommodation facility for contract labour.

viii) Action against the Deputy General Manager (Maintenance) for alleged misbehaviour with the General Secretary of the Union.

ix) Restoration of the privileges withdrawn and removal of anomalies in the pay grades.

(2) The Government of Orissa have referred the demands relating to formulation of promotion policy, accommodation facility for contract labour and removal of anomalies in the pay grades for adjudication to the Industrial Tribunal. In respect of the remaining demands, the stand of Paradeep Phosphates Limited has been as under:

- i) The Company has not made any profit as provided under the Payment of Bonus Act and, therefore, neither bonus nor ex-gratia payment is justified.
- ii) The management had proposed wage negotiations as early as September 15, 1989. A number of workers have, however, resigned from the Union and action to start negotiations can now be taken

- only after the position crystallises.
- iii) Provision for canteen facility for contract labour is the responsibility of the contractors. Management has provided building for canteen for contract labour to be managed by the contractors. All contract labourers are expected to avail this facility.
- iv) The training period of apprentices cannot be made the subject matter of industrial disputes.
- v) There has not been any reduction in the staff and in fact the management is filling up vacancies.
- vi) Action against manager for alleged misbehaviour cannot be the subject of industrial dispute.
- vii) The dispute regarding withdrawal of privileges was raised earlier by the Union and already covered by the conciliation failure report which has been disposed off by the Government of Orissa.

(a) the measures adopted by Government to solve the prevailing serious drinking water problem in Banda, Hamirpur, Jhansi, Jalaun, Lalitpur and Allahabad districts in Bundelkhand division in Uttar Pradesh and Rewa, Satna, Chhatarpur and Tikamgarh districts of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether supply of drinking water has been ensured through bullock carts, truck tankers, tractors and trains as a temporary solution of the problem and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether arrangements have been made to instal hand pumps on a large scale;

(d) whether Government have formulated any new comprehensive schemes for the permanent solution of the problem and if so, the time by which these schemes are likely to be completed; and

(e) if not, the time by which such schemes will be formulated and implemented?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The measures adopted by the Government include conservation of water, tapping of ground water, deepening and cleaning of wells, blasting of tubewells, providing deep tube wells with with hand pumps/ power pumps.

[*Translation*]

Drinking Water Problem in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh

2743. SHRI RAM SAJIWAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

In addition, following schemes for urban water supply have also been technically approved by Government of India:—

1. Jhansi-Babina Water Supply project in Uttar Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs. 67.26 crores.

2. Chattarpur Water Supply Scheme in Madhya Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs. 14.28 crores.
3. Satna Water Supply Scheme in Madhya Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs. 3.688 crores.
4. Rewa Water Supply project in Madhya Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs. 5.29 crores.

Government of India had also approved ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 7.902 crores to the State of Uttar Pradesh towards drought relief assistance for making drinking water supply arrangements in the scarcity affected areas of the State for period during 31.3.1990. Similarly, ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 8.54 crores was approved to the State of Madhya Pradesh for the period December, 1989 to March, 1990.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). Comprehensive schemes for sustained supply of safe drinking water in rural areas are formulated and implemented under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme, Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme. The Mini Mission project areas of Shahdol, Jhabua and Rajgarh in Madhya Pradesh and Sultanpur, Mirzapur, Agra and Unnao in Uttar Pradesh have been taken up under the National Drinking Water Mission. All the problem villages (PVs) are likely to be covered either partially or fully in Madhya Pradesh by 31.3.1990 except 155 PVs which are likely to be covered during 1990-91. As regards Uttar Pradesh, except 755 problem villages in the 4 hilly districts, all other problem villages are likely to be covered fully or partially with the safe drinking water facilities

by the end of the Seventh Plan. The problem villages which will spill over to the VIII Plan in Uttar Pradesh are likely to be covered in the first two years of the VIII Plan.

[English]

Review of Working of Central Police Organisations

2744. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to undertake a review of working of all Central Police Organisations with a view to streamlining and rationalising these organisations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which such reviews are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (c). Review of the functioning of Police Organisations is an ongoing process. Measures to make the Organisations more effective are taken as and when necessary. There is no proposal to undertake a special review.

Armed Gangs from Sri Lanka in Tamil Nadu

2745. SHRI P.M. SAYEED:
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some armed gangs from Sri Lanka have

entered Tamil Nadu in large numbers; and [Translation]

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to tackle the situation?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) and (b). There is no information of infiltration of large number of armed gangs from Sri Lanka in Tamil Nadu. However, on the intervening night of February 18/19, 1990, 15 armed persons claiming to be Sri Lankan Tamil militants, forced their way through a check post in Ramnathpuram district and when challenged opened fire killing one police constable and a civilian and injuring 15 others including 11 police personnel. In this connection three cases have been registered and are being investigated by the State Police. One person was also arrested. All appropriate measures have also been taken to deal with the situation arising out of influx of Sri Lankan Tamil refugees.

Communal Riots

2746. SHRI GULAB CHAND
KATARIA:
SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of communal riots which took place in the country during the last three months, State-wise and month-wise; and

(b) the estimated loss of life and property therein?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) and (b). On the basis of available information, the particulars of communal riots which occurred in the country during the last three months are as under:—

<i>Place and date of occurrence</i>	<i>No. of persons killed</i>	<i>Estimated loss of property</i>
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BIHAR:

Dhaka (East Champaran) (27th Feb.)	2	—
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Simari, Bakhtiarpur Saharsa (27th Feb.)	1	—
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GUJARAT:

Ahmedabad (27th Feb.)	3	—
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Surat (Feb. 27)	1	—
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<i>Place and date of occurrence</i>	<i>No. of persons killed</i>	<i>Estimated loss of property</i>
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RAJASTHAN:

Ladnun, District Nagaur (16th Dec. 89)	4	Rs. 2.50 lakhs
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Pending Applications for Telephone Connections in Rajasthan

2747. SHRIGULABCHAND KATARIA:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for telephone connections pending exchange-wise in Rajasthan and since when;

(b) the reasons for the delay in releasing telephone connections;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to clear the backlog; and

(d) the action plan for 1990 in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKISHNAN): (a) The statement is given below. The dates

since when the applications in some of the major exchanges are pending are also given in the statement below.

(b) The main reason is shortage of switching equipment.

(c) Plan proposals have been drawn to provide telephones.

i) on demand in exchanges of capacity less than 5000 lines and

ii) to contain waiting list to one year period for exchanges of capacity more than 5000 lines.

This is subject to approval of plans and timely availability of equipments.

(d) Action Plan has been made to augment the telephone exchanges gross switching capacity by 30,000 lines during 1990-91.

STATEMENT**DISTRICT: AJMER**

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
1.	Ajmer	2374
2.	Arain	2

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
3.	Babaicha	
4.	Baghera	
5.	Bandanwara	1
6.	Barna	1
7.	Beawar	148
8.	Bhadoo	
9.	Bhagsuri	3
10.	Bhandarsindri	5
11.	Bhanwta	7
12.	Bhatiyani	5
13.	Bhinay	
14.	Govindgarh	1
15.	Harmara	
16.	Jawaja	
17.	Junia	3
18.	Kadel	
19.	Kadera	
20.	Karkedi	
21.	Kekri	10
22.	Kherwa	
23.	Madanganj	108
24.	Mangalwas	2

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
25.	Masooda	
26.	Nasirabad	6
27.	Pisagaon	
28.	Pashkar	5
29.	Rajgarh	2
30.	Ramsar	1
31.	Roopangarh	6
32.	Salemabad	
33.	Saradhana	1
34.	Sarwar	3
35.	Sawar	4
36.	Srinagar	
37.	Sursura	3
38.	Tantoti	2
39.	Thanwala	1
40.	Todgarh	
41.	Vijaynagar	16
Total:		2720

DISTRICT: ALWAR

1. Ajarka
2. Akbarpur
3. Alawada

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
4.	Alwar	784
5.	Bahadurpur	
6.	Bamboli	
7.	Bansur	
8.	Barodameo	
9.	Barrod	
10.	Behror	
11.	Bhanokar	
12.	Bhindusi	
13.	Bhiwadi	60
14.	Bibirani	
15.	Gandala	
16.	Gharisawairam	
17.	Gothra	
18.	Govindgarh	
19.	Hamirpur	
20.	Harsoli	
21.	Harsora	
22.	Ismailpur	
23.	Jatbehror	
24.	Jeenodoli	
25.	Kathumar	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
26.	Khairthal	26
27.	Khanpurmewan	
28.	Kherli	36
29.	Kishangarhbas	
30.	Kotkasim	
31.	Lannangarh	
32.	Machari	
33.	Malakhera	
34.	Mandawar	
35.	Mandhan	
36.	MIA Alwar	
37.	Narainpur	
38.	Nogaon	
39.	Partapgarh	
40.	Pinan	
41.	Rajgarh	
42.	Rajpur	
43.	Rajwada	
44.	Ramgarh	
45.	Rampur (Kasba)	
46.	Reni	
47.	Sahadoli	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
48.	Sariska	
49.	Shahjahanpur	6
50.	Sodawai	
51.	Tahla	
52.	Tapukara	
53.	Tatarpur	
54.	Thanagazi	
55.	Tujara	
56.	Unrain	
Total:		912

DISTRICT: BANSWARA

1.	Anandpuri	
2.	Arthoona	1
3.	Bagidora	7
4.	Banswara	609
5.	Bari (Lalpura)	
6.	Barodiya	
7.	Chhota Dungra	
8.	Ghatol	
9.	Jolana	
10.	Kushalgarh	3
11.	Lonarva	2

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
12.	Partapur	27
13.	Talwara	
Total:		645

DISTRICT BARMER

1.	Asara	
2.	Baroo	3
3.	Balotra	770
4.	Barmer	179
5.	Chahatan	4
6.	Dhorimana	1
7.	Gadra Road	
8.	Gudemalani	
9.	Kalyanpura	1
10.	Kanana	
11.	Kawas	1
12.	Majal	
13.	Mokalsar	
14.	Pachpadra	7
15.	Padroo	
16.	Patodi	
17.	Rakhi	
18.	Samdari	7

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
19.	Sheoganga	
20.	Sindhari	
21.	Siwana	
Total:		973

DISTRICT: BHARATPUR

1.	Bayana	3
2.	Bharatpur	555
3.	Bhusawar	2
4.	Chhokarwara	2
5.	Deeg	3
6.	Halena	2
7.	Jeerahera	
8.	Kanan	
9.	Kucher	4
10.	Nadhari	4
11.	Nagar	6
12.	Pahari	
13.	Rasiya	5
14.	Rudewal	
15.	Rupbas	1
16.	Seekri	3

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
17.	Uchetail	
18.	Weir	
Total:		590

DISTRICT: BHILWARA

1.	Asind	3
2.	Banera	
3.	Bhilwara	2347
4.	Bipi	1
5.	Bijolyankalan	5
6.	Gangapur	2
7.	Gulabpura	1
8.	Hameergarh	3
9.	Jahazpur	
10.	Koshithal	3
11.	Kotri	3
12.	Mahuwa	
13.	Mandal	4
14.	Mandalgarh	
15.	Parasoli	
16.	Potlan	
17.	Raipur	2
18.	Rajajikakhera	1

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
19.	Raylaroad	12
20.	Roopabeli	2
21.	Seegoli	
22.	Shahpur	12
23.	Shashoogarh	2
Total:		2403

DISTRICT: BIKANER

1.	Bikaner	2216
2.	Chhatragarh	6
3.	Deshnok	
4.	Himatsar	
5.	Jasrasar	
6.	Kaloo	2
7.	Khajuwala	6
8.	Lunkaranser	5
9.	Mahajan	
10.	Napaser	1
11.	Nokha	27
12.	Srikolayatji	6
13.	Udkamsar	1
Total:		2270

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>

DISTRICT: BHILWARA

1.	Asind	3
2.	Banera	
3.	Bhilwara	2347
4.	Bipi	1
5.	Bijoliyankalan	5
6.	Gangapur	2
7.	Gulabpura	1
8.	Hameergarh	3
9.	Jahazpur	
10.	Koshithal	3
11.	Kotri	3
12.	Mahuwa	
13.	Mandal	4
14.	Mandalgarh	
15.	Parasoli	
16.	Potlan	
17.	Raipur	2
18.	Rajajikakhera	1
19.	Raylaroad	12
20.	Roopabeli	2
21.	Seegoli	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
22.	Shahpur	12
23.	Shashoogarh	2
Total:		2403

DISTRICT: CHITTORGARH

1.	Abola	
2.	Arnad	2
3	Pannipohera	
4.	Paravarda	2
5.	Parisadri	
6.	Bassi	2
7.	Begun	
8.	Phadesar	
9.	Bhoopalsagar	
10.	Chholisadri	
11.	Chittaorgarh	429
12.	Dindoli	2
13.	Durgle	1
14.	Gangran	4
15.	Kanora	
16.	Kapasan	4
17.	Mandpeye	1
18.	Nangalwa	2

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
19.	Nikoon	3
20.	Ninbahare	115
21.	Pratapgarh	18
22.	Roshim	
23.	Rawalbatra	73
24.	Sewa	3
25.	Shanbhoopura	2
26.	Singhpur	
Total:		672

DISTRICT: BUNDI

1.	Bundi	175
2.	Dabi	
3.	Hei	
4.	Hindoli	
5.	Karprain	
6.	Reshoraipatan	
7.	Lalheri	
8.	Nairwa	
9.	Talera	
Total:		175

DISTRICT: CHURU

1. Bidasar

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
2.	Chhapar	
3.	Churu	84
4.	Doodwakh	
5.	Memasar	
6.	Nangalbari	1
7.	Parihara	
8.	Pulassar	
9.	Rajalaesar	1
10.	Ratan Nagar	1
11.	Ratangarh	32
12.	Sadulpur	23
13.	Salava	
14.	Salasar	
15.	Sardarshshar	50
16.	Sidhmuki	
17.	Sridangangarh	10
18.	Sidser	
19.	Sujangarh	7
20.	Taronagar	
Total:		209

DISTRICT: DHOLPUR

1. **Bari**

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
2.	Baseri	4
3.	Dholpur	10
4.	Maniyan	2
5.	Raja Khera	
6.	Sarnathura	4
7.	Taseemo	
Total:		25

DISTRICT: DUNGARPUR

1.	Aspur	
2.	Bankora	
3.	Bichhiwara	
4.	Chikli	
5.	Dungarpur	144
6.	Galiyakot	4
7.	Khargda	1
8.	Padli (Gantri)	
9.	Phaloz	
10.	Sabla	2
11.	Sagwara	15
12.	Seemalwara	3
Total:		169

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3

DISTRICT: JAIPUR

1	Achrol	13
2.	Alooda	
3.	Amber	133
4.	Badhal	
5.	Badiyal Kalan	1
6.	Bagru	51
7.	Bandikui	11
8.	Baneti	
9.	Banskho	
10.	Bassi	25
11.	Baswa	
12.	Bhadwa	2
13.	Bhandarej	
14.	Bichoon	
15.	Boraj	4
16.	Chaksu	6
17.	Chharda	
18.	Chittora Renwal	
19.	Chomu	58
20.	Daulatpura	7
21.	Dausa	72

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
22.	Dhankiya	29
23.	Dudu	5
24.	Durgapura	1020
25.	Geejgarh	
26.	Gonera	
27.	Govindgarh	4
28.	Hingoniya	4
29.	Jaipur 6 unit	20289
30.	Jaipur 7 unit	
31.	Jaitpura	30
32.	Jawaharnagar	474
33.	Jetwara	
34.	Jhag	
35.	Jhetwara	1005
36.	Jobner	4
37.	Kaladera	
38.	Kalwad	6
39.	Kanota	36
40.	Karansar	
41.	Katliwas	7
42.	Khara Bisal	17
43.	Khejroli	16

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
44.	Kotputli	37
45.	Lalsot	5
46.	Lawan	
47.	Madhoraj Pura	2
48.	Mahapura	26
49.	Mahlan	7
50.	Mandawari	
51.	Mandha	
52.	Manoharpur	4
53.	Mansarover	1027
54.	Mauzamabad	
55.	Naraina	
56.	Nareda	
57.	Nayla	
58.	Paota	8
59.	Paparda	
60.	Phagi	5
61.	Phulera	4
62.	Ramgarh Pachwa	
63.	Rampura	25
64.	Renwal	
65.	Rungtapura	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
66.	Sainthal	4
67.	Sambhar Lake	2
68.	Sanod	
69.	Sanganeri Gate	11845
70.	Shahpura	16
71.	Shivdaspura	11
72.	Sikandra	1
73.	Sikrai	
74.	Toonga	1
75.	Viratnagar	1
76.	Vishwakara	446
77.	Watka	2
Total:		36808

DISTRICT: JAISALMER

1.	Jaisalmer	80
2.	Lathi	
3.	Nachna	
4.	Pokaran	
5.	Ramdeora	
Total:		80

DISTRICT: JALORE

1.	Ahore	2
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<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
2.	Bagora	
3.	Bagra	5
4.	Bakra Road	11
5.	Balwara	
6.	Bargaon	
7.	Bhinmal	62
8.	Bhute Kavarda	2
9.	Bishangarh	15
10.	Chandrai	
11.	Choran	
12.	Daspan	
13.	Gurhabalotan	
14.	Hadecha	1
15.	Jalore	99
16.	Jaswanipura	1
17.	Jeewana	
18.	Jhab	1
19.	Malwara	1
20.	Mandanwala	
21.	Posana	1
22.	Rama	4
23.	Ramseen	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
24.	Raniwara	7
25.	Rewtra	
26.	Sanchore	7
27.	Sayla	
28.	Siyana	2
29.	Tawab	1
30.	Tiloda	2
31.	Uhmedabad	
Total:		224

DISTRICT: JHALWARA

1.	Ablera	
2.	Bhawani Mandi	
3.	Chaumehla	
4.	Dag	
5.	Jhalawar	
6.	Jhalrapatan	7
7.	Khanpur	13
8.	Nanoharthana	
9.	Peerawa	
10.	Raipur	
11.	Sunel	
Total:		20

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>

DISTRICT: JHUNJHUNU

1.	Alsisar	
2.	Babai	
3.	Baggar	
4.	Baragaon	
5.	Binjusar	1
6.	Bissau	
7.	Chirana	
8.	Chirawa	24
9.	Chirawa	5
10.	Cudha Gorjika	3
11.	Jhunjhunu	180
12.	Khetri Copper	9
13.	Khetri Town	
14.	Malsisar	
15.	Mandawa	11
16.	Mukandgarh	5
17.	Mandrella	
18.	Nawalgarh	6
19.	Nua	6
20.	Parasraa Pura	
21.	Ponkh	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
22.	Sultana	
23.	Surajgarh	
24.	Taakor	
25.	Udaipurwati	3
Total:		253

DISTRICT: JODHPUR

1.	Aau	
2.	Asop	
3.	Balarwa	12
4.	Balesar	2
5.	Banar	11
6.	Badri	3
7.	Bap	6
8.	Basni	349
9.	Belwa	2
10.	Bhopalgarh	7
11.	Bilara	18
12.	Bisalpur	
13.	Boroonda	18
14.	Choukha	3
15.	Dhandhora	
16.	Ghewra	8

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
17.	Gurha Vishanoyan	6
18.	Jhanwar	
19.	Jodhpur	7739
20.	Jodhpur	1160
21.	Jodhpur	1
22.	Khabrakhurd	5
23.	Khariya Meethapur	
24.	Khariya Khangar	2
25.	Lohawat	1
26.	Luni	
27.	Mandore	221
28.	Marwar Mathania	28
29.	Osian	
30.	Phalodi	29
31.	Piparcity	19
32.	Ransigaon	8
33.	Salawas	
34.	Setrawa	
35.	Shergarh	2
36.	Tinwari	25
Total:		968

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3

DISTRICT. KOTA

1.	Antah	23
2.	Atru	
3.	Baran	269
4.	Bhanwargarh	1
5.	Chhabra	1
6.	Chhipa Barod	
7.	Daran	
8.	Itawa	
9.	Kathu	
10.	Kanvas	
11.	Kalwara	
12.	Kishanganj	
13.	Kota	3744
14.	Mangrol	
15.	Modak	
16.	Ramganjamandi	34
17.	Salpura	
18.	Sangod	2
19.	Saewali	
20.	Suket	
21.	Sultanpur	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
22.	Sumerganj Mandi	
	Total:	407

DISTRICT: NAGAUR

1.	DEGA Badikhathu	1
2.	BAWA Badoo	6
3.	NAGA Basni	
4.	NAWA Besroli	3
5.	NAWA Bidiyad	20
6.	NAGA Bidsu	
7.	DEED Chhotikhathu	2
8.	DEED Daya.pura	4
9.	Deedwana	28
10.	Degana	3
11.	Gachhipura	2
12.	Gothan	8
13.	Harsor	1
14.	Idwa	
15.	Jasnagar	
16.	Jayal	3
17.	Jodhiyasi	
18.	Kheenwaar	10
19.	Khunkhuna	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
20.	Koliya	
21.	Kuchaman City	37
22.	Kuchaman Road	4
23.	Kuchera	5
24.	Ladariya	
25.	Ladnum	16
26.	Lalgarh	3
27.	Loonwa	
28.	Makrana	499
29.	Maroth	
30.	Meethri	1
31.	Merta City	25
32.	Marta Road	10
33.	Mclasar	
34.	Mundwa Marwar	3
35.	Nagaur	231
36.	Narainpura	
37.	Nimbod	
38.	Nokha Chandawatan	2
39.	Parbatsar	11
40.	Peeh	
41.	Ren	1

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
42.	Riyan Bari	
43.	Roi	1
44.	Shribaraji	1
Total:		948

DISTRICT. PALI

1.	Anandpurkaloo	2
2.	Atbara	
3.	Aura	
4.	Babra	1
5.	Bagol	
6.	Bagri Nagar	2
7.	Bali	3
8.	Bairai	
9.	Bankli	2
10.	Bantla	
11.	Bar	1
12.	Bansri	
13.	Beeiawas	1
14.	Beerami	
15.	Beesalpur	1
16.	Bera	
17.	Berkalan	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
18.	Bharoonda	5
19.	Bhatoond	2
20.	Chachori	
21.	Chandawal	
22.	Chaned	
23.	Deoli Auwa	2
24.	Deoli Kalan	1
25.	Deoli Pabuji	
26.	Desuri	
27.	Dhamli	
28.	Dhanla	
29.	Dujana	
30.	Ghanerao	1
31.	Ghenri	1
32.	Gundoj	
33.	Gurhaendla	
34.	Jadan	
35.	Jailaran	4
36.	Jawali	
37.	Jojawar	
38.	Kherwa	
39.	Khiwara	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
40.	Khod	
41.	Koselao	1
42.	Kushalpura	
43.	Lapod	
44.	Latada	
45.	Lunawa	3
46.	Marwar Jn.	2
47.	Mohraj	1
48.	Mundra	1
49.	Nadol	2
50.	Nana	
51.	Nimaj	1
52.	Nowi	
53.	Pali	580
54.	Peepaliya	
55.	Phalna	12
56.	Raipur	
57.	Ramawas	
58.	Rani Khurd	10
59.	Rohi	
60.	Roopawli	
61.	Sadri	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
62.	Sanderao	
63.	Sendra	2
64.	Sewari	1
65.	Sojat City	3
66.	Sojat Road	
67.	Sonesar	13
68.	Sunrrpur	79
69.	Takhatgarh	2
Total:		724

DISTRICT: SAWAI MADHOPUR

1.	Bajewadakhurd	
2.	Balaheri	2
3.	Bamanwas	
4.	Bhagwatgarh	
5.	Bharoti	
6.	Bonli	
7.	Chauth Ka Barwara	
8.	Gangapur City	63
9.	Hindaun City	99
10.	Karauli	17
11.	Kariri Gazipur	
12.	Khandar	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
13.	Kherela	
14.	Kundera	
15.	Mahuwa	
16.	Mahuwa Road	
17.	Malarnadoongar	2
18.	Nadauti	
19.	Narolidag	
20.	Paota	
21.	Peepalda	
22.	Sapotra	
23.	Sawai Madhopur City	
24.	Sawaimadhopur	35
25.	Shiwar	3
26.	Sooroth	
27.	Sri Mahavirji	6
28.	Toda Bhim	
29.	Mazeerpur	
Total:		229

DISTRICT: SIKAR

1.	Ajeetgarh	8
2.	Balaran	
3.	Danta Ramgarh	6

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
4.	Daulatpura	3
5.	Fatehpur	87
6.	Guhala	1
7.	Kachwa	12
8.	Kanwat	7
9	Khachariyawas	1
10.	Khandela	10
11.	Khatu Shyamji	7
12.	Koodan	1
13.	Lachhmangarh	4
14.	Losal	1
15.	Mandha	5
16.	Nachwa	
17.	Nee-Ka Thana	23
18.	Palsana	6
19.	Patan	
20	Ramgarh	
21.	Reengus	12
22.	Shishu (Panori)	3
23.	Sihot Chhoti	6
24.	Sikar	558

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
25.	Sri Madhopur	57
Total:		818

DISTRICT: SIROHI

1.	Abu Mount	61
2.	Abu Road	158
3.	Anadra	15
4.	Banas J.K. Puram	
5.	Bharja	
6.	Dantrai	
7.	Jawal	
8.	Kailash Nagar	3
9.	Kalandri	6
10.	Mandar	
11.	Neebaj	
12.	Padeev	5
13.	Parli	1
14.	Pindwara	30
15.	Posaliyan	1
16.	Reodar	10
17.	Rohira	2
18.	Sildar	4
19.	Sirodi	6

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
20.	Sirohi	59
21.	Swarupganj Sheoganj	7
22.	Warada	6
Total:		378

DISTRICT: SRIGANGANAGAR

1.	Anupgarh	39
2.	Arjunsar	2
3.	Bhadra	8
4.	Binjhbayla	5
5.	C C Head	2
6.	Chak 12 G	8
7.	Chak 3 O	
8.	Chunawad Kothi	10
9.	Dabli	
10.	Daulatpura	
11.	Fatuhi	1
12.	Gajonghpur	1
13.	Gandheli	2
14.	Ganeshgarh	2
15.	Ganguwala	3
16.	Gharsana	
17.	Goluwala	3

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
18.	Gulabewala	5
19.	Hanumangarh Town	65
20.	Hanumanganh Jn.	215
21.	Jetsar	
22.	Jetsar Farm	
23.	Keshrisinghpur	1
24.	Kulchandra	12
25.	Lalgarh Jatan	4
26.	Mirzawala	3
27.	Netawala	23
28.	Nohar	2
29.	Padampur	2
30.	Peer Kamria	4
31.	Phophana	5
32.	Pilibanga	8
33.	Raisinghnagar	6
34.	Rajiasar	
35.	Ramgarh Ujlawas	3
36.	Ramsinghpur	
37.	Rawatsar	9
38.	Rawla Mandi	1
39.	Ridmalsar	8

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
40	Sadulshahar	5
41	Sangrana	7
42	Sangria	23
43	Sriganganagar	977
44	Sriharanpur	7
45	Srivijainagar	2
46	Suratgarh	56
47	Talwara Jheel	
48.	Thalarka	
49.	Tibi	6
50	Udyogbihar	18
Total		1563

DISTRICT TONK

1. Aligarh
2. Abikanagar
3. Banasthali
4. Depli
5. Diggı
6. Dooni
7. Kater
8. Lamda Harising
9. Lasa

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
10.	Malpura	7
11.	Nagar Fort	1
12.	Niwai	19
13.	Pachewar	
14.	Poeploo	8
15.	Toda Psisng	5
16.	Tonk	200
17.	Uniara	
Total:		247

DISTRICT: UDAIPUR

1.	Bambora	1
2.	Bankora	1
3.	Bhanpura	
4.	Bhin	3
5.	Bhinder	3
6.	Bhomatawara	
7.	Binol	1
8.	Chandesara	3
9.	Char Btuja	25
10.	Char Bhujaji	1
11.	Chawand	
12.	Dabok	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
13.	Dawer	
14.	Delwara	
15.	Deogarh	2
16.	Dhariawad	9
17.	Fatehnagar	11
18.	Gala	2
19.	Gaongurha	
20.	Ghasa	4
21.	Ghata	1
22.	Gogunda	
23.	Jawarmines	1
24.	Jhadol P	1
25.	Jhadol S	1
26.	Kantroli	113
27.	Kanad	3
28.	Kelwa	40
29.	Kelwara	2
30.	Khannor	
31.	Kheroda	3
32.	Kherwara	15
33.	Kotra	
34.	Krishi Upaj Mandi UP	562

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
35.	Kuathal	
36.	Kun	2
37.	Lambori	1
38.	Lawa Sardargarh	
39.	Meehand	
40.	Mandwa	
41.	Mavli Jn	1
42.	Mohi	3
43.	Molela	
44.	Nai	
45.	Nandeshara	83
46.	Nathdwara	
47.	Nawagaon	
48.	Palodra	1
49.	Parasli	
50.	Parsad	3
51.	Parsola	1
52.	Bhalasiya	1
53.	Rail Magra	1
54.	Rajpura Dariba	7
55.	Reechher	
56.	Rikhabdea	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting List Total</i>
1	2	3
57.	Rundera	1
58.	Salore	1
59.	Salumbar	7
60.	Sameecha	
61.	Samod	
62.	Sama	
63.	Samal	1
64.	Shishda	
65.	Thamla	
66.	Theelarwas	1
67.	Udaipur	6022
68.	Vallabhnagar	1
69.	WAS	1
Total.		6968

Date of oldest applicant waiting for telephone connection in some of the major exchanges:—

<i>Sl No</i>	<i>Name of the Exchange</i>	<i>Date</i>
1	2	3
1	Jaipur	3. 9.1981
2.	Jodhpur	10 6.1980
3.	Udaipur	16. 2.1982
4.	Ajmer	20.10.1984
5.	Srigangangar	7. 8.1986

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Exchange</i>	<i>Date</i>
1	2	3
6.	Bikaner	7. 7.1983
7.	Kota	21.12.1986
8.	Alwar	3. 3.1986
9.	Beawar	12. 3.1989
10.	Pali	15. 7.1983

[*English*]

Sino-Pak Defence Pact

2748. SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistan and China have recently signed a defence pact for ten years; and

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Government have seen reports to the effect that Pakistan and China have recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding on bilateral defence cooperation.

(b) Government keep under constant review all developments having a bearing on India's security and take necessary measures to safeguard it.

Gas Based Fertilizer Plants

2749. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of gas-based fertilizer plants proposed to be set up during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details thereof indicating the location, cost and the production capacity;

(c) whether Krishak Bharti Cooperative Limited has also staked a claim for a new gas-based fertilizer plant to be set up during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details of the proposed Kribhco plant indicating the location cost and the production capacity?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). The Working Group on Fertilisers set up by the Planning Commission in the context of the preparation of the VIII Five Year Plan has recommended implementation of the delayed gas based nitrogenous fertiliser projects of the VII plan and expansion of the three existing gas based plants of 1350/2200 tonnes per day ammonia/urea capacity each along the HBJ pipeline during the VIII Plan period. The recommendations of the Working Group are yet to be accepted.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. A proposal has

been received from KRIBHCO to set up a gas based fertiliser plant of 1350/2200 tonnes per day ammonia/urea plant at Palwal (Haryana) at an estimated cost of Rs. 759 crores.

Revenue Sharing among MTNL, VSNL Department of Tele-communications

2750. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices has been asked to work out a formula for revenue sharing among the Department of Tele-communications and its two companies, the Mahanagar Telephones Nigam Limited and the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited and Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited are Public Sector companies which receive substantial revenue and the Department of Telecommunications provides them infrastructure and other facilities. The BICP has been requested to study the linkages amongst the three organisations and suggest guiding principles for a formula of sharing of revenue, keeping in view the international practices, relative investments involved, the need for resources for expansion programmes including rural communications, implications of Corporate tax etc.

Organised Crimes by Gangs

2751. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to tackle the problem of growing organised crime by the gangs having well-knit

organisations at inter-state and international levels?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. For crimes in which inter-state gangs are involved the State Governments seek the help of Police of the concerned States in investigation and prevention. Similarly for crimes in which international gangs are involved, help of the Central Bureau of Investigation is sought by the State Governments in investigation.

Dryland Farming

2752. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps taken and contemplated to popularise dryland farming to raise the income of farmers and to increase employment opportunities?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): A number of schemes have been taken up under the State and Central Sectors to popularise dryland farming in the country. These include schemes like National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Agriculture, Drought Prone Area Programme, Desert Development Programme etc. It is contemplated to continue various schemes to raise the income and employment opportunities in dryland farming areas on the modern scientific lines with watershed as basis.

Implementation of Recommendations of Nanda Committee on Unemployment among Indian Seamen

2753. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accepted the recommendations of the Nanda Committee on unemployment among Indian Seamen;

(b) if so, the recommendations implemented so far; and

(c) the recommendations which have

not been accepted and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) to (c). Different stages of implementation of the recommendations of the Nanda Committee on unemployment among Indian Seamen are given in the statement below.

STATEMENT

Rec No.	Summary Recommendations	Present Position of its implementation
(1)	(2)	(3)

PART I OF THE REPORT

1 Readjustment of rosters

The existing rosters both at Bombay and Calcutta to be readjusted to bring about uniform ratio between the number of jobs and the number of seamen on all rosters, both company and general by 30th Jun, 1982

In order to comply with the requirement of equal distribution among all categories of seamen, the roster strength has been increased to 160% at Bombay and 185% in Calcutta

2 Establishment of effective seamen force

The seamen not responding to two consecutive call notices be deemed ineffective and to be issued with show-cause notices for cancelling their registration action to be completed by 31st December, 1982

Implemented

3 Seniority for employment

The length of voyage plus the period of leave earned

Implemented

<i>Rec. No.</i>	<i>Summary Recommendations</i>	<i>Present Position of its implementation</i>
(1)	<p>(2)</p> <p>during the voyage to be criteria for determining seniority for next employment.</p>	(3)
4.	<p><i>Notice for calls</i></p> <p>Call notices for the next employment of the seamen on turn to be sent so as to reach him not less than 10 days prior to the date fixed for holding the muster. In case of short notice telegraphic calls be issued by the Shipping Company.</p>	<p>The combined Merchant Shipping (Seamen's Employment Officers, Bombay/Calcutta) Rules have been notified in 1986 and the requirement of giving 21 days notice by the shipowners for calling the seamen seamen for muster has been implemented.</p>
5.	<p><i>Numbers to be called</i></p> <p>The number of seamen to be called for selection to be 120% of the number of seamen required to complete the crew complement.</p>	<p>This recommendation was discussed at length and it was decided that the Director Seamen's Employment Office shall use his discretion to issue call notices to seamen at 120% of the number of seamen required in those categories wherever he experiences shortage. It was further agreed that where excess called ratings cannot be employed, such ratings shall be given to and fro railway fare or shall be retained as stand by if the employer Shipping Companies so choose.</p>

Rec. No.	Summary Recommendations	Present Position of its implementation
(1)	(2)	(3)
6.	Voluntary Retirement A seaman to be encouraged to seek voluntary retirement after the age of 50 and premature retirement compensation paid to him as incentive.	The shipowners have stated that in the present state of shipping industry with serious cash flow and others related problems, it has not been possible to formulate any scheme for payment of pre-mature retirement compensation on attaining the age of 50 years.
7.	Retirement Age The retirement age of seaman is to be reduced to 58 years from the present 60.	Orders have been issued that the reduced retirement age i.e. 58 years would be applicable to seamen who are registered on or after 1.7.1982
8.	Unemployment Relief Scheme for the financial assistance to the unemployed seamen be worked out and implemented.	This has been discussed in detail at the various meetings of shipowners and seafarers and finally it has been found that the scheme is not workable due to lack of funds.

Rec. No.	Summary Recommendations	Present Position of its implementation
(1)	(2)	(3)
9.	Manning Scales Rules for minimum manning scales of seamen for different types of ships be framed under Sec. 88 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958	The manning scale of seamen on board vessel is decided bilaterally between the shipowners and seafarers.
10.	Intake and training No fresh recruitment and training to be resorted to till the trained candidates waiting for placement are fully absorbed.	Implemented.
11.	Issue of CDCs Issue of Continuous Discharge Certificates to ratings to be confined to the Shipping Masters at Bombay and Calcutta only.	Implemented.
12.	Medical Standards The pre-entry medical standards for seamen to be	Implemented. Revised Merchant Shipping (Medical

Rec. No.	Summary Recommendations	Present Position of its implementation
(1)	(2)	(3)
13.	<p>reviewed.</p> <p><i>Pre-entry educational qualification</i></p> <p>The pre-entry educational standards to be raise to standard X (pass) from the standard VIII (pass) to ensure that the professional standards of Indian seamen is internationally comparable and meets the requirements of manning ships with modern technology</p>	<p>Examination) Rules, 1986 for seamen have been notified.</p> <p>Implemented.</p>
14.	<p><i>Modernisation of Training</i></p> <p>Pre-sea training institutes to be adequately equipped and staffed to update the training curriculum for manning sophisticated ships.</p>	<p>Accepted. However, this will be effected when training is restarted.</p>
15.	<p><i>Discipline and productivity</i></p> <p>Measures be taken to improve standards of</p>	<p>Accepted and being implemented.</p>

Rec. No.	Summary Recommendations	Present Position of the Implementation
(1)	(2)	(3)
	discipline and productivity on board ships.	
16.	<i>Annual Review of Fresh Intake and Employment</i>	
	A permanent committee be set up to review annually the job availability and the roster strengths, to regulate fresh intake of trainees in order to introduce gradual permanency of employment and to avoid recurrence of serious unemployment.	Implemented.
17.	<i>Promotional Avenues for seamen</i>	
	The scheme for promotion of deck and engine room ratings to the office rank be introduced.	The holder of certificate of competency as SGF Driver is normally responsible to keeping independent watch on main propelling machinery. He is also eligible and duly qualified to serve as Chief Engineer on H.T. ships as per section 76(3) (b) of M.S. Act, 1958. In any scheme of granting certificate of competency a requisite period of watch keeping is essential. It is upto the owner to allow this facility i.e. to provide watchkeeping experience to the E.R. ratings like petty officers and fitters.

Rec. No.	Summary Recommendations	Present Position of its implementation
(1)	(2)	(3)
18.	<p>Committee for implementation</p> <p>A tripartite committee be set up for expeditious implementation of recommendations.</p>	<p>A committee has been constituted.</p>
<p>PART II OF THE REPORT</p>		
I.	<p>Recruitment and Selection</p>	<p>Accepted.</p>
II.	<p>Training Programme</p>	<p>It will be kept in view when new training institution is set up</p>
	<p>A. Pre-sea Training</p>	<p>As the existing three Training Establishments have become obsolete in terms of equipment and facilities, they should be replaced as early as possible by shore-based pre-sea training institution fully equipped to impart training to suit modern ship operation and adequately staffed by trained personnel</p>

<i>Rec. No.</i>	<i>Summary Recommendations</i>	<i>Present Position of its implementation</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)
B.	<i>Post-sea-Training</i>	
	Refresher courses should be given to serving seamen so as to update their knowledge of the latest work practices and requirements of modern seafaring.	Accepted.
III.	<i>Modern Trends in Manning</i>	
	Manning of modern Indian ships should keep abreast with international trends.	It has been the practice so far that the manning scale of seamen on board vessel is decided bilaterally between the shipowners and seafarers.
IV.	<i>Welfare and Social Security</i>	
(A)	<i>Welfare</i>	
	1. Setting up of Hostel accommodation and Recreational facilities, in other important ports like Mangalore, Marmurao, Tuticorin, Paradip and Haldia on priority basis.	The questions of construction of Hostel-cum-club at Mangalore, Paradip, Tuticorin, and Goa has been considered in the light of likely utilisation and it has been decided to drop these projects. The Hostel-cum-club at Haldia is ready.

Rec. No.	Summary Recommendations	Present Position of its implementation
(1)	(2)	(3)
2.	Setting up of Indian Sailors Home & Hostel, Bombay.	The Bombay Port Trust has been requested to provide suitable plot of land.
3.	Medical Facilities to the seamen himself and family.	The existing medical facilities available to the off-articled seamen are not fully availed by them. Extending medical facilities to the facilities of seamen has been examined by the National Welfare Board for seafarers and the did not agree to the proposal
4	Unemployment Relief vis-a-vis introduction of de-casualisation scheme	A review of intake of fresh seamen has been made under recommendation No. 8 of Part 1 of the Report and the stage has not come to introduce a de-casualisation scheme.
(B)	Social Security	
1.	Enhancement in Contributory Provident Fund at 10% of basic wage for effective service.	Implemented.
2.	Gratuity at 15 days' basic wages for each year of	Implemented.

