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Monday, April 26, 1993

Vaisakha 6, 1915 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

Sixth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

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LOKSABHA DEBATES

LOKSABHA

Monday, April 26, 1993 Vaisakha 6, 1915
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock

[MR SPEAKER In the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Complimentary Air Tickets

[English]

741 SHRI TARA CHAND
KHANDELWAL
SHRI SWAMI SURESHANAND

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND
TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned complimentary air ticket racket busted appearing in the Hindustan Times dated March 27, 1993,

(b) if so, the facts thereof,

(c) the action taken against those found guilty; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND

TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to
(d) A statement is laid on the table of the House

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) The news item refers to the following incident

Enforcement Directorate detained four passengers at Indra Gandhi International Airport Delhi on the 10th March 1993 when they were boarding Air India flight AI 404 bound for Singapore. During the search that followed assorted foreign currency amounting to Rs 18 lakhs approximately was recovered from the registered baggage of one of the passengers. All the four passengers were travelling on complimentary interline tickets intended for airlines employees and their eligible relatives.

It is alleged that fraudulent means were used in collusion with the staff of airlines to obtain the tickets. The tickets were issued and disciplined to two persons showing them as eligible relatives of non-existent employees of Indian Airlines. Things against one of the other two persons were shown as eligible relatives of an employee of Indian Airlines who is not entitled to complimentary interline tickets for his relatives.

(c) Pending to evolve a completion of investigations, an Asstt Commercial Manager and a stores Superintendent of Air India are given such Indian Airlines have been placed under suspension proceedings initiated against them. Air India has also initiated disciplinary proceedings.

Assistant involved in the case.

(d): The system of issuing interline tickets is being reviewed to evolve a system of checks and verification at multiple levels to ensure that only bonafide persons are given such tickets.

[*Translation*]

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: Mr. Speaker, sir, I am happy to note that the hon. Minister has admitted that a racket in the complimentary tickets Air India and Indian Airlines. On 10th March one Umesh Bhatia was travelling along with his four friend to Singapore on complimentary tickets issued by Indian Airlines and Air India and was carrying a sum of Rs. 18 lakh in foreign exchange, mainly in US, Dollars, stat Mark and other foreign currencies. This is a serious case going on for the last few years in collusion, as a result of this these complimentary tickets are being availed of by others. The provision is that officers and staff of Indian Airlines and Air India are entitled to one free ticket and four tickets at 10 or 25 per cent of the cost. Umesh Bhatia and his father who were issued tickets are not the employees of Indian Airlines... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please put question.

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: I am just giving the background. Another person to whom the ticket was issued in his father's name is also not an employee but some other person who scheduled to travel booked ticket wanted an anticipatory bail but was refused. This employ proves that the son of the Kingpin has always been involved in such rackets. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether an inquiry by the CBI will be ordered in to all such cases of bungling? And if so, by when?

SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I fully agree to the point made by the hon. Member that this is a serious incident. I have also got similar doubts like him. This incidence

of fraud and arrest of four person, in all probability must not be the first incidence of its kind and this must have been going on for quite some time. Therefore, yesterday itself I handed over the matter to the CBI.

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: Thanks for taking necessary action.

SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD: Besides, if he wants to know the measures taken, he can put supplementary question. I have replied what he had desired to know so far.

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have information that some high ups such as central Minister are also involved in it. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is true? If so, then it is a serious matter and calls for a thorough investigation? Secondly, what is the extent of loss in crores of rupees that has been suffered by Air India and Indian Airlines till now?

SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. member has stated that some senior officers are also involved. Had I known all this, there was no need for me to order a CBI inquiry. It is up to the CBI find out the details. The report of the CBI will be laid in the House. As far as the loss is concerned till now, only four persons have been caught and about the completion of the inquiry by CBI.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question raised by the hon. Member, Shri Khandelwal is very important. I would like to know from the hon. Minister since when this system of issuing complimentary tickets was started by the Indian Airlines and also whether it is a fact that the number of complimentary tickets issued has gone up since this Government came to power. Ordinary, tickets are being upgraded, I would like to know whether the Government will do away with the practice of practice of issuing complimentary tickets?

SHRIGHULAMNABIAZAD Mr Speaker, sir, it is wrong to say that it was introduced when this Government came to power. This has been going on for quite some time. The practice of issuing free concessional transportation is being followed in consonance with the resolution of International Air Transport Associations- IATA- not only in India but all over the world as well.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH Mr Minister, will you please furnish a comparative chart to the Hon. Speaker giving the number of complimentary tickets issued by the previous Government and the present Government?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD This is a different question. Indian Airlines.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH You know it very well.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD Under the resolution of IATA adopted the world over the employees of Indian Airlines and Air India are entitled to travel by other airlines.

{English}

DR KARTIKESWAR PATRA I want to know from the hon. Minister categorically whether there is any proposal with the hon. Minister at present to evolve a system of check and verification at multiple levels to ensure that only *bona fide* persons are given tickets. What are the criteria?

MR SPEAKER Disallowed

Sardar Sarovar Project

743 SHRI NITISH KUMAR
DR CHINTAMOHAN

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have decided

not to avail of the World Bank loan in future for Sarovar Sarovar projects,

(b) if so, the reasons thereof,

(c) the amount of loan already received from the World Bank so far

(d) whether the World Bank had provided the loan on certain conditions and if so the details thereof

(e) the total amount already spent on this project upto 1992-93 and the total estimated amount required for this project and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for other resources to be mobilised for this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE INDUSTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (San K P Thungon) (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the table of the house

In May 1985 agreements were signed with the World Bank for IDA credit assistance of SDR 99.7 million and IBRD loan assistance of US \$ 200 million for the Sardar Sarovar Dam and power Project and IDA credit assistance of SDR 149.5 million for the canal system of the project. The SDR credits of US \$ 99.7 million and 149.5 million have been fully utilised by July 1992. Against the total loan/credit amount of US \$ 532.2 million, the project has already utilised in all US \$ 333.666 million.

Apart from the general conditions associated with the credit/loan assistance to the World Bank funded projects the conditions for Bank group assistance to the Sardar Sarovar Project inter-alia include implementation of the Sardar Sarovar Project as per objectives laid down for the project, satisfactory resettlement and rehabilitation of the project affected families as per plan, ensuring that the oustees shall improve or at least raise the standard of living they were

enjoying prior to their displacement; relocation of project affected families as village units, village sections or families in accordance with their preference; ensuring that the project affected families are fully integrated in the community to which they are settled and; project affected families are provided with appropriate compensation and adequate social and physical rehabilitation infrastructure, including community services and facilities.

The estimated cost of the project at 1986-87 price level is Rs. 6406.04 crores. An expenditure of Rs. 2287.94 crores has been incurred on the project upto February, 1993

In the light of the review after publication of the Independent Review Report and the responses of Government of India thereon, the World Bank decided on 23-10-92 to continue with the assistance for the project subject to fulfillment of specified performance benchmarks to be assessed by a Special Mission in April, 1993. The Government of India and the state governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra measures to realise these targets and substantially fulfilled them within 5 months i.e., by the end of March, 1993. However, it was seen that attempts were being made to complicate the controversy over the project and to politicise the issues both in India and outside. Attempts were also made to cause local disturbances which interfered with implementation of the resettlement and rehabilitation work. In order to avoid further vitiation of the atmosphere, the Government of India decided to disengage from the World Bank and not to seek any further disbursement out of the outstanding portion of the credit/loan for this project. The Government of India and the state Government of the party states are committed to mobilize necessary funds through appropriate options for completion of the project on schedule. The Review Committee for Narmada Control Authority recently reviewed the matter and decided to place necessary funds with the project authorities for compensating the deficit due to disengagement with the World Bank.

[*Translation*]

SHRINITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister himself should have been present in the House to replay this important question. The hon. Minister must have been permitted to do so under intimation to you. But, what is the attitude of the Government on such an important issue. I would like to know from the hon. Minister from where will the funds be mobilized for the Sardar Sarovar Project? The Government of Gujarat has submitted to the Centre a scheme for the funding of the Narmada project. Under the scheme off-shore Gujarat development bonds are proposed to be issued. It is hoped that these bonds will be purchased by the NRIs of Gujarat origin and the Central Government must give guarantee for the same. Sir, through you, I would like to know the reaction of the Central Government to this. The state Governments of Maharashtra Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have already given half of their share. What steps the Centre is taking to recover the full amount? And what decision was taken in the last week's meeting of the Narmada Central Authority and the outcome thereof?

[*English*]

SHRI P. K. THUNGON: Right in the beginning when the project was taken up, it was decided that the respective state Governments will share the responsibility of providing resources and accordingly, the state Governments are sharing this responsibility. Recently, in the Review Committee meeting it was decided that in view of the fact that we are not drawing loan from the World Bank, the respective state Governments will share the burden and contribute the amount.

So far as the proposal of Gujarat Government is concerned, it has to be considered by the Finance Ministry. Once the proposal comes to us, as a nodal Ministry we will certainly take it up.

[*Translation*]

SHRINITISH KUMAR: Mr Speaker, Sir, there was no need to repeat the written reply. I had asked as to what decisions were taken in the meeting of the Armada control Authority held during the last week and what are the results? Secondly, I wanted to know the action being taken by the Central Government to get the full amount from those three states which have given just half of their share. The hon. Minister says that this is the responsibility of the Finance Ministry and he is not aware whether there is any proposal to this effect or no. Mr Speaker, Sir, it is very sensitive question but the hon. Minister is not giving a proper reply to it.

[*English*]

SHRIP K THUNGON: Sir, I have specifically mentioned that last week in the Review Committee meeting it was decided that since we are not going to draw the loan from World Bank, that part of the amount will be provided by the respective state Governments. This proposal was agreed to in this meeting.

[*Translation*]

SHRINITISH KUMAR: Mr Speaker, Sir, the Government's decision of not taking loan from the World Bank is also nothing more than a face saving device. There was international pressure on the World Bank so this decision not to draw the amount was taken. The main problem is that of rehabilitation and environment. I would like to know the scheme formulated by the Government as per the international standards for the rehabilitation of the displaced persons. The Government should also let us know the estimated expenditure on the implementation of this project and whether any provision been made for it in the present project?