<i>Rec. No.</i>	<i>Summary Recommendations</i>	<i>Present Position of its implementation</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)
	<p>effective service upto 31.12.1981 and 1 month's basic wages for each year effective service from 1.1.1982</p>	
	<p>V. Other Related Matters</p>	
	<p>1 Improvement in Standards of Discipline and Productivity</p>	<p>Accepted</p>
	<p>2 Gradual Regularisation of Employment of seamen in the context of Indian Shipping Companies taking into account the present position and the anticipated future growth</p>	<p>A review of intake of fresh seamen has been made under recommendation No. 8 of Part I of the Report and the stage has not come to introduce a de-casualisation scheme</p>
	<p>3 Promotional Avenues for our seamen</p>	<p>As in item 17 of Part I of the implementation Report</p>

Arrears due to Indian Seamen Serving in Foreign Ships

2754. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge amount representing arrears due to Indian Seamen serving in foreign ships is lying with a London Bank; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to utilise this fund for the welfare of the Indian Seamen?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISSHANN): (a) and (b). Presently no bank in London is known to hold any funds representing arrears due to Indian seamen

Chinese Foreign Minister's Visit to India

2755. SHRISANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chinese Foreign Minister visited India recently; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussions held with him?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). The Minister of Foreign Affairs of China, Mr. Qian Qichen, visited India from March 20-24, 1990 at my invitation.

During the visit, both sides felt that for mutual benefit it would be desirable to expand bilateral contacts between India and China, in various fields. Both sides affirmed their intention of working towards a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question. Discussions

also covered regional and international developments of interest to both countries. It was felt also that the visit would give a further impetus to expanding bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

Fish Farmers Development Agencies in Orissa

2756. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Fish Farmers Development Agencies functioning in Orissa;

(b) the various programmes undertaken by these agencies in Orissa for the development of fisheries during the Seventh Plan period;

(c) whether Government have a proposal to expand fishery projects in Orissa during the Eighth Plan; and

(d) if so, the incentives proposed to be given to fish farmers?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Thirteen.

(b) The programmes undertaken include training of 28,328 fish farmers in improved practices of fish farming and introducing scientific fish farming in 28,400 ha. (56,923 units) of tanks/ponds benefitting 67,747 fish farmers.

(c) and (d). The Eighth Plan programmes for fishery projects are yet to be finalised.

Fire at Atma Ram House and Rohit House in Delhi

2757. SHRI R.N. RAKESH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fire broke out on the fifteenth floor of Atma Ram House on Tolstoy Marg on 3 March, 1990 and also in Rohit House, Connaught place on 2 March, 1990;

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

(c) the estimated loss of property in each case;

(d) the number of people killed and injured;

(e) whether any compensation has since been paid to the affected people;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action taken by Government to prevent such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) A fire broke out on the fifteenth floor of Atma Ram House on Tolstoy Marg on 2.3.1990. Sixteenth floor of the building was also partly affected. No fire call was received for Rohit House on 2.3.1990.

(b) Following offices were affected by fire:—

1. M/s. Miraksha Associates and its sister concern.
2. Directorate of Statistics and Intelligence (Central Excise and Customs).
3. New Bank of India.

(c) Loss has been estimated at Rs. 4,40,000/- approximately.

(d) Nil.

(e) and (f). No, Sir.

(g) To implement the recommendations regarding fire safety, Delhi Fire Service have carried out inspection of all the multi-storied buildings and notices have been issued to all the occupants/builders/promoters etc. giving them suitable time to comply with the recommendations.

[*Translation*]

Appointments of Ambassadors/High Commissioners

2758. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Ambassadors and High Commissioners appointed by Government during the last five years in countries having diplomatic relations with India;

(b) the number out of those who were serving/retired diplomats, belonging to Foreign Service; and

(c) the number out of them who were retired officers from army, civil services and veteran politicians and other luminaries from educational/cultural/professional field?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) A total of 162 Ambassadors and High Commissioners have been appointed by Government during the last 5 years.

(b) Two of the Ambassadors/High Commissioners were retired diplomats from the Indian Foreign Service; and 147 appointments were of serving officers of IFS.

(c) 13 each appointment to the post of Ambassadors/High Commissioners were made during the last 5 years.

**Delay in Issuing Visa by Indian Mission
Abroad**

2759. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be
pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Missions abroad
which issue visa on the day of receiving the
applications and those Missions which take
24 hours or more on an average in issuing
visa; and

(b) the reasons for this delay and steps
taken to remove the same?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AF-
FAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b)
Information is being collected and will be laid
on the Table of the House.

**Scheme to Appointment Experts in
Different Fields in Indian Embassies**

2760. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme to appoint
experts in the fields of education, culture,
commerce and trade in Indian Embassies
abroad in under consideration of Govern-
ment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any criteria have been laid
down for making such appointments; and

(d) if so, whether Government have or
contemplate to prepare a list of such experts
to facilitate selection thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AF-
FAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

**Construction of Multipurpose Central
Cargo Berth and Extension of Southern
Cargo Berth at Paradip Port**

2761. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the schemes for construc-
tion of the multi-purpose general cargo berth
and extension of the southern cargo berth at
Paradip Port have been implemented;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for
implementation of those projects?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANS-
PORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICA-
TIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) to
(c). The detailed project reports of both the
schemes have been received and are under
examination in the Ministry.

**Ongoing National Highway Projects in
Orissa**

2762. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT
be pleased to state:

(a) the various ongoing National High-
way projects in Orissa;

(b) the estimated and approved cost of
those projects;

(c) the amount spent on those project so
far;

(d) whether the amount required further
for completion of those projects is proposed
to be included in the 8th Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). 128 works are presently ongoing in Orissa for the development of National Highways with a sanctioned cost of Rs. 42.94 crores.

(c) The amount spent on these works till March '89 is Rs. 18.79 crores and an amount of Rs. 12.0 crores has been allocated during the year 1989-90.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. A sum of Rs. 5.50 crores has been provided in 1990-91 for the ongoing works.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Earth Satellite Station in Hill Areas

2763. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up earth Satellite stations for the expansion and Development of communication facilities in various hill areas of the country under the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the number of such earth satellite stations and the names of the places where they are likely to be set up in hill areas of Uttar Pradesh under this plan period?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Satellite earth stations at Joshimata, Uttarkashi and Srinagar (Garhwal) have already been put in service during 7th Plan. *How-ever presently there are no plans to set up additional earth stations in hill areas of U.P. in eighth Plan.*

Setting up of R&D Centre in Hilly Areas of U.P. for Off- Seasonal Vegetables

2764. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Research and Development Centre for cultivation of off-seasonal vegetables in hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVILLAL): (a) No, Sir. G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Regional Station at Ranichori is already engaged in research work on vegetables for hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Question does not arise.

[*English*]

Enquiry into Communications Riots

2765. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CH- OUDHURY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of communal riots in the country since Ninth Lok Sabha election;

(b) whether Government have constituted any enquiry committee to inquire into the causes of the riots and identity of the instigators;

(c) if so, its findings;

(d) whether any non-Government agency had also conducted an enquiry into any of these riots since the last elections;

(e) if so, the main features of the report submitted by such agency; and

(f) the action taken by Government in this regard?

On the basis of the available information, the particular of major communal riots which have occurred in the country since the Ninth Lok Sabha elections are as under:—

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a)

	<i>Date and place of occurrence</i>	<i>No. of persons</i>	
		<i>Killed</i>	<i>Injured</i>
1.	Ladnun, (16.12.89) Nagaur (Rajasthan)	4	13
2.	Nagari (12-15 March, 1990) Chittoor (Andhra Pradesh)	3	21
3.	Bari Gulani (12.3.90) P S Dhamaul, Distt Nawada (Bihar)	5	8
4.	Jamshedpur town (14-15 March, 1990)	4	19
5.	Patan (10-22 March, 1990) Distt Mehasana (Gujarat)	4	19

(b) and (c). No such committee has been set up by the Central Government in this regard. However, the National Integration Council has been re-constituted on 2nd February, 1990 and the Council will, inter-alia, focus its attention on the genesis of the communal violence in the country and will suggest ways and means to promote communal harmony and emotional integration.

(d) to (f). The Central Government are not aware of any report in this regard submitted by any non-Government agency.

Separate Telecom Circle for Satara District

2766. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a separate Telecom Circle for District Satara of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) No Sir.

(b) In view of reply to (a) above the question does not arise.

(c) Separate Telecom. Circles are not set up for districts.

Improvement in Functioning of Wai and Bhuinj Telephone Exchanges in Satara District

2767. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received requests for expansion and conversion of Wai and Bhuinj Telephone Exchanges into electronic exchanges; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) No, Sir.

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

Programme for Welfare of Farmers and Promotion of Agriculture

2768. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the details of the programmes initiated for the welfare of farmers and promotion of agriculture?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): The Government have decided to provide debt relief to borrowers who have taken loan up to Rs. 10,000 from Public Sector Banks and Regional Banks as on 2nd October, 1989. In order to ensure remunerative prices to farmers, the Government have appointed an Expert Committee to review the methodology on cost of production of crops to make these realistic. The Government have also decided to appoint an Advisory Committee to review the present policies and programmes for the promotion of agricultural development in the country, specially with a view to generating export surpluses

Bifurcation of Central Sector Schemes

2769. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:
SHRI BHAJAMAN BEHERA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to bifurcate the Central Sector Schemes viz., establishment/development of regulated markets, rural markets and grading centres which were integrated into one scheme after several years of activities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) the achievements made so far with regard to development of regulated markets, terminal markets etc.

(d) whether Government propose to create such markets in rural areas of Orissa inhabited by Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/minority population; and

(e) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Central sector scheme to provide financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid for development of selected regulated markets with necessary infrastructural facilities was launched in the year 1972-73. The scheme was later extended to cover rural markets and also for setting up of grading centres at producers level for selected commodities. Till 31.2.1989 an amount of Rs. 7514 lakhs was provided as central assistance to different States to develop 3601 regulated markets. This includes 598 selected regulated markets i.e., markets under command areas, markets under commercial crops and the terminal markets for fruits and vegetables, and 9 secondary markets under the integrated scheme for development of agricultural produce markets. This also covers 2994 rural markets under the pre-revised and revised schemes.

(d) The scheme for development of rural markets cover the markets located in tribal

areas. Under the pre-revised scheme and amount of Rs.769.3 lakhs was provided to develop 419 rural markets located in tribal areas in the country. This includes 64 tribal markets amounting to Rs. 104.3 lakhs as central assistance in the State of Orissa.

(e) Under the integrated scheme special emphasis has been given to provide central assistance by earmarking 20% of the budget allocation to develop markets under ITDP/DPAP & DDP areas.

Cadre Review of Doctors Employed by Central Police Organisation

2770. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:
SHRI BHAJAMAN BEHERA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any cadre review of doctors employed by Central Police Organisation was undertaken to make them either at par with civilian CGHS doctors or at par with the combatised ranks of the para-military forces;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government to implement the recommendations of the Cadre Review Committee?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) and (b). An inter-departmental committee had gone into the question of career progression of the doctors among others of those employed in Central Police Organisations of BSF, CRPF and ITBP.

(c) The whole question of cadre restructuring of medical services in Home Ministry is under active consideration and a decision is expected to be taken shortly.

Emission of Smoke by DTC Buses

2771. SHRI ANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the Delhi Transport Corporation buses emit thick smoke and fumes causing lot of pollution and inconvenience to road users;

(b) if so, whether any survey about the road-worthiness of these buses is conducted periodically;

(c) if so, the number and percentage of DTC buses especially the private buses under DTC operation found emitting smoke as per last survey; and

(d) the steps being taken to eliminate environmental pollution by such buses?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISSHANNAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Government is aware of such complaints.

(b) and (c). No such survey has been conducted by the DTC. However, as per the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, the inspection regarding road worthiness and fitness of the vehicles is done on annual basis by the Delhi Administration. Such inspection is a continuing process and is undertaken as per the turn of the vehicle on expiry of one year period. The private buses under DTC operation also are subjected to such inspection by the Delhi Administration.

(d) No such survey has been conducted by the DTC. The steps being taken by DTC to reduce pollution are:—

(i) Daily check of the buses before these are outshedded from the depot. Buses found emitting thick smoke

and fumes are not allowed to go on line.

- (ii) Enforcement of routine and periodic maintenance schedules as prescribed by the chassis manufacturers.
- (iii) Ensuring timely overhauling and replacement of defective fuel injection pumps, injectors and engines.
- (iv) Buses under operation are checked by the operational staff and any bus found emitting excessive smoke is withdrawn from operation for repairs.
- (v) Snap checking of buses for smoke with the help of 'Hartridge' smokemeter with the assistance of the staff of Delhi Administration and Ministry of Environment and Forests.
- (vi) Fitment of speed limiting brackets on all the engines for reducing speed thereby reducing the smoke.

Smuggling of Oil and Goods to South Africa by Some Naval Grew

2772. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Naval crew have been found to smuggle oil and other goods to South Africa;

(b) whether some Indian Trade Union leaders have brought this to the notice of the Government; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

World Bank/International Financial Agencies Assistance for National Highway Projects

2773. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to seek assistance from the World Bank and other international financial agencies for financing the construction of National Highways; and

(b) if so, the details of the National Highway projects identified, State-wise, for such loan assistance?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Details of the schemes which have been identified for possible financial assistance by the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank are given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

S.No.	State	Section
1	2	3
<i>World Bank</i>		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4-laning & strengthening Chilakaluripet-Vijayawada Section of NH-5
2.	Haryana	4-laning & strengthening of Karnal-Haryana/ Punjab border section of NH-1
3	Karnataka	2-laning & strengthening of Chitradurga-Karnataka/ Maharashtra border of NH-13.
4	Madhya Pradesh	(i) 4-laning & strengthening of Dewas-Indore Section of NH-3. (ii) Construction of Indore byepass on NH-3.
5.	Maharashtra	4-laning & strengthening of Bassein Creek-Manor Section of NH-8.

S.No.	State	Section
1	2	3

6. Orissa 4-laning & strengthening of Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Section including Mahanadi bridge.

7. Punjab 4-laning of Haryana/Punjab border-Sirhind Section of NH-1.

8. Rajasthan Strengthening 2 lane road from Uttar Pradesh/ Rajasthan Border-Jaipur Section of NH-1.

9. Uttar Pradesh 4-laning & strengthening of Mathura-Agra Section of NH-2.

10. West Bengal 4-laning Bihar/West Bengal border-Raniganj section of NH-2.

Asian Development Bank

1. Karnataka Four-laning and strengthening of Bangalore-Tamil Nadu Border Section of NH-7.

S.No.	State	Section
1	2	3
2.	Kerala	Four-laning and strengthening of Alwaye-Vyttila and Aroor-Sheralal Sections besides strengthening of Vyttila-Aroor Section of NH-47
3.	Rajasthan	Four-laning and strengthening of Achrol-Kotputli Section of NH-8

Shipping Service Between Cochin and Gulf Countries

2774. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a shipping service between Cochin and the Gulf countries, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). Several representations have been received to start a regular cargo/passenger service from Cochin to Gulf Ports. Viability of such services are being scrutinised and under examination.

[*Translation*]

Ban on Purchase of Fire-Arms From Abroad

2775. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have imposed ban on the purchase of fire-arms (Pistol etc.) from abroad;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are contemplating to lift the ban and grant permission to purchase fire-arms from Singapore for personal use; and

(d) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. On receipt of reports from

some Indian Missions abroad about an unprecedented spurt in the import of fire-arms as part of baggage by Indian tourists, which in the prevailing conditions was not considered desirable, a ban on such imports was imposed with effect from 13-11-86.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. In view of prevailing conditions of law and order in the country it is felt that ban on import of fire arms may continue.

Revision of Pay Scales of Agricultural Scientists

2776. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Scientists working in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and its affiliated institute have demanded further revision of their pay scales;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered their demands; and

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

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Sir, some of the Scientists in the erstwhile S-2 and S-3 grades as well as some holding Research Management Positions have demanded further revision of their pay scales.

(b) and (c). Further revision demanded by the Scientists does not appear to be in conformity with the University Grants Commission pay package. Which has been extended to the ICAR Scientists. However, it is being examined in detail.

[English]

Seeds Corporations

2777 SHRID M PUTTE GOWDA Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the details of seed corporations in the country

(b) whether the quality of seeds supplied by these corporations in upto the mark

(c) whether there are complaints about malpractices in purchasing ordinary materials and selling it after cleaning as seed materials

(d) if so the action taken or contemplated in this regard and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to make available only good quality seeds in the market?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRIDEVI LAL) (a) A statement of public sector seed corporations in given below

(b) Seeds of notified kind/varieties are required to conform to the minimum standards of purity and germination specified under the Seeds Act. If anybody is found selling the seeds which do not conform to these standards that person/corporation is liable for prosecution for violation of the provisions of the Seeds Act

(c) The seeds are produced following scientific procedures and ordinary grain is not used as certified seeds. However, where necessary good quality grains could be used as seeds after processing, treating and testing to meet the specified standards. No specific complaint in the recent past has been received

(d) Does not arise

(e) The main objective of the Seeds Act, 1966 is to regulate the quality of seeds for sale. The power to regulate the quality of seeds under the provision of Seeds Act is vested in the States. State Governments have already notified Seed Inspectors to enforce the various quality control provisions. The Central Government has also taken various steps to strengthen the quality control organisations such as State Seed Testing Laboratories and Seed Certification Agencies

STATEMENT*List of Seed Corporations*

- 1 National Seed Corporation
- 2 State Farms Corporation of India
- 3 Andhra Pradesh State Seed Development Corporation
- 4 Assam Seed Corporation
- 5 Bihar Rajya Beej Nigam
- 6 Gujarat State Seed Corporation
- 7 Haryana Seed Development Corporation
- 8 Karnataka State Seed Corporation
- 9 Madhya Pradesh State Seed and Farm Development Corporation
- 10 Maharashtra State Seed Corporation
- 11 Orissa State Seed Corporation
- 12 Punjab State Seed Corporation
- 13 Rajasthan State Seed Corporation

14. U.P. Seed & Tarai Development Corporation
15. West Bengal State Seed Corporation

Installation of Digital Electronic Exchange at Chickmangapur District (Karnataka)

2778. SHRI D.M. PUTTE GODA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to instal digital Electronic Exchange at Chickmangapur district headquarters (Karnataka); and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be installed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

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

Improvement in Muzaffarpur and Patna Telephone System

2779. SHRIMATI USHA SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the steps Government propose to take for the improvement of the working of telephones in Muzaffarpur and Patna (Bihar)?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): There is a proposal to provide a Digital Trunk Automatic Exchange at Muzaffarpur. The equipment is allotted for the year 1990-91. There is also a proposal to instal a local electronic exchange at Muzaffarpur and replace the existing stronger type exchange.

As regards Patna, local electronic exchange shall be installed at Danapur and Patna city during the year 1990-91 in replacement of old exchanges. There is also a proposal to replace the crossbar exchange at Rajendarnagar in the year 1990-91 by electronic exchange, for which equipment allotment exists.

[Translation]

Killings and Lootings by Terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir

2780. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: the number of incidents of killings and lootings by terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir during the period 1 January, 1988 to 28 February, 1990?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Telephone Connections in Vidisha and Raisen Districts in M.P.

2781. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) total number of applications for new telephone connections pending as on 28th February, 1990 in various towns and small cities of Vidisha and Raisen districts of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) by what time these applications are likely to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Total number of applications pending as on 28.2.90 in various exchanges of Vidisha district is 460 and in Raisen district it is 298.

Exchange-wise detail is given in the Statement below.

(b) Subject to approval of 8th plan and timely availability of equipment, the bulk of

the waiting list in various exchanges except in Vidisha exchange, is planned to be cleared by 1991-92, whereas at Vidisha it will be cleared by middle of 8th Five Year Plan.

STATEMENT

Details of waiting list for new telephone connections as on 28.2.90 in Exchanges of Vidisha and Raisen District

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting list as on 28.2.90</i>
(A) VIDISHA		
1.	Vidisha	330
2.	Ganjbasedaa	65
3.	Gulabganj	17
4.	Gyarashpur	02
5.	Kurwai	30
6.	Laten	00
7.	Shamsabad	16
8.	Sironj	00
Total		460
(B) RAISEN		
1.	Bamon	00
2.	Raisen	65
3.	Bareli	19
4.	Bari	04
5.	Bikalpur	00
6.	Begamganj	00

<i>S No.</i>	<i>Name of Exchange</i>	<i>Waiting list as on 28.2.90</i>
7	Chunatia	90
8	Dehgaon	22
9	Deori	15
10.	Gairatganj	24
11	Khargaon	1
12	Salamatpur	12
13	Sanchi	24
14	Silwani	15
15	Sultanpur	50
16	Udaipura	00
17	Diwanganj	37
18	Obedullaganj	38
19	Mandideep	45
Total		298

[English]

Rape Incidents in Delhi

2782 SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur)

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the number of cases of rapes and gang-rapes reported in Delhi during the last 12 months.

(b) the number of persons arrested in this regard,

(c) the number of Government servants among the arrested persons, and

(d) the details of action taken in all such cases?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (d)

(a) to (d).

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Pending investi- gation	Untraced	Persons arrested
<i>Rapes/ Gang-</i>	<i>Reported</i>	<i>Cancelled</i>	<i>Admitted</i>	<i>Challaned</i>	<i>Convicted</i>	<i>Acquitted</i>	<i>Pending trial</i>	<i>Pending investi- gation</i>	<i>Untraced</i>	<i>Persons arrested</i>	
	161	5	156	62	--	--	62	91	3	221	
<i>Gang rape</i>	26	—	26	18	—	—	18	8	—	76	

Sugarcane Seed Nursery Programmes

2783. SHRI B. RAJARAVI VARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned a scheme for implementing sugarcane seed nursery programmes scientifically in different States;

(b) whether it is proposed to be implemented by the Central Sugarcane Institute State Research Stations and sugar factories jointly;

(c) whether this scheme would also be implemented in Amaravathi Co-operative Sugar Mills Limited, Udumalpet in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) This Scheme consists of three major programmes viz.

1. There Tier Seed Production Programme to demonstrate the effectiveness of healthy and better seed on productivity;

2. Crash programme to demonstrate initially the effectiveness of selection, roguing etc. on quality of seed; and

3 Adaptive trials to prove the effectiveness of the use of healthy seed material and spaced transplanting technique on the Farmer's fields.

Introduction of Speed Post Service at Udumalpet

2784. SHRI B. RAJARAVI VARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to introduce Speed Post Services at Udumalpet and Pollachi in Coimbatore district;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it will be introduced; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Air connection, staff requirements, anticipated traffic and commercial viability are the major constraints in expansion of Speed Post network.

[Translation]

Arrest of Government Employees in Jammu and Kashmir

2785. SHRI KESHARI LAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central and State Government employees in Jammu and Kashmir arrested on charges of their involvement in secessionist and anti-national activities during the last three months;

(b) whether they included some high ranking officials also; and

(c) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Telephone Service in South Arcot District, Tamil Nadu

2786. SHRIP.R.S. VENKATESAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether numerous complaints have been received regarding unsatisfactory telephone service in South Arcot district of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K P UNNIKRISSHANNAN) (a) Yes, Sir. A few complaints were received regarding unsatisfactory telephone service in South Arcot District of Tamil Nadu.

(b) Remedial actions being taken to improve the situation are:—

- (i) Replacement of manual and life expired auto exchanges during 8th Plan
- (ii) Replacement of worn out external plant, telephone instruments and other equipment

Relaxation of Tourist Visits to N.E. Region

2787. SHRIMATI CHENNUPATI VIDYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have

received any representations from State Governments of N.E. region with regard to relaxation of the restrictions on tourist visits;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (c). Some proposals were received from certain State Governments of the N.E. Region in this regard. After careful consideration, some more areas have been opened for foreign tourists in Assam and Meghalaya. These are: Sibsagar and Jatinga Bird Sanctuary in Assam and Barapani and Cherapunji in Meghalaya. The duration of visit to the places of tourist interest in Assam, Meghalaya and Manipur has also been increased. Various authorities like Indian Missions and Posts abroad, State Government officials etc. have also been authorised to issue permits to the bonafide foreign tourists liberally.

[*Translation*]

Inclusion of New Areas Under Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)

2788. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan Government has submitted any representation to Union Government to include 20 drought prone sub-divisions of Bharatpur, Sawai Madhopur, Tonk, Ajmer, Kota and Jhalawad in Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP):

(b) whether Union Government propose to include these sub-divisions under DPAP; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (c). The Rajasthan Government have submitted a Memorandum to the National Committee on Drought Prone Areas programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) for inclusion on 20 blocks of Bharatpur, Sawai Madhopur, Tonk, Ajmer, Kota and Jhalawar districts in DPAP. A decision whether to include these areas or not under this programme will be taken after the report of the Committee is submitted to the Government.

Allocation of Funds to States Under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana

2789. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to each State so far under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and the grounds on which this amount has been given;

(b) the number of persons benefited in Rajasthan so far under this Yojana; and

(c) The details of expenditure incurred on the creation of permanent assets?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) funds to the States/UTs. in 1989-90 were allocated in the proportion of rural poor in a State/UT to the total rural poor in the country. As the application of this formula resulted in lesser allocation to smaller States/UTs. than the Central grant given under the erstwhile programmes of NREP/RLEGP operated during the year 1988-89, interest of such States was safeguarded by making additional adhoc allocations. The statement given below gives the State-wise allocation of resources under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY).

(b) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) is a wage-employment programme and is monitored in terms of employment generated in mandays. Rajasthan Government has reported that 346.50 lakh mandays of employment were generated under the JRY in the period from April, 1989 to end of February, 1990.

(c) In the guidelines issued for the JRY, the expenditures under the JRY are required to be incurred on creation of permanent and productive assets only. In the period from April, 1989 to February, 1990, an expenditure of Rs. 8379.63 lakhs is reported to have incurred under the Yojana in Rajasthan.

STATEMENT

Resource allocation under JRY —(1989-90)

(Rs. in lakhs)

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State/UT</i>	<i>Resource allocation (including value of foodgrains and the State share)</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19319.51
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	307.15
3.	Assam	5278.90

<i>Sl No</i>	<i>State/UT</i>	<i>Resource allocation (including value of foodgrains and the State share)</i>
4	Bihar	38711 91
5	Goa	387 75
6	Gujarat	7954 79
7	Haryana	2068 19
8	Himachal Pradesh	1153 50
9	Jammu & Kashmir	1682 74
10	Karnataka	12093 58
11	Kerala	6569 99
12	Madhya Pradesh	25618 79
13	Maharashtra	20993 90
14	Manipur	441 73
15	Meghalaya	458 13
16	Mizoram	187 41
17	Nagaland	504 99
18	Orissa	12655 81
19	Punjab	1608 60
20	Rajasthan	12594 24
21	Sikkim	197 83
22	Tamil Nadu	17659 64
23	Tripura	541 43
24.	Uttar Pradesh	51706 13
25.	West Bengal	21610 10

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State/UT</i>	<i>Resource allocation (including value of foodgrains and the State share)</i>
26.	A & N Islands	164.80
27.	Chandigarh	40.77
28.	D & N Haveli	83.80
29.	Delhi	187.42
30.	Daman & Diu	52.40
31.	Lakshadweep	81.75
32.	Pondicherry	157.80
Total		263066.60

Funds Under JRY in Hilly and Desert Areas

2790. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether special provisions have been made in Jawahar Rozgar Yojana for providing more grants in hilly and desert areas;

(b) if so, whether Rajasthan Government had requested that Jalore, Sikar and Ganganagar districts be considered for special grants under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana;

(c) if so, the reasons for not considering these districts for special grants; and

(d) the time by which this assistance is likely to be given to these districts?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRIDEVI LAL): (a) to (d). The JRY funds to the States/UTs during 1989-90 were allotted in the

proportion of rural poor that live in a State/UT. Application of this formula would have resulted in allocation to smaller States/UTs., which would have been less than the Central grant under the combined programme of NREP/RLEGP operated during the year 1988-89. The interest of such States were safeguarded by making them extra ad-hoc allocation.

Inter-district allocation in a State/UT was decided by the Government of India on the basis of the backwardness index formulated on the basis of the percentage of agricultural labourers to main workers in rural areas, percentage of rural SC/ST population to total rural population and inverse of agricultural productivity defined as the value of agricultural produce but of each unit of land for the rural areas taken on the not basis in the weights of 20:60:20.

Inter-district allocation of funds was by and large done on the basis of the criteria indicated above. Special dispensation was, however, made in case of few districts which had poor resource endowment and were,

therefore, recognised to be having higher wage employment needs. Special needs of such districts were accommodated within the overall allocations of the concerned state.

The first instalment of allocations to the districts was released by the Government of India in the first quarter of 1989. The balance of the allocations were released in September-October, 1989. Government of Rajasthan had earlier requested that Jalore, Sikar and Ganganagar should be included in the category of districts having poor resource base and requiring enhanced allocation under the JRY for the wage needs. This request could not be accommodated during 1989-90. The Department of Rural Development was not convinced also entirely of the case made out by the Rajasthan Government.

For JRY allocation for the year 1990-91, Rajasthan Government have themselves indicated that the inter-district allocations in their state should strictly be done on the basis of the backwardness index prescribed in the JRY guidelines. The Government of India have accepted their suggestion.

Electronic Telephone Exchange at Jahanabad in Bihar

2791 SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up an electronic telephone exchange in Jahanabad City in Bihar

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K P UNNIKRISHNAN) (a)

Yes Sir.

(b) The present manual Exchange at Jahanabad is planned to be replaced by 200 line electronics exchange during 1990-91.

(c) Not applicable in view of 'b' above.

Steps to Check Terrorism

2792 SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have formulated any long term scheme to check growing terrorism in the country,

(b) whether a new para-military force is proposed to be organised under this scheme, and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED) (a to (c) While the main features of terrorist violence in different parts of the country are similar in many respects, their socio-economic and political under-pinnings vary from place to place. Therefore, any plan to effectively counter terrorists activities has to be location specific. Maintenance of public order is a State subject. However, the Central Government is rendering all possible assistance to the affected States in the form of additional para-military forces, provision of training facilities to the State Police personnel, improved communication facilities etc. There are no plans for raising a new para-military force. The policy of the Government is to deal firmly with various terrorist elements in the country and simultaneously step up socio-economic development in the affected areas to redress the genuine grievances of the local people. The Government

would, however, welcome that these misguided elements abjure violence and join the main stream of National life.

Funds to Rajasthan Under Employment Generation Programme

2793. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rs. 137 crores was allotted to Rajasthan under the Employment Generation Programme on the basis of daily wages of Rs. 7.50 to relief workers;

(b) whether the State Government has sought additional assistance to meet the expenditure arising out of payment of wages at the rate of Rs. 14/- per day as per court orders;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Union Government propose to provide more amount to the State Government on the above basis and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) In response to the memorandum submitted by the Government of Rajasthan in October, 1987, ceilings of expenditure of Rs. 137 crores for the period November, 1987 to March, 1988 and Rs. 77.50 crores for the period April, 1988-June, 1988, for employment generation works @ Rs. 7.50 per day per relief worker (out of total ceilings of Rs. 359.09 crore) were approved to the State Government under drought relief.

(b) and (c). The State Government sought an additional Central assistance for making payment to relief workers at the higher rate for the period May to July, 1988.

In response to the supplementary memorandum submitted by the State Government on 7th March, 1988, the ceiling of expenditure for employment Generation Works for the period April to June, 1988 was enhanced from Rs. 77.50 crore to Rs. 108.20 crore taking into account the daily wage rate of Rs. 10/- from May to June, 1988. In addition, a ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 9.38 crore was approved for July, 1988.

Consequent upon the judgements of High Court of Rajasthan and the Supreme Court, the State Government further sought an additional assistance of Rs. 21.82 crore to meet the expenditure arising out of these judgements for making payment of wages @ Rs. 14/- per day to the relief workers, with effect from 26.5.1988 to 31.7.1988.

(d) There is no proposal to provide more funds to the State Government under employment generation works. However, in order to help the State Government financially, Unit Trust of India has made an additional investment of Rs. 25 crore in Small Saving Instruments in Rajasthan against which the State has been granted a special small savings loan of Rs. 18.75 crore.

[English]

S.T.D. Facility in Towns of Wayanad District in Kerala

2794. SHRI K. MURALLEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce STD System in towns like Meenangadi, Sulfans Battery, and Meppadi of Wayanad District in Kerala;

(b) whether Government are aware that the telephone system in Wayanad District is

in a miserable condition; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government to streamline the same?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The telephone system in Wayanad district is satisfactory.

(c) The following steps are proposed to be taken up during the 8th Plan period for modernising the telecom service in Wayanad district of Kerala:—

- (i) Instal electronic exchanges at more locations to replace life expired electromechanical exchanges.
- (ii) Commission a new digital electronic trunk automatic exchange at Kozhikode.
- (iii) Augment the transmission media in that area to cater to the traffic growth.

[*Translation*]

Regularisation of Labourers in Postal Department

2795. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether labourers are working on daily wages in the postal Department;

(b) if so, the number thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to regularise them?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 4506 (full time).

(c) As per the directions given by the Supreme Court in its judgement dated 29.11.89, a scheme for grant of Temporary status and other related facilities including advancement to casual labourers has been prepared and submitted to nodal Ministries/Departments for their concurrence.

Modernisation of Telephone Exchanges

2796. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a scheme for rapid modernisation of telephone exchanges in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features of the Scheme;

(c) the total number of manually operated telephone exchanges in Bihar; and

(d) the time by which these exchanges are likely to be fully modernised?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) & (b). Yes, Sir. Modernisation Plans of Telephone Exchanges proposed in the draft 8th Plan are:

(i) Almost the entire switching capacity to be added during the plan period to be of electronic type.

(ii) Replacement of all manual exchanges by modern exchange.

- (iii) Replacement of worn-out and life expired electro-mechanical exchanges by electronic exchanges.

(c) 57.

(d) These exchanges are proposed to be replaced by electronic exchanges by the end of the 8th plan subject to availability of resources.

[English]

Representation of RSS and VHP in National Integration Council

2797. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVIN CHANDRA MEHTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether persons representing Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh were ever in the National Integration Council;

(b) if so, when and their names;

(c) whether persons representing the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh and Vishwa Hindu Parishad have been included in the present National Integration Council;

(d) if so, their names; and

(e) if not, whether Government are considering to provide adequate representation to these organisations in the Council?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) No, Sir. NIC did not take representative of RSS as such.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. NIC has not taken representatives of RSS of VHP as such.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir,

Christian Missionaries Working in Nagaland

2798. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVIN CHANDRA MEHTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Christian Missionaries working in Nagaland;

(b) the amount of assistance received by them from foreign institutions during the years 1988-89 and 1989-90 upto January, 1990; and

(c) the number of foreign based institutions working in Mizoram?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) No statistics is maintained about Indian Christian Missionaries anywhere in the country and therefore their number in Nagaland is not known. Under the Registration of Foreigners Rules, only foreigners are registered. According to the information available, no foreign christian missionary is working in Nagaland.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Requisite information is not available.

National Permits for Public Carriers and Trucks

2799. SHRI BHAJAMAN BEHERA: SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state number of National Permits for public carriers and trucks issued during the last two years by States and Union Territory Administrations State-wise and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRI SHNAN): Information is being collected from the various State Governments/UTs and will be laid on the table of the House.

Setting up of New Plant at Sindri Fertilizers Factory

2800. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a new plant at Sindri Fertilizers Factory; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Formation of New Economic Consortium by India and EEC Countries

2801. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDEWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and EEC countries are jointly making efforts to form a new economic consortium:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome of the recent visit of a delegation led by him to Brussels in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) to (c). I had talks on bilateral and international issues with the Ministers of the TROIKA countries in Brussels and took the opportunity of meeting some of his counterparts from other European countries. The proposal to set up an informal forum including officials and businessmen has been accepted in principle among the measures to intensify cooperation between India and EEC.

Infiltration from Across the Border

2802. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of infiltrators/intruders killed or arrested during the year 1989 giving names of the country to which they belonged and the names of the States through which they infiltrated;

(b) the number of persons who infiltrated/intruded from Pakistan and Bangladesh into India during the said period; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to check such intrusions and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) and (b). A statement is given below. It is not possible to indicate the nationality of the infiltrators/intruders killed/apprehended on the border as they are handed over to the State authorities for further investigation.

(b) Necessary steps have been taken to check instances of infiltration to ensure the security of the borders.

STATEMENT

The number of filtrators/intruders killed and apprehended by the BSF during the year 1989 State-wise both along the Indo-Pak and Indo-Bangladesh borders is as under:-

Sl. No.	State through which they infiltrated	No. of Infiltrators/Intruders	
		Arrested	Killed
<i>On Indo-Pak Border</i>			
i)	J&K (Other than line of control)	69	28
ii)	Punjab	1712	265
iii)	Rajasthan	918	88
iv)	Gujarat	15	--
<i>On Indo-Bangladesh Border</i>			
v)	West Bengal	25736	12
vi)	Assam	137	-
vii)	Meghalaya	361	2
viii)	Mizoram	5856	-
ix)	Tripura	942	2

National Highways Development Schemes in Punjab

2803. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the details of the various schemes contemplated for Punjab under the National Highways Development Programme including the financial allocations and time schedule of the proposed schemes?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): New development schemes as detailed in the statement given below are contemplated to be taken up on various National Highways in Punjab during 1990-91 and a sum of Rs. 2.48 crores has been earmarked. As these schemes are yet to be sanctioned, it is too early to indicate their time schedule.

STATEMENT

S.No.	NH No.	Name of work	Length (kms)	Estimated Cost (Rs. in lacs)
1	2	3	4	5
A. Road Projects				
1.	1	Four-laning of Ambala-Sirhind section (Kms 212.80 to 252.80)	40	6000.00
2.	1-A	Strengthening of weak 2 lane pavement from kms. 27-57 of Jullundur-Dasuya Section	30	350.00
3.	10	Strengthening of weak 2 lane pavement from Kms 382 to 402 of Abohar-Fazilka Section	20	300.00
4.	15	Strengthening of weak 2 lane pavements of Pathankot-Amritsar-Fairkot section:		

S.No.	NH No.	Name of work	Length (kms)	Estimated Cost (Rs. in lacs)
1	2	3	4	5
		(i) Kms. 9-25	16	240.00
		(ii) Kms. 126-132	6	100.00
		(iii) Kms. 185-224	39	400.00
		(iv) Widening to 4 lanes in Dinanagar town	2.1	100.00
5.	20	Strengthening of weak 2 lane pavements including improvement in selected reaches of Pathankot-Mandi road	Lumpsum	50.00
6.	21	Strengthening of weak 2 lane pavements in Kms. 10-24 of Mohali-Ropar Section.	14	150.00

S.No.	NH No.	Name of work	Length (kms)	Estimated Cost (Rs. in lacs)
1	2	3	4	5
7.	22	Strengthening of weak 2 lane pavement in kms. 32-40 of Ambala-Zirakpur Section.	8	120.00
8.	<i>Miscellaneous</i>			
	(i)	Culverts	Lumpsum	50.00
	(ii)	Approaches to minor bridges	—do—	50.00
	(iii)	Realignment in Kms 52-56 of NH, 21	—do—	200.00
	(iv)	Improvements to geometrics, junctions, new road signs, toll plazas, wayside amenities, hard shoulders, plantation of trees, land acquisition, survey etc.	—do—	150.00
	(v)	Widening to 4 lanes in congested reaches	5	200.00

S.No.	NH No.	Name of work	Length (Kms)	Estimated Cost (Rs. in lacs)
1	2	3	4	5
B. Bridge Works				
1	21	Bridge over Sirsa nadi at km 56 including approaches	350	280.00
2.	21	Bridge at Km 18	25	25.00
3	21	Mans all bridge at Km. 49.8	40	25.00
4.	21	Thali bridge at Km 51/2	23	25.00
5.	21	Taprain bridge at Km 63/6	13	10.00
Total .				8825.00

Construction of Colvale Bridge in Goa

2804. PROF. GOPALRAO MAYEKAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been delay in completion of the Colvale Bridge on National Highway No.17 in Goa;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the loss incurred as a result thereof; and

(d) the new time schedule fixed for the completion of the bridge?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The delay is mainly because of the slow progress by the contractor to whom the work was originally awarded and the time taken to reaward the work to another contractor after rescinding the earlier contract and reinvitation of tenders.

(c) It is not possible to assess the financial implications at this stage as the first contractor on whose risk and cost the work is now being executed, has gone for arbitration.

(d) The bridge is now scheduled for completion in the last quarter of 1991.

Amount Allocated to Andhra Pradesh under Indira Awas Yojana

2805. SHRIMATI J. JAMUNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to Andhra Pradesh under the Indira Awas Yojana for

the construction of houses during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the expenditure incurred so far; and

(c) the number of houses constructed and possession given during the above period, year-wise and district-wise?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). On the basis of information furnished by the Andhra Pradesh Government, the allocation for Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) in the State during the last three financial years, is as follows:-

1986-87	-	Rs. 1190.00 lakhs
1987-88	-	Rs. 1586.66 lakhs
1988-89	-	Rs. 1242.63 lakhs

The expenditure reported to have been incurred under the Yojana during the above three financial years is Rs. 3834.95 lakhs.

(c) So far 51,528 number of houses are reported to have been constructed in the State under the Yojana since the year of its inception i.e. 1985-86. During 1985-86 itself, 3,321 houses are reported to have been constructed. The district-wise details of the number of houses constructed, as per the information furnished by the State Government, during the last three financial years, namely, 1986-87, 1987-88, 1988-89 have been given in the Statement - I below. During 1989-90, another 6530 number of houses are reported to have been constructed (upto February, 1990) in the State. The district-wise number of houses reported to have been occupied under the Yojana (in the State) since inception have been given in Statement - II below.

STATEMENT-I

S.No.	Name of the District	No. of house reported to have been constructed					
		1986-87	187-88	1988-89	1	2	
					3	4	5
1.	Srikakulam	734	176	370			
2.	Vizianagaram	542	268	290			
3.	Vishakhapatnam	456	1,561	280			
4.	East Godavari	3250	365	286			
5.	West Godavari	1832	1,093	786			
6.	Krishna	690	99	101			
7.	Gantur	807	468	47			

S.No.	Name of the District	No. of house reported to have been constructed				
		1986-87	187-88	1988-89		
1	2	3	4	5		
8.	Prakasam	1472	2,011	1667		
9.	Nellore	1759	163	211		
10.	Kurnool	677	337	189		
11.	Ananthapur	412	340	59		
12	Cuddapah	326	308	504		
13.	Chittoor	983	140	118		
14.	Khammam	612	805	600		
15.	Warangal	766	401	347		

S.No.	Name of the District	No. of house reported to have been constructed				
		1986-87	187-88	1988-89		
1	2	3	4	5		
16.	Karimnagar	388	357	470		
17.	Adilabad	758	981	539		
18.	Nizamabad	1109	912	192		
19.	Medak	328	295	217		
20.	Nalgonda	287	1,016	1040		
21.	Mahaboobnagar	182	148	551		
22.	Ranga Reddy	1112	588	499		
	Total	19382	12832	9363		

STATEMENT - II

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the District</i>	<i>No. of houses occupied</i>
1	2	3
1.	Srikakulam	1168
2.	Vizianagaram	979
3.	Visakhapatnam	2851
4.	East Godavari	4697
5.	West Godavari	4806
6.	Krishna	953
7.	Guntur	1682
8.	Prakasam	4695
9.	Nellore	3002
10.	Kurnool	1129
11.	Ananthapur	743
12.	Chuddapah	1273
13.	Chittoor	1209
14.	Khammam	2555
15.	Warangal	1747
16.	Karimnagar	1304
17.	Adilabad	2718
18.	Nizamabad	2658
19.	Medak	1025
20.	Nalgonda	2343

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the District</i>	<i>No. of houses occupied</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
21.	Mahaboobnagar	647
22.	Ranga Reddy	2330
TOTAL		:
		46541

[*Translation*]

**Construction of Flyovers and Bridges
in Delhi**

2806. SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur):
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT
be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of flyovers and
bridges are proposed to be constructed in
Delhi under the Annual Plan of 1990-91; and

(b) if so, the locations, total expenditure
to be incurred and the schedule of construc-
tion thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Delhi Administration, New Delhi Municipal Committee and Municipal Corporation of Delhi have intimated that they have made provisions in their 1990-91 Annual Plan for incurring expenditure for proposed projects which are mentioned in the Statement below. The actual sanctioning of the proposed project will depend upon the completion of various steps required to be taken prior to sanction. It is too early to give schedule of construction for these bridges.

STATEMENT*Flyovers and Bridges Proposed to be constructed in Delhi under the Annual Plan 1990-91*

Sl.No.	Location	Provision in Budget for 1990-91 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
1	Flyover at Punjabi Bagh crossing	200
2	Flyover at Monkey Bridge near Yamuna Bazar	150
3.	Bridge over river Yamuna near ITO Bridge	20
4.	Flyover at Raja Garden Crossing	200
5.	Flyover at Safdarjung Crossing	150
6.	Flyover at Dhaula Kuan Crossing	150

Sl.No	Location	Provision in Budget for 1990-91 (Rs in lakhs)
1	2	3
7	Flyover at crossing of NH-24 and Ring Road at Nizamuddin	5
8	10 number Flyovers to make Ring Road a freeway	175
9	ROB and Road No 63 over Naini-Saharanpur Railway line (Near Nand Nagri)	100
10	ROB on No 63 over Delhi Shahanpur Railway line (Near Loni Road)	5
11	ROB on No 13 across Delhi Mathura Railway Line (Near Tughalabad)	5
12	ROB on marginal bundh to G T Road	20
13	Under pass at Delhi and Shahdara Kailash Nagar	5

Sl.No.	Location	Provision in Budget for 1990-91 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
14.	Bridge on Agra Canal along Road No. 13-A	25
15.	ROB and Link Road connecting Mathura Road to Nizamuddin	5
16.	ROB Rajasthan Udyog Nagar at Shalimar Bagh	5
17.	ROB on Ring Road Link to 'C' Power Station	150
18.	Bridge across supplementary drain on NH-1	5
19.	Two grade separators-one at intersection of Park Street and Baba Kharak Singh Marg and the other at intersection of Tilak Marg and Bhagwan Dass Road	30

Sl.No.	Location	Provision in Budget for 1990-91 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
20.	RUB near Nizamuddin connecting Ring Road and Mathura Road	3
21.	ROB on Lawrance Road on Rohtak Road Railway line near Rampura	3
22.	ROB at level crossing near Madhuban	3
23.	Foot-overbridge at Kath Ka Pul near Sadar Bazar	2
24.	Grade Separator at the crossing of Rani Jhansi Road, Boulevard Road and G. T. Road	3
25.	Grade Separator at the intersection of Desh Bandhu Gupta Road and Rani Jhansi Road	1
26.	ROB on Railway line near Samaipur Badli	100

Sl.No.	Location	Provision in Budget for 1990-91 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
27.	RUB from G. T. Road to Vivek Vihar	20
28.	Under-bridge on Rohtak Road near Kishan Ganj	100
29.	Widening of under-bridge on Qutub Road	100

Drought Prone Districts in Bundelkhand Region

2807. KUMARI UMABHARATI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of drought affected districts in Bundelkhand region;

(b) the names of districts out of them which have been declared as drought prone districts;

(c) the details of the facilities provided to these districts;

(d) whether Government propose to declare the remaining districts also as drought prone; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (e). Bundelkhand region includes the districts of Jhansi, Lalitpur, Banda, Hamirpur and Jalaun. 23 blocks in these districts have been declared drought prone and are covered under the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP). Funds ranging from Rs. 15 lakhs to Rs. 18.5 lakhs per year per block, depending on the size of the block, are allocated mainly for taking up schemes of land development, conservation and harvesting of water resources and afforestation, pasture and fodder development.

Government have set up a National Committee to consider, among other aspects, proposals for inclusion of additional areas under the programme. There is, however, no proposal from the State Government for inclusion of any additional blocks of these districts under the DPAP.

[English]

Research on Test Tube Calf

2808. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some research work on test tube calf is going on in the country;

(b) if so, the places where such research work is being carried;

(c) the benefits likely to accrue out of this research;

(d) the amount likely to be spent thereon; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take to further encourage such researches?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The researches have been taken up mainly at

i) National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal.

ii) Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar and

iii) Central Institute for Research on Goats, Makhdoom, Mathura.

(c) This will help in salvation of superior buffalo germ plasm lost through slaughter of high producing buffaloes in metropolitan cities as well as in livestock genetic resource conservation and management.

(d) A USAID project on Embryo Transfer Technology and UNDP and DBT supported projects on the subject are in opera-

tion and *inter alia* provide research *in vitro* Oocyte maturation, fertilization and culture. The total amount is Rs. 1908.38 lakhs and US\$ 25.24 lacs.

(e) A network project on Embryo Transfer which will also have the component of *in vitro* Oocyte maturation fertilization and culture in proposed to be included in the 8th Plan.

Group Dialing System from Atholi to Calicut Telephone Exchange

2809. SHRIK MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Atholi Telephone Exchange in Koshikode; and

(b) the time by which the group dialing system from Atholi to Calicut will be introduced and the exchange installed in the new building for which the land has been acquired by Government?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRI SHNAN): (a) At present Atholi has a small Automatic Telephone Exchange of 90 lines capacity with 87 working connections and 269 applicants on waiting list.

(b) Group dialling facility at Atholi is proposed to be introduced from Calicut during the year 1990-91, subject to availability of equipment. A 512 Port electronic exchange is planned for installation in a rented building. A building for higher capacity exchange whenever justified will be planned in the land already acquired.

Inclusion of Cardamom in Indo-Nepal Bilateral Trade Agreement

2810. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to enlist Cardamom in the bilateral Trade Agreement between India and Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. This matter will be discussed in the next round of official level talks to be held in Kathmandu when the details of an appropriate provision in this behalf may be incorporated in our bilateral agreement.

(c) Does not arise.

Secondary Switching Area Facility in Thodupuzha

2811. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to re-establish the Secondary Switching Area facility in Thodupuzha in Idukki district of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRI SHNAN): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) The telecom network of Idukki is too small to justify a separate SSA at present.

Trunk Telephone Line from Idukki to Nedum Kandan

2812. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the present stage of the proposal to have a Trunk Telephone Line from Idukki to Nedum Kandan in Idukki district, Kerala; and

(b) the details of steps taken by Government to complete the remaining part of the Idukki-Nedum Kandan Trunk Line?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) and (b). There is a proposal to instal a 30 channel digital radio system (UHF) between Nedum Kandan and Idukki during the 8th Plan period.

New Electronic Exchange at Thodupuzha

2813. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government propose to start a new electronic exchange at Thodupuzha, Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 2000 lines ICP exchange already stands allotted for Thodupuzha for 90-91 for replacing existing MAX-II exchange. Equipment for 2000-3500 line expansion is also planned for 92-93.

Sri Lankan Refugees

2814. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fresh batches of refugees have started coming to India following the withdrawal of Indian Peace Keeping Force from Sri Lanka; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). Between 26th August, 1989 and 13th March, 1990, 3302 Sri Lankan refugees arrived in Tamil Nadu from Sri Lanka. In addition, 1612 refugees have been brought from Trincomalee by ship and air to camps in Koraput district, Orissa.

Proposal to Sell Surplus Land of Bombay Port

2815. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to sell certain surplus land of Bombay Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) to (c). No, Sir. There is no proposal to sell any

Bombay Port Trust land.

Expenditure on Security of Cabinet Ministers

2816. SHRI A. VJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the expenditure incurred on the security of Cabinet Ministers from January, 1985 to December, 1989?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMUFTIMOHAMMAD SAYEED): The security arrangements for the Cabinet Ministers are made by Delhi Police and Central Police Organisations on deputation to Delhi Police during their stay in Delhi and by the concerned State/UT Police forces during the visits of the ministers out of Delhi. It is not possible to give exact figures of expenditure involved in providing security to the Cabinet

Ministers since deployment is made out of overall resources of police and other agencies whose operations are not confined to providing security alone, and the expenditure on security is a part of overall expenditure.

CRPF Personnel Killed in action

2817. SHRI A. VJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of Central Reserve Police Force personnel killed in action in various parts of the country between 1987 and 1989, State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMUFTIMOHAMMAD SAYEED): The CRPF personnel killed in action in various States during 1987 to 1989, are as under:—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>1987</i>	<i>1988</i>	<i>1989</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
1.	Assam	—	—	2
2.	Bihar	1	—	—
3.	J&K	—	—	5
4.	Manipur	4	10	5
5.	Nagaland	2	1	—
6.	Punjab	25	22	39
7.	Sikkim	—	1	—
8.	Tripura	3	1	—
9.	West Bengal	7	5	1
Total		42	40	52

Prawn Cultivation in Goa

2818. PROF. GOPALRAO MAYEKAR:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great scope for promoting prawn cultivation in Goa State; and

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

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The State of Goa has about 4000 ha. of brackishwater area for promotion of prawn farming.

(b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, 'Integrated Brackishwater Fish Farm Development', two projects viz a brackishwater prawn farm covering an area of about 35 ha. at Charao at an estimated cost of Rs. 19.70 lakh and a Pilot Prawn Seed Hatchery with UNDP technical inputs at Benaulim at a total cost of Rs. 6.00 lakh for producing 25 million tiger prawn seed per annum, were sanctioned during the years 1985-86 and 1987-88 respectively. The State Government have constructed a 5 ha. brackishwater farm at Ela Dhauji for demonstration of the prawn farming technology.

Special Postal Stamp of Keshavrao Bhosale

2819. PROF. GOPALRAO MAYEKAR:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received demand to release a special postal stamp on the occasion of birth centenary of Keshavrao Bhosale, a veteran stage artist and singer of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISSHANNAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A demand has been received for issue of a stamp on Keshavrao Bhosale. A proposal in this regard was placed before the Philatelic Advisory Committee, which functions in the Department to advise the Government about issue of Commemorative/Special Postage Stamps and other related matters, at its meeting held on 29.9.89. However, the Committee could not consider the proposal due to paucity of time. This proposal will be placed again before the Committee, for consideration at its next meeting.

[Translation]

Constitution of Advisory Committee

2820. SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the levels at which 'Advisory Committees' of consumers and peoples representatives are constituted under the department and the category-wise details of the constitution of and representation in various such committees; and

(b) the future programme in regard to the constitution of these committees at each level?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISSHANNAN): (a) and (b). The policy on constitution of Telecom Advisory Committees is under review. These committees will be constituted after the policy is finalised.

[English]

Rehabilitation of Post Blue-Star Army Deserters

2821. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI:
SHRI HARI SHANKAR MAHALE:
SHRI SATINDER PAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of army personnel who had left their barracks following 'Operation Blue Star' in 1984;

(b) the number of such army deserters who have been rehabilitated so far; and

(c) the details of action taken to rehabilitate the remaining persons?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED) (a) According to information given by Ministry of Defence, 2731 persons were proceeded against for leaving their barracks following 'Operation Blue Star' and related charges. Of these 22 were exonerated

(b) 2297 were kept back in the Army/Defence Security Corps (DSC) 50 persons have been provided employment by the Government of Punjab.

(c) The names of 342 persons have been forwarded to the following organisations for employment:—

C.I.S.F	—	51
Railways	—	41
Posts	—	44
Telecom	—	46

F.C.I. — 100

C.W.C. — 25

D.P.E. for PS.Us — 35

 Total — 342

All these organisations have issued call letters to the concerned persons.

Terrorist Activities in Jammu and Kashmir

2822. SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed by terrorists/militants from 19 August, 1989 to 28 February, 1990; and

(b) the number of cases being investigated by CBI?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) and (b) Information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Launching of Cattle Development Programme in Madhya Pradesh

2823. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received any proposal from Madhya Pradesh Government for launching a comprehensive programme for improvement of cattle-breed, dairy industry and fodder in that State; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). The Madhya Pradesh Dugdh Mahasangh Sahakari Maryadit (MPDMSM) has submitted an indicative plan for Operation Flood-III for the State costing about Rs. 27.69 crore to National Dairy Development Board (NDDB). The detailed sub-project investment proposals (SPIP) for each milkshed except for Ujjain Milkshed are yet to be received by NDDB from MPDMSM. The proposal for Ujjain Milkshed includes expansion of Ujjain dairy and 2 chilling centres at Ratlam and Agar, establishment of two new chilling centres at Mandsaur and Shamgarh, organisation of 598 new dairy cooperative societies and 354 new artificial insemination centres. Besides, proposal also includes assistance for 8 Gramvans, 351 Kisanvans and 89 decentralised nurseries. The SPIP for Ujjain Milkshed is being appraised by NDDB for its financial viability.

[English]

Proposals for Construction of Bridges in Rajasthan under ISEI Scheme

2824. CH. JAGDEEP DHANKHAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan Government has sent proposals to the Union Government for providing financial assistance for construction of bridges on Parvati river at Chabra-Dhannavada road and on river Ujhar at S.H.No. 19, District Jhalawar on 3 canal river, under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Inter-State Economic Importance;

(b) if so, whether the proposals have been approved and financial assistance provided;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Due to the constraint of resources and the demands from other States, the project could not be accommodated in Centrally Sponsored Programme during the VIth Plan.

Additional Loan Assistance for Second Hooghly Bridge

2825. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to sanction additional loan assistance to the Government of West Bengal for completion of the Second Hooghly Bridge; and

(b) if so, the amount thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) Government of West Bengal has requested for additional loan assistance for completion of the Second Hooghly Bridge.

(b) On the basis of the total cost of Rs. 340.00 crores as estimated by West Bengal Government, they have requested for additional loan assistance of Rs. 72.00 crores over and above the existing commitment of Central Government to give loan assistance for Rs. 230.00 crores.

US views about Pakistan's involvement in Kashmir

2826. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign Secretary visited USA in February, 1990 to apprise Senior officials of the White House, State and Defence Departments of India's concern at Pakistan's involvement in our country's internal affairs in Kashmir;

(b) whether as per press reports a Senior State Department official has reportedly stated that the United States sees no Pakistan hand in Kashmir; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government of India thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Migrants from Jammu and Kashmir

2827. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who have migrated from Jammu and Kashmir to other parts of the country during the period 1 January, 1988 to 28 February, 1990; and

(b) the facilities, if any, provided by Union Government for their rehabilitation?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) The information is being ascertained, which

will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The objective of the Government of India is to create conditions for the safe return of the migrants. Therefore, their rehabilitation is not contemplated.

Payment of Wages to Labourers at Chhatisgarh in M.P.

2828. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDEWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of daily wages being paid to the labourers engaged in cable laying in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether Government have received any complaints about payment of less than the fixed wages to the labourers engaged in the said work in the Chhatisgarh region of Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government to rectify the same?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Departmental Casual Labourers engaged in cable laying in Madhya Pradesh are paid wages at the daily rates worked out on the basis of the minimum of the pay scale applicable to corresponding regular employees of the Department plus Dearness Allowance as admissible.

(b) No complaints have been received regarding the wages paid to the departmental Casual Labourers in the Chhatisgarh Region of M.P.

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

**Cases Registered in Connection with
1984 Riots**

2829. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of criminal cases registered in connection with the riots that took place in Delhi within a week after the assassination of Smt. Indira Gandhi;

(b) the number of cases of murder, arson and looting out of these separately;

(c) the total number of persons against whom criminal cases have been registered, and the details of action taken against them so far; and

(d) the number of incidents in which no criminal cases have yet been registered, and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) 391.

(b) 89 cases of murder and 136 cases of looting and arson.

(c) Criminal cases registered against 2329 persons. Out of them, 80 have already been convicted.

(d) All incidents reported to the police within a week are covered under these 391 cases.

[English]

Soviet Nuclear Power Plant to Pakistan

2830. SHRI R.N. RAKESH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the Soviet Union is to supply nuclear power plant to Pakistan;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) to (c). As far as the Government is aware, no commitment has been made by the Soviet Union to Pakistan in this regard.

Identity Cards to Citizens in Rajasthan

2831. SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of dual citizenship of a sizable number of population in the border districts of Jaisalmer and Barmer in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government to identify the Indian citizens for distribution of Identity Cards to them?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) The Constitution of India does not provide for dual citizenship.

(b) Under the Pilot Scheme for Issue of Identity Cards in operation in selected tehsils of Ganganagar, Jaisalmer, Barmer and Bikaner districts of the State of Rajasthan, the identity cards are being issued to bonafide residents and the card is not linked to citizenship.

Influx of Bangladeshis into India

2832. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:
SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA
NARASIMHA RAJA
WADIYAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no let-up in the influx of Bangladeshis into India, particularly in Tripura;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to implement the Inner Line Regulation Act to prevent the influx; and

(c) the other measures taken or proposed to check the infiltration?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) No, Sir. There is considerable let up in the influx of Bangladeshi refugees into India, including Tripura.

(b) Inner line Regulation, is not relevant to preventing influx of Bangladesh refugees.

(c) More border outposts and observation post towers of BSF have been set up, and sophisticated equipment, and vehicles etc. have been provided to increase vigilance on the border.

WHO Code in Pesticides

2833. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have by now adopted WHO code on Pesticide including the Prior Informed Consent clause in view of its acceptance in principle in the FAO Council meeting held at Rome; and

(b) whether the infrastructure now available is adequate to implement various provisions of the Code and Insecticides Act and if so, the details thereof indicating weaknesses, if any, and remedial steps proposed?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRIDEVI LAL): (a) There is no WHO Code on pesticide. However, Food and Agriculture Or-

ganisation (FAO) adopted a resolution, to which India was a party, for the inclusion of Prior Informed Consent in the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides in its 25th Session held in November, 1989 at Rome.

(b) The main emphasis of the Code is on:

- i) regulation of the manufacture and use of pesticides in the country.
- ii) establishing mechanism for ensuring the quality of pesticides and safety in the distribution of pesticides.
- iii) regulatory mechanism for enforcing standards so as to enhance bio-efficacy and reduce health and environmental hazards in the manufacture and trade of pesticides; and
- iv) prescription of labelling, packaging, storage and disposal requirements and restrictions. These matters are already governed by the provision of Insecticides Act, 1968 and suitable infrastructure for their implementation exists.

[*Translation*]

Allocation for Rajasthan Under Border Areas Development Programme

2834. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had approved a scheme of about Rupees 130 crores for Rajasthan under the Border Areas Development Programme during 1986-87 and nearly

14 crore rupees had also been allotted for the first year in this regard;

(b) whether the State Government had utilised the allotted amount;

(c) whether the remaining amount was made available during the succeeding years under the said scheme and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the State Government has demanded an additional amount of 11 crore rupees under this scheme for generation of power from solar energy in 800 villages of Ganganagar, Bikaner, Jaisalmer and Barmer and for other programmes; and

(e) whether Government propose to allot the said amount immediately?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) Border Area Development Programme was taken up as a part of Special Areas Programme in the 7th Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs. 200 crores. A provision of Rs. 40 crores was made in 86-87. Schemes costing Rs. 14.14 crores in respect of Rajasthan were sanctioned during 86-87.

(b) to (e). In November, 1986, it was decided to reorient the Programme so as to confine it to the education sector only. Out of the total 7th Plan allocation of Rs. 200 crores, Rs. 150 crores were transferred to Ministry of Human Resource Development with effect from the financial year 1987-88.

[English]

Ban on Recruitment in Punjab

2835. SHRI KIRPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ban has been imposed on

recruitment of clerical and technical services in Punjab;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to lift this ban; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) No, Sir.

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

Expenditure on Foreign Tours of Prime Minister

2836. SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred for conducting foreign tour programmes of the Prime Minister during December, 1989 to February, 1990 and December 1988 to February, 1989; and

(b) the amount of expenditure incurred for the security arrangements at home for the Prime Minister during December 1989 to February 1990 and December 1988 to February, 1989?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) The expenditure incurred for conducting foreign tour programmes of the Prime Minister during December, 1988 to February 1989 was Rs. 1,65,96,762/- approximately. The Prime Minister used an IAF plane for his tour to Pakistan and usual TA/DA was paid to the Officers during foreign tours as admissible under the Rules. The Prime Minister did not undertake any tour abroad during December, 1989 to February, 1990.

The Special Protection Group (SPG) is responsible for providing proximate security

to the Prime Minister and the members of his family. SPG also provides security at the residence and the office of the Prime Minister in Delhi. Besides SPG, there are other agencies involved in providing security to the Prime Minister like Delhi Police and the State Police Authorities.

(b) The approximate amount incurred on the salary, wages, travel expenditure and transport of SPG personnel during December, 1989 to February, 1990 was Rs. 94,78,384/- and during December 1988 to February, 1989 was Rs. 81,80,855/-.

Mobile Wireless Car Telephones

2837. DR. K. KALIMUTHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to manufacture mobile wireless car telephones; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government also propose to import such mobile wireless car telephones; if so, the expenditure likely to be incurred in their import?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) and (b). There are no proposal under consideration at present

[*Translation*]

Desert Area Development Programme in Rajasthan

2838. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Central Desert Research Institute has demarcated an area of 400 sq. kilometers of Jaipur, Udaipur, Ajmer

and Sirohi, where desert-like conditions prevail;

(b) whether Government of Rajasthan have submitted a proposal for inclusion of this area under the Desert Area Development Programme; and

(c) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL). (a) The Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur has not made any such demarcation. Due to biotic degradation some desertification is occurring in the said region but quantified data are not available.

(b) and (c). The Government of Rajasthan have submitted a memorandum to the National Committee on Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) to include 502 villages of 11 Panchayat Samities in the Districts of Udaipur, Ajmer, Jaipur and Sirohi in the Desert Development Programme (DDP) or to start a separate 100 per cent centrally sponsored programme for development of these areas. The National Committee will look into all memoranda submitted by various State Governments. A decision to include new areas under the DDP and DPAP would be taken only after the report of the Committee is submitted to the Government.

[*English*]

Soil Conservation Scheme in Catchment Areas of Orissa

2839. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing a Central plan scheme with 100 per cent Central assistance since the Third Five

Year Plan period for afforestation and soil conservation in catchment areas:

(b) if so, the details of the catchment areas of Orissa where the scheme has been implemented and the area covered so far under plantation;

(c) whether Orissa Government have requested to increase the area of the scheme to cover some flood prone catchment areas of the rivers like Brahmani, Baitarni and Kharasua in Cuttack District of Orissa,

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Soil and Water Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects of Hirakud, Machkund/Sileru and Rengali-Mandira in the State of Orissa is under execution since Third Five Year Plan with 100% Central assistance comprising 50% grant and 50% loan. An area of 1,83,310 hectares has so far been treated with soil conservation measures including afforestation from inception of the scheme till end of the year 1988-89. Afforestation is one of the treatment measures followed in these Catchments. The area land covered by afforestation and allied measures like pasture development, horticulture, etc. is about 97000 ha. till the end of 1988-89.

(c) to (e). Yes, Sir. A request from the State Government of Orissa has been received for inclusion of the catchments of Brahmani, Baitarni and Kansbans rivers under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Soil Conservation of Integrated Watershed Management in the Catchments of Flood Prone Rivers. Request for inclusion

of catchment of Kharasua river has not been received from the State Government. The above request of the State Government of Orissa was considered in consultation with the Planning Commission. On account of resources constraint, it has not been possible to cover additional catchments during the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Indo-FAO Agreement on Vegetable Oils

2840. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been signed recently between India and United Nations' Food and Agricultural Organisations for formulating a long term scheme in the country in the field of vegetable oils; and

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

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir. An agreement has been signed, on 17th January 1990, between Government of India and Food & Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations for formulating long term policy strategies for vegetable oils.

(b) The main objectives of the Project are:

(i) to evaluate alternative strategies for the development of oilseed sub-sector upto the year 2000 AD and their policy implications for production, consumption, processing and marketing; and

(ii) to identify possible project ideas for future technical assistance.

Under the Project, FAO will provide the services of four Consultants with specialisation in oilseed crop development; processing; marketing and a senior economist as a Mission leader.

The Project is financed by FAO's Technical Cooperation Programme with allocation of US \$ 1,91,000. The work on the project would start in September, 1990 and complete by March, 1991.

(Interruptions)

12.00 hrs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am calling Prof. Saif-ud-din Soz.

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ (Baramulla): I have to place on the Table of the House, with your permission, of course, a report from a Human Rights Organisation, Indian organisation, called 'Committee for Initiative on Kashmir.' It had sent a team to Kashmir comprising four people, Shri Tapan Bose and others. They went to Kashmir Valley and they collected facts and I find these facts are correct. It is a factual report.

MR. SPEAKER: Have you given it in writing?

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Then why do you raise it now?

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: I am placing on the Table after reading only a very small paragraph.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not permitted

you. You have written to me. When I give you permission, then you can do that. You have written to me. That is all.

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: I do not want any discussion on this although I have given notice of a Call Attention Motion. I want that you should ask the Home Minister to make a statement on this. Kindly allow me now only to read a very small, brief, paragraph.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not permit you to read it.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Mangalore): There is a report that there is an exodus of thousands of people from Kashmir to Pakistan. The report says that thousands of people are migrating to Pakistan. Now the Government is sleeping over that. If the report is wrong, the Minister should make a statement denying that. It is a very serious matter. Even the Prime Minister has gone on record...

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Shri Ram Sagar

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: This report has been given by BBC. If it is wrong, Government should deny it and the Minister should make a statement. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM SAGAR (Bara Banki): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are certain criminal gangs operating in some areas of the country which kidnap and subsequently kill the young and innocent children to take out their kidneys to supply the same to foreign countries at the rate of Rs. 3 lakhs each. There is a village called Makhdoompur in tehsil Saidpur in district Gazipur in Uttar Pradesh which falls in my constituency. Recently it on 1st February, three seventh class students of this village named Shailendra Kumar Singh, Sanjay Kumar Singh and Nagina Singh had been kidnapped but to the date they could

not be traced. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You should not read a statement here. Please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAYAWATI (Bijnor): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the day of 'Holi' the thakurs of Rudayanpur in Aligarh district of Uttar Pradesh burnt down the houses of 40 'Jatav' Scheduled Caste persons with the help of capitalist forces. These persons were mercilessly beater and their houses were also ransacked. A man called Daata Ram was burnt alive and also his wheat crop on a 35 'bigha' of land was set on fire

MR. SPEAKER: This matter falls under the jurisdiction of the State Government.

(*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAYAWATI: Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards an incident which took place in Madhya Pradesh where some orthodox elements stripped some young women belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to the buff and made them dance on the Holi day. A Resistance on the part of these women led to their thrashing. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot read a statement here. You have had your say. Now please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

DR. KHUSHAL PARASRAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Congress (I) Government in Maharashtra is neglecting my constituency because I am an MP belonging to the B.J.P. Entire Bhandara district is reeling under drought and famine but no relief operations have started there. Lakhs of people have been rendered homeless. They are

starving. I have given notice of this matter under Rule 377 also. I request the Central Government through you to intervene in this matter so that famine relief work may be undertaken in that area. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI M.J. AKBAR (Kishanganj): Sir, I would like to have a statement from the Government on how our good friend Mr. Kuldip Nayar, our High Commissioner in London was insulted and humiliated when he went to a Gurudwara. What action has been taken in this matter? I would like you to direct the Minister to make a statement. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (Delhi Sadar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, 12 hard-core terrorists have escaped from Srinagar jail could you please ask the hon. Home Minister to make a statement in this regard stating as to why these 12 hard core terrorists were lodged in Srinagar jail and also as to why they were not kept in any other jail in the country? When it was known to the Government that the jail staff were sympathetic to these terrorists, why were the latter not moved to a jail in Delhi or Jammu? The hon. Home Minister should come out with a statement stating as to how these hard-core terrorists managed their escape and now what further steps are being taken by the Government in this regard. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Agnihotri. Please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You are speaking without my permission. I have not permitted you to speak. I shall look into it only after all of you have taken your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Shri Thomas.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, it has been widely reported in the Press that one News Editor in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in the TV Division has been transferred recently for not having reported the news relating to the visit of the Prime Minister to Namibia in the manner in which the Information and Broadcasting Minister wanted. *(Interruptions)*

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12.07 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[Translation]

Notification under Essential Commodities Act, 1955, Review on and Annual Report of Paradeep Phosphates Ltd., Bhubaneswar, for 1988-89, of Goa Meat Complex Ltd., Panjim for 1988-89 etc.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRIDEVI LAL): I beg to lay on the Table of the House.

- (1) A copy of the Fertiliser (Control) (Amendment) Order, 1990 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 140 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th February, 1990 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—561/90].
- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Paradeep Phosphates Limited, Bhubaneswar, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Paradeep Phosphates Limited, Bhubaneswar, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library See No LT—562/90].
- (b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Goa Meat Complex Limited, Panjim, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Goa Meat Complex Limited, Panjim, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—563/90].
- (c) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library See No. LT—564/90].
- (d) (i) Review by the Govern-

- ment on the working of the Pyrites Phosphates and Chemicals Limited, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Pyrites Phosphates and Chemicals Limited, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (3) Four statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—565/90].
- (4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
- (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Tamil Nadu Agro-Industries Corporation Limited, Madras, for the year 1986-87.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Tamil Nadu Agro-Industries Corporation Limited, Madras, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (5) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-566/90].
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.
- (7) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—567/90].
- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Federation of Cooperative Spinning Mills Limited, Bombay, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the All India Federation of Cooperative Spinning Mills Limited, Bombay, for the year 1988-89.
- (9) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—568/90].
- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Heavy Engineering Cooperative Limited, Pune, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Heavy Engineering Cooperative Limited, Pune, for the year 1988-89.

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| (11) | A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—569/90]. | (15) | A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (14) above. [Placed in Library. See no. LT—571/90] |
| (12) | <p>(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of State Cooperative Banks Limited, Bombay, for the year 1988-89.</p> <p>(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of State Cooperative Banks Limited, Bombay, for the year 1988-89 together with Audit Report thereon.</p> <p>(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Federation of State Cooperative Banks Limited, Bombay, for the year 1988-89.</p> | (16) | <p>(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.</p> <p>(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89 together with Audit Report thereon.</p> <p>(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.</p> |
| (13) | A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—570-90]. | (17) | A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (16) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—572/90]. |
| (14) | <p>(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India Limited, Anand, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.</p> <p>(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India Limited, Anand, for the year 1988-89.</p> | (18) | <p>(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of Labour Cooperatives Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.</p> <p>(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Federation of Labour Cooperatives Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.</p> |

(19) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (18) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—573/90].

(20) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the National Seeds Corporation Limited for the year 1988-89 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting year. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—574/90].

(21) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Cooperative Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Cooperative Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89 together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Cooperative Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.

(22) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (21) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—575/90].

[English]

Notification under Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957; Report of Committee on Re-organisation of Delhi set up (Part I and II) Hindi version, Annual Report of and Review on Repatriates Cooperative Finance and Development Bank Ltd., Madras, for 1988-89 etc.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): Sir,
I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Notification No. U-14011/160/89-Delhi (i) (Hindi and English versions) published in Delhi Gazette dated the 6th January, 1990 regarding supersession of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi for a period of four months with effect from 6th January, 1990, under sub-section (3) of section 490 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for supersession of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—576/90].

(3) A copy of the Report of Committee on Reorganisation of Delhi Set-up (Part—I and II) (Hindi version). (English version of the Report was laid on the Table on 29.12.1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—577/90].

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Repatriates Cooperative Finance and Development Bank Limited, Madras, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Repatriates Cooperative Finance and Development Bank Limited, Madras for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—578/90].

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (Delhi Sadar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. A notification was issued to keep the Corporation in suspended animation for a period of 4 months. I would like to make a submission in this regard. The period of suspension was fixed as four months of which three months have already elapsed and now only one month is left. In this context I would therefore like to know as to what decision has been taken by the government regarding the grant of statehood to Delhi. (*Interruptions*)

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of the Ministry of External Affairs for 1990-91

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of External Affairs for 1990-91. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—579/90].

Statements explaining reasons for not laying Annual Report, etc. of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd., New Delhi and Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd., Bombay for 1988-89

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not

laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Mahanagar Telephones Nigam Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting year. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—580/90].

- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited, Bombay, for the year 1988-89 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting year. [placed in Library. See LT—581/90].

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. I had called you. Where had you been? Shri Vasant Sathe.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Vardha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request you to ask the Home Minister or the Government to come out with a statement regarding the escape of 11 persons from Srinagar jail.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: When will they make the statement?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sathe, please take your seat.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will they come out with a statement?

MR. SPEAKER: What can I say?

[*English*]

I cannot direct him.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Are they going to make a statement or not? What action they are going to take as per your directions?

MR. SPEAKER: What can I say?

[*English*]

SHRI VASANT SATHE . They cannot go against your direction. (*Interruptions*);

MR. SPEAKER Mr Thomas, please go to your seat.

[*Translation*]

Please take your seat .(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VASANT SATHE. Have you directed them to give a statement? What have you said to them?

MR. SPEAKER: The Speaker does not give such directions. You have to give a notice. Have you given a notice?

[*English*]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA (Gwalior): Yes, Sir, we have given Calling Attention Notice.

MR. SPEAKER: That will be duly considered.

(*Interruptions*)[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: All of you, please take your seats.

(*Interruptions*)[*English*]

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Can the Government be so insensitive? Can the Home Minister say:

[*Translation*]

that they do not react. 11 persons have escaped and they are not reacting to it? You do not want to react on this issue. What is your attitude? .(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Are you going to give an assurance?

MR. SPEAKER: It is under our consideration

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seat What are you doing? Please go to your seat

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Please listen to me. Please listen to my submission .(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hear Mr. Advani.

[*Translation*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (New Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: You do not listen to us, we are also Members of this House.

MR. SPEAKER: I have listened to you.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: We only

want an assurance through you that they will come out with a statement or calling attention will be admitted on this important issue, so that reaction of the Government on it may be known and their position may become clear...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

SHRIP. V. NARASIMHARAO (Ramtek). You are considering the notice given. But I would say that on a matter like this, the Government should not wait for notice to come. *Suo moto* they should come with a statement because the whole country is worried about it. This is what the Government ought to have done.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Very serious matter...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a question was raised by my friend Shri Malhotra and it has also been raised by Shri Sathe, Shri Madhavrao Scindia and Shri Narsimha Rao also. I think the entire House is very much worried about this incident. Even otherwise we all know it that the problem of Kashmir and the situation prevailing there is very serious. But, if such a thing happens, we expect from the Government that it will take the entire House into confidence and place all the facts before them...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Sharmaji, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Home Minister.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Dharam Palji, please follow the rules of the House. Please

take your seat.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday 12 terrorists escaped from the Srinagar Jail in J & K. It is a very serious matter. They should not have been kept there. Directions had already been issued that such terrorists should be kept in the Jammu jail. But how all this happened and what action has the State Administration taken in this connection...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Brahmhattji, please take your seat. You had demanded that the Home Minister should make a statement; but now when he is making a statement, you are not listening to him, so please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would provide all the details and explain the complete situation in the House. The statement in this connection will be made today itself.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The Home Minister will make a statement in this regard.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (Jhansi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, all the five districts of the Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh are facing a severe drought and this has happened not only this year but for the last 3 years. People are fleeing this region as they have been left with no means to earn their livelihood and it has become a question of life and death for them. Being a rocky area, wells have dried up and people are virtually dying for want of water. So the question of drinking water is really very important. Therefore Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would urge upon the hon. Minister that he should immediately issue directions for starting relief work there. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the situation is very grim and it is a question of life and death for the

people living there. All the four hon. members representing that region are present here, so you are requested to call upon the hon. Minister of Agriculture to make a statement in this regard... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had given a notice for calling attention regarding people being forcibly kept as bonded labourers in the Beggars Home being run by the Delhi Administration... (*Interruptions*)

People who come from U.P. and Bihar in search of work are being kept there as bonded labourers in the name of beggars. Hon. Minister for Labour and the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi have seen for themselves about 15 days back that Graduates and Professors are being kept in the Beggars Home. Orders were issued to release them, but they have not been released so far. It was found during the visit that 275 out of 350 people were persons who should not have been kept there as beggars. I would demand that the hon. Minister for Labour should make a statement in this regard.

SHRI TASLIMUDIN (Purnea): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is acute scarcity of salt in Bihar and it is not available even at Rs. 5 per Kg. Government should pay attention in this direction... (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI USHA VERMA (Kheri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, district Lakhimpur Kheri was struck by a severe hailstorm on the 22nd of this month and crops in one or two tehsils were completely destroyed. The farmers do not have anything to feed even their children. The situation is very grim there. I appeal to the hon. Minister of Agriculture to make a statement on this... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI AJIT PANJA (Calcutta South East): Sir, in the whole of West Bengal, particularly in Calcutta 1,000 children are affected by a peculiar type of disease with high fever. The School of Tropical Medicine could not identify it. They are saying that this

is Salmonella Tyfa. What I am requesting, through you, so that the Central Health Department, in case of such epidemics, should send a special team of doctors and experts with proper medicines to West Bengal immediately... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY (Krishnagiri): Sir, a very serious situation has arisen. A very serious statement has been made in the Madras Assembly yesterday. At that time, yesterday, our hon. Prime Minister was hosting a very good and warm reception to the IPKF. But the Chief Minister has uttered something which is against the armed forces of our country... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You had your say. Now, Matters under Rule 377.