Mr Speaker, Sir, the problem of rehabilitation in all the major irrigation schemes formulated so far remains unsolved. With re-

gard to this project—as the hon. members are aware—the people living in 18-20 villages which are likely to be submerged have launched the "Narmada Bachao Andolan" and refused to leave the area. I would like to know whether the Government have formulated a comprehensive scheme for the rehabilitation of those people and to meet their demands and if so, what will be the estimated expenditure thereon?

Mr Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has also come. He may kindly be directed to give the reply. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIP K THUNGON: Mr Speaker, Sir, if Shrinithish wants a short reply, I would like to submit that yes there is provision for it. And if you permit me I can elaborate it.

[*English*]

MR SPEAKER: You can well upon it but not to be a great extent.

SHRIP K THUNGON: Sir, as we are aware there has been a lot of criticism so far as this project is concerned. The main points on which the criticisms were raised are, there is no feasibility scheme of RR, that is Rehabilitation and Resettlement for the project affected persons.

(b) The provisions under R&H policy that is, Rehabilitation and Resettlement policy of the state are inadequate and they are not satisfactory.

(c) There is not enough agricultural land for resettlement of project-affected people or project affected persons.

(d) Substantial damages will be caused through the environment due to submergence of forests.

(e) The project would create water-logging and salinity problems in large areas with attendant health and other hazards. (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER Mr Minister he wants information of rehabilitation He wants to know whether there is plan for rehabilitation and whether enough funds are provided

SHRIP K THUNGON Sir he has raised about the problems and also critics On what basis this has been criticised?

Out of that rehabilitation and re settlement was one of the points on which was veering around Now I am coming to the criticisms I have explained what were the criticisms to reply to this criticism as we are all aware Sir that this project is going to be immensely profitable so far as Gujarat is concerned and also the country Therefore at the time of initiating the project clearing the project Report and sanctioning the respective projects by respective state Governments and the Central Government all these aspects were considered threadbare by the Planning commission by the Ministry of Water Resources and by the Ministry of Finance and after that it was cleared and the project commenced When the project commenced then the people around us from abroad and with the country those who are not interested in the development of the country they started finding faults in our projects and that is how they started blaming us on this ground And one of the reasons is to catch the sentiments of the people and for that they were saying we are not properly rehabilitating the poor people the displaced persons and the tribal people and so on and so forth

[English]

[Translation]

SHRINITISH KUMAR How much amount has been provided for the rehabilitation of people? Is the Governments holding talks with those who have refused to make any compromise?

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIP K THUNGON Sir I have taken your permission

[Translation]

If the question is political then the reply will also be political and similarly if a technical question is raised then the reply would also be technical

[English]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH At that stage your senior Minister was to give reply he was not there Now he has come Let him reply (Interruptions)

SHRIP K THUNGON Sir now coming to the provisions that are provided for re settlement and rehabilitation of the displaced persons I have a paper here But this will be too long if I repeat all the facilities (Interruptions)

SHRINITISH KUMAR I need your protection

MR SPEAKER You give the salient feature and the total amount which you are going to use for this The details you can send him in writing

(Interruptions)

SHRIP K THUNGON Three state Governments are mainly involved In re settlement Rajasthan is not involved Madhya Pradesh Gujarat and Maharashtra are involved in re settlement and rehabilitation After a thorough study their rehabilitation schemes were worked out by the respective Governments

I would like to read one paragraph otherwise it will take a lot of time

Land equivalent to that acquired with a minimum of two hectares and maximum of eight

hectares

And also Government's assistance is given for providing irrigation by tubewells or any other method. Providing irrigation is not possible, minimum four hectares will be provided. This is about Madhya Pradesh.

MR SPEAKER Briefly, you tell him that you are going to give the land, you are going to construct houses for them, you are going to give employment, education, medical facilities and the total amount. The details you can send him later on.

SHRI PK THUNSON I will state in that will be provided, educational facilities will be provided, drinking water will be provided, proper medical facilities will be provided. And also the cultural part of this particular group will be kept in mind.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR I just wanted to know the exact amount they proposed to spend for their rehabilitation and re-settlement.

SHRI PK THUNSON I am prepared to give the amount also, neither you allow me to replay nor you are interested in listening to me, you are only putting questions. You are impatient to hear the reply.

For rehabilitation and re-settlement, the total cost will be of the order of Rs. 317 crores, out of that Gujarat will get Rs. 28 crore, Maharashtra Rs. 24 crore and Madhya Pradesh Rs. 265 crore. I wanted to satisfy the hon. Member.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether the World Bank had taken a decision not to provide funds for Narmada plan during a meeting of Press Council in Washington on March 29 at the time when the Parliament was in session here, but Govern-

ment pretends as if it had taken an initiative not to draw the money from the World Bank in future while the fact is that they had already taken the decision not to provide any assistance for it. Secondly, people of that area have been launching Narmada Bachao Andolan for the last several years. Their justified demands were put before the Government and I have no doubt that efforts must have been made to find out a solution to it. The World Bank had got the matter investigated through an independent commission and laid down the condition to rehabilitate those people whose land was acquired. The report was received by the Government about 7-8 months ago in which it was clearly stated that the Government has not fulfilled even a single condition. Then came the matter regarding seeking loan. Does the Government propose to implement the recommendations made in the report of that Morse Commission? I would not go into the condition laid in it, but is the Government willing to implement the rehabilitation programme with regard to those whose land is being acquired in the valley Narmada and nearby areas. Besides, how long it will take the Government to implement this scheme without any foreign aid and from which source will they get the money?