12.20 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*English*]

(i) **Need for taking steps for saving forests in Kerala**

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore): Kerala's wealth lies in her luxuriant forests, her numerous rivers and her long coastalline. However, the alarming shrinking of forest cover, over exploitation of the river systems and poor management of industrial and domestic effluence, have all left their ugly mark on Kerala's environment.

Though statistics of different agencies vary regarding the extent of actual denudation of forest in Kerala, it is a more or less an accepted fact that the forest cover has shrunk from 44% in 1905 to 27% in the sixties and to 10% in the early eighties and is still continuing to shrink at an alarming rate. This has destroyed the rare flora and fauna of the land and environmentalists say that the landslides and flash floods are also a direct

consequence of the denudation of forests.

[*Translation*]

I therefore, earnestly request the hon. Minister for Environment and Forests to ban use of forest land for non-forest purposes in Kerala and to see that the same is strictly enforced.

12.22 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

(ii) Need for converting the Main Central Road in Kerala into a National Highway

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Main Central Road (M.C. Road) is one of the important roads in Kerala. It starts from Angamaly, Ernakulam district and ends in Trivandrum. Actually, this road is a parallel road to the National Highway 47, covering Kottayam, Pathyanemthitta, Alleppey and Quilon districts. I request the Central Government to convert this road into a National Highway.

(iii) Need for constructing another airport near Cochin

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): A modern airport having the facility to land Air Bus, is a long cherished desire of the people of Cochin. Cochin being the industrial capital of Kerala, attracts a large number of people from different parts of the country and abroad. Among the national airports, Cochin airport stands 7th in the collection of revenue. But, the present airport being a naval airfield, has the facility to receive only Boeing aircrafts. There was a proposal from the Civil Aviation Ministry to strengthen the present runway to enable landing of Air Bus 320. But the work of strengthening the runway has been delayed. As it is difficult to expand the present airfield due to constraints caused by the Cochin port, it is requested that a new airport may be constructed in another place near the city. There is enough space at Kalamassery in the possession of H.M.T. Unit, which can be used for developing the new airport.

(iv) Need to complete construction of dam over the river Kosi between Dargia and Phubian in Bihar

SHRI DASAI CHOWDHARY (Rosera): Sir, approval was given to the construction of Dargia Phubian dam on the Kosi river in Bihar in 1978; but work on it was later stopped in 1980, and since then the dam is lying incomplete due to which hundreds of villages in the surrounding areas get submerged during floods, causing heavy loss of life and property. The areas affected mainly by the floods include Hasanpur Sindhia in district Samastipur and Ghanshyampur Virol and Kusheshwar in district Durgapur.

So, I urge the Central Government to restart the construction work on this dam.

[*English*]

(v) Need to treat lawyers in the special category in the matter of allowing telephone connections

CH. JAGDEEP DHANKHAR (Jhunjhunu): In the matter of allotment of new telephone connections all over the country, priority is extended to certain well-defined categories—that of industry, doctors, midwives, etc. They are entitled to new telephone connections in special category. Such a facility is not available to the members of the legal faculty. There can be no dispute that lawyer are engaged in discharge of public functions and are to maintain constant communications with the litigants. In the present times, litigants are required to be in touch with the lawyers from considerable distance. There is all the more compelling necessity for a lawyer to have easy communication. In such a situation, it will be extremely desirable to treat lawyers as a class in the special category in the matter of allotment of new telephone connections. I strongly urge the Government to take necessary steps towards this direction speedily.

(vi) Need to take steps to revive cement industry in Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan

DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA (Sawai Madhopur): Sawai Madhopur district in Rajasthan is basically a tribal area with more than 6 lakh voters belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. In this area, cement plant is the only industry employing more than 5,000 workers which not only provide livelihood to the 50,000 members of their families but on it depends the economy of the entire area. These 5,000 employees of the company have not received their salaries for the last 28 months due to closure of the plant and now they are virtually on the verge of starvation. About 47 persons have died due to starvation and malnutrition.

The IRBI (operating agency of BIFR) has suggested to the Government agencies to grant various concessions, but Government agencies have not responded properly in the matter of welfare of the employees.

As the turnover of factory is Rs. 70 crore out of which Rs. 38.44 crore is average revenue income of Government, I suggest: (1) selling unproductive assets of the company to generate funds of about Rs. 20 crore; (2) to declare this company a relief undertaking with immediate effect till it becomes viable; (3) Central Government should grant all concessions as recommended by IRBI; (4) allow excise rebate of Rs. 50 per tonne; (5) winding-up proceedings of the company by BIFR should be stopped; (6) the labour cooperative society, which is under consideration before BIFR and Government, should be set up and the factory should be started immediately in Government and public interest.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only the approved text will go on record.

[*Translation*]

(vii) Need for taking over the Katihar Jute Mill in Bihar

SHRI YUVRAJ (Katihar): Sir, the pay-

ment payment of wages, bonus, etc. has not been made to the workers of the Katihar jute mill in Bihar. This mill was being run by the Industrial Development Corporation of the State but the production is at a standstill there due to non-availability of raw material. The mill is open and the attendance is also taken regularly; but wages have not been paid since April, 1988, due to which the plight of workers is miserable.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to take over the highly modernized Katihar Jute Mill and alleviate the conditions of the workers.

(viii) Need for opening a polytechnic for women in Indore (Madhya Pradesh)

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): Sir, today the entire nation is marching ahead on the path of progress. For the all round development of the country progress is necessary on the economic, social, industrial and all other fronts. There can be no progress if women who form an important part of our society are neglected. Recently the hon. Prime Minister had also described the allround development of women and the need to safeguard her honour as highly essential and said that the Government will implement a scheme keeping these things in mind. Employment oriented education or vocational education is very important from the point of view of development. Today women have a significant contribution in every sphere of life. Keeping this fact in mind Women Polytechnic have been opened in many important places throughout the country so that women can also get technical education.

Indore is a major industrial city of Madhya Pradesh. Major industrial centres like Devas and Pithampur have developed around it. Institutions such as C.A.T. have come up in Indore. With a view that women play an important role in industrial development of the country, it is necessary to establish a women polytechnic in Indore. I would therefore urge upon the Government to pay immediate attention to this matter.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Item No. 6.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): Sir, I have a submission to make. Due to certain reasons, we would like this Item to be taken up tomorrow instead of today. And if the House agrees, we can go on to Item No. 7.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): How can the House agree unless it know the reasons? We will definitely co-operate with the Government. But let us know the reasons. And tomorrow is Friday. I must submit that if the voting will take place between 1 PM and 2 PM, it will not be convenient for Members. It should not be between 1 PM and 2 PM. So, you see to it that the voting will be after 2 PM or so.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: I will explain you the position. The time allotted for these two Bills is one hour each. I don't think that there is any need to dispense with the lunch hour. We can have lunch hour today and complete these two Bills today along with the Discussion under Rule 193. Tomorrow at 12 O'Clock, we can take up the Constitution (Amendment) Bill for which three hours have been allotted. We can complete it by 3 PM and also have the voting at 3 PM tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think these two Bills will be over before 6 O'Clock and immediately thereafter, we will take up the Discussion under Rule 193. Otherwise, it is scheduled to be taken up only at 6 PM. If the Members are informed about this, it will be convenient for them to be present

SHRI P. UPENDRA: We can take it up earlier also.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (Sivaganga): The three hours debate should not be cut tomorrow. The Parliamentary Affairs Minister has agreed that we will have full three

hours debate tomorrow. That should not be cut for any reason. If that is cut, then the voting will have to be postponed.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: If we take up the discussion at 12 O'Clock, we can finish it by 3 PM and at 3 PM, we can have the voting.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): It is obvious that they want a three hour debate before voting. But there is not enough time as the 'Zero Hour' may continue beyond 12.30 PM sometimes. And if the voting would take place after 4 PM, it is considered to be a difficult time for some Members. There should be an insistence that all of us will be present. This is one problem to which I want to draw your attention to.

The second point to which I would like to draw your attention is that on any day, if the debate or discussion extends beyond 9 PM, there should be an arrangement for dinner as many Members who live in North Avenue or elsewhere cannot get their meals if the debate continues beyond 9 P.M. This is a request which I am conveying through you to the Parliamentary Affairs Minister.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: I am sorry that yesterday arrangements for dinner were not made. The business in the House was supposed to be over much earlier, say by about 7.30 p.m. That is why arrangements were not made for dinner. In future, definitely arrangements would be made for this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What about voting?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): In the Business Advisory Committee, we were assured that there would be debate on this for three hours. We want to make it clear that we must have debate on this Bill for three hours. The Private Members' Business starts at 3.30 p.m.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: We can take it up at 12 O'Clock tomorrow and then we will have voting at around 3.00 p.m.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right.

We go to the next item now.

12.36 hrs.

COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY
(AMENDMENT) BILL

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): I
beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the
Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952, be
taken into consideration "

Under Sub-Section (1) of Section 3 of
the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952, the
Central Government or the State Govern-
ment may appoint a Commission of Inquiry
for the purpose of making an inquiry into any
definite matter of public importance

Before the Commissions of Inquiry Act,
1952 was amended in 1986, it was obliga-
tory for the appropriate Government, under
Sub-Section (4) of Section 3 of the Commis-
sions of Inquiry Act, 1952, to lay the report of
the Commission of inquiry appointed under
Sub-Section (1) thereof before the House of
the People or, as the case may be, the
Legislative Assembly concerned, together
with a memorandum of action taken thereon,
within a period of six months of the submis-
sion of the report. However, in 1986, it was
considered by the previous Government that
when Commissions of Inquiry are appointed
to inquire into sensitive matters of public
importance such as those having a bearing
on defence, national security, personnel
security of high dignitaries, friendly relations
with foreign powers, etc., the inquiry reports
may contain materials of a highly sensitive
nature and, as such, it may not be in the
public interest to lay such reports before the
Lok Sabha or the Legislative Assembly of

the State. In order to cover situations like
this, Section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry
Act, 1952 was amended by a Presidential
Ordinance promulgated on 14.5.1986, in-
serting Sub-Sections (5) and (6) in Section 3
of the Act. The Ordinance was replaced by
an Act of Parliament in August, 1986. This
amendment provided that if the appropriate
Government is satisfied that in the interests
of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the
security of the State, friendly relations with
foreign States or in the public interest, it is not
expedient to lay the report before the Lok
Sabha or the Legislative Assembly of the
State, the report of the Commission may not
be so laid, provided a notification to that
effect is issued within six months of the
submission of the report and approval of the
Lok Sabha or the Legislative Assembly of
the State to the notification is obtained.

The present Government has reconsid-
ered the matter, and is of the view that the
people have a right to information.

A Commission of Inquiry is set up for the
purpose of making an inquiry into any defi-
nite matter of public importance. As such,
the report submitted by such a Commission
should not be withheld from the House of the
People or the legislative Assembly under
any circumstances and the public should
have access to information which is of vital
importance and interest to them. The Gov-
ernment, therefore, considers that the
amendments made in 1986 should be done
away with.

The Bill seeks to achieve the above
object.

I, therefore, commend the Bill for the
consideration of this august House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion
moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the
Commissions of Enquiry Act, 1952, be
taken into consideration."

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (Sivaganga):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, one has watched

with some amount of wonder and amazement at the record of this Government in the last 110 days or so. Their proudest achievement seems to be, what according to them is, undoing what the previous Government did. And since they have the vocal support of perhaps the last surviving communist party in the world, they are emboldened to go along this road of self delusion.

Sir, a few minutes ago this House heard the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs pleading with the Chair, for reasons which he is not able to disclose, why the 64th Constitutional (Amendment) Bill should be taken up only tomorrow. We came prepared to participate in that debate. We will reserve what we would like to say for tomorrow. The 59th amendment, which they repealed with so much pomp and ceremony, is back partly as the 64th amendment.

Act 36 of 1986, amended the Commission of Inquiry Act and introduced sub-Section 4 and sub-Section 5. Today the home Minister claims that it is a proud achievement that they are bringing forward a Bill to repeal that amendment. This Government is concerned only with super structural changes, cosmetic changes which are born out of collective self delusion

Sir, if I remember right, Shri Mufti Mohd. Sayeed was a Member of the Government which introduced the Act 36 of 1986 and today Shri Sayeed stands up and says that we want to undo that Act. He is entitled to change his views.

AN. HON. MEMBER: He is wiser today.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Yes, he is wiser today but what makes you so sure that he will not be wiser again tomorrow? What makes you so sure that he will not change his mind again? Now, I would ask, where were the authors of that Bill. The author of the Bill, the then Law Minister, Shri A.K. Sen, is on their side. The author of the notification, the then Minister of State for Internal Security is on their side. Now, let me say, I have said this

in this House on the last occasion also, the author of the notification, beyond whom the notification did not travel, by which the Thakkar Commission Report was withheld from this House, the then Minister of State for Internal Security, is on their side. The notification did not travel beyond him and I would like to the Home Minister to look into the files.

Therefore, Sir, it is all very well to stand up and say "in our wisdom we repeal all these things." We know the wisdom by which they sought to repeal the 59th Amendment and today the same wisdom permits them to bring the 64th amendment. I have no doubt in my mind that if Shri Sayeed remains Home Minister long enough, he will bring forward another Bill at some point of time by which he will say, "I want to withhold part of this Commission of Inquiry's Report".

Today there is a demand for inquiry into the incidents in Kashmir since the 20th January, 1990. Four independent persons went to Kashmir. The Committee on Initiative of Kashmir has given a scathing report. They have pointed out three dates which are the turning points in Kashmir. The first of that is the night of 19-20 January, 1990. A demand was voiced. Let not the Home Minister be complacent. Today, we marched to the President. A demand will come one day and you will have to concede that demand for an inquiry into all that happened in Kashmir since 19-20 January, 1990. When that Report comes, we will hold you to this Bill. We will ask you to place on the Table of the House, every single line of the Report. I am sure, you will come forward and say that part of this Report is too sensitive, please allow me to withhold it. I have no doubt that you will say that one day.

The Government of India, acting through the Delhi Administration—what kind liberties they have taken with this law—have just appointed a retired Justice Mr. Subramaniam Poti, as a single member Inquiry Commission, to inquire into certain incidents which took place as a consequence of the Delhi riots. This I believe is an off-shoot of Justice

[Sh. P. Chidambaram]

Ranganath Mishra's Commission of Inquiry. Justice Subramaniam Poti—I have great respect for his intellectual abilities, but surely he is not an independent Judge, he is not an independent person he was the candidate of the Left Democratic Front in Kerala—was defeated by a Congress (I) Member, Mr. Thomas. He was rejected by the people. He stood with the support of political parties—the CPI (M), CPI and your party—and today he has become an independent Member. You swear by the rule of law. You swear by the sanctity of the Commission of inquiry. You swear by the sanctity of the Report of Commission of Inquiry.

In Kerala, a major controversy has arisen on the appointment of three persons to man the Commission under the Public men Corruptions Inquiries Act. The Act requires consultation with the Leader of the Opposition. The Leader of the Opposition was not consulted and a major controversy has erupted in Kerala.

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palaghat): No, Sir. It is a clear distortion of facts.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: That is for the High Court to decide. Mercifully you cannot appoint...*(Interruptions)* There was no consultation. I am aware of the facts and I will repeat them. There was no consultation with the Leader of the Opposition and a major controversy has erupted in Kerala. Why did we bring this Bill? Why did we in the previous Government make this Amendment? We made this Amendment because, as I said, there is always or sometimes surely a conflict between disclosure and confidentiality. The question is on which side did the public interest lie? Does public interest lie in full disclosure or does public interest lie in maintaining confidentiality? In fact, when we moved this Bill, we said that this is an enabling power. It does not oblige the Government to withhold the Report nor does it oblige Parliament to sanction withholding of the Report. This is an enabling power. This

power is available if it becomes necessary to invoke this power in a highly sensitive situation like what is prevailing in Kashmir today, like what is prevailing in Punjab today, if it becomes necessary to hold an Inquiry, if it becomes necessary not to disclose the entirety of the Report. We think such an enabling power is a good and necessary power. Even then Government cannot act unilaterally or independently. The executive Government will have to come to Parliament and Parliament would have to sanction or approve the notification. If you do not wish to have this enabling power, that is your privilege. But this power which was added by sub-Section 4 and sub-Section 5, was a good power, a necessary power and an enabling power. It maintained the balance between confidentiality and disclosure.

Now, if the Government, in its wisdom—we have found in the last one hundred days that its wisdom is always a short-lived wisdom—today wants to deprive itself of this power, they are welcome to do so. But tomorrow, like the 64th Constitution Amendment Bill, if you come forward again on banded knees and say, 'We made a mistake in repealing the 59th Amendment; we want the 64th Amendment today', the whole world will laugh at you; the people of this country will laugh at you.

Look what has happened to your Wadhwa Commission report. You swear by full disclosure. I heard the Home Minister read in his speech, that they stood by freedom of information. The Wadhwa Commission report was not placed before Parliament, it was not publicly disclosed. The Advocate's on record, that they had to go before the Supreme Court.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED :
No.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I am telling you the facts, Mr. Minister. Listen to me. They had to agitate. They went before the Supreme Court. Only on Monday, the matter was mentioned before the Court of the Chief Justice. The matter was listed before the

Chief justice's Court on Tuesday. On Tuesday, the Government reluctantly conceded, through the Attorney General, that within one month, that they shall place the report. It required the advocates to go before the Supreme Court and coerce the Government to publish this report. So, do not swear by your principle of freedom of information. There are times in the governance of a country when confidentiality is more important than disclosure. There are times when disclosure is more important than confidentiality. A balance has to be maintained. We believe, when the previous Government introduced the Act 1986 we did maintain the balance between confidentiality and disclosure. If the present Government wishes to deprive itself of this power, it is welcome to do so. But I have no doubt in my mind that these are cosmetic changes, intended to befool the people. These do not address themselves to the substantive and real issues of the country. The real issues of the country are not repealing the amendment to the Commission of Inquiry Act. The real issue of the country is not repealing the 59th Amendment. The real issues of the country are in Kashmir and Punjab. And this Government is today a bemused spectator of what is happening in Kashmir and Punjab.

Going by the principle, we oppose this Bill to amend the Commissions of Inquiry Act. We want to express our opposition and reservations; but if Government, in its wisdom, which I think is misguided, wishes to deprive itself of this power, it is welcome to do so. But let me once again point out that we have no faith in the Government's repeated utterances and swearings that they believe in full disclosure, they believe in the rule of law, they believe in taking people into confidence—because their actions, their conduct in the last 100 days, their actions and their conduct in Kerala, their actions and their conduct on the Wadhwa Commission report, their actions and their conduct in appointing Justice Subramaniam Poti, all of them are completely contrary to what Government is professing today.

With these words, I would say that these

are our views on this Bill; and it is for them to decide whether they wish to pursue this Bill or not.

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU (Balasore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I was not elected during the last two Lok Sabha elections. Many things had happened, particularly in the last Lok Sabha. One of the things that happened, is the scuttling of the right of information of the elected Members of Parliament and of the Public. I cannot imagine that this can happen, in any circumstances, in any civilized democratic country.

Mr. Chidambaram was very eloquent. He first wanted to escape saying that this was done in Mr. A.K. Sen's days, and so on. But I know he cannot escape it. Finally he came around and supported the action of the then Rajiv Gandhi's Government... (*Interruptions*) I think he is very loyal to his leader, to his party. But I do not know why one should be very loyal to many ugly things that had happened during the last Government.

I can understand that you may not institute the inquiry commissions. Think about it; it is quite all right.

Once you plunge into it, once you have instituted an Inquiry Commission, I cannot conceive by any standard of prudence or anything that you may claim that you can shut out the findings from the Members of Parliament, the elected body or the Press or any other body once it submits its report. So, he has put out a theory, that is, need of confidentiality. It is a very well-known theory. Well, these are meant for argument in the High Court and the Supreme Court and not to be agitated in this forum. The Ministers, whenever they are elected as M.Ps pride themselves that they are elected democratically. But some of their acts make them terrible dictators. So, this sort of points made are argued in the court that the Government has certain powers to undo certain things which it wanted to do by way of appointing a Commission in the interest of the people for maintaining its sovereignty. I can understand a situation can arise when govern-

[Sh. Samarendra Kundu]

ment's acting functions that is certain documents, certain incidents, certain information, which are in the possession of the government, may cause embarrassment—if they are disclosed—may cause ill-feelings, may even threaten its security. For that Mr. P. Chidambaram will agree with me, there is a lot of protection; there is a lot of protection even in the Lok Sabha Rules, other rules, and in the Official Secret Act, which again we will try to amend. The laws and rules give the Government a lot of protection.

I do not want to go back to those terrible things—which we read in the Press—referred to in the Thakkar Commission on a very sensitive issue. We are all very sad about it. We are all very sad the way Shrimati Indira Gandhi was killed by her own security guard. But Shrimati Indira Gandhi, in her right, put us in the jail under MISA during the emergency for 18 months. Mr. P. Chidambaram was not there. Perhaps he was practising in the court. Perhaps he did not know the horrible days we passed during that time. Nobody thought that we would be able to cross the doors of the jail gate. But still then we had a lot of respect for Shrimati Indira Gandhi. I could not imagine for a while how the then Government and the Home Minister could not find or choose proper police personnel who could guard at least the life of the Prime Minister; and it is a shame that the Prime Minister was killed by her own security guard. This incident rocked the world. To find the truth and to arrive at the truth an Inquiry Commission was instituted. Everybody demanded it. I think the Oudest demand was from the Congress—I P. ty, that people should know who were behind it. There was a lot of suspicion about it at that time. It was talked about very loudly that India was going to be destabilised. I think the Home Minister remembers it. Then, fortunately or unfortunately, we were in the Opposition, and all of us were branded as enemies of the people, anti-nationals. Now, looking into the situation, the then Government, in their wisdom, appointed a Commission for their own bene-

fit. After the Commission submitted its report, Government did not lay it on the Table of the House; they first declined to lay the entire report on the Table of the House; then there was a walk-out. Finally, perhaps, they laid a portion of the report on the Table of the House.

13.00 hrs.

And then the most vital point is the observation made by the Thakkar Commission, that paragraph which I read last time here in the Lok Sabha regarding Mr. R.K. Dhawan that "the needle of suspicion" was on Mr. Dhawan. It is said eloquently in the report. Government wanted to suppress that. Now Mr. Dhawan is becoming a member of the Rajya Sabha. He is being brought to Rajya Sabha. Well, he will face the situation there and explain. My point is that when such great national interests are there what is to be done?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I think we can allow Mr. Samarendra Kundu to continue for some more time and after his speech is over we can adjourn for lunch.

AN HON. MEMBER: We can continue after lunch.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: How much time do you need?

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: Ten minutes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House adjourned for lunch to meet again at 2 o'clock.

13.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till
Fourteen of the Clock*

14.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[DR. THAMBI DURAI in the Chair]

COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY
(AMENDMENT) BILL—Contd.

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: I was making the point that Government is well within its right to decide whether to appoint a commission or not. But once it appoints a commission, the report of that commission becomes public property. The argument which has been advanced is that in the national interest, in the interest of security of the State and our relations with the neighbours that the report was not made public because that would have put the Government and India into embarrassment. But this argument is absolutely wrong and fallacious, because having looked into all aspects, Government decided the course of action. When the report indicted directly or indirectly the Government, at that time, it developed cold feet. It is unfair; it is undemocratic and unjust. In a democratic and civilised country we have every right to know as to what happened to a certain incident on which a commission was appointed and the Government had spent so much money. The Government tried to suppress the Thakkar Commission Report from the gaze of the public. It did its best to do that. But there was so much demand from the public, press and the Members of Parliament in the opposition at that time that the Government half-heartedly had to lay a portion of the report on the Table. Mr. Chidambaram is not here. The former Speaker of the House, unfortunately, was involved in that controversy which was laid was a full report or not. If my memory serve me right, he also said that the annexures and other things were not part of the report and whatever had been laid was a complete report though part of the report was laid. I may tell the Members of the opposition here, those who have had a hand

in suppressing the report, particularly my dear friends in the opposition benches, that by entering into some sort of subterfuge methods, they have brought down the image of democracy whereas all of us should try to build up the image in the entire world particularly in the non-aligned countries. All the countries around us excepting one or two which is free and democratic, have dictatorships. So the world is looking at us. But what sort of messages are we giving to them? Therefore, the amendment which prohibits or gives authority to the Government not to make the report public or place it on the Table, is highly undemocratic and is unbecoming of any civilised Government.

I was saying about the Thakkar Commission's report. In that report, "...was indicted. It says that..." seems to have played a role in facilitating the crime committed by Mr. Beant Singh and Mr. Satwant Singh. If this is the part of the report, then how can you say this? When the Congress-I people, others and the nation wanted that report to be made public, then how can you suppress it? But what that Government had done was a mala fide action. It was done only to protect..." and some of the henchmen of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Minister. Besides, I am told, in the Thakkar Commission's Report there is a reference to 'foreign hand'. It is not a question of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, it is the question of the Prime Minister of our country. It might happen to anybody. If there is a reference to a foreign hand, the House has a right to know what exactly it is. Why I am saying this is because the Congress (I) people are shouting from the top of the tree, from the top of the houses, saying that the Opposition is anti-national and the Opposition has a hand in it. I am told the Thakkar Commission has also said that there is a school in USA, called Camper School, which has been giving training to Indians who had an attempted hand in USA to murder Indian leaders, and there it is also said that this school trained the people suspected to have left a bomb in the Air India plane which crashed in the Atlantic Ocean in

[Sh. Samarendra Kundu]

1985. These constitute a valuable information. Therefore, it is highly illogical, illegal and, if I may say so, undemocratic to say that this Commission's Report should not be laid on such and such frivolous grounds.

I do not know whether this matter was taken to the High Court and the Supreme Court. Here is the law which was there earlier which says: "The provisions of section 4 shall not apply if the appropriate government is satisfied that the interests of the sovereignty and integrity of India and the security of the State, friendliness with foreign States, or in public interest, it is not expedient to lay before the House of the People or, as the case may be, the Legislative Assembly of the State..." My point is that this law is also unconstitutional since it infringes the Fundamental Rights given in the Constitution. I do not know whether it was tried in the High Court and the Supreme Court. To me it appears to be a palpably unconstitutional piece of legislation, a piece of a black legislation. If it would have been taken to the High Court and the Supreme Court, perhaps the courts would have ruled that the Parliament could not arrogate itself such an authority via the then ruling party to curtail the rights and privileges given in the Fundamental Rights.

In the end, I must thank our Government that it has stood to its promise, it has stood to its moral posture. Some of the people have been taunting by pronouncing that it is an open Government. Yes, certainly it is an open Government. The openness is that everything that is done by the Ministers, by the people in power can be known through the Press or by holding meetings or by some other way and by that way only can we stop corruption, high-handedness and arbitrariness. Corruption, high-handedness and arbitrariness cut the foot of democracy and the democratic system in this country. Perhaps there was a different regime in which the hon. friends could not get a chance to

raise their voice, to stand erect to say: no, this is wrong, to defend the Constitution. But now there is completely a sea-change. Instead of taunting this side about openness, they must come out to openly support this Bill and to admit, I do not say guilt, the mistakes which they have done by supporting such a piece of black legislation. I was told that Mr. Chidambaram, when he was the Home Minister, had made a reference. I have a Press report here. Shri Kalpanath Rai, the then Energy Minister had said to the Press that Shri M.L. Fotedar had a hand with Shri Thakkar in making...report public and so also against Shri Alexander. Sir, it is nice to pass on the buck to others; it is nice to throw the ball in other's court. But the truth is also that at certain point of time, the system was so repressive at that time that Mr. Chidambaram should have admitted and should have asked also Mr. Fotedar and Mr. Alexander that they were also a party to this. The system at that time was so repressive that the inter-party freedom was not there, dissent was not given any value and therefore, some of the people were compelled to act against their will. In this connection, I just want to narrate a very small story. Way back here in this Lok Sabha, when an hon. Member was reading out a portion of the document, then somebody from the Treasury Bench Congress Member-shouted "secret document, secret document". Then Pandit Nehru asked Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri who was sitting there "what is it?". Then a report was brought to him. Then, he asked Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri "Is it the copy of the report which was in the file? I think I saw it." Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri said "Yes, it was the same copy of the report." Then Shri Jawaharlal Nehru got up and said "I will place the report tomorrow on the Table of the House". Then, there were loud cheers. So, Sir, what I mean to say is that this was the norm, a democratic norm practised earlier. Now, the whole thing has been changed and this Government is trying to bring back all the democratic norms and strengthen it. I would like the hon. Members on the Opposite side, particularly, the Congress Members, to rise to the occa-

sion and support this Bill. Thank you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Honourable Chairman, Sir, while extending my full support to the Commission of Inquiry. (Amendment) Bill, I would like to tell the opposition that it is something ironical that this Bill seeks to repeal the sub-section 4 of the section 3 which makes it mandatory for the Government that it will lay the complete report of an Inquiry Commission on the Table of the House and later on place a report on the action taken by the Government on the report, before the Parliament. The aforesaid bill was passed in 1971 after thorough deliberations by a joint select committee of 1964 headed by Shri N.K.P. Salve, Mrs. Indira Gandhi herself, who was a member of Lok Sabha in those days, was a member of the committee. This committee had thirty other members who were eminent parliamentarians and many of who were honourable members of the Congress Party. The committee, after lot of deliberations decided that public should know the findings of an inquiry commission and the Government's action thereon. Therefore, they decided that the Government must place the reports of the Inquiry Commission before both Houses of Parliament. Hence, the bill was passed at the instance of Mrs. Gandhi herself in 1971. But it is rather unfortunate that after her death the inheritors of her legacy are trying to kill the very spirit of the report which maintained that Government must be supreme but the public must know every thing about the report of an Inquiry Commission and the subsequent action of the Government on it. Therefore, I would like to state that by making an amendment in the Inquiry Commission Act, despite the recommendations of the Joint Select Committee, they have killed Mrs. Gandhi once again and this time the spirit underlying the report was the casualty. For this, the future history of Indian Parliament and politics would never forgive them.

Sir, I would like to put a question as to

what for, after all an Inquiry Commission is instituted? In fact, it is only when there is a major incident such as firing, a dam burst, which might have taken a heavy toll of human lives, that the Government institutes an inquiry to investigate into the reasons of mishap. For this, the people raise their voice which echoes in Parliament and the legislative assemblies and it is only then that Government says that it would conduct an investigation into the matter and for that purpose appoints a judge of the Supreme Court or some High Court who is considered to be the most credible person in the country. The inquiry report submitted by him is laid on the table of the House. Now if that report is locked into a shelf and made confidential then this, I think, is the sheer murder of democracy, parliamentary tradition as well as the system and of all those principles due to which 'right to information' has become our fundamental right and which is the very base of the manifesto of Janata Dal, of Bhartiya Janata Party and many other parties. This is so because most often voice is raised by journalists and other people also that 'right to information' is our fundamental and basic right. I would like to tell you what the judges said in S.P. Gupta case and what was said in Nixon's case by the judges of a nation which is called an institution of liberty, who were appointed by Nixon himself. I thank the judiciary of that nation which said quite impartially when the issue of privilege and confidentiality was raised by Nixon and when he said that he would not forfeit the tape come what may. I would like to tell you about that very statement. In S.P. Gupta case, Supreme Court gave a historic verdict which I think was unfortunate because with that verdict the judiciary had curtailed its own powers. As far as the 'right of information' is concerned, I would like to quote page 242 of the verdict. Here one of our honourable member has stated that there is a distinction between disclosure and information. According to him, disclosure is one thing and information is another and there is a minute or a technical distinction between the right to disclosure and the right to information and it has been sought to obliterate this distinction in the aforesaid report; but it stands exposed

[Sh. Guman Mal Lodha]

[Translation].

in the face of the following text of the judgement:—

[English]

I quote here from the judgement in S.P. Gupta and other V. President of India and others (AIR 1982 Supreme Court, 149) as follows:—

"Lord Salmon too rejected the "candour theory" in Reg v. Lewes Justices; Ex part Secretary of State for Home Department. (1973 AC 388) (Supra) at p. 413 by referring to it as "the old fallacy" that "any official in the government service would be inhibited from writing frankly and possibly at all unless he could be sure that nothing which he wrote could ever be exposed to the light of day". The candour argument has also not prevailed with Judges and jurists in the United States and it is interesting to note what Raoul Berger while speaking about the immunity claimed by President Nixon against the demand for disclosure of the Watergate Tapes, says in his book "Executive Privilege". A Constitutional Myth" at page 264:"

"Candid interchange" is yet another pretext for doubtful secrecy. It will not explain Mr. Nixon's claim of blanket immunity for members of his White House staff on the basis of mere membership without more; it will not justify Kleindienst's assertion of immunity from congressional inquiry for two and one-half million federal employees. It is merely another testimonial to the greedy expansiveness of power, the costs of which patently outweigh its benefits. As the latest branch in a line of illegitimate succession, it illustrates the excess bred by the claim of executive privilege." at page 239.

While giving their verdict in S.P. Gupta's case, the learned judges candidly declared that the contents of the letters exchanged between the judge of the Delhi High Court and the Supreme Court regarding appointment, even if they are of top secret nature, will have to be made public in the interest of justice and fair play as it involves the right of the people to have information and justice on a matter of public importance.

Sir, I would also like to refer to article 19 of our constitution which specifically implies that no excuse of secrecy, privilege, immunity or non-disclosure can be applied to suppress the people's right to information on a matter of public importance.

Sir, I should like to remind you that during the tenure of Justice Chagla as the Chief Justice of Bombay High Court, an enquiry commission was set up to enquire into the case concerning Shri T.T. Krishnamachari and Mundhra, commonly known as Mundhra case. That was also an inquiry commission whose proceedings were conducted in open in Bombay. Tents were pitched in Bombay and people visited in thousands there to witness the proceedings of the commission. Shri T.T. Krishnamachari had to resign in the light of the findings of the commission and Mundhra was put behind the bars. Had the report of Thakkar Commission been made public earlier and presented to this House in the right earnest, those who are trying to go...*...today would possibly have...*...They would have been put behind bars in the jails of Delhi and would have been subjected to police interrogation for the cold blooded murder of Smt. Indira Gandhi. Justice Thakkar, a judge of the Supreme Court says that the needle of suspicion points towards...*... and I am astonished to note that our erstwhile Prime Minister, the heir of late Smt. Indira Gandhi, is trying to push the needle of suspicion aside, and arranging a seat for the culprit in one of

the august s of Parliament instead of putting him behind the bars in Tihar Jail alongwith Charles Shobraj.

Sir, I would like to request that it is not only imperative but important also that the facts are brought to light in the interest of democracy and general public and constitutional propriety. Those who are trying to suppress the facts have done so time and again but I ask, why? Is it because the conspiracy was fabricated by..? Was Shri Rajiv Gandhi responsible and behind all that? The reasons shall be made public. Therefore, I would like to say that our friends in the opposition shall not get pained and feel hurt...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am requesting you to take your seat. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA (Jhabua): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a point of order. The hon. Member has mentioned the name of...*... and as...*...is not a member of this House, he should have given it in writing before levelling any charges against him. If the name of somebody who is not a member of this House is mentioned, then...(Interruptions)

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a fact rather than an allegation. If the facts aren't revealed alongwith the name concerned, the position of someone else may be compromised.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: If at all there is any allegation, it will not go on record.

[Translation]

SHRIGUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Chair-

man, Sir, to point the needle of suspicion towards...*...for the assassination of Smt. Indira Gandhi is not analogous to the discovery of Columbus. It is rather a universally acclaimed fact. Everybody knows that the report of Justice Thankkar has been laid on the Table of the House and many a times his name has been mentioned in the House. There is nothing to allege in it. I propound that I was expecting Shri Rajiv Gandhi and his colleagues to rise from petty party-politics and confess that they have committed a historical, a political and a constitutional blunder on this important issue, in the same manner, in which they conceded that they had abolished the right to life in Punjab after fighting for the 59th amendment bill and that was a mistake.

[English]

We committed rape on democracy. We committed murder of democracy. We committed murder on the freedom of expression and right to information, which is a fundamental right, according to the Supreme Court Judgement.

[Translation]

In the end, while supporting this bill, I request my able friends in the opposition to do the same because it is better late than never. Reiterating my request to them that they support the bill, I stop. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Justice Thakkar who inquired into the Fairfax issue found that the Prime Minister, Mr. V.P. Singh is guilty. What you have to answer about Mr. V.P. Singh's connection with Fairfax...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. I have not called you. I have called Prof. Soz.

PROF. SAIF UD DIN SOZ (Baramulla): Mr. Chairman, Sir, my intervention on this Commission of Inquiry (Amendment) Bill,

[Prof. Saif-ud-din Soz]

1989 is, I support this amendment. After all, it wants to annul the amendment that was effected in section 3 of the Act, in 1986. This amending Bill is welcome. It says, within six months of the submission of the report, it should be made available before the House and the House cannot be kept in ignorance of what the Commission of Inquiry has gone into. I welcome it.

At para 2 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it says:

"A Commission of Inquiry is always set up for the purpose of making an inquiry into any definite matter of public importance. As such, the report submitted by such a Commission should not be withheld from the House of the People, or the Legislative Assembly under any circumstances and the public should have access to information which is of vital importance and interest to them. It is felt that the amendments made in 1986 should be done away with."

It is all right and I support this amendment. But as far as the public interest is concerned, I raise a very important question before the House that the Government should come forward with an amendment that if a non-Governmental report, there should be a mechanism whereby the Government will take notice of that.

In the Zero Hour today, I was in agony when I reported to the House that there is a factual report on the situation that is obtaining in Kashmir. It is a Committee for Initiative on Kashmir. That Committee sent brave sons of India, Tapan Bose, Dinesh Mohan, Gautam Navlakh, Sumanta Banerjee. These four people went to Kashmir valley from 12th to 16th March. They were in Srinagar and other parts of the Valley. They were bold enough to go to Handwara and Kopwara to see all places in Anantnag and they pro-

duced a factual report. I am telling you honestly, I have gone through the report and I have found it is factually correct. The Home Minister who raised earlier on the Kashmir debate has no facts and figures. His Governor has not informed him on the deaths in Kashmir. His Governor has not informed him on the people who were wounded. This report says about all kinds of atrocities have that have been committed, molestation of women, arrests and the continued curfew and disinformation.

MR CHAIRMAN: Mr. Soz, are you discussing about the Commission of Inquiry (Amendment) Bill? You please speak on the amendment.

PROF. SAIF UD DIN SOZ: I want to say that this Government should take notice of the report. On Kashmir issue, I say, there should be a Commission of Inquiry to look into the situation in Kashmir, what is happening to the people at the hands of para military people, as to how many innocent people have been killed. From this report, I read only one para:

"Ironically, the Government's plan to suppress 'terrorism' is ending up in a situation where the hitherto non-committed masses are being pushed to a position where they feel that independence by the assortment of secessionist militant groups—is the only way of escape from State repression. This feeling was eloquently summed up by a Kashmiri Government Officer. Till January 19 I was against the militants. Today I am for them."

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not relevant. Don't bring in all these things.

PROF. SAIF UD DIN SOZ: I place this report on the Table* of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not allow.

*As the Speaker did not subsequently accord the necessary permission, the Report was not treated as laid on the Table.

PROF. SAIF UD DIN SOZ: I demand a Commission of Inquiry by a Supreme Court Judge to enquire how innocent people have been killed in Kashmir, how they continue to impose curfew and how hospitals have no medicines.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): I am on a point of order. The hon. Member has just now read out a paragraph which he says is from some report. We do not know anything about it. In that case, that report must be placed on the Table of the House. The hon. Member must take the responsibility. The report must be placed on the Table of the House so that we have access to that information and we can look into the matter. I demand that the report be placed on the Table of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN. I do not allow.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: I demand that the report be placed on the Table of the House. We demand your ruling on my point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: My point of order is that the report should be placed on the Table of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not connected to this now. It is not relevant now.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: I demand it to be placed on the Table of the House.

PROF. SAIF UD DIN SOZ: The Commission of Inquiry should look into the atrocities in Kashmir...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we are discussing about Commissions of Inquiry (Amendment) Bill. That is the topic which we are discussing now. You are bringing some other new factors. You have to write to the Speaker to authenticate it. Let him write to you.