[*English*]

SHRI P. K. THUNSON He wants reply from my senior colleague, he is prepared to give but let us money first to the last question about the conditions laid down by Mr. Bradford Morse. I would like to say that those conditions have been fulfilled except

SHRI HARIKISHORE SINGH Who is he?

SHRI P. K. THUNSON He was the Chairman of the Review committee set up by the World Bank. He came here in June and submitted his report. We have gone through his report and we have acted on that. We have fulfilled all the conditions which had been stipulated in that

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, the hon. Minister may kindly be directed to first give reply to what we have asked ...

[English]

SHRI P. K. THUNGON: Sir, what is this? I am not allowed to complete the reply.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES. I may kindly be allowed to raise the question of privilege with regard to this reply...

[English]

SHRI P. K. THUNGON: Let me first complete my reply

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Generally, the chair does not permit to make such submission during the Question Hour. It is a wrong submission, therefore I ...

SHRI P. K. THUNGON: The House very well knows as to who is wrong and who is right.

[English]

Please do not try to brow-beat me. (*Interruptions*) I challenge this. you cannot borrow-beat me. I do not waste the time of the House (*Interruptions*) Let me first complete my answer (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you may please give your ruling in this regard. The hon. Minister may kindly be directed seek apology for it.

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down.....

[English]

Let me deal with it. Mr. Minister, please cool down first. secondly, I am removing the remarks which you have made.

SHRI P. K. THUNGON: I have calmed down. But they are hitting me off some times.

MR. SPEAKER: They are all important questions. They are not lightly put to you. You please reply in all seriousness.

SHRI P. K. THUNGON: Except in three conditions to some extent we have not been able to fulfil. That was they wanted the full statistics of the whole canal affected persons.

The Gujarat Government is at it and they are about to complete it. Then they wanted 2000 hectares of land from Madhya Pradesh Government and that as also under active consideration of Madhya Pradesh Government which is about to be obtained

The third one is 1,500 hectares of forest land which is to be reserved. There are discussing going on between the state of Maharashtra and the Ministry of Environment.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question has not been replied. I had asked whether it is a fact that the World Bank had already taken this decision and the announcement to that effect was made in the Press Conference held in Washington on 29th March. Whereas the hon. Minister claims that he had taken the decision not to seek foreign assistance any more on 30th. That is why I said that there is contradiction, the hon. Minister may kindly clarify the situation.....

MR. SPEAKER: No, no, it is not so....

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDACHARAN SHUKLA) Mr Speaker, Sir, it is not true we took decision only after the announcement made by World Bank. We had already taken the decision to this effect. Our Executive Director had conveyed to the World Bank that we have decided not to utilize the remaining amount. After two days, a meeting of the World Bank was held and the decision taken by the Government of India was reviewed and approved. It is not correct that we took the decision only after the decision of the World Bank.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN Mr Speaker, Sir, it is a project of Rs 20 000 crore and I do remember that when I was in the Government, the Chief Minister of Maharashtra had called a meeting and I had attended it. The major problem is of the rehabilitation. The tribal and poor people are prepared to leave that place but they want that they should be rehabilitated in some nearby area. However as per the information we have received, some are being rehabilitated in Madhya Pradesh while the others in Gujarat for which they are not prepared.

They do not want to be rehabilitated at different places. They do not want that the people of their entire Basti or village are rehabilitated at separate places. I would like to know from the Government the total number of affected people and places where they are being rehabilitated and whether all facilities have already been provided or they are being asked to go in the first instance and all facilities would be provided later on.

[Enr]

SHRI P K THUNGON So far as the number of villages affected is concerned it is 245 and the number of families affected is 38 044. Of course this number may keep on fluctuating to some extent.

As regards the actual rehabilitation then

respective state Governments have taken up measures and there is a long list. If the hon Member wants I can supply it to him.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI May I know from the hon Minister, if at the 1986-87 price level the total cost was estimated at Rs 6 406 04 crore at the present price level, what would be the cost?

SHRI P K THUNGON It is going to be about Rs 10 000 Crore.

[Translator]

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE Mr Speaker, Sir, it is the question of survival for Gujarat. Through you, I would like to ask the hon Minister whether it is a fact that the Government of India had refused to accept the assistance from the World Bank and thereafter the World Bank had refused to fund the project. It is being discussed throughout the country that the World Bank has refused to provide assistance because the conditions in respect to provided assistance because the conditions in respect of the Narmada project and environmental protection laid down by it have not been followed. Just now the hon Minister has stated that the Government of India had refused first to accept the World Bank assistance. I would like to know the truth.

MR SPEAKER He has already stated the truth.

[In English]

No, not like this.

T V Studio Centres

744 SHRIMATISAROJ DUBEY Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) the number of T V studio Centres under

construction in the country at present;

(b) the reasons for which the construction work of T. V. Studio Center at Allahabad has been suspended; and

(c) the time by which the construction is likely to be resumed and the Studio Center is to become functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) (a) . 21 TV studio Centres are presently under implementation/envisaged to be set up in the country.

(b) and (c): The project for setting up a studio at Allahabad is in advanced stage of consideration. Land for the purpose has been taken from the U.P. Govt. in October, 1992. The work of construction will start after the sanction for the project is issued by the competent authority.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply to parts (b) and (c) of my questions has not been given properly. Because I had asked the reasons for which the construction of the Studio Center was suspended and to time by which it was likely to be resumed. Its foundation stone was laid by the then Prime Minister, Shri V. P. Singh on 7th July, 1990. Since then no construction work has been done though a period of nearly three years have been passed. No attention has been paid despite the fact that its foundation stone was laid by a V.I.P. and its layout etc. had been prepared. I would like to know the reason behind it. The cost of constructed investigated in 1990 must have been increased by now i.e. 1993. I would like to know as to what is the estimated cost of this project at present?

[*English*]

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: I have given the

reason that the sanction for the project is yet to issue. Therefore, first of all I would like to say that the work has not been suspended at all, and if somebody else lays a foundation without any budget sanction or any other sanction, I cannot be held responsible for the work not starting for five years.

The hon. Member wanted to know the amount also. I will just tell the amount.

Sir, it is a fact that in 1989, it was envisaged that in Allahabad, there would be a TV Studio. But due to plan constraints in 1990, it was decided to review the entire scheme, comprehensive scheme, known as "Setting up of TV Centres at Cultural Centres" and finally this scheme was dropped in February 1992. The reason as to why I am giving the date is that the foundation stone was laid in 1990 when this scheme had not been accepted as such. Till today the Allahabad Studio scheme has not been cleared by the competent authorities. We are trying to get it cleared in deference to the fact that the former hon. Prime Minister had laid the foundation stone.

I will give the cost of the project. The cost of the land, 2.9 acres which has been taken, comes to Rs. 88, 39,743. As per today's estimate, the project cost would be Rs. 17.72 crores out of which works is Rs. 4.78 crore and equipment is Rs. 12.93 crores. There has been no suspension of work at all. But there was a little time lag because the scheme had not been approved.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Allahabad Doordarshan Kendra is an example of negligence and lack of farsight tends of the Department of Information and Broadcasting. Allahabad Doordarshan kendra has not so far been set up. Digging work for constructing boundary wall has been started just four days ago. The work relating to ground levelling has not been started till now. But a sum of Rs. 16 lakh has been released for the purposes. No bound-

ary wall and no building have been constructed there so far but equipment's worth Rs 5 crore have been dumped in the transmission centre of Doordarshan studio which include four cameras K C. M 125 worth Rs. 25 lakh each and vision system. All these equipment's have been lying there idle for the last one year. They are not being used. I would like to know as to why the Government has sent equipment's worth Rs. 5 crore there, when neither building of studio and now boundary wall have not far been constructed have these equipment's been sent there just to keep these idle? I have also come to know from a reliable source that Government is planning to send some of these equipment's to new Doordarshan studios being constructed at Gangtok and Silchar. I would like to ask as to why these equipment's worth Rs 5 crore were sent there when no building was constructed? If these equipment's have been sent, then why Government is planning to send some of these equipments to new Doordarshan studios being constructed at Gangtok and Silchar. I would like to ask as to why these equipments worth Rs 5 crore were sent there when no building was constructed? If these equipments have been sent, then why Government is planning to send them to some other place? When the construction of the building is completed, the Government would say that there was no equipment set available with it at present. So I allege that Government, in this way, is trying to avoid the commissioning of Allahabad Doordarshan Kendra. The Government should explain categorically as to why these equipment's were sent there. Is there no coordination among Governments Departments or a sum of Rs 5 crore is nothing for Government Department that is why it has sent these equipments worth Rs 5 crore just to keep idle there?

[English]

SHF K P SINGHDEO Sir, I cannot help the fact that there seems to be a conspiracy syndrome in the hon Member's thinking. It is only in deference to the fact that Allahabad is a very important cultural place, we had envisaged

of having a studio there. In the capital, we usually have TV studio, programme production centres. But Allahabad is not the capital of U P. In deference to the very fact that the former Prime Minister had laid the foundation stone, we are going ahead with this. The scheme was reviewed upto 1992. So, how could we do any work before the land was made available? The state Government handed over the land only on 16th October 1992. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY When no Construction work has been completed sent these why have you equipment s these?