SHRI SAIF UD DIN SOZ: I have read out a paragraph. There was a demand that I

should place it on the Table of the House. I will place it on the Table of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. I cannot allow. We will look into it and we will see whether we will lay it or not. Subject to the examination of your report, it can be placed. Not now...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): The report from which Prof. Saif Ud Din Soz has quoted is not an official report or Government report. It is a report by some private agency. According to the rules of the House, provided the Chair gives its permission, there is nothing which prevents Prof. Saif Ud Din Soz from authenticating that document and laying it on the Table of the House. He persistently refused. From the morning, I have been arguing with him. He persistently refused to read the relevant rules which govern this procedure and he goes on saying "I have read it and I will lay it on the Table of the House."

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: He has taken up the responsibility in this case. He has taken a decision on the floor of the House. When the Member takes up the responsibility and takes a decision on the floor of the House, he should place it on the Table of the House.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Nobody objects to his laying it on the Table of the House under the proper rule. We would also be interested in seeing what is in that report. So, instead of going on shouting like this, it is better he follows the procedure and then sees to it that it can be laid on the Table with the permission of the Chair...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen to me. I want to read the rules.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): He has already placed it on the Table of the House. It has already been done.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Kurien, I read the rule. Direction 118(1) says:

"If a private member desires to lay a paper or document on the Table of the House, he shall supply a copy thereof to the Speaker in advance so as to enable him to decide whether permission should be given to lay the paper or document on the Table. If the Speaker permits the member to lay the paper or document on the Table, the member may at the appropriate time lay it on the Table."

Therefore, Prof. Soz, you give it in writing. Let him go through.

(Interruptions)

PROF. SAIF UD DIN SOZ: I have already quoted from it. I have authenticated it. It has been placed on the Table of the House. That is all...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If it is permissible, we can do it but not now. It is subject to examination.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have to take note of our demand.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have taken note of your demand. We will consider it. We will examine it.

PROF. SAIF UD DIN SOZ: I want a Commission of Inquiry to look into the atrocities that have been committed there.

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI (Serampore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, let me first congratulate the hon. Minister for introducing this Bill because only by the enactment of such Bills, democracy and freedom that were in chains during the last few years can be restored. What is the purpose of this Bill? In fact, it is not giving us any new right nor any privileges which were not there before. It reminds me of the year 1978 when the 44th Constitution (Amendment) Act was passed.

What was the purpose of that Act? The 42nd Constitution (Amendment) Act which was passed in the year 1976 took away some basic rights, some basic privileges from the Parliament, from the people. The 44th Constitution (Amendment) Act just gave those rights, those privileges to the Parliament and to the people. This particular Bill that we are discussing now is of that nature.

Sir, in the original Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 there was no such provision that the Government will have to submit the Report of the Inquiry Commissions set up before the Parliament or before the Legislative Assembly. Then, what was the purpose of setting up such Inquiry Commissions? After all, the Inquiry Commissions, Inquiry Committees are set up to have inquiry into some matter of great serious public importance. Steps are to be taken against the guilty persons. But who are the quality persons? That must be made known. Therefore Inquiry Commissions are set up. In the year 1971, a Bill came up before Parliament. It was the conscious attempt on the part of the then Government to make it obligatory for them to publish the Reports of the Inquiry Commissions before the House. That was the intention of the 1971 Bill. But in the 1986 Amendment, that obligation was removed. What was the reason? Mrs. Indira Gandhi was brutally assassinated. It was said that foreign hands were involved in her assassination. It was said that certain negligence was there on the part of the top officials who were in charge of security. Was it not a matter of great public importance to know the circumstances leading to the murder of Mrs. Indira Gandhi? Yes. And, therefore, the Takkar Commission was set up. But in 1986, we found that the then Government amended the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 and it refused to publish the Report of the Takkar Commission before the House. It was not that the Government was reluctant to publish any report of any inquiry commission. It was not that. Shri Chidambaramji told that there was a delicate balance between the disclosure and confidentiality. But we found that the balance always tilted in favour of the ruling party. Whenever they thought that

some reports of some inquiry commissions, according to them, may go against the opposition, they will disclose the report and whenever they found that some reports of some commissions like this Thakkar Commission will be unpalatable to the ruling party, to the Government may be not to the entire Government but to some individuals, to some cabal belonging to the Government who are emotionally, politically close to the Government, they chose not to publish the report of the Commission. This was the fate of the balance. The head, the ruling party will win and the tail, the opposition will lose. Is the inquiry commission a play thing? Why do you set up inquiry commission if you do not want to publish its report? Better not to set up such commissions. Let us not hoodwink the people. The 1986 amendment went against a basic Fundamental Right of our land also. In Part III of our Constitution, as per Article 19(1), there is a Right called Freedom of Speech and Expression for the Indian citizens. I know that there are several grounds on which restrictions reasonable can be imposed on such Freedom of Speech and Expression. But what are the grounds? They are: Sovereignty and integrity of the nation; relations with friendly States and neighbourly States, public morality, decency. These grounds were there. But the ground of public interest is not there. In the 1986 amendment, they said that if the appropriate Government is satisfied that in the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of India etc., or in the public interest, it is not expedient to lay before the House of the People or to the Legislative Assembly a report or any part thereof, that will not be published. This public interest is undefinable. We have seen during the last forty years that so many anti-people enactments were passed. Emergencies were proclaimed on the ground, direct or indirect, of public interest. We have found that. So, the ruling party cannot be allowed to interpret public interest. For Chidambaramji, he told that, after all, there was a provision in the previous amendment that every notification shall be laid before the House of the People or the Legislative Assembly of the State who will decide whether the reports will be published or not. But the ruling party after all,

controls the majority members of any House and if the majority members behave like Masochist, thumping the table when the ruling party, the Government is taking away certain of their rights and privileges, what can be done. Democracy does not mean tyranny or ignorance or innocence of the majority. It cannot be meant like that. It cannot be explained like that. So, therefore, it was not an enabling act as Chidambaramji said. The Government was enabled to suppress the Takkar Commission's Report. The Thakkar Commission Report was placed in the safe custody of the North Block and the people did not know. Is it the public interest? No Sir. After all, people have the right to know things. Otherwise they cannot exercise the freedom of speech and expression. So, the absence of freedom of speech and expression and the absence of right to information is the same thing. The presence of freedom of speech and expression necessitates the presence of right to information.

Even during the British days, after the Jalianwalla Bagh incident, the Hunter Commission was set up. Its Report was published; there was a dissenting note attached. Shri Seetalvad had given a dissenting note. That dissenting note could not please the British rulers. It must have been embarrassing to them. But the British rulers did not suppress the report of the Hunter Commission.

But in our free India, our own Government refused to publish the report of the Thakkar Commission, or for that matter refused to publish the reports of any enquiry commission if such commission's reports went against them. This was the character of the Government. So it was very natural that the Government was alienated from the people; the Government was afraid of the truth.

Therefore I welcome this Bill once more. Maybe as Chidambaramji told, it is out of the short-lived wisdom of Muftiji. But I personally prefer the short-lived wisdom of Muftiji to the long-lived innocence or ignorance of Chidambaramji.

14.52 hrs.

[SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE *in the Chair*]

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): Sir, there is a very pertinent question today whether all the reports of the commissions of enquiry should be put before the Parliament or the Legislative Assembly and it should be made known to the public. I am telling that the enquiry reports should not be shelved. But there are certain enquiries which, if published, will create havoc in the country.

When I was a boy, there was a fire accident in the Sri Ayyappa temple at Shab- arimalai. The then Chief Minister of Travancore was Shri C. Keshavan. He was a very well known administrator. An enquiry was made. But Shri Keshavan said that the report of the enquiry will not be published, whatever may happen. And at the same time he said that if he publishes the enquiry report, its effect on the communal harmony in Kerala will be disturbed for ever. That was his attitude.

There are certain important cases where even if enquiry commissions are appointed and even if we are getting the reports, could these reports go to the public? This amendment has come at a time when the entire nation is shocked by the communal riots and disturbances that are taking place in different parts of the country. It is in this context that I request the Government to again look into this amendment. Sir, this Government says that it is an open Government and it is a value based Government. Is it so? What is the attitude of the Government towards many of the Commissions of Enquiry that had been ordered? Recently, you have appointed a Committee to look into the Delhi riots of 1984. Who is the Chairman of this Committee? I have got nothing against this person. He is the retired Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court. He was the LDF candidate pitted against me in the last Parliament election. But the people did not elect him. He is a man with political tact. But I am not questioning his integrity. A person with such political tact

is asked to be the Chairman of the Committee—a very important Committee. Here, Sir, the entire proceedings as well as the findings of the Committee will have at least a tinge of suspicion. What is the motive behind this? Is it an open Government?

Sir, in Kerala there is a 'Publicmen Anti-corruption Bill', which has been passed with the support of the ruling party and the opposition. That Bill enables the Government to set up a Commission. In that Commission, two members were retired judges. Moreover, in that Bill, it has been specifically stated that the Chief Minister, the Leader of the Opposition and the Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court should be consulted. But there was no consultation with the Opposition Leader. Then, what is meant by consultation? The two retired Judges are known to be aligned with the ruling political party. After their retirement, they have taken up this assignment, this particular job. If so, what the people will think of the verdicts given by them in the High Courts? There are two points in it. One is that they are getting an appointment by the Government, after their retirement and these persons are the Judges who have made some well-known judgements which had political impacts.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolgur): We know of Judges who are active Congressmen. We do not just dispute their integrity. Just because of Shri Potti, you are making this allegation...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Give us one name...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I will give you names who have been active Congressmen; office-bearers of the Congress party, till the date of their appointment as Judges. He is taking a lot, without any idea...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: We have made mistakes, which have to be corrected. But, there is a pertinent question. What is the

attitude of the Government towards these enquiry commissions?

There is another example. Shri Venu Nair was another member, who was a Public Service Commission member. There is a clause which says that Public Service Commission members, after their retirement should not take up any Government job. Is this member not taking up Government job by accepting a post in the enquiry commission? What is the attitude of the Government, here? I would like to know that.

Another case is about the Kuldip Singh Commission on Hegde. The Commission had appointed its own Counsel Shri G. Ramanujam. The Home Ministry pressurised the Counsel to resign. When Kuldip Singh came to know of this, he sent a letter to the Home Ministry, making his strong protest. Is it an open Government? Is it a Government on value based politics? I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what right he has got to pressurise the Counsel appointed by the Commission...*(Interruptions)* We have got apprehensions.

15.00 hrs.

We fear there is something behind it. That's why we are making our mind clear on this Bill. We are having apprehensions about the way in which this Government behaves. It has just completed hundred days. Within the shortest period, it has shown that it has no moral value.

Similarly, in the case of Thakkar Commission, what is the attitude of the Government? In the case of assassination of Indiraji, you take one attitude. But in the case of Fairfax, are you taking the same attitude?...*(Interruptions)* So, this is a Government which has got no values, which is not open.

There have been discussions on the Sarkaria Commission in this House. At that time, the present Finance Minister, Prof. Madhu Dandavate, put a pertinent question. He said, the post of Governor should not be

subjected to political gimmicks. He said when Governors are appointed or removed, the concerned State Governments should be consulted. Have you done it now? When you came to power in this House, you said that the Governors will remain in the States as long as the Central Government had faith in them. This is not an open Government. This Government has is not value-based. You say; this is a National Front Government. But the people outside this House say: you are no-friends Government and you are fighting among yourselves. You are enemies fighting among yourselves. If an amendment like this is passed, we are afraid about the direction it is going to take because this Government is without values...*(Interruptions)* We never expected this type of attitude from the CPM...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Why don't you speak about the Bill?...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: If you look at the amendment, we are not against it. But our apprehensions are about the direction in which the Government is moving. In this context, when there are communal disturbance in the country, can we reveal the reports about all such inquiries?...*(Interruptions)* That is the question. I leave it to the House for mature thinking. There have been disturbances in different parts of the country. Can we reveal the reports of inquiries made about all these communal riots? If these are revealed, there will be reactions in the country. This House should think again on this issue.

I think, the hon. Home Minister will take into consideration the views that I have expressed.

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): Mr. Chairman Sir, I have great pleasure in congratulating the Home Minister for bringing forward this Bill. In fact, if I may say so, this Bill has come not a day too soon. In my opinion, the amendment which was made in 1986 was a total fraud on the concept and philosophy behind the Commissions of In-

[Sh. Inderjit]

[Translation]

quiry Act. The entire concept was based on one simple fact. Times out of number, allegations were made on the floor of this House, allegations which were denounced often as character assassination. I also recall one question that arose at that time. How can we accept allegations which were not necessarily based on facts. The entire concept of the Commissions of Inquiry Act was to enable this House to get reliable facts and to judge and determine on the basis of those facts and not on the basis of bazaar gossip. Therefore, I do think that this is a very good Bill. I would like to compliment the Minister again for having brought forward this legislation.

At the same time, I would like to say that one of the greatest scandals of post-independence India was the fact that the Thakkar Commission's Report was suppressed. I call it a scandal because the report related to the assassination of the Prime Minister of this country. The whole purpose of the Commissions of Inquiry Act was to enable the country to know as to how the Prime Minister was assassinated, what were the forces behind it and who were the persons responsible for it. And yet, we faced an extraordinary situation which I can only call grossly scandalous. In that situation the country was denied information which it had every right to get. Therefore, I think, this is a very good Bill.

I would like to make one other point in the little time which you have kindly given me. A question was raised by the previous speaker regarding the Commissions of Inquiry Act on communal incidents. We all know that we have a free Press and we hope that we shall always continue to have a free Press. The Press brings out various reports about various communal incidents. Different conflicting reports appear. I think the country has a right to get authentic, reliable information to enable it to judge objectively.

With these words, I support this legislation wholeheartedly.

SHRI RAM KRISHAN YADAV (Azamgarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Commission of Inquiry (Amendment) Bill. Whenever a Commission of Inquiry is set up, it is asked to go into matters of public importance and other serious matters. Public money worth lakhs and crores of rupees is spent on these commissions. The commissions are entrusted with the job of finding the facts and figures and making various suggestions. Once a case is transferred to the Commission of Inquiry, the Government has no say in it. The public eagerly awaits for the report of the Commission. The public is itself a party to the Commission and that is why it eagerly awaits for its report. It wants to see the action taken by the Government on the report of the Commission. There have been instances when the party in power did not want to make the report public when it found that the report went against the Government. In Azamgarh, the Parliamentary Constituency I represent, a serious incident took place. There was a quarrel between the lawyers and the police personnel on some issue and on that pretext the lawyers went on strike. The strike prolonged. In order to bring the strike to an end, the S.S.P. of the district ordered police firing on the lawyers, and gowns, files and vehicles of the lawyers were set ablaze. The then District Judge also fell victim to these atrocities. He suffered injuries. On our request and on the request of the District Judge, a Commission of Inquiry headed by a retired High Court Judge was set up. Hundreds of lawyers including myself stood witness before the Inquiry Commission. The people of the areas were anxious to see as to what would be the stand of the Government in the police-lawyers dispute and what action would be taken by the Government in this regard. The Inquiry continued for a pretty long time. Finally, the Commission gave its verdict and held Shri C.P. Satpathi, the S.S.P. of the district responsible for the lapse. The report said that the S.S.P. ordered lathi charge and firing in an organised manner on innocent lawyers and the District Judge. No action has so far been taken on the report.

What to talk of taking action, even the report of the Commission was not placed before the House. The people of the area, the lawyers, the advocates and the Judges are anxious to know as to why the Government does not take any action when the Commission held Shri Satpathi guilty. Whether or not Government took any action, the people wanted to know as to who was guilty. But the Government took pretext of the amendment of the Act and did not place the report in the House. This created anguish, ill will and mistrust against the Government in the minds of the people. I, therefore, request that reports of the Commission should invariably be placed before the House. Finally, I would like to say that the amendment which has been brought forward is a good one and I support it.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore).
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have great pleasure in complimenting the Government for bringing this amending Bill and thereby restoring the previous position which existed prior to 1986, and which made it mandatory for the Government to lay on the table of the House—that means to make it public—the findings of the Commissions of Inquiry. In the present case which led to this situation, I recall, that the assassination of the then Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi was an unprecedented occurrence for our country. There are other countries, some neighbouring countries also, where political assassinations of the Prime Ministers, the Presidents and so on have taken place on a number of occasions. In our country we have followed a different tradition. At least since after the killing of Mahatma Gandhi and up to the time of the killing of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, we had taken a democratic path. Even if we have serious differences with the Government, with the ruling party, or a particular Prime Minister and want to remove them from power it should not be done by the bullet but by the ballot. We were trying to follow this path and this tragic occurrence came as a really tremendous shock to the entire country. We had our political differ-

ences with Shrimati Indira Gandhi; she was not our party leader, but she was the Prime Minister of the Country, Head of the Government. There may not be any single Indian who was not deeply perturbed and disturbed by this killing and the circumstances in which it took place. The Commission was set up by the then Government. The choice of the hon. Judge, who was to act as the Commission, was the choice of the Government. They selected Mr. Thakkar. He went into the whole matter and came out with a very voluminous report on the basis of his enquiry and findings. And then suddenly, the House was informed and the country was informed that the Government had decided that this report would not be made public and would not be laid on the table of the House. I was surprised that not a single Congress Member in this House protested against this mockery of the Commissions of Inquiry legislation which was there. The Prime Minister was killed and the people of the country wanted to know what was behind it, who were the forces responsible. It is something which had never happened in this country before. I do not claim any credit for this, but when I was here, I and other Members from the Opposition at that time were shouting on several occasions and were demanding that this report must be made public; that it was not the private property of the Government or anybody else.

People of this country have a right to know what is the conspiracy behind the murder; who are responsible for it; who have hatched it. But Government refused to give any details and it was only after tremendous pressure which was created inside the House and outside the House—and I must say the Press in this country played a crucial role in criticising the Government and accusing it of trying to suppress the truth, it was the period of suppression of truth, it was a period when truth regarding the Bofors deal was suppressed, when the truth regarding identity of people who smuggled money out of this country and encash it away in foreign banks was sought to be suppressed and then the murder of the Prime Minister of this country was sought to be suppressed—the Govern-

[Sh. Indrajit Gupta]

ment was compelled by sheer force of public opinion to rescind their earlier decision in respect of that particular report and to lay it on the Table of the House. It leaked out also. Large extracts from it began to appear in the Press and the Government was left with no alternative but to lay it on the Table of the House. But still they refused to amend that Bill which they had passed in 1986.

I am not going into the merits of Thakkar Commission's Report. It was debated in the House earlier. It is not the final word on the subject, in my opinion. Simply because it concludes by saying that the needle of suspicion points to a particular person, I don't think all the intricacies of this assassination have been disclosed or revealed even till today. This is important because in future I would like to say that when reports of Commission of Inquiry are published which contain many things perhaps with which that particular Commission was not able to deal definitively, finally, but those have been raised—the Commission itself has raised and brought to public light—there should be some machinery or some system or some procedure by which some follow up action is taken. Thakkar's Report has not solved this question, by simply pointing a needle of suspicion on one person only. Of course, it is lamentable that even after the needle of suspicion was sought to point at a particular person, that person was immediately reinstated and put in a very key position in the Prime Minister's Secretariat. I don't know what kind of respect is shown to the Report of the Commission of Inquiry. So many more questions are there which remained unanswered to this day. Why not another Commission of Inquiry, or some investigation by a special team and so on was being contemplated to follow up those points? For example the main assassin, Beant Singh was shot. As you know, within a short time after the assassination, he was taken into custody and he was shot down by other guards on duty. So many speculations have been there on this question. Whether it was done deliberately in order to prevent him under interro-

gation from coming out with further facts which will throw light on the conspiracy? We don't know till this day why Beant Singh was shot; by whose order he was killed, we don't know. We don't know who was responsible for the fact that these two people—Beant Singh and Satwant Singh—were given duty on that particular morning at the same spot which was not their normal duty at all. All these things read like some piece of fiction or some detective story. One man asked for his duty to be changed from his normal position to the point near the gate by which Smt. Indira Gandhi was to pass and other said that he was not well and was suffering from some stomach problem and, therefore, wanted to be posted on a spot which is near the toilet. Is it all a coincidence? The Report unfortunately does not reveal who was responsible for changing the normal duties of these two *santries* and putting them on that single place at that particular time so that both of them can operate together. These are very valid points. The Report speaks of the avoidable delay in rushing the Prime Minister to hospital. Why the ambulance car was not immediately available? Why there was a delay? As we know that doctors in the hospital have said that when she arrived, she was well. Clinically, she was already dead. There was no point in trying to revive her or save her. But if that delay had not taken place, I do not know there might have been some faint chance of reviving her. Who was responsible for those arrangements? Who was responsible? Her personal security who was walking along with her or just behind her was to fire at apparently, but nothing at all. We are lay men but we know that personal security are supposed to be highly trained people whose job is at the risk of their own lives, to cover physically with their own bodies, to cover the person who is being attacked. But nothing was done. So many questions are there. We know there is a background to this assassination. It came only four months or four and a half months after the Operation Blue Star. We cannot forget it. I don't like to speak about these things. This Operation Blue Star, whether it was right or wrong, whether it was a correct move to take or not, the history will decide.

But the Government at that time decided to carry out this Operation Blue Star and there is no doubt that that action has done more than anything else to antagonise the entire mass of the Sikh community, even those people who prior to Operation Blue Star were not supporting these terrorists and Khalistanis. But after this what they considered to be the desecration of their place of worship—their main place of religious worship, where they consider that the entry of the armed forces and then firing inside and killing of people and all that—is something which they are not prepared to condone. Has it no bearing on what happened four months or four and a half months later? But there is no finite inquiry made into all these side aspects of this sole assassination which I believe would have revealed the responsibility of many other people and many forces behind this assassination. Anyway, I want to know whether there is any possibility of following up these things by any subsequent investigating team or inquiry. They would be necessary, I think, if such things are not to be repeated in our country again. But the present Government, by restoring the previous position—whatever friends on this side may say—has done a very correct thing. And the suppression of this Report, which the previous Government was made to do was nothing but an insult to public morality and an insult to the rights of the people to get at the truth about these things.

Therefore, it is a very good thing and a commendable thing that this Bill has been brought and I hope, the entire House, including the Opposition, will support it and vote for it. And, that will be some another milestone in the path which this Government is trying to follow, namely, to restore democratic values and to undo many undemocratic things which were done in the past.

I welcome this Bill.

SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO (Aska): Sir, I rise to support the Bill for restoration of high principles which the National Front promised to the people. It is unfortunate that our friends on the other side are still behaving like

Bandwa Mazdoor. The previous amendment said, I quote:

"When the Government is satisfied that in the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States or in the public interest..."

It is well-known that our friends on the opposite side equated the sovereignty and integrity of India with the Gandhi family. They equated the security of the State with the Gandhi family. Friendly relations with foreign States also depend on the Gandhi family. I want to say this because I want to say the perspective with which this Bill was brought.

AN HON. MEMBER: Which Gandhi are you referring to?

SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO: The Finance Minister made it clear when he referred to it. I am not referring to the Gandhi which the Finance Minister referred to. I was referring to the present Gandhi, and not the earlier Gandhi... (*Interruptions*)

So, this amendment was brought after 20 years, when it was thought fit to keep the Thakkar Commission report a secret. Why was it kept secret? It was not for the integrity and sovereignty of the country, which was in danger.

The danger was that the whole palace clique—as we would call it—would be exposed; who was behind the assassins of Mrs. Indira Gandhi—that would have been exposed.

Now our friends take the excuse of Kashmir. They ask whether a Commission is going to be set up to inquiry into the happenings in Kashmir. They say that a position may come about when we may have to hide certain facts. Then why are they demanding a Commission; why are our honourable friends and especially their camp followers in the National Front—I am sorry, the National Conference—are also demanding a Commission of Inquiry?... (*Interruptions*)

[Sh. A.N. Singh Deo]

Again, they say that a Commission of Inquiry may expose something; and, therefore, this should not be amended. But this National Front Government, the Janata Dal and its other friends have promised to the people that they would take away whatever undemocratic act that has been perpetuated by the Congress. There is a saying in English that the leopard does not change its spots. It is unfortunate that our friends, even after learning that they have been thrown out by the people of the country for their acts of omission and commission, are not willing to change their spots. They are again propagating that this is a bad amendment; especially our friends who have nothing to say, or add to this debate, just get up and talk about Kerala, and what happened here or there, without saying a word as to whether this present action is a good action of this Government or not.

An inquiry commission is set up to find out facts. They are being set up since 1952, during Jawaharlal Nehru's time; and the Act was amended in 1971, to include a provision that all the facts should be brought before the people. When they are placed before Parliament, people take cognisance of them, and will debate on what is wrong and what is good. So, you cannot expect a better democratic principle than this. Unfortunately, they went back on this, because they wanted to hide certain things. They wanted to hide the fact that their own staff who was going with Mrs. Indira Gandhi, was going behind her, near here, ran away when the firing started. And he was, for four years, banished from near the throne; and again he was brought back, after the Thakkar Commission report was suppressed. Now he is a member of the Rajya Sabha.

Therefore, the motive behind is not the welfare of the country, the motive is not sovereignty of the country, the motive is not public interest. It was brought only to serve a personal interest, that is, only for equating a single family with public interest. That is why this Act was brought in. Therefore, it is the

duty of the National Front Government to get this changed. Therefore, I congratulate the Minister for having brought this amendment. I strongly support this amendment, and I hope our friends on the other side will realize their mistakes, and support this amendment.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Mr. Chairman, I rise to welcome the Bill. It is timely and I am happy to see that the Government has moved in the direction of undoing serious, undemocratic public wrongs that had been done as a result of the amendment of the Commissions of Inquiry Act in the year 1986. Even at that time, I had spoken in the same vein striking a note of caution.

The Commissions of Inquiry Act was enacted, I believe, in the year 1952. At that time, there was no provision in the Act making it imperative or compulsory on behalf of the Government to place on the Table of the House the Report of any Commissions of Inquiry. As a result, there were several complaints that Reports of very important Commissions of Public Inquiry never found the light of the day. The Law Commission went into this question; and in one of its Reports, even the Law Commission suggested that when a Commission of Inquiry was instituted and the Report was received, then within a period of six months, the Report must be laid on the Table of the House. On the basis of this recommendation of the Law Commission, the Commissions of Inquiry Act was amended in the year 1971; and it was provided that the Reports of the Commissions of Inquiry must necessarily come before this House. However, it was unfortunate that in the year 1986, through an Ordinance, the Act was amended. I need not go into the circumstances of this Ordinance; that Ordinance was promulgated just 4 or 5 or a few days after the House was adjourned in July 1986 or so. But then that amendment to the Commissions of Inquiry Act gave arbitrary powers to the Government of India to decide whether or not to place the Reports on the Table of the House. There were no inbuilt safeguards also. At that time, I pleaded in this House that even if you wish to take those powers which you should not take

then, for the sake of God, at least have some inbuilt safeguards. I had also moved at that time certain amendments to the Bill. However, for reasons best known to the entire nation, the Amendment Bill at that time was passed; and as a result of that, an attempt was made to suppress the Thakkar Commission Report. I do not want to go into the details of this history, but, then there was a pressure from the people as a result of which the Thakkar Commission Report was laid on the Table of the House.

Now I want the Government to ponder over one aspect of the whole thing. The Report must be laid on the Table of the House. But what constitutes a report is again a matter that creates a lot of problems. So, what constituted the Report of the Thakkar Commission we had so much of discussion here in this House; and there was even a ruling by the Speaker as to what papers constituted a Report and what papers did not constitute a Report. Many of those who were at that time on the Opposition benches are today on the Treasury Benches. They had argued at that particular time that what was being placed on the Table of the House of the Report as the Thakkar Commission Report was not a complete Report.

Nevertheless, there was ruling by the Speaker and we all went with that ruling. The fact remains that there are a lot of other important papers which have not been placed on the Table of the House and which, some could still argue, constitute the report of the Thakkar Commission. They are not still laid on the Table of the House. I am very happy that the Government calls itself an open Government. I am happy that the Government wants to uphold the right to information. There may be certain serious instances which belie the claims that the Government makes. We shall go into those instances at the appropriate time. But here in this particular Bill, while I compliment the Government for bringing forward this Bill saying that the report should be laid on the Table of the House, I want to remind you that there are several papers concerning the Thakkar Commission report which, many still think,

constitute the report of the Thakkar Commission, many even among those who are in the Treasury Benches.

I must say therefore that they must also come forward to place those papers also which this House has been asking, on the Table of the House, so that the claim to public accession to information could really be granted.

Now, Mr. Chairman, Sir, in addition I must say that it was a serious public and democratic wrong to have said that once a Commission of Inquiry is appointed its report may or may not be placed on the Table of the House. Mr. Chairman, Sir, a Commission of Inquiry is not a mere fact finding body. I had been listening to several members with rapt attention. But I submit with all respect that a Commission of Inquiry is not a mere fact finding agency. If the purpose is merely to find out the facts, discover facts, if the purpose is only to secure evidence for the Government, then there are several investigating agencies that the Government has. Facts can be collected, evidence can be collected with the help of those investigating agencies. Why is a Commission of Inquiry then instituted? Not merely for the purposes of finding facts. There is a greater objective. And that has to be understood. A public issue agitates the mind of the people. There is a crisis of confidence and as a result of that crisis of confidence a Commission of Inquiry is appointed. Therefore, it will be a serious public wrong to appoint a Commission of Inquiry on an sensitive issue that had agitated the mind of the people, that had brought about a crisis of confidence and still to withhold that report, that would have been a serious public wrong, as I said. The Commission of Inquiry is appointed in order to satisfy the public about the truth of the state of affairs concerning a matter which had created a crisis of public confidence and when we have such a healthy attitude towards the Commissions of Inquiry the logical conclusion to which one reaches is that whenever a Commission of Inquiry is appointed its report in due time must be placed on the Table of the House along with the report of

[Sh. G.M. Banatwalla]

the Government about the action taken thereon.

Now that takes me to another aspect of the whole problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly conclude.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Mr. Chairman, do you want me to conclude?

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is one hour debate. We have already consumed two hours.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: So, the entire wrath must come upon me. I fail to understand this particular thing. Mr. Chairman, I will try to run along the points that I wish to make.

There are several Commissions of Inquiry specially about communal riots; and recommendations made. But those recommendations are never implemented. So, in addition to the importance of the Commission of Inquiry report being placed on the Table of the House, there is also the necessity of implementation as far as possible of the various recommendations of the Commissions of Inquiry. I must urge upon the Government to see to it that the recommendations of several Commissions of Inquiry are properly gone through, scanned and action taken wherever possible.

In addition to Commissions of Inquiry, at times Committees are appointed by the Government. They are appointed on several important issues. Now, here we have a Government that makes claim of right to information and all that. There is a report of a Committee that goes by the name "High Power Panel on Minorities" presided over by Dr. Gopal Singh, appointed by the then Government. For the past several years, the report is lying with the Government and we have been demanding that the report be placed on the Table of the House. Why should the minorities be denied atleast this information as to what were the recommen-

dations of the High Power Panel which was appointed for their welfare? This is certainly a public wrong. I urge upon the Government to see that this public wrong is also undone.

On the issue, I have just two more sentences and then I have done. There is a public agitation; public mind is agitated on various allegations of suppression of the fundamental rights and human rights of innocent people in Kashmir. I must also urge upon the Government that a proper Commission of Inquiry be appointed on this question. It is not proper that public mind should continue to be agitated. It must have the fullest information on the allegations of atrocities and suppression directed against the people of Kashmir, the Kashmiris, in the name of suppressing terrorism. I must therefore urge upon the Government that a proper Commission of Inquiry with a mandatory report, to look into all the matters in Kashmir since 19th January 1990 be instituted. We should have that report as early as possible and that report should also be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to congratulate the Government for bringing forward this amendment, but at the same time I regret for the delay. Had the Government got it passed in the first session itself and had the Thakkar Commission Report, which has been referred to in the House time and again been laid in the House, the fabric of the House would have been somewhat different. Besides, their strength would have been far below 195 seats which they have won. I regret for the delay on the part of the Central Government in bringing forward this amendment Bill. Such a Bill should have been introduced on priority basis in the first session itself. Commission of Inquiry (Amendment) Bill is not like the Bofors deal which would expose people of their deeds. I feel that this Bill is in the interest of the Congress also. The Congress has already done the things which it was supposed to do. Now it is the turn of the National Front Government

which is bringing forward this amendment. If it commits any mistake, it will bear its consequences. There is nothing for the opposition to be worried about. We want to place before the House the reports of the Commissions of Inquiry whenever they are set up for a specific purpose. The opposition has already had its innings. If they oppose such an important Bill, what will be the justifiability of making a demand for a Commission of Inquiry. There is no need to set up a Commission of Inquiry if its report is not to be laid on the Table of the House. In 1952, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was there. He was a democrat and he had faith in democracy. An amendment to Commission of Inquiry Act was brought forward in 1986 and I cannot understand the reasons for bringing forward this amendment. Nehru's policy was right. The amendment that was brought forward in 1986 was totally against the conscience of Pandit Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi. From their heavenly abode they might be cursing their followers for bringing forward the above amendment. Had the Congress Party allowed a discussion on Thakkar Commission Report and placed the report on the Table of the House, the results would have been different. They carried out the above amendment. They were destined to rule for 5 years which they did. Now why should they bother? Now it is our Government and we will face the consequences of any report that would come to us. They should, therefore, extend their support to our proposal.

[English]

The Commission of Inquiry is always set up for the purpose of making inquiry into any definite matter of public importance.

[Translation]

In other words, Commission of Inquiry will be set up for matters of public importance. When a Commission of Inquiry is set up, it involves expenditure, valuable time of V.I.Ps is consumed and the time of witnesses is also killed. Even after incurring expenditure and wasting time, if the report of

the Commission is not placed before the House, what is the use of setting up such a Commission?

[English]

The Inquiry Commission's report should not be withheld from Parliament and the State Legislature as the case may be, under any circumstances.

[Translation]

We will place the report of the Commission on the Table of the House and as such the hon. members of Congress Party should extend their support to this amendment. They should do so because the people are the highest court in our country. They are more powerful than the Supreme Court and the House of the people comprising 545 members which is considered to be the supreme authority. They have seen as to how powerful the people are! The people who were in power for the last several years and who claimed that the sun did not set in their kingdom are sitting in the opposition and we are occupying the seats behind the treasury benches. This is the result of the verdict of the people. I am speaking in favour of the Congress Party also. Now they have 195 seats in the House. I warn them to be cautious lest their number should come down to 20-25 or 2-4 in future. I, therefore, request them to extend their support to this amendment in their own interest as it will be a due regard to the departed souls of Jawaharlal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi. Shrimati Indira Gandhi was not their Prime Minister alone. She was the popular Prime Minister of the whole country. That is why they should extend their support to this amendment so that it could be made public as to who was her assailant. Let the Thakkar Commission Report be placed on the Table of the House. There are different versions about the sequences at the time of Shrimati Gandhi's assassination. According to one version, Shri Dhawan was holding an umbrella above Shrimati Gandhi's head and was walking by her side. There was no sun shine at that time. The bullets fired at that time should have first

[Sh. Girdhari Lal Bhargava]

Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

hit the person who had abundant love for her. He should have first faced the bullets. But he did not come forward. According to Thakkar Commission Report, the needle of suspicion moves towards Shri Dhawan who was present on the spot. This has been a subject of discussion all over the country. He is not an ordinary person. Mr. Chairman, Sir, had it been the case of an ordinary person like you and me, there was no need for having the matter discussed in the House. The common man has no protector in this country. During the Congress Rule, I cannot say if commodities were selling cheap or not, but human life had certainly become very cheap. If a person was lying on the road, nobody came to take care of him for 4-5 hours. That is why I said that in the Congress Rule, if any thing had become cheap, it was the man who had no protector. Clothes and other commodities also did not become cheap. This Government wants to bring down the prices of all commodities. It wants to make provision for holding enquiries into the killings of human beings who are considered to be the supreme creatures of God, I would like to point out that the full report of the Rangnath Mishra Commission which went into the causes of killing during communal riots in Delhi has not been laid on the Table of the House. The report of the Thakkar Commission also has not been laid. These reports should be placed before the House in the larger interests of the country. The National Front Government should have brought forward this amendment in the very first session nullifying the amendment made in 1986 in the Commission of Inquiry Act, 1952. Though late, the National Front Government has taken a step in the right direction by deciding to place the reports of all commissions of Inquiry which would be set up under the Commission of Inquiry Act. The reports will be considered in the House and then only any decision could be taken. I support the amendment brought forward by the National Front Government and request my friends in the Congress Party to extend their support to this amendment in conformity with the conscience of Pandit Jawaharlal

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to the hon. members for extending support to the amendment to the Commissions of Inquiry Act. Under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952, it was mandatory for the Central Government or the State Governments, whenever they appointed an Inquiry Commission, to lay the Report of that Commission on the Table of the House within six months. In 1986, keeping in view the Thakkar Commission's Report, the then Central Government made an amendment whereby powers were given to the Government to withhold the Report or part of it, if it was detrimental to national security, security of higher dignitaries or friendly relations with neighbouring or other countries. Sir, you know that the people of India wanted to know the circumstances which led to the assassination of Indiraji who was assassinated at her own residence by her own security people. So, it was a matter of great importance. When the Central Government got powers to withhold the Report, it created doubts among the people as to who was responsible, what were the circumstances, why she was not given proper protection. Then there was great agitation by the then Opposition. The Opposition compelled the Government to lay the Report but the Government laid on the Table of the House, only part of the Report, not the whole of it. I can quote the then Notification which was issued by the then Home Ministry and it rather asked the Commission to make enquiry about the following matters:

- (a) the sequence of events leading to all facts relating to the assassination of the late Prime Minister;
- (b) whether the crime could have been averted and whether there was any lapse or dereliction of duty in this regard on the part of any the individuals on security duty at the time of the commission of the crime and

other individuals responsible for the security of the late Prime Minister;

- (c) the deficiencies if any, in the security system and arrangements as prescribed or as operative in practice which might have facilitated the commission of crime;
- (d) the deficiencies, if any, in the procedures and measures as prescribed or as operative in practice in attending to and providing medical attention to the late Prime Minister after the commission of crime and whether there was any lapse or dereliction of duty in this regard on the part of individuals responsible for providing such medical attention.
- (e) whether any person or persons' agencies were responsible for concealing, preparing and planning the assassination and whether there was any conspiracy in this behalf and if so, all remit
3. The Commission may also recommend the corrective remedies and measures that need to be taken for the future with respect to matters specified in Clauses (c) & (d) above;
4. The Commission shall submit its report to the Central Government as soon as possible but not later than six months."

So, Sir, when the present Government is rather moving amendments, it has its own arbitrary powers, it has the discretionary power. If the Government appoints an Inquiry Commission, then the Inquiry Commission submit its report. Then, it is the discretion of the Government whether it will place it on the Table of the House or not. So, we are giving up this power. Otherwise, what is the purpose of appointing an Inquiry Commission? Any event, any incident, wherever it happens, when you appoint an Inquiry Commission, then the people would like to

know the facts. Mr. Chidambaram has mentioned one instance where the present Government is rather withholding its report. As far as Wadhwa Committee Report was concerned, the report was submitted to the Home Ministry on 26.3.1990. You said that we were not prepared to lay it on the Table of the House. We will lay it on the Table of the House. So, my submission is that the objective is very clear and there cannot be any *male fide* intention. The Government wants that if any Commission is appointed, it will submit its report and it should be the property of the House and the Members of this House and the people of India should know its findings.

SHRIP. CHIDAMBARAM: My question is regarding the appointment of a retired Justice, Shri Subramaniam Poti. How could he enquire into Delhi riots? Does he say that he is an independent person? Let him say that.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: He was appointed by the Lt. Governor of Delhi. It is in his competence.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Is it that the retired Justice was appointed by the Lt. Governor without consulting and without obtaining the approval of the Home Ministry?

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: I said that the report was submitted on 26th March, 1990.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: 26th of March? Your dates are wrong. Please check up. The matter came up before the Supreme Court... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: I say, on the 26th of March the Report has been submitted to the Home Ministry.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Home Ministry? Sir, I am asking a very simple question, let the Home Minister answer. Is it his case that retired Justice Subramniam Poti was appointed by the Lt. Governor without con-

[Sh. P. Chidambaram]

sulting and without obtaining the approval of the Home Ministry? Let him say 'yes' or 'no' we will accept it.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: I say, we don't come into the picture. It is within the competence of the Lt. Governor to appoint. It is within his competence, we don't interfere.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Just one question, Sir. Certain documents connected with the Thakkar Commission's Report have still not been placed on the Table of the House. Do you propose to place them on the Table of the House?