[English]

SHRIK P SINGHDEO Secondly, the land which was promised to be given for some carpentry school, has also not been given fully

Some land has not been handed over so far. We are trying to acquire that also from the state Government. But, simultaneous lay orders have been placed for the equipment's because we did not want to delay the thing at all. Therefore, I will check up the charge made by the thing at all. Therefore, I will check up the charge made by the hon Member whether Rs 5 crores worth of equipment is lying there or not. The information available with me is that the orders for the acquisition of the equipment have been placed. That shows that we are going ahead with the project. I do not have the information readily available with me whether the equipments has arrived or not. I can enquire into whether that Rs 5 crores equipment is lying there or not. As far as conspiracy is concerned, I repudiate that with all the emphasis at a my command that there is no question of shifting anything from Allahabad to anywhere else. That studio will start, the moment the competent authorities give the clearance. It is in a very advanced state of consideration. I am only waiting for the sanction. So far it is not a sanctioned project. But it has progressed quite a bit. I am expecting it very so and

the work will start.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has stated that 21 TV studio centres are under implementation on envisaged to be set up in the country. I would like to know from him whether out of these 21 studios the most remote and backward isolated island that is Andaman and Nicobar island is also included or not and what is the present status of it.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: The hon. Member will be happy to know that for Port Bihar the programme generation centre facility is technology ready for commissioning. As and when we can place the manpower we will be in position to say the date from which it can function.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Our hon. Minister is very capable. But his reply to this question is full of constructions. On the one side, he is saying that Allahabad is the nerve-centre of culture and literature of our country which is correct also on the other side he is saying that

[*English*]

Somebody did it without sanction; it is not somebody; it was the former Prime Minister of India. He did the right thing which was not done for the last forty two years. Seeing thing which was not done for the last forty two years. Seeing the importance of that place, the former Prime Minister did it.

[*Translation*]

Since there was a hitch in your mind due to some reason as one former Prime Minister whom you did not like had done a good thing. The land was not acquired even after two years of coming into power of the Government. He is not seized of the matter. He perhaps does not know

that the cameras and other essential equipment's have been sent there or not that is why he is not informing the House about it. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the time by which the Government oppose to complete then construction work after making adequate allocation for the purpose land has also been acquired. Keeping in view the importance of Allahabada that it has been the nerve-center of our cultural and literary activities of the country, leaving aside its political importance, it has become inevitable to set up this T. V. Center there. The Government should give a specific reply in this regard.

[*English*]

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Sir, the hon. Member has been a Central minister himself. He has also been a Member of the state Legislature. He has also been a Member of the state Legislature. He knows that the Central Government does not acquire land by itself. It has to take the help of the state Government. The State Government handed over the land some time in later part of October, 1992. As far as equipment is concerned, we have placed orders for the equipment simultaneously as the acquisition proceedings were going on. There are three or four stages before land could be acquired and handed over. Therefore, that has taken time.

I would not like to give a wrong information to the House. When the hon. Member says Rs. five crores' equipment is lying, we will have to find out whose equipment and what equipment it is. Unless I find it out, I do not wish to place wrong record in the House. Therefore, I said shall enquire into it. There is no contradiction in my statement whatsoever. We are convinced that Allahabad is an important center where there should be a T.V. studio - whether it is a programme production center a programme government facility center. The size of the studio is also under review. There is a competent authority. There are various stages before a scheme is sanctioned. All this is going on and very soon it will be cleared. It takes about four years to complete such a project after the

pearance of the competent authority comes

SHRI CHANDRA PRABHA URS Hon Speaker Sir I would like to know from the hon Minister whether such a project has been sanctioned and taken up in Mysore district in Karnataka state and if so is the hon Minister taking any steps to further negotiate with the concerned respective government to speed up the programme and acquire land and things like that? I would also like to know whether that project has been included in the 1993-94 budget year and also when will the work be finalised

SHRIK P SINGH DEO Sir as far as the state of Karnataka is concerned Gulbarga in Karnataka is technically ready So manpower has to be placed there As it is there are fifteen per cent deficiencies in manpower We are in touch with UPSC and other department so that we can have the request manpower as soon as possible Otherwise we do not wish to spread our resources on that Therefore it is awaiting manpower to be in position and then we can inaugurate this project

SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS I wanted to know about mysore in Karnataka

SHRIK P SINGH DEO This is not one of the 21 projects

Recognition Of Czech And Slovak

745 **SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have recognised the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic

(b) whether diplomatic relations have also been established with these republics and

(c) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIN-

ISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (**SHRI R L BHATIA**) (a) Yes Sir Government recognised both the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic with effect from 1st January 1993 the date on which these two countries became independent

(b) Yes Sir

(c) The Ambassador of India in Prague (Czech Republic) is accredited to both the republics

[English]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA Mr Speaker Sir Czechoslovakia partitioned itself into two separate Republics by mutual understanding and both the countries are keen to have better ties with India Our hon Minister for state for External Affairs has visited both the Czech and the Slovak Republics during February 1993 and he has already announced that a high level official team will be visiting both the Republics to discuss and identify the areas of mutual understanding cooperation and economic ties I would like to know from the hon Minister whether any such steps have been taken and whether the official team has already visited those countries and if so what are their findings and what is the action the Government is contemplating to take in the matter

SHRI R L BHATIA Sir thereafter the action has taken place and two new agreements have already been signed

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA Sir Both the Republics have already signed sixteen agreements and are seeking close cooperation with NATO and European Community in both defence and economic field In the past Indian had rupee trade with Czechoslovakia I would like to know from the hon Minister what is the present position of that has any agreement or accord been reached with Czechoslovakia in this regard Also I would like to know whether in view of their interest with NATO countries and the European Community this will have effect on

the Indian interest.