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: We propose to lay on the Table of the House the whole Report.

SHRIGUMAN MAL LODHA: Would the hon. Home Minister assure the House that action would be taken against all those persons who have been named in the Thakkar Commission's Report as responsible for the murder of Mrs. Indira Gandhi or against whom some action is required to be taken? Would the hon. Minister assure the House?

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not connected with the Commissions of Inquiry (Amendment) Bill.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, in citing the Government Notification giving the terms of reference of the Thakkar Commission, the Home Minister referred to the charge which was given to that Commission to go into any serious lapses of security and dereliction of duty which may have occurred. In that Report there are many things connected with these questions which have not been covered, have not been dealt with and many things have been left shrouded in mystery. I would like to know, because this is not a

matter which has no relevance for the future also—the question affecting the security of the Prime Minister, whoever the individual may be. Therefore, would it not be in the fitness of things for the Government to set up some other investigating machinery or some special investigating team or something to go into these aspects which were there originally in the terms of reference, but had not been dealt with or could not be dealt with adequately by the Thakkar Commission? Would you just leave them hanging in the air like that?

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: Sir, the Government would appreciate the suggestion made by Indrajitji. We would like to examine this suggestion whether it is possible to do it. We have to go into details. We have to make *de novo* the investigation because previously some committee was appointed, some investigating agency was here and it recommended some measures. We have to go again into them and see what can be done.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): May I know from the hon. Minister when he is proposing to place the entire Report of the Thakkar Commission in this House?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: I have already said that the full Report will be placed on the Table of the House during the current Session.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2—(Amendment of section 3 of Act 60 of 1952)

"That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

SHRIGIRDHARILAL BHARGAVA: Sir, I move:

"The motion was adopted."

Page 1, line 6,—

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

for "shall be omitted" substitute—

Enacting Formula

"Shall always be deemed to have been omitted and it shall be obligatory to lay before the House all the reports submitted in the past." (4)

Amendment made

Page 1, line 1,—

for "Fortieth" substitute

"Forty-first" (1)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Another amendment by Shri Nathu Singh is similar to that of Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava. So, he need not move it separately.

(Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

(Interruptions)

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Amendment No. 4 moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava to the vote of the House.

The motion was adopted

Amendment No. 4 was put and negatived

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Clause 2 to the vote of the House.

long title

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

The question is:

"That Long Title stand part of the Bill."

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill "

The motion was adopted.

The motion was adopted

The Long Title was added to the Bill.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: Sir, I beg to move:

Clause 1—(Short title)

Amendment made

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Page 1, line 4,—

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

(2)

for "1989" substitute "1990"

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

(Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed)

The motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

16.09 hrs.

CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT (AMENDING) BILL

AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we take up item no. 8. Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1961, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration".

Sir, the publication of correct maps of the country is a matter of national concern as depiction of incorrect boundaries of the country amounts to indirectly questioning the frontiers of India and the territorial integrity of the country. Any tendency/action on the part of anybody to question the territorial integrity and frontiers of the country has to be curbed and stringent action is required to be taken to discourage other persons from indulging in such activities. Government is keen to ensure that only correct maps of the country are published.

16.10 hrs.

[SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN *in the Chair*]

Several measures were taken in the past for this purpose. In 1966, instructions and guidelines were issued to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to see that publishers get their maps vetted in advance by the Survey of India who publishes the authentic maps of the country. It was decided later that the Survey of India would make available on free sale basis the outline maps of various scales which the publishers could utilise as base. In such cases, it would not be necessary to get the

maps scrutinised by the Survey of India before publication. Where maps were to be prepared on scales different from those on which outline maps were made available by the Survey of India, the publishers were required to get them vetted before publication. In spite of these measures, instances of incorrect depiction of external boundaries of India by private agencies and newspapers continued to come to notice. It was not found feasible to take action under the existing law unless it was proved that a wrong map was published in a manner which was or was likely to be prejudicial to the interests of the safety and security of India or that *mala fide* intention was involved.

During discussion in this House on 21st August, 1987 some hon. members had pointed out that publication of a wrong map of India was taking place frequently. Hon. members had also desired that the Government adopt some foolproof provisions or arrangements to curb such publications in future and consider having a law to enable the Government to take action against persons publishing wrong maps of the country. At that time, the House was assured that if the legal provisions were not sufficient enough to take deterrent action against those who distorted the maps of our country, the Government was willing to review the whole thing and come forward to this House with a view to taking stringent action against them.

In Rajya Sabha, the Bill was supported by all section of the House and was passed without any amendment.

With these words, I commend the Bill for consideration of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to amend Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1961, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRIP. CHIDAMBARAM (Sivaganga): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we welcome this Bill and we support this Bill. Sir, I only wish that the

Home Minister had, in his opening remarks, mentioned that the Bill was prepared by the previous Government and approved during the tenure of the previous Government. That is why, this received unanimous support in Rajya Sabha and I am sure, this will receive unanimous support in this House. We think, this is a wholesome measure. This casts strict liability on those who publish maps. They cannot escape under technical defence. Whoever publishes a map which is not in conformity with the map of India published by the Survey of India is now liable to be punished. This was a measure which was contemplated, prepared and drafted by the previous Government and I am glad that the new Government though it fit to introduce it in the same manner as we had approved it.

We support this Bill.

SHRI JAGDEEP DHANKHAR (Jhunjhunu): Mr. Chairman, it is a non-controversial Bill. I am quite sure the credit goes to the earlier Government also. It is a timely Bill. The incidence of misrepresentation of our boundaries was on the increase. Now, there is a definite provision in the Bill whereby punishment could be meted out to the persons who are engaged in such mischief.

Map symbolises the sovereignty, unity and integrity of a country and its misrepresentation is a serious matter. Earlier, there was no definite provision in the existing criminal laws whereby the authorities could proceed in a categorical manner against the defaulters.

I need not take much of the time here. But there are several instances, in the changing political complexion, where extensive publications are coming out, misrepresenting our boundaries over one area or the other. This is happening overseas also and I am quite sure the Government will act very vigilantly by taking diplomatic manoeuvres and initiatives to see that overseas publications also do not misrepresent our boundaries. I wholeheartedly support this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. I have no objection to your talk. But the sound should not reach the Chair and cause disturbance to others.

SHRI JAGDEEP DHANKHAR: I wholly agree with my brother Shri Chidambaram and I give him the fullest congratulations that it was his Government which mooted the idea though after many decades.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while extending my whole-hearted support to the Bill I would like to remind my colleagues in the Opposition that merely making an amendment, in principle, regarding the map of India would not be much useful. According to it, the publication of a distorted map of India is being made a punishable offence. The present Government is going to make an amendment in section 2 of the Act to provide that any person who has incorrectly depicted the external boundaries of India would be punished, but mere distortion of the map will not be an offence. At the time of Chinese invasion when thousands of miles of our territory had been occupied by the China, the Congress Government was in power at the centre and they had pledged here in the House that every inch of Indian territory which has been unauthorisedly occupied by China would be taken back. But even today the areas like Mansarovar lake, a part of Tibet and Aksai Chin, where Major Saitan Singh and thousands of other soldiers had laid down their lives, continue to be under the unauthorised occupation of China. Therefore, I would like to say to the hon. Members of the Congress party that mere a provision on the paper will not do. We should take back our land for which our brave soldiers had shed their blood and sacrificed their lives. The depiction of Indian map with all that territory which includes Mansarovar, Tibet and Aksai Chin etc. will make it a complete map of India and restore its all grace and greatness as the Greater India. We used to recite the follow-

[Sh. Guman Mal Lodha]

ing lines in her prais—

"Mansrovar jheel jahan hai, chandan ka van hai nyara,
Aisa pyara desh hamara, sari duniya se hai nyara."

India should once again have its sovereignty over all its parts. For this purpose I would like to request all the hon. Members of both the Houses of Parliament to work for this objective. While passing this amendment Members of all the political parties should express political will that the forcibly occupied territory would be taken back and a complete map of India would be depicted again.

The Section 2 of the Amendment Bill says that whoever questions the territorial integrity or frontiers of India in a manner which is or is likely to be, prejudicial to the interests of the safety or security of India, shall be punishable....."

However I regret to say that while bringing an amendment the hon. Minister must have taken note of the original provision made under section 2 of the parent act which initially provided the punishment for a period of three years but the proposed Amendment has brought it down to six months which is quite insufficient. I would not like to involve myself in this controversy but would like to take the Bill in its true spirit to say that whoever questions the sovereignty of the country should be given deterrent punishment.

With these words, I wholeheartedly support this Amending Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): This Bill is amending an Act which was passed in 1961. The 1961 Act has certain provisions regarding cartographic war, making claim of some other country's

territory or questioning the sovereignty or territorial integrity of a country. That Bill made an offence of a visible representation amongst other things, questioning the territorial integrity of frontiers of India in a manner which is or is likely to be prejudicial to the interests and safety and security of India and that offence was punishable by imprisonment would could extend to a term of three years. This was happening. This was there and in spite of that various maps were being published in India and abroad and circulated in India the maps that were published abroad which did not represent the actual territory of India as published by the Survey of India—the claim of the Government of India regarding the territory of the people of India. What was happening? Even in spite of this provision being there in the law, why was it necessary to bring another Act? This is a question about which, I think, the hon. Minister should have told something. We have not been made any wiser. The other thing is: how will this make it possible to punish those who are questioning the integrity of India by some kind of a cartographic war? Will it make more possible to do so by punishment for an offence whose punishment is much lesser. Previously, that was three year and this is only for six months. What was the immediate cause of bringing forward this Bill? It was actually brought forward on first August 1989. It was first introduced in the Rajya Sabha on that date as per the Bill.

Now, I will try to go through the paper clippings which are practically the only resources available in the library. I found that in 1987, there were several publications; there were several maps, maps published by the *Newsweek* two or three times in the same year which showed a part of the territory of India as once belonging to China; second time the same territory belonging to Pakistan. Further, one map on Bangladesh published by some very well known publisher in India also showed part of India belonging to Bangladesh Export Processing Zone. They were advertising through a map. In that map, part of the territory of India was given over to China or Pakistan. This is what happened. Finally, what extracted a promise

from the then Home Minister S. Buta Singh was a publication by the Tamil Nadu Government which also showed part of India as China's territory. So, the then Member Shri B.S. Ramoowalia belonging to the Akai Dal Party brought it to the attention of the Home Minister and the Home Minister promised—this incident happened in August 1987—that he would soon bring forward a Bill to redress the situation if the existing punishments were not stiff enough, if the existing penalties were not good enough. I do not know whether somebody really applied his mind to see whether the existing penalties were good enough, stiff enough or not. But this Bill has been brought forward. We support it. It is not that we are opposing it. We are supporting it. But the point is: may be in that particular Clause something more could have been added if something more was needed. That Clause was comprehensive enough to punish anybody who questioned the territorial integrity of India by means of a map. A map is a visible representation. That is possibly known. But this is an addition which may create some difficulties in course of time because one inflicts lesser punishment than the other.

There is, of course, some certainty added because of the question: What is the territory of India? This is finally concluded by the map published by the Survey of India. If that expression had been given to that particular section, it would have been enough. A map which is published by the Survey of India is final. If anybody questions the integrity of that territory of India, he is making a visible misrepresentation. He is questioning the integrity of India. But this has not been done. What I would like to know is whether the Government has in fact taken action right from 1961 when the Criminal Law Amendment Bill was passed and made this kind of cartographic war a punishable offence. From that time till now, has the Government actually prosecuted anybody? Has it been at all used? Probably, the answer is 'no'. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Tripura West): Who is he to answer for the Government?

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): Somebody said so because they were in Government. Some of you will know better than the present Home Minister. The law has been changed. It is all right. But the Government has to answer to the House by taking some more action and by being more vigilant. It is only when somebody else points out to the Government that so and so has published a map which give up part of the territory to Pakistan or gives a part of the territory to China, only then the Government wakes up and makes a statement in the House and then takes two years to bring a Bill. This is the kind of patriotism or a sense of duty of the Government itself, of the previous Government. So, they have protected to the best of their ability the sovereignty. It is now for our Government, to which we support, to do so.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Our Government?

SHRI AMAL DATTA: 'The Government which we support'. I have corrected myself.

Another thing which occurs to me in this connection, is that many of these maps are published abroad, in the Newsweek or some other journal which has a circulation in India. Now some maps have been published in Moscow and have come. And in some parliamentary discussion, Mr. Ajit Singh had pointed out that Mr. Gorbachev readily agreed to correct the map of India published in the USSR. He said "As soon as he goes back, he will see to it that the map is corrected." But the then Prime Minister refused to take up this matter with USSR Government. He had criticised it and found it in the press published about the inaction of the Prime Minister in India. Now there have been inaction not only of the Prime Minister but of the entire Government throughout this period. There is no point in changing the law when the Government is not going to act on that law. Nobody has been prosecuted. No Government has been questioned. Can the Ministry tell us whether any Government has been questioned—the US Government or whichever Government had published it or whichever country has published it. They were

[Sh. Amal Datta]

responsible to see that the territorial integrity of India is not questioned by publications of our country. Have you lodged any protest? What has been the response to the protest? We would like to know these things. Otherwise, what is the point in waiting the time of this House by bringing such bills which will never be put to any use? My question is very simple. We are all ready to support the Government in maintaining the territorial sovereignty—although this did not come from the previous Government. Territorial integrity must be protected not only in the map but in actuality also and in fact, on the grounds also. But we must also see that the Government acts. We must prompt the Government to act. We must make the Government accountable in this House in respect of the maintenance, the attitude and the territorial integrity of India, in map also. They must report to the House and, if necessary, the Government must set up a separate section for that. A person must be appointed to look at all the maps and report. And the Government should report about the action taken on this. Otherwise, there is no point in unnecessarily burdening the law books of this country. So, we support the Bill. But we ask the Government to act, to be vigilant and also to report to the House whenever this thing happens, whatever action they have taken and what is the response of the Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now a statement by the hon. Deputy Prime Minister regarding the Jute Price Policy.

16.29 hrs.

STATEMENT REGARDING PRICE
POLICY FOR RAW JUTE FOR THE
1990-91 SEASON.

[Translation]

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND
THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI
DEVI LAL): The Government of India has

fixed the minimum support price for TD-5 grade of jute in Assam for the 1990-91 season at Rs. 320 per quintal. This marks an increase of Rs. 25 over the price fixed for the last year. The corresponding prices for other grades of raw jute shall be fixed by the Jute Commissioner of India, Ministry of Textiles, in the light of normal market price differentials.

We are confident that the Minimum Support Prices will enthuse the farmers to continue to step up the production of raw jute.

The Jute Corporation of India will undertake price support operations as and when required. The Corporation would take its decisions in respect of jute transactions on a commercial basis and make its purchases from the cultivators at the prices that may be warranted by the prevailing market conditions, but in no case below the minimum support price.

16.30 hrs

CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT
(AMENDING) BILL—CONTD.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, I am supporting this Bill whole-heartedly. It is quite relieving at this stage that a Bill of this nature has been brought before the House. Secessionist activities are increasing in some of our borders. At this stage any kind of publication against the recognised publication as per the Survey of India should be very seriously dealt with. In fact it is not only the publishers, but also the person who are behind them should be booked in such cases. I am afraid, though this amendment is good enough to catch hold of persons who are directly responsible for such publications, it is not enough to catch those persons who are actually responsible and who are actually behind the publication. In many a case we find that person who are respon-

sible are not coming within the definition of the persons who are the actual publishers.

I have also moved an amendment to this Bill. I am not speaking on the amendment, but I would like to say that the power of prosecution is given to the Government. Why it comes to the notice of any citizen of India, it must be within his power to go directly to a court of law and lodge a case against such a person.

As has already been said, the punishment sought to be given is too low. I would think that a punishment which is deterrent and also a punishment, the minimum extent of which is to be specifically mentioned.

When we are going to pass such a law at this stage, I am reminded of a statement which was made by one of our leaders in Kerala, belonging to the Left Democratic Front. I am not accusing him. At one stage when the country was in real difficulties, when there was a war with China in 1962, a piece of land was described by one of our eminent leaders as a piece of land which China says as theirs and which we say as ours. Such type of misunderstandings should not be there—Leave alone with leader—even with any person. Let there be a Bill and let there be a law in which the boundaries of India are well defined. The boundaries of India cannot be changed at the will of any person and it cannot be changed by the invasion of anybody from outside or even by the actions of secessionists or terrorists from any portion of India.

[Translation]

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support this Bill and would like to say that such a Bill was a must for the safety of our territorial integrity. The enactment of law creates a fear in the minds of those who do not abide by law. However, it is altogether a different thing that there are law abiding citizens who are always ready to sacrifice any thing for the security of their country even if a law to that effect has been or has not been enacted. There are certain

people who do not bother about the security of the country and with that thing in view, this bill, which was necessary has been brought. The map of the country should depict the original boundaries of the country as they were at the time of partition. Indian territory occupied by the China should also be shown as the part of our territory. If anyone shows the aforesaid land in the map of China, he will be guilty and action should be taken against him. And if any foreigner publishes a wrong map of India, action should be taken against him as per the provisions of law and in case an Indian citizen depicts a distorted map of India, action should be taken against such person. If legal action is not taken in such cases, it would lead to lawlessness. Therefore, this Bill is in the interest of the country. With these words I welcome the Bill.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): Sir, Shri Amal Datta has pointed out that the Government should be very serious in taking action and asked what was the necessity in bringing this amendment.

Sir, according to Section 2 of Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1961,

"Whoever by words either spoken or written or by signs, by visible representation integrity or frontiers of India in a manner which is, or is likely to be prejudicial to the interests of the safety or security of India, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a terms which may extend to three years or with fine or with both"

"In order to constitute an offence under the above provision of law, the following conditions are to be fulfilled i.e. territorial integrity and frontiers of India are questioned:

(1) by visible representation or sign or words written or spoken;

(2) it is done in such a manner which is

[Sh. Mufti Mohammad Sayeed]

likely to be prejudicial to the interests of the safety and security of India."

So, Sir, it was very difficult to prove any person or any publisher who publishes a wrong map of India that he has done that with a *mala fide* intention or rather harming the territorial integrity of India. And so, this amendment was suggested, whereby no private citizen can make any complaint. Under Sub-section 3 of the act, no court shall take cognisance of the offences punishable under Sub-section 2, excepting on a complaint made by the Government.

Regarding the suggestion made by Shri Amal Datta that whenever such wrong maps are published, there should be some agency which should look into the matter and take necessary steps, I have nothing to add.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to amend Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1961, as passed by Raja Sabha, be taken into consideration".

The motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House shall take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2-

(Amendment of Section-2)

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are amendments to Clause 2.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Sir, I beg to move:

Page 1,-

for lines 8 to 11, substitute

" (2) Whoever publishes a map of India or has published during

the last two years, which is not in conformity with the maps of India as published by the Survey of India, shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to two years and with fine" (3)

SHRI NATHU SINGH (Dausa): Sir, I beg to move:

Page 1, lines 10 to 11,-

for "six months" substitute "one year" (4)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, I beg to move:

page 1,-

omit lines 12 to 14. (5)

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make the following Amendment in it-

[English]

"Whoever published a map of India or has published during the last two years, which is not in conformity with the maps of India as published by the Survey of India, shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to two years and with fine."

[Translation]

It means that period of imprisonment should be extended from six months to two years. The Bill contains the expression 'imprisonment or with fine' which means there will be either six months imprisonment or fine. It again means that the offender will not be punished with imprisonment but only with fine. I would like to suggest that the term 'six months' imprisonment should be substituted by 'two years imprisonment' and the words 'or with fine' be substituted by 'and with fine'. The persons involved in such

actions should not be allowed to go scot free only with the punishment of fine because it concerns the maps of the country. I would say that more stringent law should be made for this purpose.

Secondly, it should also be ensured that the Survey of India have the correct maps. The Indian territory under the Pakistan occupation which is called the Azad Kashmir should also be shown on India's map. Land occupied by Pakistan in Punjab should also be shown in the map of India. The map of India has become so distorted after partition that the students or even the teachers cannot draw the correct map of India. Many of our learned friends in the House also cannot depict the correct map of our country. Perhaps the hon. Minister may also not know as to which of the areas are the parts of India. Instructions should also be issued to the Survey of India that the land occupied by China and Azad Kashmir and the areas of Punjab now under the occupation of Pakistan belongs to us. And in case any one published a wrong map of India, he should be punished with two years imprisonment and with fine. What I mean to say is that instead of 6 months, **he should be punished with two years imprisonment and with fine.** I am introducing this Amendment with the intention to strengthen the National Front Government. Due to the publication of wrong map, Pakistan is browbeating today and saying that this land has been shown in the map as their land and China says that it has been shown in the map as their territory.

I support the Bill brought by the Government and request that my Amendment should be accepted. To stress this point, restriction should be imposed on the Survey of India and if they also publish a wrong map, there should also be a provision to punish them. The Government should ensure that in future, no wrong map is published. I would like to request the Government to make it a point to accept my Amendment.

SHRI NATHU SINGH (Dausa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome the introduction of this Bill, but it would have been better, had it been brought much earlier. Many a time, we

have read in the newspapers that distorted versions of the Indian map have been found on balloons. Such things have been found in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and some other States. Sometimes, these materials are in the Chinese language and sometimes in some other language. The Government should also make an amendment in the Bill to the effect that stringent punishment would be given to those who distort the original map of India, or those who are found in possession of such material. It is necessary to make such a provision, taking into consideration, the activities taking place in Punjab, Kashmir and other parts of the country.

You must have read in the newspapers that militant groups are very much active in the north-eastern parts of the country, like Assam, Manipur and Nagaland. They have planned to rebel. Under these circumstances, they can make and distribute distorted versions of the Indian map in other languages and make an excuse that these maps have come from outside. Therefore, in order to curb such tendencies, a provision should have been made that those who are found in possession of such material, would also come under the purview of this Bill and would be liable for punishment. In this Bill, a provision for only six month's imprisonment has been made. It would have been better, had it been made for one year. I am saying this because going by the activities of the militants, provision for six month's imprisonment is not sufficient. Therefore, in order to instil fear in their minds, the punishment should be increased to one year. My second submission is that as the hon. Member just pointed out, the district administration should be held responsible in case such a matter is reported to them and they do not take any action. The District Collectors and the SPs or the SHO should be held responsible if such a case is reported within their jurisdiction.

I support the Bill introduced by the Government.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. P. C. Thomas, have you got anything more to add?

SHRI P.C.THOMAS: I am not adding anything. My only amendment is that Clause 3 should be deleted so that the right to prosecute will not be limited to the Government. Even a private person should get an opportunity to bring the offence to the notice of the Court and prosecute.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, have you got to say anything?

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: Sir, I oppose all the amendments.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Girdhari Lal Bhargava, are you pressing your amendments? The Minister has already opposed your amendments.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: I request the Government to accept the amendments or else I will have to withdraw them. I am a part of the Government and had submitted these things, with your permission. I will make only those submissions, which would satisfy the Government.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Has Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava the leave of the House to withdraw his amendment?

MANY HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

The amendment No.3 was, by leave, withdrawn

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Nathu Singh.

NATHU SINGH: I seek leave of the House to withdraw my amendment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Has Mr. Nathu Singh the leave of the House to withdraw his amendment?

MANY HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

Amendment No.4 was, by leave, withdrawn

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. P.C.Thomas.

SHRI P.C.THOMAS: I must hear something from the Home Minister for me to withdraw my amendment. The Home Minister is not saying any reason as to why he is opposing the amendment. If the reason which he gives is convincing to me. I may withdraw.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: I request the hon. Member to withdraw his amendment.

SHRI P.C.THOMAS: I seek leave of the House to withdraw my amendment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Has Shri P.C.Thomas the leave of the House to withdraw his amendment.

Amendment No.5 was, by leave, withdrawn

MR.CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted

Clause 2 was added to the Bill

Clause 1-

(Short title)

Amendment made

Page 1, line 4,-

for "1989" substitute "1990" (1)

(Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed)

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

Enacting Formula

Amendment made

Page 1, line 1,-

for "fortieth" substitute "Forty-first"
(2)

(Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed)

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 MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted

16.32 hrs.

[English]

STATEMENT ON ESCAPE OF DETENUES
FROM THE SRINAGAR CENTRAL JAIL
ON 28TH MARCH, 1990

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): Sir,
In response to the anxiety expressed by the

Hon'ble Member during the zero hour in regard to the incident of jail break in Kashmir I wish to inform the House that it has been reported by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir that in the early hours of 28th March, 12 detenues escaped from Central Jail, Srinagar.

All these detenues were housed in a special barrack meant for high-risk security prisoners. It is learnt that they broke open an iron wire net and, subsequently, scale down the jail wall by use of an improvised ladder. The security forces in five sentry posts as well as the Watch Tower of the Jail could not detect the escape. The headquarters of a BSF Company besides their two platoons were deployed on security duty in the Jail.

Most of the 12 escapees are known JKLF activists and Pak/POK-trained militants who were under detention under the State Public Safety Act (PSA). Nine of them were residents of border districts of Kupwara and Baramullah. Among those who escaped are Khurshid Ahmed Chalkoo and Abdul Rasheed Jalta who were known to be guides for taking Kashmiri youth across the border for arms training. Another escapee, Nissar Ahmed Paul, is a discharged JKP Constable, who was arrested for subversive activities. The particulars of escapees are:

- (i) Nissar Ahmed Paul, S/o Abdul Rashid,
- (ii) Khurshid Ahmed Chalkoo, S/o Ali Mohammad of Uri,
- (iii) Majez Bhat, S/o Fozdar Bhat,
- (iv) Bashir Ahmed S/o Ahmed
- (v) Azad Khan S/o Alfa Khan
- (vi) Abdul Rashid Sheikh S/o Ghulam Ahmed Sheikh.
- (vii) Ghulam Rasool Shah S/o Ghulam Mohd.
- (vii) Gulam Nabi Lone S/o Late Mohammad Subhan.

- (ix) Abdul Rasheed Jalta Manzeer S/o Kaluuddin.
- (x) Mohammad Amin Safi S/o Suthan Sofi.
- (xi) Ghulam Nabi Sheikh S/o Khalid
- (x) Ali Mohd. Malik S/o Ghulam Hassan.

The State Government have taken prompt disciplinary action against delinquent staff. The Superintendent of the District Jail, J & K has been discharged from service. The Deputy Superintendent (Jail) and the Assistant Superintendent (Jail) have been placed under suspension with immediate effect.

One Company Commander and one Head-Constable of the BSF have also been placed under suspension with immediate effect, in this connection, and further inquiries are being made.

Some detenues were shifted to other parts of the country and further arrangements are being made to shift more of them to jails outside the State.

SHRI A CHARLES (Trivandrum): Sir, I would like to ask one question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: As per the rules, you cannot ask question.

Now, we will take up discussion under Rule 193.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): Sir, may I make a request to you. Since both the movers of the discussion are absent they were expecting that it will reach up to 6.00 o'clock if the House agrees, we can postpone this discussion for tomorrow.

SHRI NATHU SINGH (Dausa): Sir, I have also given a notice on the same subject under Rule 193.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, we understand that under the rules nobody

is permitted to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, the next man on the list can continue.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: If it is so, Sir, then we don't mind.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Since the movers are not present, I call Shri Nathu Singh to raise the discussion.

16.58 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Accident to Indian Airlines Airbus A-320 at Bangalore

[English]

SHRI NATHU SINGH (Dausa): Sir, I rise to raise a discussion on the statement made by the Minister of Civil Aviation in the House on the 14th March, 1990 regarding the accident to the Indian Airlines Airbus A-320 at Bangalore and matter connected therewith.

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it has been a tragic accident which has exposed the irregularities committed by the Civil Aviation Department in the purchase of this Airbus. Some other short-comings have also come to light.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know whether these Airbus aircrafts were ready for delivery at the time of placing the orders. According to my knowledge, these Airbus aircrafts were not ready for delivery at that time. They were at the drawing board stage, at that time but even then the order was placed. Earlier, it was decided to buy Boeing 757. I thing the hon. Minister will correct me. Boeing which was in competition with the Airbus, had several merits. Sir, though it is true that we went in for the latest technology

but we did not bear in mind whether the infrastructure to operate the Airbus was available at the Indian airports. Orders were placed for the Airbus without taking this into consideration.

17.00 hrs.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister the names of those countries where this Airbus is in operation. I would also like him to inform the House of the names of those countries which have purchased this Airbus and also the names of those countries who either cancelled the order for purchase of this Airbus, or those countries which wrote letters cancelling the order, after the crash of this Airbus, during its test flight in France.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have got information to the effect that when orders were placed for the purchase of this Airbus, it had a different engine in it, but later on it was replaced with the V-2500 engine. On what basis was this accepted and which authority accepted it? I would like to know whether orders were placed for the purchase of Boeing 757, before deciding on the Airbus? At that time, a committee of Civil Aviation Ministry had taken a decision to purchase Boeing 757, but after that the then Prime Minister went on a foreign tour and when he came back, perhaps in November, the decision to purchase the Airbus was taken. At what level was the decision to purchase the Airbus A-320 taken after overruling the decision of the Recommendation Committee of the Civil Aviation. The House should be informed about it. When the Airbus crashed during its test flight in France, many countries which had placed orders for the purchase of this Airbus, cancelled their orders but at that time, why the Government of India did not cancel the order? Is it true that orders for the purchase of the Airbus was placed, even before the presentation of the enquiry report on the Airbus crash during its test flight. I would like to know why the Government was in such a hurry to place the orders for the purchase of the Airbus even before the enquiry report came out with the facts as to whether the crash occurred due to the Pilot's

fault or because of technical fault?

These are the questions which raise doubts that there has been some bungling for payment of commission in the purchase of the Airbus. Therefore, we would like to know whether the Government would order a probe into the entire affair and find out how orders were placed for the purchase of the Airbus, even before the enquiry report on the crash during the test flight was made public? Why the original engine was replaced by another one? Which authority placed the orders for the purchase, after rejecting the recommendations of the committee of the Civil Aviation Ministry and on what basis was it done? How much commission has been taken for the deal. The report says that the crash occurred due to the pilot's fault. I would like to know the definite report in connection with the crash. Is it true that air-conditioned hangers are necessary for the maintenance of this aircraft, whereas we have a miserable infrastructure. Even the airports are in a bad shape. These aircraft were parked in the open. This may be one of the reasons for the failure of its machinery. Proper climate and facilities for the parking and maintenance of this type of aircraft do not exist in this country. Proper landing facilities are also not available in this country of this Airbus. The Government should provide all these facilities. Were all these points not kept in mind while inducting this aircraft into our fleet? Airports do not have proper landing facilities. May I know what steps are being taken by the Government for improvements in this direction? I would like to know whether the pilots were given requisite training on the basis of latest techniques before purchasing this aircraft? Is it also a fact that till some time back periodical courses were held to familiarise pilots with new developments in their field? But this practice was discontinued. I would like to know when these courses were restarted? Who have been found guilty and what is the amount of kickbacks in the Airbus deal? Will the Government lodge an FIR and carry out further investigations to find out who are the people involved in this case? Everyone's finger is pointing at the former Prime Minister. Will the

[Sh. Nathu Singh]

Government give an assurance that action will be taken against the person found guilty, howsoever high the status enjoyed by the person may be? FIRs should be lodged against those found guilty and strict action should be taken against them. The guilty person is responsible for the deaths of the passengers. A case under section 302 should be registered against him. A committee should be constituted wherein a Member (Technical) should be included. Such elements operate in the purchases and maintenance of aircraft and indulge in irregularities in the working of Indian Airlines and Air India ... (*Interruptions*) The situation is such that all the Airbuses and Boeings in the fleet are not in proper working condition. Pilots act according to their own whims and fancies, sometimes delaying flights and sometimes taking off without checking the weather forecast. Planes are landing and taking off despite the state of airports being bad. I demand the formation of a Parliamentary Committee to go into the working of Indian Airlines and Air India and the functioning of different airport in the country. It will also find out if instruments are available at the airports and proper training facilities exist for the pilots. It may also go into the question whether there were any kickbacks in the purchases of aircraft and whether there are adequate maintenance facilities for the aircraft. The committee should identify all these shortcomings and suggest corrective measures. I also demand that these airlines should be handed over to the private sector. In many other countries airlines are managed by the private sector. In our country Airlines and telephones are in the public sector and this has become an inconvenience instead of a convenience for the public.

[DR. THAMBI DURAI *in the Chair*]

17.10 hrs.

Air India and Indian Airlines should be shifted to the private sector. Individuals desirous of starting air-taxi services should be permitted to do. In the private sector,

there will be healthy competition leading to better, efficient and much safer air services. These days flight schedules are not followed in the running of air services. The Government says that there is a shortage of aircraft. If that is the case, then the Government should buy more aircraft. In the Government does buy aircraft, it buys the A-320 Airbus. I have read the hon. Minister's statement which says that the Airbus will not be flown until investigation into the accident is complete and pilots are properly trained to fly this aircraft. I wish the hon. Minister would repeat his statement here also and would throw some light on the other causes of the accident.

I once again request that a Parliamentary Committee should be constituted to go into this matter. With these words, I conclude my speech. I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I took the trouble of coming here inspite of being sick, when I came to know that hon. Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee who had to initiate this discussion would not be present here. I knew that my hon. colleagues sitting on the other side have many wrong notions. I did not want to give them any excuse to accuse us of being hesitant in initiating this discussion. Hon. Shri Nathu Singh raised two points in his speech. One point related to the dismantling of Indian Airlines and Air India and handing them over to the private sector. I feel that the present Government too thinks likewise. I leave hon. Shri Somnath's opinion to him. I would like to close this issue by clarifying that the Congress (I) was not even in favour of appointing experts on a part-time basis in these organisations. So the question of handing it over to the private sector does not arise, because it would be contradictory to the stand that has been taken by the Parliament. I support the second suggestion given by hon. Shri Nathu Singh. You may go ahead with the setting up of a committee. There is no controversy over the cause of the aircrash. But the fact remains that there was an aircrash in Bangalore and new dimensions are being added to

the issue by the hon. Members from the other side. I have also heard their comments. We invite the Government to set up any type of committee consisting of members who are sincere and honest and let them conduct a thorough inquiry into the matter. I am pained to see that responsible persons create an atmosphere of doubt disregarding the adverse effects that it may have on the entire industry and the people working in it including the experts.

I have a press cutting with me in which it is written:

[English]

"Now, the cabinet will decide on A-320 flights"

[Translation]

This means that the cabinet will decide whether A-320 Air buses ought to be flown or not. Had I been in the hon. Minister's place I would have reacted in a similar manner as so many people were killed. The hon. Minister took a decision that all Airbus in the country will remain grounded for the time being but several other issues have cropped up in the meantime. Today passengers travelling on Indian Airlines have some doubts as a result of the statement made by a Minister in the Government that the Airbuses will remain grounded as long as all aspects related to the aircraft's air worthiness are not examined. The hon. Minister can be a political expert but not a technical expert. Even the cabinet cannot claim any technical expertise in this matter. This Government can take a political decision. If the Government has decided that the A-320 Airbus is not to be used, then these aircraft should be returned to Airbus Industries. Passengers travelling on Air India and Indian Airlines have a right to know whether the experts committee or the technical committee has cleared these Airbuses so that nothing is left to doubt. But the Government has to say this if it wants to remove the doubts from the minds of people. Otherwise people will keep wondering it it

was a technical fault that led to the Airbus crash.

Sir, Indian Airlines has to suffer a loss of nearly Rs. 3.5 crores everyday. The burden of loss is sure to increase further. But I request the Government to explain the entire history and background of this aircraft if it is to be used in India. The Government has to tell the people about the technical soundness of this aircraft. In many countries like Canada, USA, Great Britain, France, Germany, Netherlands, Jordan and India, the Airbus has been granted a certificate of airworthiness. The Federal Aviation Authority which is a competent and final authority in these matters in that country is in competition with airbus industries. So, far as I know, that Industry belongs to U.S. and this body is also a U.S. body. So, despite of so much of competition, the Federal Aviation Authority did not declare this aircraft unsafe in their country. If it was declared unsafe, the United States Government would not have given it the certificate of air worthiness. They have not expressed any doubt regarding the airworthiness of this aircraft. As regards our country it is the responsibility of the Government to let us know whether all this process of checking was completed at the time of purchase of the aircraft. But I would like to know whether we have got in our country any competent body like the Federal Aviation Authority of the U.S., which is technically well-equipped to undertake the detailed examination of all the proposals for such purchases from all angles and to give their opinion to the Government on such points whether they are worth purchasing for the purpose of their induction in to the air services in this country? So far as I know, there is a small cell under the Director General, Civil Aviation, for that purpose but it is of no use. In the first instance this cell compiles and evaluates the information made available to it by the industries regarding the airworthiness and other technical aspects of the aircraft and submits it to the Government and the Purchases Committee. This has been done not only in the case of A-320, but also in the case of Boeing at the time of their purchases. However my friends in the ruling

[Sh. Harish Rawat]

party make it convenient to stand up and demand for a technical enquiry as they think that such an enquiry will expose Rajiv Gandhi as the only person responsible for all these things. But I would like to say that Rajiv Gandhi does not figure in it as the decision of purchase was taken by a group of people which included the top bureaucrats and the representatives of all the ministries including the Finance Ministry. After such a decision, it is definitely for the political leadership to decide the name of the country from where such purchases are to be made. Every Government has that power of decision making. In this context I would like to submit that the Indian Airlines when it started initially as a public sector institution started its operations with a fleet of only two aircrafts and gradually added more aircrafts to its fleet. The same body has given recommendations in the case of A-320 and they were purchased on their recommendation only. If you have doubts regarding purchases of the aircraft made during the Congress regime, I would like to say that boeings were purchased during the Janata regime also and for that the same process was adopted. I would, therefore, like to know from the hon. Minister whether he finds any difference between the processes adopted in respect of the purchases made in 1977 and 1980? Sir, I would like to submit that certain news items appearing in the press are based on the leakage of information by some persons and parties who have got their own vested interests. For example the Ministry started leaking out certain pieces of information such as -FDR, CDR quoting and dequoting. I do not have the technical knowledge of all these things and whatever I am saying here is based on the level of understanding one can expect of a layman from the rural area. I am a simple man of village and as such I am speaking of all these technical things in that crude way. The members of pilot guild were blaming the industries and the Ministry for the premature induction of air craft without any preparedness for the same such as the construction of air strip, development of navigation system, provision of technical

expertise and hangers. They have been alleging that the Government did not take care of these aspects before going in for the purchase of aircraft. These things were said by the pilots. Can you justify it? Some people of your Ministry have gone to the extent of saying that it was because of pilot's etc. and they leaked out some valuable information. What I mean to say is that this is the impression. I am not saying that it was the mistake of the pilot as has been reported. The impression, they have tried to create is that the system was functioning in perfect order. It came down below the required level a few moments before its schedule. Such an impression has been given that it was on account of the manual handling of system that the aircraft which would have risen to greater heights, could not rise just due to some or the other reason. A simple man like me has not been able to make out of these technicalities. It was not the mistake of the Pilot. I am not talking of Shri Rajesh Pilot, but the A-320 aircraft. There was a General who might have left you by now. He was that type of intellectuals. Who come out with such articles in the press. He has written about a person named Mr. Jung, who was on the committee. He was in favour of the Boeing aircrafts. He had also made a recommendation in this regard, but for some unknown reason, the case was decided in favour of A-320. On that point he resigned from the committee and tried to give it a different colour by writing an article on it. In regard to the Ram Das Committee appointed by the Government, I would like to know whether in that committee you had such technically competent persons, who could evaluate the A-320 aircraft to detect its technical faults and see that what navigational facilities are required on this aircraft? If so, I would like to urge upon the Government to lay here in this House the minutes and deliberations of the committee. Unless and until you take that step, the doubts that have arisen in this regard will not be removed.

It was in the press that aircrafts are ready for supply from the company. I would like to request the Government to apprise us of the legal position in this regard and also

whether we can cancel the contract with that company. A preliminary committee has been appointed to examine this issue. I am not asking for a legal enquiry. However I would like to request you to tell us about the deliberations of the Ram Das Committee.

I would like to submit two more points. There was a discussion on this issue in Lok Sabha on the 30th November, 1988. In his reply to that discussion, the then Minister of Civil Aviation had categorically stated that an Experts Committee will be appointed, to look into the maintenance aspect, that is, airworthiness, limitations and competence of the aircraft. The committee will be an authority to determine these aspects. On 30 November, 1988 itself you had stated that it would be a high level committee and all its findings would be implemented into. Even on that day, the Members from both sides i.e., the ruling party and the opposition, were equally agitated. You are fortunate enough that you are not facing such Members who have infuriated to the point of bitterness but it was they who had to face a lot of them with enough of bitterness. In spite of that, they had come out with their statement in clear terms. As at present even on that day Somnath Dada was kidding his head to ask Shri Shivraj Patil whether he proposed to implement the findings of the committee into to which the latter had replied in affirmative. I would like to know whether there are any findings of this committee and if so, what are those findings and whether they have been implemented. Either you should have said that it was a useless committee or you should have said that the committee had made some important recommendations. If so, what are those recommendations. We should know about them. The whole country is agitated over the performance of Air India and Indian Airlines. However we have words of appreciation for Vayudoot, because it has endeavoured to give very good results with its limited resources. As regards Air India it does not adhere to its schedule and the same is true of Indian Airlines. Nearly 4-5 months back there was some improvement in punctuality, but today it has again come back to its earlier position. Wearing a Khadi

Kurta ... (*Interruptions*) Even one and half a year back, when the Congress to which I myself belonged as one of its members was in power was the same position because it was very difficult for a Congressman to face the scornful eyes of the people at the airport. The people used to look at us with a lot of hatred. It is the same condition again today. Today also no one can say... (*Interruptions*) Hari Kishore Babu belongs to Patna. I will consider him very lucky, if he ever reached Patna by air in time.....

AN HON. MEMBER: You have just stated that you had a feeling of appreciation for the party to which you belonged earlier. I welcome it. When are you coming to this side?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolgore): What can you do now? The Anti Defection Law is already there in force.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: In fact, you should thank us that we had enacted such a law which has protected the present Government, against their debacle, otherwise after the enactment of that law, the very first casualty would have been the National Front Government. Hence, you should thank us for this act.

I was going to request you to tell me about the steps proposed to be taken by the Government on the recommendations of the expert committee, you had constituted to give their suggestions on the safety standards. The most important thing that needs mention in this regard is that consequent upon the unfortunate incident of air crash in Ahmedabad, we had been told that the Government was evaluating the safety standards and a committee had been constituted to enquire into it and as soon it submitted its report, it would be implemented into and this House and the people of this country would be kept abreast of it. In this context, I would like to know whether any such report has been received and, so far as I know about it, to this date your Ministry has not set in the process of evaluation of that report. I would

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like to request the Government to let us know about the main recommendations and observations as contained in that report.

I would also like to draw the attention of the honorable Minister to the man power planning. In 1986 a committee on "Civil Aviation By the Turn of this Century" was constituted under the chairmanship of Shri J.R.D. Tata, perhaps the planning commission had constituted that committee which had submitted its report. I would like to request you to allow and list a discussion on that report in this House because only that report can supply us with the maximum information regarding your man power planning, safety aspect, runways, their length etc. I would request you to get a discussion initiated in the House because it involves an infructuous expenditure of crores of rupees of this country and it has taken a heavy toll of precious human lives of this country and has rendered an innumerable number of families helpless who have lost their breadwinners in air mishaps. (*Interruptions*) Hence it is not the question as to since when it is happening but whenever it is happening, it is unfortunate and the most unfortunate thing is that you are trying to look at it from a political angle. However, one thing I would like to say very clearly that for God's sake it should not happen but there is no guarantee to it that under a particular regime, there will be no accidents. Always keep that thing in your mind before you say anything. Political interruptions do continue, light sarcastic remarks are also the part of such discussions, you may say from your own angle, we may see it from a different angle but the facts cannot be falsified. Civil Aviation Ministry has always been trying to evade this thing and in Civil Aviation Ministry there has always been a conflict between the technical wing of Air India or Indian Airlines and the staff of the Ministry. Your Government is an open Government which takes no time to take a decision. It has proved so open that it has its demoralising effect on the employees of Indian Airlines. Besides that, the conflict which was there between the technical staff

and the management is going on as usual.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the proposal of pilot's training also contained the suggestion for Engineers' training, so that A-320 aircraft could be operated. For that matter, engineers wanted some more facilities. So a tussle continued between them and the management. During elections and even after elections, you had held out an assurance that you would find a way out to solve their problems but nothing has been done in this regard. As at present, you have come to such a pass that you are running Indian Airlining with a part-time MD. I would like to request the honourable Minister to take two immediate steps to boost the morale of the industry. If you want to prove yourself to be an open Government, the very first thing you should do is to publish all the information you have regarding this aircraft. Please take initiative to bring out all the facts that have been hitherto concealed from the people of this country and also to bring to light the stages at which mistakes had been committed. Don't try to resort to politicking at least in this matter.

If you do that in the matter of aircraft, it will also reflect in the case of human lives. Please do not look at all these things from a political angle but be kind enough to see it as the head of a family, as the head of the family of Indian Airlines under the Civil Aviation Ministry. Hence the question that concerns most is as to under whose regime, we had gone in for that purchase and also which of our officials and technical experts were associated with it. Who had made their contribution from the stage of evaluation to the stage of actual purchase. We have no right to blame all these people.

The second thing I would like to urge upon through you is that if you are bold enough, if you have to set up inquiry, to raise their morale, you should get that inquiry done through an organisation to which I have referred and which is known to be the world's highest authority in that field. I am talking of Federal Aviation Authority because you have cordial relations with that country. By that

word you I don't mean you but your Government. Even otherwise, you have engaged that authority for various non-official investigations. That is why I would request you to get this official enquiry conducted by this organisation. However, whenever you receive its report, kindly let us know about the exact position in respect of this aircraft. Unless you do that, it will continue to affect the morale of the people. More affected will be those who have to travel by this aircraft. Moreover, other unnecessary misgivings will also harm the interests of that. I would also like you to make it clear as to who has been held responsible for this recurring heavy loss of crores of rupees.

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): Sir, a tragic unfortunate accident has taken place and we must appreciate the endeavours which the youthful Minister has taken very energetically immediately upon the accident, not only to see that the people who were wounded were given medical treatment and to do something for the relatives of the dead but also to institute several Inquiries on the day of the accident itself.

One was the appointment of the Inspector, that is, an official of the DGCA was appointed on the 14th itself, the day of the accident. Then the Cockpit Voice Recorder and DFDR were also received, and DFDR was sent abroad for decoding and the CVR was also taken for transcribing. Then the announcement of appointment of a court of inquiry headed by a High Court Judge of Karnataka was also made the same day, although it was formalised a little later. And then a technical committee was set up with S.S. Ramdass, Air Marshal, heading it to evaluate on the state of preparedness of the Indian Airlines for the safe operation of A-320. This is, of course, a belated step. This step should have been taken by the previous government before it decided to induct these planes of India to be run by the Indian Airlines and not having done so, the previous Government can be said to be criminally negligent of the safety of passengers which

its public sector, the Indian Airlines was due to carry by using these aircraft. Why this happened? Why this Government was in a hurry? It appears to all of us that the Government was in a hurry to induct these aircraft or acquire these aircraft. At the time of acquisition or at the time of entering into an agreement it appeared to be in a hurry. Why I say this is because in 1981-82 the Indian Airlines Planning Group came to the finding that the Indian Airlines required many more aircraft because the traffic growth was to the extent of doubling the traffic every five years. So, they recommended acquisition of aircraft to take care of 12 percent growth per annum. That was in 1981-82. Then a Committee was set up. Under Air Marshal Dilbagh Singh to evaluate the aircraft then available. The Committee gave its Report in 1982 or 1983 having evaluated four aircraft which were then available. These four aircraft were a Fokker-100, a British Aerospace aircraft-124, Boeing-757 and Airbus-310 which was under use in Air India at that time. Sir, having gone into the relative ability of these aircraft and having regard to the nature of traffic, the nature of Air Force in India and everything, all the technical requirement, this High Powered Committee after a long deliberation chose one aircraft, i.e. Boeing-757 and in 1984 this recommendation was made and the letter of intent was issued to Boeing in 1984 itself. Thereafter things did not seem to move so far as the acquisition of Boeing aircraft are concerned. Things were delayed and people were surprised as to why things were not moving. And then in 1985 an offer came from Airbus industry in respect of this aircraft A-320 which was still on the drawing board; not a single plane had flown at that time. As soon as the offer came, it came in, I understand and I may be corrected if I am wrong, to the Prime Minister directly and it was under the instruction of the Government or under the instruction of the Prime Minister I do not know, the Prime Minister's office sent this offer to the Indian Airlines. The Indian Airlines promptly set up a technical cell for evaluation of this offer of the aircraft which was still on the drawing board. This technical cell was headed by an officer of the Indian Airlines, Captain B.K.Bhasin. But, I

[Sh. Amal Datta]

understand again I may be corrected—he was Flying Instructor of the previous Prime Minister. Similarly, two other such previous Flying Instructors of the previous Prime Minister were in positions of authority in Indian Airlines at that time. One was the Chairman and the other was the Managing Director and the third one Captain B.K. Bhasin was heading this cell. This cell came to a very prompt conclusion that it was the fittest aircraft for India. They did not ask the evaluation in the same matter by the Dilbagh Singh Committee. Indian Airlines had the option of sending it for evaluation to the Dilbagh Singh Committee, but it did not send. So, Naturally suspicion had developed as to what was, in fact, happening. In the year 1985, this process was started and it ended up in an agreement. Then the letter of intent was issued so far as the Boeing was concerned. The Boeing company made a fresh offer in respect of another plane which they were bringing out. That was not accepted. Then the agreement was entered into, the the fateful month of March, 1986, because it was in the same month the agreement with Bofors was also concluded. Two Ministries of the Government of India were rushing, competing with each other to finalise agreements in the month of March, 1986.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Who was the then Finance Minister who gave clearance? (Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Something more is to come later. (Interruptions) I think it is the time that the agreement should be laid on the Table of the House so that we would know what exactly had happened. In the agreement it was stipulated, I am told, that the aircraft would be delivered to India between April, 1989 and June, 1990. The agreement was entered into for 19 aircrafts and the agreement had an option clause for 12 more aircrafts. The first of the 19 aircrafts were to arrive in India in April, 1989, but the committee in 1981-82 had said that every five years, there must be a doubling of Indian Airlines fleet. I am not supporting that kind of invest-

ment, but this is what the committee had said and this is what that had prompted the Indian Airlines and the Government of India to approve the purchase of so many aircrafts. But, what happened between 1985 and 1989? Boeing was prepared to supply; the letter of intent was sent to it in 1984. The agreement would have been entered into in 1985 and the Boeing would have supplied the plane in 1986. But, from 1986 to 1989, the traffic will go up and who will cater to it? So, a stipulation was made in the agreement that the Airbus Industries will supply 12 planes and if they fail to do so, then there will be a compensation. In fact, they supplied only four planes, two Airbus 300s and two Boeing 757s. Out of these, two became non-operational and atleast one had crashed. The Boeing 757 had crashed while taking off from the Madras Airport soon after its arrival in India. The other planes were not supplied. The other option was to pay the compensation which they did. But the compensation money was very low, as compared to the rise in the air charter price. That is what was resorted to by the Airbus, as a result, the Indian air passengers were to suffer. There were delays and break-down of service between 1986 and 1989 till these planes were inducted in the Indian Airlines. The people who took the decision deliberately to delay the increase of fleet of Indian Airlines, by at least three years, knew very well that how the Indian Airlines passengers would suffer. They made the passengers suffer. Possibly, one has to suspect that they had something to gain any by entering into one agreement with one company and not any agreement with another company. This suspicion is further heightened because of the fact that in 1988, when the first Airbus, A-320 came into service for the first time anywhere in the world, on June 26, there was a crash in Air Show and the pilot who was then flying the plane was chief Test Pilot of Airbus Industry. He himself had a crash there. In a very similar situation, this crash in Bangalore took place. He was flying low at a height of 100 feet or so and he could not take the Plane up. The incident which took place the other day was practically similar in nature. From the transcript of Cockpit Voice Re-

order, it is apparent, they were trying to push the plane up all the time and the joystick was pushed to the extreme even manually. The computer also sent out the message for the plane to fly up but it did not. Maybe, there is a system-failure in the plane. Otherwise why did the plane in France crash? That plane in France had a different engine than this one.

Now, this story of engine is something else. We had deliberately decided not only to go for a plane which would make its first appearance or first flight only one year before its induction in India but also for the engine which would be flying practically, for the first time anywhere in the world. This engine V-2500 was a new engine. They tried this experiment on us and we suffered. Our people died.

There are 19 such planes in the world, out of which 15 have been delivered to India. Out of the remaining four two were delivered to Yugoslavia and two to Cyprus. They are not flying. Planes were made and supplied to those countries but they are not flying.

This engine was being developed for the first time. It has not been tried in the plane. One day immediately after it was certified, the engine was fitted into the aircraft. So, the operational difficulties were not tried out. No doubt, the engine was tried out in a static position but when the engine is put in the aeroplane, it may behave in a different way.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You have finished the aircraft industry in the country.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: When we went ahead with the idea of acquisition of the plane after 1988, after the crash took place in France, should we not have been cautious about it? Should we not have enquired what has gone wrong with the plane with the Chief Test Pilot piloting it? Our pilot was not worried. Our pilot was very sluggish in his own behaviour because the agreement was made in March, 1966.

Then what is strange, two days after the crash took place in France, a meeting was held in India with the Minister in the Chair to decide on whether we shall go on with option or not, whether we have exercised the option or not to purchase the other 12 planes. Although a very junior officer had the courage to bring to the notice of the Chair i.e., the Minister, that the crash had taken place in France, the facts are not known, an enquiry has been instituted. Should we not wait for the report? The answer was 'No'. We have to go ahead because there are instructions from above. So, we have to go ahead." So, they went ahead and decided to exercise the option and this option was exercised in September-October, 1989, with the election just one month away.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Another Bofors.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Wonderful. Why did you do that? They had delayed. They had, in fact, to option within the stipulated time. They had delayed it. They thought they might lose in the elections. I insist the present Government and the present Ministry to try to cancel the order. It is the first thing to do, to cancel that option.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): The option came much earlier.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: You consult them. What is the justification for going for this as opposed to the Boeing 757? The first justification is its fuel efficiency.

Further justification is that it can land in shorter runway because it requires a short runway.

Further are the two justifications. So far as the fuel efficiency is concerned, it depends entirely on V-2500 engine. It is untested engine. It was only a theoretical estimate. How did we know that it was really fuel efficient since it was still in the drawing board?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It was money efficient.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Government entered into agreement in March, 1986. This engine got the certificate in June, 1988 or some time in 1988. But did we know at that time in 1986 March or even before that? Decision must have been taken much before the agreement was signed. How do we know at that time that the engine will become fuel efficient by 7% or whatever? What happened with regard to the runway?

The other justification is this plane could land in the short runway. But, in fact, it had to be fitted with extra wheels. Under-carriage has to be reinforced. This was the result of putting extra wheels, to get extra friction. Extra fitting of equipment made the plane heavier to increase friction. More wheels means more friction. It will stop in a shorter runway.

18.00 hrs.

Otherwise, it would not. The specification given by Airbus originally—on the basis of which we had entered into agreement was wrong so far as the run-way requirement is concerned. We will have to extend the same run-way for this plane. What did we do? What did we do to make this plane operational? Did we not do anything? Now, the inquiry is being made. But at that time did we not know anything? Did we not know what this plane's requirements are? Did we not know what this sophisticated equipment requires? I am told that the avionics of this plane is the same as has been supplied by Mirage-2000 which we bought sometime ago. I am told that the Airforce stores the Mirage in the Air-conditioned hangers. I do not know about it. But certainly we do not have air-conditioned hangers. We used to see earlier also and even now we see that the A-320 planes are lying in the tarmac in Delhi airport and in many other airports. They are just out in the open. They are not even kept in the hangers. This special engine apparently was fitted to this. There is a separate unit to run the air-condition to keep the aircraft cool. Air-condition is necessary

because the computers are there. The computers have to be kept cool. I am told that the APU coils have always given troubles. As a result of this, the air-condition did not work and as a result of this, the computers were not trouble free. It may be a reason as to why they have been given erratic signals even earlier much before this accident occurred. There were a lot of warnings from the aircraft engineers about the erratic behaviour of the planes. They were not treated seriously. It is very unfortunate that these lives have to be lost to satisfy the greed of some people and because of the negligence of others. An inquiry has been instituted on the technical aspects. But the inquiry should also embrace the whole idea of acquisition, the people who were involved in this conspiracy, who inflated their specifications of this plane... (Interruptions) So, the entire agreement for acquisition of these planes should be gone into, should be enquired into by very competent people as quickly as possible. It should not be like the inquiry Committee headed by Shri Shankaranand which took one year. It should not be like that. We want an inquiry, swift inquiry by competent people and it should be completed within three to four months.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): It should not be a tailor-made report. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Should you be appointed the Chairman?

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Shivhar): Rawat Sahib will do the job.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: We all could be appointed as Chairman and we may go ahead with the process of inquiry.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: If it is agreeable, we will make Shri Harish Rawat as Chairman. He has already made it clear. (Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER: We are agreeable to that. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI AMAL DATTA: The point is that the Government which had preferred this plane had not made it possible for the plane to run economically in this country by not making very small investments on the mechanised handling of the luggage, the containers' luggage. They have not put in money for the mechanised ladders, motorised ladders etc. As a result of that, the plane's stand around time is more than that of the other plane which carries many more passengers. Its capacity is 255 I think. In this plane it carries only 160 or so. So, it cannot run economically. Moreover, they have done nothing to get the workshop ready, to get the cooling ready, to get the storage space ready. The biggest folly of this has been that they have delayed the training of the air-crew, the pilots and the engineers because of small differences, small disputes which were allowed to be protracted over the years. There was a gap of four years. We entered into the agreement in the year 1985-86. In 1989 March or April, the planes were delivered. A clear gap of three years in which we utilised only one year or less to get our crew trained in France. Some of this training was very constructive. Some things have come out, not all, which show that the training was not really adequate. I am not going into that aspect because that will take more time and I do not have enough material on that.

What has come out in the newspaper shows that there is a suspicion about the adequacy of training because of shortage of time. Under these circumstances, I think, we must all demand an enquiry into this. I am very glad that Shri Harish Rawat has also agreed to join with me in demanding an enquiry not only on the technical aspects but also on the acquisition of this entire plane. The entire acquisition procedure and everything should be gone into. And if we are all joining, I think the Minister will kindly, while replying, announce such an enquiry to be set up.

SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV (Sitamarhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, as a routine, we hold a discussion in this House on any accident be it an air mishap or a road or water accident, we have been discussing all these things here and during the course of discussion we also hold out an assurance that we will conduct an inquiry into the matter but after every investigation, we come to a conclusion and as a result, the weakest person who is not in a position to reply, is held responsible and convicted in one way or the other. In this entire process, we see that the aircraft took off, and now it is pilot who dies in the accident for the fault of his own or for the fault of somebody else, and after his death, he will not come back to life to tell us that it was not due to his fault or the fault of some machinery or due to some other reason that the accident took place. Now it is left to us and we may hold him responsible for that accident, that will close the chapter because during investigation no one is able to go to ask the pilot who has already died in the accident. However, if there is a way to go to and ask him, I would suggest to send definitely someone to ask him but it is not possible. So there is something wrong. Hence we will have to give a serious thought to all the points that have been raised here in this house because all of us who are to run the Government, the administration or have to lead a public life are being blamed vehemently for the sale and procurement and various other things such as the mishap of aircraft. The persons have died in the accidents now they are no more here but we are earning a bad name on that account and there is no end to it. So the Government will have to come forward with some solution of the problem otherwise a time will come when the people will have no faith in this house or on the verdict of any commission or over the findings of a committee. Suppose something happens due to ourselves then the people will believe that there must be some bungling in it. It is assuming such a horrible dimension that whatever you do, whatever be the conditions of purchase of whatever be the terms of dealings with a foreign company, people

[Sh. Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav]

will think that there must be some fraud in it. I would like to know as to how far it will continue and the life of the people will be put to stake. It is not only the question of an air crash but that of its effect it has left on the minds of the people of India regarding the administration of the Government and the political leadership which has created ultimately an air of distrust. Hence it needs our serious consideration as to where all these things will lead us and the people of this country.

So, many hon. Members and scholars are here in this House, and all of them have told that a committee was constituted and it had submitted its report, but what is the outcome of it. The issue would be discussed as to why a particular plane was purchased and why not the other one but where such things will lead to? Ultimately in his answer the hon. Minister will say that a committee has been constituted to look into the matter. But how that committee would be constituted, ultimately the members of the Committee will be picked from amongst our countrymen only, then it will be asked that there should be some technical experts in the committee, but wherefrom the technical experts would come except that some official of the Air India or Indian Airlines will be taken into the Committee as a technical expert. This proves a very well known saying in our village—"Bap Kharidar, Beta Dalal, to Bail ka Dam Barah Anna"—Somebody came to sell his bull in the village market, where father posed himself as purchaser and his son become broker, then ultimately the poor villager was made to sell his bull just for 12 Annas. Likewise the same people who are either in the politics, or the Government or in the administration are themselves the purchasers, and the technical experts, they are the only one who have purchased this plane and made the payments, they are the one who have taken the kickbacks in the deal and they are the one who will sold it as an agent, and now they are the ones who are delivering speeches in this regard where this process will ultimately culminate. This has

become the "cheer" of Dropadi:

"Nari hai ki sari, Sari Hai Ki Nari Hai,
Nari Beech Sari Hai, Sari Beech Nari Hai"

The same person is purchasing the plane, the same is arranging the deal, and the same is constituting a committee. The same is influencing the decision of the committee, the same person has taken the kickbacks and the same person is responsible for the accidents, and now the same person is making other people to ask questions to which hon. Minister is now replying. What I mean to say is that people remain same.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have never travelled by an aeroplane. When I listened about the Airbus, I thought it must be some kind of a bus, like the one in our villages, which is when overcrowded and when no place is left inside for us, we often climb its roof. So we thought that likewise when no place will be left on board the Airbus, we can travel on its roof as well. But fortunately I came across an educated and scholarly gentlemen like our Hari Kishoreji, who appraised me of the fact that though its name is airbus, it is not like a bus, its use is different. So, its use is that when a small aeroplane is purchased, less kickbacks are received, and when a big one is purchased, huge kickbacks are received. So when planes for Vayudoot are purchased, small kickbacks are received whereas purchase of this air bus might have brought huge kickbacks viz the maximum. But now the Airbus has been grounded. We are told that the manufacturing company will not take it back, so it is also suggested that it should be sold.

But I am unable to follow as to when this airbus has met an accident, and so much uproar has been made in this House on this incident and the technical anomalies of the aircraft, then how can you expect that anybody in this world be so foolish as to be unaware of all this? Or it may be that such a person doesn't listen to the radio or watch television and thus remains unaware of all the uproar that has been made in the Indian Parliament over its technical faults—as how

can you expect anybody to be so foolish or magnanimous purchase this airbus and who would say that if we will not be able to operate it, we will keep it in our godown. Who will take this burden of India over his head? Who will be such a fool? This is not even like that house to which Shri Hari Kishore may shift on the banks of Bagmati river to keep his cattle, because it is not suitable for this purpose either. Nobody is going to purchase it? So talking about it is sheer nonsense. So I again urge that if this can be sold out, sell it out, or return it to the company which has manufactured it. Shri Harish Rawat has been talking in the language of a village bumpkin who says that bump your head into the buffalo, either the enemy will die, or your head will be broken. In case there was any technical fault in the aircraft, the Government must hold responsible all those from whom the airbus was purchased, on whose recommendations it was purchased and the members of the Committee who approved the deal. They should be convicted and the entire amount should be recovered from them by confiscating all their house, land, property and other assets. The Government have given compensation to all those who were killed in the accident. There has been a loss of crores of rupees as a result of this accident including the amount of compensation. There is a saying in our village "Doosare Ke Mathe Par Sab Apna Ghar Banate hain, Apne mathe per Padta hai tab pata chalata hai." The airbus worth crores of rupees was destroyed in the accident. In my view a very deadly game is being played in our country. Government exchequer is over burdened because of payment of compensation in such accidents. All this money should be recovered from those who are responsible for this accident.

I have listened to the speech of hon. Shri Nathu Ram. We are socialists. So when such things are talked about, we become restless. He said that airlines should be run by the private sector. This is what Birla, Tata and other such big capitalists which. Such people who have no faith in socialist philosophy, who have no commitment to it and who really do not desire that socialism should

come in this country, wish that there should be no place for public sector in our country, and such people have sneaked into the administration also and are consciously trying to malign the public sector so that our people's faith in it could be shattered. This is not the question for which there should be any clash among us that this should be taken away from the public sector and assigned to the private sector, instead we should declare war on such elements and find them out who have no commitment to socialism, change for better and the establishment of a new order and a new era. All those who oppose to such things, should be eased out of the administration.

My last point is that the previous Government has committed many mistakes. They had installed persons of private sector as Chairmen of Public sector organisations. We should think both with our mind and heart, i.e. emotions and intellect. If one is a socialist intellectually, and not in heart, one can't hope that he would lead this country on the path of socialism. With this much, I conclude.

SHRI SHIKIHO SEMA (Nagaland): Sir, I will take only a few minutes as other Members are also to speak on this subject.

It is very sad that such an accident took place at Bangalore and many lives were lost. I would like to talk about the matters connected therewith. The decision to suspend Airbus-320 by the Government has particularly affected the North-East region of our country. There used to be seven flights to Dimapur in Nagaland in a week. But after the suspension of A-320 Heights these seven flights have been reduced to only four flights. And those flights also depend upon the whims of the pilots. There is no sufficient air service in our part of the country, namely, Nagaland which is the remotest part of the country. I cannot go and come back from my constituency. It takes two days for me to go to Nagaland and two days to come back. I cannot spend four days travelling by air. Because of this problem, I could not visit my constituency. The General Secretary of the

[Sh. Shikiho Sema]

Janata Dal, an hon. Member of Parliament, Mr. Subodh Kant, who is assigned to topple the Congress (I) Government in Nagaland, also could not do his job because of the irregularity of the flights. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, while he replies, as to whether he would improve the air service and give more number of flights to the North-east, particularly to Dimapur of Nagaland, if not seven, at least five to six flights. You have suspended the Delhi-Guwahati evening flight. This is all because of the suspension of the airbus 320. What is going to be the alternative decision of the Government if it is going to discontinue the airbus 320? People are suffering because of this irregularity. Unwillingly, I have to say that the Cabinet Minister is sleeping over the recommendations of the expert committee on airbus 320. You have not yet taken any decision. The morale of the airline services is very low ever since its inception in our country. Let this august House know as to what is the alternative so that people will not doubt the services of the airlines.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHANDEV (Tripura West): Sir, we are discussing today one of the most tragic air accident in the history of civil aviation, which happened on 14th March, 1990. The Minister in charge is my good friend, Shri Arif Mohammad Khan. I must appreciate the promptness of their action like identifying the bodies, etc. with the cooperation of the Karnataka Government. And today, our Members are criticising the deal through which the airbus was purchased. Some people have doubted the bonafide of the recent Government while making this purchase. I do not know whether it was a correct or a wrong decision. I have read in the Press, which appeared in the name of the hon. Minister that an inquiry has been started? on the purchase of this particular aircraft. Subsequently, I saw in the debate of the Rajya Sabha that he has denied that he had not said anything like that. Today, I heard from some of my friends that the Government have lodged an FIR against certain persons in this particular deal. I do

not know how far it is correct. I expect the hon. Minister to throw some light on this aspect. This is not the question of a particular Government or a particular person. This is the question of the airlines. Shri Kukumdeo Narayan Yadav has said that the bus moves on the road. And I say that when we go by air, we depend on the efficiency of the engine, of the pilots who are controlling the aircraft and on the efficiency of the persons who are working in the control tower. When the plane takes off or when it lands, we depend on all these persons. This particular aircraft, which is known as fly-by-wire, is supposed to be one of the best aircrafts purchased in 1990. We have heard Shri Amal Datta; we have heard Shri Nathu Singh and we have heard others also. We have also seen various press reports and editorials. I have got a few editorials with the head lines as Disaster Area, After the Crash and the third is against the hon. Minister, where they have they said that it was a hasty and illogical decision to ground these aircrafts so quickly without getting the report of the expert Committee. According to the editorial, this was not correct.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Which paper?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: MP Chronicle... (Interruptions)

I have to share the views which have been expressed by the press. I am not saying that the press editorial is right or wrong. This Airbus has been purchased for a few crores of rupees and now we are incurring everyday a loss of Rs. 2.5 crores and for this there are certain pending orders with the company. The hon. Minister has to take a decision today, tomorrow or day after, whether this aircraft will be put into operation again. And if so, on what considerations? It is not kickbacks, he must be relying on some expert people. The judicial enquiry is there; the Ram Das Committee has been formed. I also saw in the newspaper that the Pilots Association has met you and they have demanded that if you want them to operate these aircrafts, you must share with them the

finding of the black box, the voice recorder and the other equipment which is known as DFDR... (*Interruptions*) They wanted the information to be shared with them. I would like to know whether you are going to share that with them.

I have seen in your speech in the Rajya Sabha you have said that you cannot share that information with the Members of Parliament. I agree, but I would like to know whether you are going to share that particular information which is available from the black box with the pilots, who are supposed to operate these aircrafts in future.

According to today's newspaper, special training is being imparted to these pilots who are supposed to run these aircrafts. I would like to know how many of these pilots were initially sent in the foreign countries for training, and how many having been trained within the country and how many in other countries. Shri Amal Datta has given a figure saying that Cyprus is utilizing two aircrafts and no other country. But according to this paper clipping, which has been given by the Parliament Library, there is a news saying that this particular Airbus Company, which is a subsidiary of a consortium company of British, France and West Germany has procured on order for 520 aircrafts.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Engines.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I may be wrong, but that is what I have read. Newspaper clippings are with me and these talk of 520. Shri Amal Datta has raised another question. The engine which has been accepted by the Government of India is an engine which was on trial and during the trial period that engine has been bought and is being used in the aircrafts in our country. During the trial period there was no crash. There was an air show in Paris and there this crash had happened. I may be wrong. But this acrimony of making Commissions and punishing Shri Rajiv Gandhi will go. The previous Janta Government also did the same thing and you are also doing it. If you love to do it, you do it but what you experi-

enced in 1979-80, you will again experience the same thing in future. As a Member, I would like to know from the Minister whether he is going to implement the Report of the Expert Committee after the Inquiry Report comes. Today, you have passed the Commission of Inquiry (Amendment) Bill. So, I am sure the Report will come to the House. Till today we have not received the Report of the accident that occurred in Ahmadabad. I would also like to know whether you will submit that report also before the House.

Sir, I had the opportunity of going by Airbus A-320 one day. It was an afternoon flight from Delhi to Calcutta. After going about half an hour the pilot announced that because of bad weather in Calcutta, we are going back. Subsequently, when I landed Calcutta in the night by some other flight, I asked the Airport people as to whether the weather in Calcutta was bad. They said that the weather was not bad but because of some technical snag in the airbus, it was taken back. We are told that in this aircraft the machine is more smarter than man. It is known to be an aircraft of 90s. Sir, can a developing country like India afford to have an aircraft which is known as 'Fly by Wire'. It was rightly said by Shri Amal Datta that some countries are utilising air-conditioned hangers. While replying in Rajya Sabha, you said that it is for the convenience of the crew and the engineers. But if I travel by an aircraft, I at least expect the comfort of landing safely. What is being said in the House is that it was wrong purchase. Now, the question is, whether the Government of India—the then Government of which I was the Minister—was justified in purchasing the aircraft; if not then I would like to know why this propaganda is there. If it was a mistake then what action are you going to take because it is learnt that the evaluation was done by a group of technicians and officials. I would like to know under what circumstances they were forced to purchase it. As a Member, I would like to have a specific answer from you. You can take as much time as you like but we will be happy to know the facts. I would like you to share with us honestly and sincerely the background under which the

[Sh. Sontosh Mohan Dev]

purchase was made. Some people say that it is one of the best aircrafts because of its handling by computer and various other advanced equipments. I am told that when this aircraft takes off and comes to a certain heights from the landing place, i.e. from Tarmac, even then if you want to take it up in the air, you cannot, it is the computer who will dictate everything. In our country there are many airports whose walls are broken; where sometimes cows enter and sometimes Jeeps also are parked. We have seen that it happen in our Airports. There are mechanics and other who are not experts, will be sometimes present there. I know about an incident. When I was travelling by a Boeing, in Silchar Airport, the whole area was under water. The pilot did not know it. Probably the communication was not there. The aircraft tried to land there but it did not and it took off in such a manner that our lives were saved. The credit really goes to the pilot for saving us. Then, we were diverted to Imphal. Generally, in such cases, the pilots should be informed of bad weathers. But for some reason or other—probably he might not have agreed with the Civil Aviation staff—he did not land there and we were taken to Imphal. But in this aircraft—I have been told when it lands, it will not listen to anybody, but it will straightaway land. It will land either ten years away or ten years behind. I have been told that its general efficiency is the best when it reaches certain altitude or certain temperature. In certain temperature, it behaves like a very obstinate lady by not behaving quite well. Because of this, I have been told that the pilots are objecting. This is the main cause. So, let us know what steps you are taking to train our pilots who are running these aircraft and also the engineers who are working on the ground for looking after these aircraft?

My friend Mr. Pal is very much interested to know whether an FIR has been lodged or not. Even if my name is there, I don't mind. Because I am one of those people who believe that if somebody has done anything wrong whatever any be his position he should be punished. I do not

believe in mud-slinging without any rhyme or reason.

Mr. Amal Datta has taken the names of individuals. It is the duty of the Minister to inform the House, either today or tomorrow or after six months, whether that particular individual is involved in it or not. He has to inform us. It is because, Mr. Amal Datta has taken the name of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi. We would also like to know whether Mr. Rajiv Gandhi is responsible for taking such a decision. I do not want any answer today because he is already making enquiries. Let him do it. It is because, he had also worked under Mr. Rajiv Gandhi for quite sometime. I have full faith in him.

What about Justice Mathew Commission's Report? Today, you have passed a Bill. I don't want to make any criticism here. If you publish such Reports, it will give lot of information to the passengers. Generally the impression of the passenger is that, when he travels, he always feels that he will be safe, if there is an accident. The passenger who is sitting next to him may die. But there are passengers who are experts in this line because they might be travelling in the aircraft for years together. I have also heard their experience. It is not the case of only A-320s. It is a fact that according to our climate, according to our weather conditions and according to our cyclonic hazards, even the airports in the Metropolitan cities are not equipped with all the equipments that are necessary.

Now, I will refer to a news item published in a paper in America. In that paper, it is mentioned and I quote"

" One of the cheapest airlines in the world is the Indian Airlines. You equally get the cheapest service from them."

If this is a fact, then I think the life is also considered to be the cheapest by the Indian Airlines. How many accidents have occurred? A man pays a huge amount and flies in your aircraft. If you try to fix responsibility on Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and Sontosh Mohan Dev, then

I think, you will not be doing justice. It is because, as a Minister, it is not proper to fix a full responsibility on him. An hon. Member has very rightly said that on the very first day when you took over as the Minister, you started dealing with the Engineers. You also made an appeal to them for withdrawing their strike which they heard. They withdrew their strike and started working. In the Calcutta airport it was there. Subsequently, when I met the engineers, they said: 'Our Minister is not as good as we thought.' I asked: 'Why?' They said: 'We thought he was a Minister; he would go by his own conscience. But when the officers briefed him, unfortunately what we had desired was not fulfilled. He has again become the victim of the officials; because the officials are with Rajiv Gandhi; or the officials are with Vishwanath Pratap Singh. They have got their own system of guiding Ministers. We know it as Ministers. They will at times say: 'Sir, you can do it; but you have to raise the price of the ticket'. (Interruptions)

But the engineers must get their due share, because there is an ill-feeling between the pilots and the engineers. As a result, many a time the victims are the passengers. They fight with each other for very petty reasons. Whenever they fight, it is the outflow of some dispute in their salaries, in their perquisites and other things.

You have grounded Airbus-320. We expect you to answer during your reply as to how soon the inquiry commission report will come; or the report of the Ramdas Committee will come. In between, what are the arrangements which you are going to make? If you do not go in for these A-320 again, and if you continue your air service with the present fleet of aircraft, the passengers will suffer. The waiting list is long. The Airbus fare, the airfare and the train fare have become more or less the same. So, people would like to travel in spite of the fact that your average of waiting and cancellation is 5 hours or 6 hours every day. I do not blame you. It is sometimes due to weather. If one aircraft is not working, it affects another 10 or 15. So, kindly let us know if you decide to

ground these aircrafts for a further period because you have said in the Rajya Sabha that by June, you will get the final findings of this inquiry commission. And if, till then, these pilots are not willing to run these aircrafts, what steps are you going to take? In the past, I have seen that some aircrafts were leased out by certain countries to India—namely Boeings. Are you going in for it? Or, what arrangements are you going to make? We would like to know, because we are suffering very much for this particular reason.

Lastly, before any further accidents occur, I would also like to know what steps you are taking about the Dornier aircrafts. The other day I was travelling from Guwahati to Lilabari. I am not that much God-fearing; but that flight made me remember God and Allah all the time, the way the Dornier was shivering and dancing from Guwahati to Lilabari, it gave music, a dancing style while it pounced; and it gave an appetizer to the passengers so well; and it was suffocating. Since you are looking into this, do not wait for an accident and then decide. you have taken some decision about the performance of the aircrafts. you are taking some decision about A-320. About the Dornier aircraft also, either it should be replaced, or something should be done about it. (Interruptions)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Should I ground it?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: You, can ground it; but don't ground me. That is my only request.

AN HON. MEMBER: You have already been grounded.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I am not yet grounded. You were grounded there. The Opposition has got a part to play. Why are you so much suffocated when we are here? You wanted to go there. We want to be here for five years. Let us play our role. You play your role; and let us play our role. You are supporting this Government. (Interruptions)

[Sh. Sontosh Mohan Dev]

Mr. Amal Datta, please allow us to speak. (*Interruptions*) You should encourage us. You are more worried about us. (*Interruptions*) We are not worried. We are ready to work in the Opposition. As a constructive Opposition, we are going to support the amendment of the Constitution tomorrow. We will continue to support any good work by this Government. So, why are you worried? Do you want to come to an adjustment with us? If so, speak to my leader, and not to me. (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: We do not want to make any adjustment with you. (*interruptions*)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV. Then, all right.