SHRI R L BHATIA Sir, it is true that Czechoslovakia is West-oriented and they are having connections with EEC and NATO. But so far as India is concerned, they are continuing with their bilateral relations and there is no change as such.

With regard to the rupee-payment agreement, the new agreement which we have signed will be based on hard currency. But so far as the old contracts are concerned, they will continue and India will supply goods against that rupee account.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Telecom System.

751 SHRI RAJESH KUMAR
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of France have offered financial assistance for modernisation of telecommunication system in Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras,

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposal and the response of the Government thereto,

(c) whether there is any proposal from French telecom for participation in commissioning of long distance telecommunication services in the country,

(d) whether the Government have taken any decision on this proposal, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH

RAM) (a) No, Sir

(b) to (e) Does not arise in view of (a) above

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR Mr Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the hon. Minister is not satisfactory. He has categorically stated that the Government of France has not offered any new techniques. I would like to know through you as to how many telephone exchanges have been installed by the Government of France and how is their function. I would like to know this also whether any other country has also proposed to improve and modernise the telecommunication network. If so, the country-wise details thereof and the reaction of the Government of India thereto?

SHRISUKHRAM Mr Speaker, Sir, so far as telecommunication is concerned, the process of modernization is going on. Under it the larger digital exchanges which are there in the country are being equipped with latest technology. The hon. Member has asked about supply of any such technology by the Government of France. In this regard, I would like to submit for the kind information of this august House that the hon. Coastal and Communications Minister of France had visited India in 1992 and held a dialogue with the hon. Minister of the Government of India and a joint communique was issued on 26.11.92. It was decided in it that the technique will not be supplied to the telecommunication, but no other such concrete proposal for financial assistance has been received so far. However, an S D H equipment which is the upgraded system of the optical fiber has reached here. That too is under the consideration of my Ministry. Decision will shortly be taken thereon.

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR Mr Speaker, Sir, he has admitted that another new technique is under this consideration. Through you, I would like to know whether Bodh Gaya, which is an international place, had been included in the proposal for utilizing this new technique there.

If it was included and there is nay such proposal, I would like to know whether there is any proposal for installing new technique in Bodh Gaya?

SHRISUKHRAM Mr Speaker Sir the hon Member intends to know about the new larger digital system which has been received by us or is being imported. Its installment will be confined to those big cities only whose population is more than 5 lakh. We will pay attention to Bodh Gaya which is a religious site and see to it under which system Bodh Gaya can be considered. At present the availability of funds as to how many more cities will be equipped with the latest technology and what will be criteria thereof.

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM Mr Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the hon Minister of Communications is satisfactory to a great extent, but it is not completely satisfactory. I would like to submit that the issue of modernisation of four big cities with the collaboration of the Government of France is right but in small cities 4 or 5 days or even the whole week is spent yet, calls do not materialise. I would like to know whether the Government of France is collaborating in this regard.

(Interruptions)

Is my question not comprehensible?

SR MR SPEAKER It is beyond my comprehension.

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM My question is that equipment's for modernisation are being made available in four big cities but I would like to know whether such collaboration will be there for small cities.

MR SPEAKER The whole answer is in the negative because it is not related to it.

SHRISUKHRAM Mr Speaker Sir, the question is somewhat different. However, I

would like to inform the hon Member that adequate C-Dot technology meant for small towns and rural areas is available with us. It competes with other foreign technology. It is provided in several fields in our country. If there is any complaint anywhere, those places can be examined.

Proper Utilisation of Water Resources

752 **SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA**
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the steps being taken by the Union Government to create public awareness regarding conservation and proper utilisation of water resources in the country

(b) the details of the achievements made by the Government during last three years in this regard,

(c) whether the Government propose to take assistance of non-official Organisations in this regard and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P K THUNGON)

(a) Public awareness regarding conservation and proper utilisation of water resources in the country is created by

(i) Organising Water Resources Day every year throughout the country, (ii) conducting adaptive trials, demonstration and training under command Area Development Programmes and

(iii) training programmes for the farmers in

regard to proper irrigation management for promoting efficient water use through water & Land Management Institutes set up in 12 states

(b) The major achievements during the last three years are

(i) observance of Water Resources Day every year throughout the country

(ii) Training to about 4125 farmers in proper irrigation management and efficient use of water

(iii) Release of Rs. 494 crores as central assistance towards adaptive trials, demonstrations and training under Command Area Development Programme

(d) The Water Resources day is organised in co-operation with professional societies like Institutes of Engineers, Indian Water Resources society, local voluntary organisations etc. Non Governmental Organisations are also involved in involving the beneficiary farmers in participatory management and organising them in the form of Registered Water Users Associations at the minor level of irrigation system under the Command Area Development programme

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr Speaker, Sir, it would be better if this question would have been raised in such form as how much awakening is there in the Government to this problem. It is so because it appears from the reply that it is not as awakened to this problem as it ought to be.

I would like to know from the Government whether it is realising that taking into account the present water crisis, it is apprehended that there is going to be a water famine in the country in next 5 or 7 years. This is the stage where we have reached.