So, before concluding, I request the hon. Minister to tell us—the Inquiry Committee Report which had been done by Justice whose name I do not know—when will it be laid on the Table of the House? How long will you take to take a decision about the 320 Airbus coming into operation? If it does not come into operation, what action are you taking to see that the passengers are not made to suffer either by leasing aircraft from other countries or by buying new aircrafts which are tested aircraft, not air craft of confusion. Apart from that, what steps are you taking to share the information with regard to that box? The pilots have categorically told that unless they know the cause of the accident, they would not run it. I would also like to know about the news which was leaked out in certain papers especially in the *Indian Express*, which is the holy Bible for many of you, saying that the error of the engine was the main reason. Another paper has said that it is not the error of the engine; it is the error of the pilot. So, let us know what is the actual error or you tell us that now a conclusive decision has been arrived at, and we can wait for it. Let not the people be so much shaky about it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Hon'ble Sir, in fact the airbus accident has rocked the entire nation. It was necessary to have discussion on this subject in order to get the facts and to take action thereon. After listening to this discussion, I feel that had it been Lord Rama's time, he would not have been forced to go to forest and wander with Sitaji for 14 years, as the inquiry into the causes itself would have taken 14 years. Even since Dr. Homi Bhabha died in a plane crash 25 years ago, there have been quite a few air accident. In spite of this, if we say that the accident occurred as a result of failure on our part to take precautions, it would be like saying that we fell prey to theft as we did not lock the doors, and then conducting an inquiry into the causes of theft instead of trying to find out as to why the doors were not locked. There are a number of technicalities involved in the matter and I have no knowledge about them. I would like to ask some questions from the hon. Minister through you on the basis of my knowledge which I have gained through newspapers. If the entire matter is investigated, a greater fraud than that of Bofors may come to light. The way the deal was finalised, it is likely that the inquiry will bring to light certain hidden facts. A deal worth Rs. 2500 crores is by no means a small deal and the amount of commission involved in it can be easily guessed. When the deal was finalised, we knew nothing about either the aircraft or the technical aspects involved. If I am wrong, the hon. Minister may correct me. It was said that the air-conditioned hanger was necessary for it. But just now an hon. Member said that it was not so. I may be wrong but the truth must come out. The Tata Committee had recommended that these planes should not be purchased. But the Government went ahead with the deal. In all, 15 planes were to be purchased. This deal was struck under special circumstances because immediately before that the deal for 757 Boeing was cancelled. Therefore, the suspicion is natural. With a view to clearing the stock of inferior products, big companies lay a pre-condition that its inferior products should

also be bought along with the superior ones. At the time of finalising the deal for the purchase of these aircraft France had promised to supply heavy water to India. I want to know whether it was a fact and if so, what kind of inquiry has been conducted in this regard and what has been the progress so far? Some information about it has come through the press, but the then hon. Minister Shri Shivraj V. Patil had said that though the number of the aircraft was 46, the number of flights being operated was 50 and, naturally, this caused problems in maintenance. I would like to mention some points in this connection. In the event of accidents, inquiries must be conducted and reports laid before the House. If I gun down a person, an FIR would be lodged against me. I would be prosecuted and may even be hanged. But if such cases of serious accidents involving death of as many as 200 people are hushed up even after conducting an inquiry, this is a matter of great concern for the country. These days, this is not important that we should travel by air, what is important is that our lives and nation's honour should be safe and secure. All these things are not the products of just three months or 100 days. The hon. Minister is not expected to correct the situation in no time. It will take some time to remedy it. The party which has ruled the nation for 40 years must be exposed for its shortcomings. We should punish the guilty and not the innocent. Without taking more time, I would like to submit on behalf of my party as well as on my personal behalf that clear information on this subject must be placed before the House and appropriate action be taken as per the findings of the report of the inquiry. This report should not be shelved as has been done in the past.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar):

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the accident of Airbus A-320 is an unfortunate incident. According to the information available, the Airbus was already ill famed because a similar accident had taken place in France also, but in spite of that, Government considered this aircraft as the best aircraft and went ahead with its purchase. It is being said here that there was nothing wrong in the acquisition of these

aircraft but the information we are getting through newspapers show that there were certain irregularities in the deal and the intention of the persons involved in this deal was not good. Had their intention been good, they would have purchased the aircraft which were already operating in the country. The acquisition of the new aircraft shows that there was something fishy about the deal. The newspaper reports and statements of some persons show that the persons involved in the deal have taken commission and, if it is so, action should be taken against them. Just 3-4 days back, a Bill for Amendment in the Cr. P.C. was brought in the House and passed. It has empowered the Government to collect evidence and information about the bribe taken by anyone from the foreign country. Now the Government has acquired power, therefore, I want that all the irregularities committed by the previous Government should be enquired into and action should be taken against the offenders. I would also like to say that action must be taken under section 302 and 120 B of the IPC against the persons found guilty, whether they be the officials or the Minister. In the present age, aeroplanes have assumed utmost importance and without them one cannot move from one place to other so quickly. In order to ensure a smooth and regular air service, I would like that the hon. Minister should consider all the suggestions given in the House. During the discussion, one of our colleagues suggested that why Indian Airlines should not be given to the Private Sector. I would like to inform him that several programmes of the Government are proving to be a failure because we have defined them as such. If our Railway trains run half an hour or one hour late, due to the chain pulling or any other reason, it does not mean that the entire railway should be handed over to the Tatas and Birlas. Is there any guarantee that by doing so, the situation will definitely improve? No Government programme can be implemented like this. On the one hand we are struggling against capitalism to bring socialism in the country and on the other hand such suggestions are being given that the organisations where Government machinery has become a fail-

[Sh. Tej Narayan Singh]

ure should be handed over to the Tatas and Birlas. If we do so, it will be a big setback to socialism and will amount to an encouragement to capitalism. Today about 50 per cent people in our country are living below poverty line as they do not get two square meals a day. Their number is about 35 crores. If all the schemes of the Government are handed over to the Tatas and Birlas. I think the number of people reaching the verge of starvation will increase to 75 per cent. Therefore, under the present circumstances, this suggestion does not seem to be relevant. I would demand that stern action should be taken against those officials who were behind this deal. Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav has rightly said that how can the enquiry be conducted now when they are no more in the world. There is a saying in Bhojpuri—'Cham kabera, kuku'rakhwar' which means that if protector becomes the destructor, what can be done. I am sure that there are still some people who can be entrusted with the enquiry. Much hue and cry was raised over it. We used to speak against the corruption in congress rule. Later on a time came when some Congressmen started speaking against the corruption. They left the Congress and formed another party and now the burden of running the country has fallen on their shoulders. It is good, as has been said by one of our colleagues, that today the Ministers and the Prime Minister are our own men but even then persons like me are compelled to think that in spite of our unrestrained support, there is nothing certain about them. Even then I hope that a time will come when 60 or 70 Members from the opposition who criticise the Government will shift to the benches where today Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh and other Ministers are sitting. With these words I conclude and demand that stern action should be taken against the guilty persons who are behind this deal because many people have lost their lives in this crash. I am thankful to you for giving me time to speak.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is nearing 7 PM. I

want to know the sense of the House, whether we can continue and finish this subject.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Mr. Chairman, how many speakers are there?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Seven or eight speakers are there.

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU (Balasore): Sir, we can sit late and finish it today itself.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Mr. Chairman, let the Minister reply at 7.30 PM today.

19.00 hrs.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: This can be taken up tomorrow after Private Members' business.

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: Tomorrow is Friday. Members will go back to their constituencies. We will finish it in another 30 to 40 minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us start the discussion now. We will see it later.

19.01 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 sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1990, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 28th March,

1990, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation Bill, 1990, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 28th March, 1990, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

19.03 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Accident to the Indian Airlines Airbus A-320 at Bangalore

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): I will not take much time of the House because much of the ground has already been covered by the speakers who have taken part earlier to me. The main point is the sordid story of the acquisition of these aircraft. My esteemed colleague, Shri Amal Datta, has already described exhaustively the background and other factors which have weighed on the choice of A-320 aircraft.

If we make a brief appraisal of what has already been said in the House regarding the acquisition, four relevant points emerge. One, the previous Government pushed through the deal with undue haste. Second, the previous Government ignored the other options as well as warning signals about the inadequacy of ground support system. Third, the previous Government brushed aside the

advice for more time to evaluate. In this case, I do not want to quote from some relevant papers regarding the views given by the Indian Commercial Pilots' Association in October, 1988 and also some views given by the Planning Commission. Simply I read out a portion of the views given by the Indian Commercial Pilots' Association relating to acquisition of the aircraft:

"We state that the aircraft is neither proven nor does Indian Airlines have the infrastructure to maintain them. Even a freak chance of main and back-up computer failure due to dust, heat, or humidity will end in a disaster as the pilot shall have no control whatsoever."

I think I do not have enough time to explain it but this is exactly what has happened, although I am not an expert. Therefore, my point is that these warnings were not heeded to by the earlier Government while acquiring these aircraft. The Planning Commission, as also another official, were also reported to have given the view that the Indian Airlines and the country's airports might not be ready to handle the fly-by-wire aircraft in 1988. That being the case, I think it requires a thorough inquiry and I would suggest that there should be an inquiry under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, in order to go through the entire process of the acquisition of these aircraft.

I would only like to refer to a few points. One is, for how long will these aircraft remain grounded, or do you not like to allow these aircraft to fly again? As has already been mentioned, the pilots have already decided not to fly the planes till the report of the inquiry is available. I want the Minister's reaction to this aspect of the decision of the pilots.

There is a demand, and I also share that view, that the agreement should be cancelled. Today's Press reports have said that the terms and conditions of the agreements are heavily loaded in favour of the manufacturing industry. One of the conditions is that

[Sh. Chitta Basu]

the order can be revoked only on the ground that these planes are not airworthy and this airworthiness or otherwise should be adjudged by French Court and not by a court of any other country. Any other court may not take a view that leads to the cancellation of the contract or the agreement. In this situation, I want that the entire agreement should be placed before the House so that we can really understand whether this agreement which was entered into was very much heavily loaded in favour of the Airbus. I think we should gather enough courage—and I think we have—that this Airbus Industries is reported to have enjoyed heavy political clouts from many countries, like West Germany, United Kingdom, Spain, Italy, etc. who finance this manufacturing industry. Therefore, I think we would collect enough courage to take a decision by which we can cancel the agreement which is very much heavily loaded in favour of the company.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): Sir, the Airbus 320 crash at Bangalore raises the following points for our consideration. One is whether there was a human failure. The second is whether there was a mechanical failure. The examination of the Voice Recorder as well as the Black Box will give a definite indication whether there was a human failure. Now the Government has already a report regarding the examination of the Voice Recorder and the Black Box. So, it is left to the Government whether this report should be published and suitable action would be taken.

When we look at the human failure, there was a report in the newspapers even before the accident that the pilot and the engineer who were managing the Airbus A-320 were not adequately trained. Even a group of pilots and engineers who were sent abroad did not have the adequate training that was needed. Sir, this is a question which the Government has to go into.

Another point is, for the last 6 to 7 months in the Indian Airlines management

there were some management problems. The pilots were not happy, the ground staff was not happy, the unions were not happy. (Interruptions) Still there are problem. It is only two days back I was in the Indira Gandhi Airport. One aircraft came from Bombay to Delhi and it was an Airbus. At least more than two dozens of passengers could not get their luggage. When an inquiry was made, I also went along with these people, it was said that when the passengers were checked in, they had not identified their luggage. But a number of passengers were with me. They said that in Bombay there is no custom of identification. In the checking place itself it is identified. That is what they said. Anyhow, more than two dozens of passengers could not get their luggage. There is something wrong, there is something fishy about the entire system. I am not accusing anybody, there is improvement, but still there is something fishy about the entire arrangement. So, whether it is the problem of the ground engineers or with the pilot, well, that also was a cause for the human failure. That also has to be looked into.

Sir, coming to the mechanical failure aspect, when we purchased Airbus-320, it was said that this particular aircraft was the civil aviation wonder of the 19th century. It is said that it can be the best aircraft that can be used in the civil aviation sector. It has got five computers. This aircraft is running on what they call 'fly by wire' system. At the same time, some flaws in the system were pointed out. One was that when the pilot gives instruction to the computer, the computer immediately receives the instruction, but when the computer gives the command to the aircraft about six to seven seconds are taken for the aircraft to receive this command and implement. This is found to be a very serious error; whether there is an error or not is also to be found out. Very often, inside this House and outside, a comparison has been made of the Boeing aircraft and the Airbus aircraft. This is also to be looked into. We have to look into the conditions of the Boeing company and also of the Airbus company. The political atmosphere of the country when we purchased the aircraft is

also to be looked into. At that time, for our atomic reactors we have been requesting United States of America to supply heavy water. Then, the United States of America made some conditions that they have to inspect our installations which we did not agree. It was France which gave heavy water without any condition. So, the entire picture has to be looked into. If something had gone wrong, if something had gone underground, that also has to be looked into. I am not telling that somebody should be saved, but in all these things, there should not be any attempt to give political colour to it. Here, in this House, we are a recognised Opposition and we have been functioning as a creative Opposition. Whatever genuine problems you are taking up, we are here to support you; we are not here to just oppose you. In this case also, what I suggest is, please do not give a political colour. If something has gone wrong somewhere, find it out if somebody is responsible for any mischief, punish them. We are not against it, but do not give any political colour to the entire picture.

[Translation]

SHRI YUVRAJ (Katihar): Mr Chairman, Sir, the accident of Indian Airlines Airbus-320 is a tragic one in which 93 people were killed and another 60-70 were seriously injured. Occurrence of such accidents has become quite frequent. This Airbus was much appreciated saying that its operation during flight was good but it seems from the accident that its engine was defective. When it was coming downward and was at the height of 150 feet, its engine gave a signal for taking it upward but it failed to gain height and, as has been said by the hon. Member, within seven seconds, it touched the ground and one of its engines got separated from it and CVR and DFDR stopped functioning.

The Airbus has many computers and it seems that all its functioning was controlled by the computers. I would like to know whether this Airbus-320 had the flying capacity? Were the Government not aware that this Airbus met with a similar accident in Paris in 1988

and was it not pointed out in the DFDR analysis report that something was wrong with the manufacturing French company? When the Government had such information, why was this Airbus purchased which claimed so many lives? The security of human lives is more important than pressing such dangerous aircraft into service. Therefore, I would like to know whether this matter has been enquired into or not. The French company says that their cooperation has not been taken for the study of DFDR and instead it was sent to Canada for analysis.

I regret that so many people were killed in this accident. Therefore, Government should see that such accidents do not recur in future because innocent people are killed in accidents and frequent accidents bring bad name to the country and the Government.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr Chairman, Sir, first of all I would pray for peace for the departed souls of those killed in the accident and also pray that such accident may not recur in future. One thing I would definitely say that.

*Na surat buri hai, na sirat buri hai,
bura wahi hai jiski niyat buri hai*

It seems there was definitely something wrong with the intention of the previous Government and their representatives who were behind this deal and their misdeed have led such consequences. Perhaps these aircrafts were purchased for the sake of commission and now the present administration and the Government are suffering for it. I am reminded of a couplet from Manusmriti.

*"Apujya yatra pujynte, pujuanam tu
vyatikramh, Trinni tatra vartante,
durbhiksh, marnam, bhayam.*

It means that in a country where disrespected people are respected and respected people are disrespected, three calamities—famine, untimely deaths and reign of terror—prevail there.

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

All these things were very much there during Rajiv Gandhi's regime and now we are facing the consequences of those misdeeds. The king commits the sin and subjects have to face the consequences. Similarly, the present Government which have just come to power has to face the misdeeds of the previous Government. The defective deals were struck by the previous Government and their adverse consequences are being faced by the present Government for which the previous Government is fully responsible.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say that all the defective deals struck by the previous Government should be enquired into and those found guilty should not be spared even if they are influential people. Earlier, Bofors issue came to light. It was related to army, then came the submarine deal and now the airbus deal. Therefore, stern action should be taken against those people who were involved in such corruption.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the committee of the Technicians which has been set up, should be instructed to suggest some precautionary measures to avoid the recurrence of such accidents. If the Airbus 320 is defective, it should immediately be replaced by some other plane of good quality irrespective of the expenditure involved in it. To cope up with the growing need to provide relief to the people and for passenger's amenities and safety, and used of defective aircrafts should be banned, so that the recurrence, of such accident could be avoided.

I would like to say one thing about the previous Government. It appears that they were not following any policy but all decision were taken by them in haste; but haste makes waste. All decisions were taken by one man. The following couplet aptly describes their plight—

*"Nikle Hain Kahan jane ke liye, Pahunchna
hain kahan maloom nahin,
In Rah mein Bhatakne Walon ko Manzil ka
nishan maloom nahin".*

That is why they entered into such wrong deals and now we are facing the consequences.

I would like to thank the hon. Minister for having ordered an inquiry into it and making arrangements for compensation to the next of kin of the deceased and the injured.

I am grateful to you, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharsa): Sir, we are expressing our concern over the Airbus accident. Whenever we board a plane, we are never sure whether we would come alive or not. Mr. Chairman, Sir, if we have faith in God, nothing can happen. I would like to recall an incident that once some snag developed in the engine of the plane in which Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru was travelling. He maintained his cool without being the least worried and ultimately the Pilot succeeded in overcoming the defect. In 1977, the then Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai also escaped unhurt in a plane accident. As soon as the plane crashed to the ground, he came out of it. Whenever man loses faith in God such accidents definitely take place.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, regarding Airbus 320, I would say that I am neither an expert nor an engineer nor do I have much knowledge about it but it appears from the press reports that there were certainly some serious defects in the Airbus. It has also been mentioned that instead of big wheel and shocker, small wheel and shocker were used in this aircraft. Is there any truth in these things or not? I would submit to the hon. Minister that the pilots who were operating it should be held responsible for the accident.

Secondly, Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Hukumdeoiji also said that it is not known whether there was any defect in the engine.

It has been my experience as member of the Bihar Legislative Assembly for 15 years and now here in the Parliament that the reports of such enquiry committees are never submitted to anyone. It is a conspiracy to mislead the people of the country. Therefore, I would like to the country. Therefore, I would like to submit to the Government that if an enquiry committee has been set up, the Government should get detailed information from the experts and initiate necessary action on the basis of the report.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to give some suggestions. I had not boarded the plane till the age of ten. I know driving and it is fact that if a short tempered person or a patient of blood pressure drives vehicles like Bus, truck, jeep or car, he will definitely meet an accident. Technical defect is a different thing but the short tempered persons and blood pressure patients should not be allowed to drive vehicles. I do not know whether there is any such condition for the pilots but I would say that there must be a fixed term for the pilot and during that period if he suffers from any such disease he should be retired and if Government wants, compensation should be paid to him. I do not want to say anything more about it. The hon. Minister should think over it seriously. Generally such diseases are the root cause of accidents. I would thank the hon. Chairman for giving me time to speak in spite of the fact that I am not an expert in the subject.

[English]

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU (Balasore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I know what agony I am causing to my friends, to yourself and also to the staff and the Press people in making a speech at the fag end of this evening. It is almost 7.30 p.m. I would try to finish my speech as early as possible.

Sir, there are two points involved in this matter. The first points is about the suspicion regarding some kickbacks. Another point is about the very bad accident that had occurred. Regarding the accident, the hon. Minister would obviously say that in the

inquiry the whole matter would come to light and after the report comes out from the judicial Commission headed by the High Court Judge, things would become clear. Regarding the charges of corruption or kickbacks these are connected with the efficiency of the Airbus which was bought. Ultimately, it had met with an accident. The reason for one part of the accident is technical flaw and the other part is about the charges of kickbacks connected with the purchase of Airbus. It might have led the Government to go in for an inferior aircraft. I would just like to know the details in this regard. I was going through the hon. Minister's speech in the Rajya Sabha. He has very fairly and frankly replied there. I thank him for that purpose. I would like to know as to what had actually happened during October 1984, 85 and until March 1986. I think during these periods a letter of intent was given and subsequently it was changed and another order was pushed through. It was done not by a High-powered Technical Committee but by some sort of private arrangements in which persons like Mr. Bhasin, Mr. Kapoor and Mr. Chadha were there. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Shri Satish Sharma and Shri Lalit Suri had played any role in this deal. I do not want to repeat those things. Detailed facts had already been stated here. In particular my hon. friend Shri Amal Datta gave the details which has relieved my burden. He has mentioned about the air-crash which took place in the air show abroad. After the accident, all the other buyers have left the dial. The engine was defective. Further, when the order was going to be placed, engine was on the drawing board which raised the doubt that it was not properly tried. Even some people say that this aircraft had not gone through the trial by the real technical experts. All these facts are there. But the deal was pushed through hurriedly. The hush-hush created some suspicion in our minds. Whether we belong to this side or that side, if we want to see that democracy exists, truth must be made known. Politicians are not like the former feudal kings who cannot do nay wrong. Politicians should absolve themselves from all sorts of charges and suspicions. I find from the tenor of the speech made in the Rajya Sabha.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That need not necessarily be quoted.

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: Sir, there is a tendency to throw the blame on the officials only. I think, a probe must be conducted to see if there is an unseen hand of politicians, followers or friends of politicians or MPs or of the Minister or the then Prime Minister or the officials regarding this amount of Rs. 2,500 crores. People will say that an amount of Rs. 125 crores has been paid as kickbacks. This is one of the scandals that has been rocking. I think, it is no less than the Bofors one because an accident has occurred where the life of the people was involved. We will not get back the life of 90 people. I think, they were like my brothers, my father, my wife, my sisters who were in that plane. Kindly remember what will happen to those who are involved in the accident due to lust or some ulterior motive, you buy defective machine. I do not know, what crime, the people who boarded that plane, had committed? What punishment would the buyers will get. We have been told about so many things about Captain Satish Sharma as a pilot. I am told that his brother has built a five star hotel in Los Angeles. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not put an allegation.

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: I am not putting any allegation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You need not unnecessarily drag his name. He is a Member of Rajya Sabha.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Mangalore): I am on a point of order. The hon. Member in his speech is referring to a Member of the other House. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already informed him.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: But in spite of that he is telling it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have told him that if there is any allegation, that will not go on record because generally we do not take the name of a Member of the other House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: I am not making any allegation. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: But if you go one step further, we should not take the name of a person belonging to the other House. It is the convention. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: Can I not say that Mr. Satish Sharma's brother has erected a temple in Los Angeles? Therefore, I am asking the Minister to find out whether the brother of Captain Satish Sharma has built a five star hotel in Los Angeles costing fifty million dollars.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How is it connected to this accident?

(Interruptions)

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: It is an allegation. If you have got the allegation, let there be a motion for that. Do not do like this. You are making an allegation indirectly. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: I would like to conclude ... *(Interruptions)* Mr. Poojary was the Minister. The way Mr. Poojary is behaving, there is a saying in Oriya that a mother gets frightened when she sees a rope in the road if the son has been bitten by a snake. It is just like this. They are afraid of the shadow. When I say something. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: If there is an allegation, come out with a motion. Nobody is preventing you. You follow the procedure. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: As I said, I would like this suspicion, this scandalous thing where a great fraud has been

committed, should be inquired into by a parliamentary committee. The Minister, in the Rajya Sabha, had gone quite far on record. He had admitted many basic things. I would like the Minister to concede to our request for a parliamentary probe to enquire into the whole thing.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): Sir, First of all I would like to thank the hon. Members who have participated in the discussion: Sarvashri Nathu Singh, Harish Rawat, Amal Datta, Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav, Shikiho Sema, Santosh Mohan Dev, Santosh Kumar Gangwar, Tej Narayan Singh, Chitta Basu, Prof. K.V Thomas, Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, Yuvraj, Surya Narayan Yadav and Samarendra Kundu.

Sir, there may be some differences of opinion here and there, but generally, I found unanimity on the strict enforcement of safety standards in the Indian Airlines. The hon. Members have expressed their concern over the deterioration and some other disturbing trends which have been noticed. The accident of one aircraft on 14th February has caused concern all over the country; more so to the Members of this august House. It is natural that we should feel concerned. But steps are being taken to ensure the enforcement of safety standards in the Indian Airlines.

Firstly I would like to deal with the points which have been made almost by all the hon. Members and then I will come to the points which hon. Members have made individually. About the irregularities having been committed in the deal, many new stories have also appeared. Members have made this point also. Shri Santosh Mohan Dev particularly referred to my statement made in Rajya Sabha. The point—which I made and which I would like to repeat here—is that after the accident on 14th February, I have several times made it clear that my priority is to ensure safety standards to improve the air services. Whenever the question about the irregularities having been committed in final-

ising the deal was put to me, my standard reply would be that, at the moment my priority is to improve the air services and to enforce very strictly the safety standards in airlines. As far as the irregularity aspect is concerned, that can be inquired into, that can be investigated at a later stage. But, at the moment, I am not going to address myself to that question and this is what I said in Rajya Sabha also. While replying to some of the questions in both the Houses, I have said earlier that Government has taken note of the stories of the allegations which have been made. The proposal to review the deal is under the consideration of the Government. During the last two or three weeks, this question had come two or three times in this House, not as Starred Questions, but as Unstarred Questions. It was reported by the Press very widely and this is what I had said: Since I would further like to reiterate that as far as Civil Aviation Ministry is concerned, our basic responsibility is to provide efficient air services to enforce safety standards in the Airlines. Yes, we received complaints. We took note of the allegations which were made in the Press. We have taken note of the points which have been made by the Members and then Civil Aviation Ministry decided to refer this matter to investigation agencies. That's why every time I was replying that this proposal to review the deal is under investigation of the Government.

Befors I come to that, since this point has been raised by hon. Members, I would like to give some details. Indian Airlines had, during 1983-84, carried out studies for augmentation of its fleet for the period ending 1990-91. The studies had evaluated different types of aircraft then available. The Board of Indian Airlines appointed on the 22nd of August, 1983 a Committee which was headed by Air Chief Marshal Dilbag Singh. He was also a member of the Board. The Secretary of the Civil Aviation Ministry was also a Member of the Board. A committee consisting of these people was appointed by the Board. It recommended on the 22nd of May, 1984, induction of Boeing 757 aircraft into the fleet of Indian Airlines. This was a sub-committee of the Board which consisted of

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very eminent person who had knowledge of the subject.

The recommendations of the committee were considered by the Board of Directors of Indian Airlines on 13th June 1984. The Indian Airlines management was authorised by the Board to acquire 12 Boeing 757 aircraft after obtaining approval of the Government. Indian Airlines, with the approval of the Government, placed a letter of intent on the Boeing company on the 24th of July, 1984 for the purchase of 12 Boeing 757 aircraft.

After this sub-committee of the Board, they made evaluation. On their recommendation, the Board took the decision. Then, after approval of the Government, the Board placed a letter of intent on the Boeing company for supply of 12 Boeing 757 aircraft on 24th July, 1984. Now, while the proposal of Indian Airlines for firming up the acquisition of 12 Boeing 757 aircraft was still under consideration, an unsolicited proposal was received by the Government in October, 1984 from Airbus Industrie, France for Airbus A-320 aircraft. As the point has been made by hon. Members, it is true that at the time this proposal came, the engine was still on the drawing board. Even the prototype of the engine was not available. Then, the Indian Airlines was asked by the Government to evaluate the proposal. Unlike the earlier case, where a sub-committee of the Board was constituted to evaluate various types of aircraft, in this case, the Indian Airlines created a sole unit's organisation to evaluate this unsolicited offer. The most intriguing part of the whole thing is that even this cell, which evaluated the unsolicited offer, was not a formal arrangement. This was an informal arrangement. This cell consisted of only one person. There was no other member. There was no other assistant. That one-man cell was created on an informal basis and that cell evaluated the unsolicited offer and came to the conclusion that this proposal about an aircraft whose engine is still on the drawing board must be

purchased and that the Indian Airlines must accept the offer.

AN HON. MEMBER: Who is he? Name that one person.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I have made this point but I would like to tell the hon. Members that I have already admitted that we have made a reference to the investigating agencies because we took note of the complaints which were made to the Government. We referred the matter to the investigating agencies and the investigating agencies have already filed on FIR today in the morning. But Sir, I would request the hon. Members through you, that the airworthiness of the aircraft and the irregularities, which have been committed while concluding the deal, are matters which are independent of each other. This option is not more. This is the other part to buy 12 aircrafts. That was option at the first stage. It became a firm order almost within a year. The question of airworthiness and irregularities should not be linked with each other. I am in no position to give my judgement or opinion on the air-worthiness of the aircraft. What I am saying is that certain aspects of the deal were noticed by the Government and because of them, the Government made a reference, the Ministry of Civil Aviation made a reference to the investigating agencies. And the investigating agencies have already taken note of them. As I have said earlier, they have already filed an FIR today in the morning.

AN HON. MEMBER: Against whom?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: You will come to know the details. Why do you want me to repeat everything? The point which I was making earlier was that this evaluation was carried out by a cell of the Indian Airlines which was created purely on an informal basis, a cell consisting of one person. The reasons which were given by that evaluation were that it has more fuel efficiency, it will increase fund generation, it has a futuristic design, no additional investment in air field infrastructure and greater

passenger comfort... (*Interruptions*) He must be an employee of the Indian Airlines.

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: Some-time later, we will ask the Minister to lay a copy of the FIR on the Table of the House. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I do not think that the FIR is a secret document. Anybody can get it from the Board. But if you will ask me to lay it one the Table of the House, with the permission of the Chair, I can do so later on. So, on the basis of the report of that one-man evaluation committee, the Indian Airlines has stated that it has selected eight A-320 air-buses fitted with V-2500 engines because they incorporate improved technology and fuel efficiency of six to seven per cent above the other engine, apart from the fact that the maximum permissible range of aircraft fitted with V-2500 engine will be longer and so on. Several arguments were given like these. Why I am making this point is that hon. Members have complained and have rightly spoken about the lack of facilities on the ground. In fact, I have said so in my statement also and I have admitted it publicly. We took a decision to invest Rs. 2500 crores for acquiring new aircrafts. But what really surprises me is that while we took a decision of spending Rs. 2500 crores on buying new aircrafts, we were not spending any amount for upgrading and modernising the airports. Now, when I went through these reports, I came to know that one of the reason, rather justification, which was given for buying these aircrafts, was that we would not need to make any investment on the airports. It surprises me that this plane of a futuristic design, twenty-first century plane, will be able to operate on the eighteenth century airports. I have said publicly, that this is a mismatch and it will be our effort that this discrepancy, this anomaly and this mismatch is removed.

In fact, I would like to mention, if I remember correctly, that the import duty on navigational instruments was more than 170 per cent or something like that, and in this year's Budget, that has been reduced from

170 per cent to 25 per cent after this unfortunate tragedy near Bangalore. Even before that, and particularly after this tragedy, I went to my colleagues again and again and I said that with the existing arrangements at the airports, it was not really very safe to operate the aircrafts; we would need to upgrade, and modernize the airports. And the Finance Minister was kind enough to agree to reduce this duty from 170 per cent to 25 per cent. Now possibly, it will become more easier for civil aviation agencies to go for upgradation of the airports in a big way, because by reducing this duty the burden which otherwise would have been there has been lessened to a larger extent.

Basically, I am trying to cover only those points which have been made by almost all the hon. Members. The other point which was touched by many hon. Members was about the training of the pilots. But before I come to that, there is one other point, which almost everybody has mentioned and that is the need for airconditioned hangers. Though it was reported in the press, but it is not correct at all. In fact, airconditioned hangers are not needed for the aircrafts. I have been told that wherever airconditioned hangers have been built outside India, those are not for the aircrafts, but for the convenience of the staff working there.

As far as the aircraft is concerned, the aircraft is fit to fly at ground temperature of minus forty degrees centigrade to fifty degrees centigrade puls. To take into account the high temperature in India, additional Freon cooling has been provided for the computers. The computers are protected against dust from the airfields.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: There is auxiliary power unit to run the airconditioning, when it is on the ground, for the computers.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I would not like to go into the details, but if the hon. Member wants, I would send this information to him.

But the point I am trying to make is that

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the airconditioned hangers are not needed for the aeroplanes.

One point which has been touched by all the Members is about the training of the pilots and engineers. I would like to say that our pilots are highly skilled and professional people and their calibre and proficiency are comparable to the best in the world.

20.00 hrs.

In fact many foreign airlines are only too keen to draw away our pilots to their fleets. Therefore, I would not like to give much credence to some of these reports which have appeared about lack of training etc., In fact 105 pilots were trained in Toulouse and so far, pilots have not been trained in India because we do not have the simulator facility. This simulator has been imported. It is going to be installed at Hyderabad and after it is installed, then this facility will be available. Then, we will start giving training to our pilots in India itself.

Further, I want to mention about training. Our pilots have undergone the prescribed training for flying A-320 aircraft. I would like to assure you that there need not be any slightest doubt about their ability to fly A-320 aircraft safely even in the normal course. Our A-320 pilots undergo Refresher Training every six months as against the normal one year for other aircraft. Their training programme is monitored by the Indian Airlines as well as by DGCA. Their training will be updated and strengthened in the light of the experience gained in flying an aircraft.

One point has been made about the Ram Das Committee. Ram Das Committee was constituted. The scope of the Committee was very limited. They had gone into the question of preparedness of Indian Airlines to operate this fly by wire machine, this futuristic design. The regulatory authority as far as the airlines are concerned in DGCA. Ram Das Committee has not gone into the question of airworthiness or the safety stan-

dards. They had gone into a limited question, i.e. of preparedness of the Indian Airlines. Basically, that work relates to Directorate General of Civil Aviation, the Report of the Ram Das Committee has been given to the DGCA. In normal course, it is they who prescribe the training standards and other related matters. They will take into consideration the recommendations of the Ram Das Committee. But the Ram Das Committee Report has nothing to do with the safety standards and other aspects other than those are related to the preparedness of Indian Airlines to operate these flights.

Another point which was made by the hon. Member was whether the DFDR and CVR, which two together is called black box, were read out and whether these two gadgets were made available to the Commercial Pilots Association. After the crash in Bangalore, we came to know that the facility for decoding DFDR is not available in India. There itself we took a decision that we shall not send these gadgets to the country where the Airbus has been manufactured, we shall send it to some other country. It is not that we had any doubt about anybody's integrity, but we only wanted to be more careful. There was no question of doubting anybody. We wanted to exercise abundant caution and that we did.

One hon. Member has made a point that Airbus industry was very upset that they have not been associated with the decoding work. I do not know whether they are upset or not. But basically since this was an accident which resulted in destruction of the Airbus and loss of more than 90 precious lives we wanted to be very careful. On that very day, I announced in Bangalore, appointment of a Court of Inquiry, headed by a sitting Judge of the Karnataka High Court which we formalised two days later. We felt concerned, and rightly so; and we are very keen that this court of inquiry established the cause of the accident. DFDR and CBR are the most crucial evidence which will be helpful in establishing the cause of the accident. Whatever decisions we have taken, we have taken so that we can come to a conclusion.

If some corrective steps are needed to be taken on some future date, then we can take those corrective actions which can be helpful in enforcing safety measures in the Indian Airlines and other Airlines of India. After this, we got the read-out of the DFDR and CBR. This Airbus industry and the French authorities approached us; and their point was that this read-out of DFDR and CBR with a read-out of the black box should also be made available to them. Their argument was that since they were the manufacturers, and they have supplied this Airbus to some other Airlines also, they want this read-out to be with them, so that they can study it; and for safety considerations, they need to give some advice to those Airlines who are operating these aircrafts; then they can give this advice. Maybe they are able to find something in the read-out of DFDR and CBR, which help them, which can help them to take some decision for taking some corrective action. We considered their appeal and we thought that for safety considerations, it was proper that we agreed—we did not get DFDR de-coded in France. We got it decoded in a third country. But for safety considerations, we agreed to share this information with them. Normally, after the appointment of the court of inquiry, the read-out of DFDR and CBR becomes the property of the court of inquiry. With the permission of the court of inquiry, we shared this information with the Airbus industry and the French Civil Aviation authorities, and since it went to them, it is natural that this information will be made available to all those Airlines which are operating A-320. So, it became available to a number of people, but only for safety considerations. We did not make it available for some other purpose. In fact, we made it quite clear to them that the use of this read-out will not be for any other purpose, except safety considerations. About our own pilots, we came to know that their point was that unless they come to know the cause of the accident, they are not in a position to resume the flight.

Somebody had made this point in the Press. After that, I had a meeting scheduled with them. We had several meetings with the

pilots. The members of the Pilots' Association told me that it was natural that they should feel concerned, and they should know the cause of the accident. I said then we would not wait till the court of inquiry gives its report by the end of May, if I remember correctly. Then the pilots said: "If the read-out which has been made available to the Airbus industry and the French Civil Aviation authorities for safety considerations, if that read-out is made available to the Commercial Pilots' Association also, then they will study the read-out and they may also come to some conclusions. We saw merit in what they were saying, because if for safety considerations we are sharing this information with the Airbus industry and this, in turn, becomes available to the pilots of other Airlines which are operating A-320, why should this information be denied to our own pilots? So, we immediately took a decision, and we made that read-out available to them. They are studying that read-out; and they will let us know how they feel about it.

SHRISAMARENDRA KUNDU: Will the Minister please give me some information? During these three days, I want to go to Poona. But I cannot go by air to Poona and Bombay. Are you going to lease out some aircrafts? (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has not yet completed it.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Exactly that is my problem. The reason for grounding the fleet was not one accident outside Bangalore which happened on 14th of February. It was most unfortunate; it was most tragic. I reached there almost within 3 1/2 hours of the accident. So, whatever I saw personally it was most traumatic. I do not want to go into those details. But I would say that, despite the tragedy, alone was not responsible for grounding the fleet. Subsequently, for three days, there was a report of some major snag developed. Then this was deboarded; and after the snag was rectified, the passengers refused to go back into the plane. We felt that somewhere a doubt had come into the mind of the travelling public.

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First we must take steps to remove the doubt. If we did not remove those doubts and apprehensions, even if we kept operating these planes, it would become useless. In fact, I would like to make it clear that it was not a tragedy of 14th February because of which we immediately took a decision to ground the fleet; no; this decision we took four days later.

Every one of us must have seen those reports which appeared in the Press; and somehow, this doubt developed in the mind of the travelling public. I know the difficulty to which the travelling public had been subjected to as a result of this decision to ground the fleet. After all, it concerns all air-buses having 14 years of life. But we had no other alternative; and today, even if we go for the arrangement which the hon. members have mentioned, it will take some time. So, let us study various options which are available to us. As I said, we have made the report available to the Commercial Pilots Association also; and as I requested earlier, I would again like to request the hon. Members that we should make a differentiation. If any irregularity has been committed, as far as the deal is concerned, that is a question which is independent of the air worthiness of safety aspect of the Airlines or of the aircraft.

SHRI AMAL DATTA. Who will examine the air worthiness now?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN. As far as air worthiness is concerned, the is not a question which will be decided by one committee which is appointed today. We have a whole organisation. Basically, Shri Harish Rawat wanted to know from me whether we have any organisation like the Federal Aviation Authority. Yes, we have an organisation. The Director-General of Civil Aviation, as far as Indian is concerned, performs the same functions as are performed by the Federal Authority in the United States.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: As per my information, it is only a cell; it is not an organi-

sation; it is a small cell in the Civil Aviation Director-General's Office.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: It is a fullfledged organisation.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Their airworthiness certificate is very very crucial. So, are you prepared to keep this organisation out of the Civil Aviation Ministry because commercial consideration may influence this organisation also?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I would say that DGCA is a regulatory authority despite the fact that it is a part of the Civil Aviation Ministry. Definitely, the concern of the DGCA is to enforce all safety standards and not to serve the commercial interest of any of these airlines which are looked after by DGCA.

And, in fact, I would say that not only DGCA but even the Civil Aviation Ministry, as far as the core services are concerned, I have no doubt in my mind that for us safety will come first, facilities to the passengers will come seconds and economy the third. It cannot be the other way round.

We have recently taken steps to further strengthen the DGCA and now DGCA is being headed by an officer of the rank of an Additional Secretary who himself has flying background. We are absolutely clear in our mind that the DGCA performs very vital functions. We will further strengthen the organisation and as far as the enforcement of safety standards are concerned, we are not going to take any risk and we are not going to make any compromise as far as enforcement of safety standards in the Airlines is concerned.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: What happens later? The same thing may happen later also. You can say this again. An autonomous organisation with proper powers should be there.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I take note of it.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: The Press reports suggest that the airworthiness of this A-320 will be determined by the French Company. That is a part of the agreement. I want to know whether it is correct.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: No. It is not correct.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Sheohar): The hon. Minister has just said that the DGCA has some flying background. It that f'ying background limited to the Sardarjang Airport? What kind of safety is ensured? Just because somebody with flying background is there, that may not be sufficient.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: That is not the only qualification. I just referred to it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: The preliminary enquiry was done in an informal manner by a one man cell, you mentioned. That is all shrouded in mystery.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I do not want to be an authority.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: If DGCA was at all effective, then the evaluation made by an informal cell may not be necessary. It may be Indian Airlines, or a one man cell, or an informal cell as you just told us, the DGCA has to discuss the idea. But they will crush the idea. They do not want the power to be given away.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Let me clarify the position.

I would like the hon. members to appreciate what his informal arrangement is, or what it means. The decision was taken by one person on an informal basis, but ultimately the decision becomes the decision of the Board of Directors of the Indian Airlines. That is what I am saying.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Why not mention the names? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: You will come to know the names tomorrow morning, when I say informal arrangement...

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Sheohar): Who made this informal arrangement? On whom was this honour bestowed?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Indian Airlines. Ultimately it is the head of the organisation who takes the decision. If things like this happen, anybody who may be in that position will take the decision. Ultimately it is the head of the organisation who will have to accept the responsibility.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Government is not run like this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want the Members to know the names tomorrow only? What is this?

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Who made this informal arrangement?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I think the Deputy Managing Director of Indian Airlines, Mr. Bhasin conducted the evaluation or the cell as it is called. It was he who did it. (*Interruptions*) I do not want to comment now. This is what I am trying to say. I hope the hon. Members will appreciate this. Had there been a formal arrangement, one could even go and say that one did not do it. That is why I am again and again saying that it was an informal arrangement. If it were a formal arrangement, then it would have been easy to pinpoint everyone. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: That is why, I am saying, please give us some time. After all we have referred this matter to an investigating agency. They have filed their FIR. They are investigating into it. Let them do it. You cannot find answer for every question today itself.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you finished your reply?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Yes Sir.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barackpore): It is found in the newspaper that the contract is irrevocable. Now if the Government decides not to purchase the other number of fleet, then it will not be possible for the Government to do that. That has been found in the newspaper today.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Sir, all kinds of reports are appearing and it will not

be possible for me to comment on all these reports especially at this stage when various options which may be available to the Government are under consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11 A.M.

20.20 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, March 30, 1990/ Chaitra 9, 1912 (Saka)