In many parts of the country, and in some

of the districts of Maharashtra, particularly even today there is shortage of water and there are places where water is retained, people commit murders for water and they have to stand in queue. Since the similar pitiable conditions were witnessed in Ahmednagar and Marathwasda areas, would the Government like to be more vigilant and take any concrete measures in this regard?

[*English*]

SHRI P. K. THUNGON: Sir, the Government is quite aware about the seriousness of the problem. Therefore, the Government has already formulated national water policy. On the basis of those lines of the policy, the Government is taking all necessary steps so that we do not suffer to the extent that it appears to be.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Is the Government aware that we are on the threshold of water famine? If so, what are they doing about?

SHRI P. K. THUNGON: I have already replied, Sir.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Promotion of Tourism in Orissa

742. DR KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the amount earmarked in the Eighth Plan Period for the promotion of tourism in Orissa, and

(b) the broad details of the projects to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) No State-wise allocation of funds has been made for the promotion of tourism during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

The Central Department of Tourism extends financial assistance to state Government on the specific proposals for augmentation of tourism infrastructure, fairs and festivals and publicity support, dependent upon their merit, inter-se priority and availability of funds

[Translation]

Power Supply by NTPC

*746 SHRI RATILAL VARMA,
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation propose to curtail supply of power in certain parts of the country during 1993-94

(b) if so the details thereof the percentage of curtailment area-wise and the reasons therefor and

(c) the alternative steps taken / proposed to be taken by the Government for smooth supply of power to the industrial and agricultural sectors?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N K P SALVE) (a) and (b) The national Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) does not propose to curtail supply of power to state electricity Boards (SEBs) as at present. For chronic defaulting SEBs, however it may become necessary for the NTPC to regulate supply to level commensurate with the payments being made

(c) Supply of power to the various categories of consumers is the responsibility of the State Government/Electricity Boards

Water sharing Between India and Bangladesh

*747 SHRIMATI BHAVNA
CHIKHALIA

SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the number of meetings held so far by the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Committee of Experts (JCE) constituted for river water sharing between India and Bangladesh

(b) whether any agreement has been signed or is likely to be signed in this regard

(c) if so the details thereof and

(d) the names of the rivers which are under dispute in regard to water sharing?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) The Indo-Bangladesh Joint Committee of Experts (JCE) constituted in August 1992 for river water sharing between India and Bangladesh have held two meetings one from 19-20 November 1992 at New Delhi and the other from 30-31 March 1993 at Dhaka

(b) (c) and (d) No agreement has been reached. Ganga, Tista and other major rivers are being considered for water sharing.

[English]

Tourism in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

*748 DR. D. VENKATESWARARAO Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have formulated any scheme for the promotion of tourism in Andaman and Nicobar Island

(b) if so the details thereof and

(c) the time by which these schemes are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIGHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) to (c) Andaman and Nicobar Island figure in the national Action plan for Tourism as tourist destination to be taken for intensive development. The Union Government, from 7th Five Year Plan onwards till-date has sanctioned 12 projects for infrastructure development and other facilities for Andaman and Nicobar Islands. A list of these projects is given in the statement attached.

Following projects have been completed -

- 1 Survey and investigation for construction of Jetty
- 2 Yatri Niwas at port Blair
- 3 SEL show at cellular jail
- 4 Yatri Niwas at Havelock
- 5 Purchase of Tents
- 6 Purchase of A/C coaches

The other projects are at various stages of progress.

Project/Schemes Sanctioned and Released during Seventh Plan 1990-91 1991-92 and 1992-93 Andaman & Nicobar Islands

<i>Sl No</i>	<i>Name of the Project</i>	<i>Year of sanction</i>	<i>Ammount sanctioned (Rs in lakhs)</i>
1	Survey and investigation construction of jetty	1985-86	4 48
2	Yatri niwas at Port Blair	do	45 78
3	SEL Show at Cellular Jail	1987-88	54 78
4	Yatri niwas at Hevelock	1988 89	41 44
5	Water sports eqioment for Andamans	do -	49 00
6	Purchase of Tents	1991 92	23 50
7	Cruising boat	- do	40 00
8	Purchase of A/C coaches	do	12 00
9	Trekking equipments	- do	3.85
10	Tented accommodation	1992-93	23 50
11	Purchase of cruiser boat	do -	40 00
12	Water sports equipment	do	30 00
		TOTAL	368 33

Interruption of services at International Airports

*749 SHRIRAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the number of times the services of domestic and international Airlines have been interrupted at Bombay, Madras and Trivandrum airports since January 1992 till date,

(b) the causes of these interruptions, and

(c) the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIGHULAM NABIAZAD) (a) to (c) - A statement is laid on the table of the House

(a) The number of times air services had to be canceled, as per record of Indian Airlines for domestic services and as per record of Air Traffic Control for international services, at these airports, during the period 1-1-1992 to 31-3-1993 is as follows -

Airport	Indian Airlines	Airlines
Bombay	197	643
Madras	58	4
Trivandrum	21	78

(b) The cancellations were caused on account of strike, non-availability of aircraft, bad weather conditions and law & order situation

(c) Remedial measures such as improving industrial relations, modernisation of airport facilities etc are being taken

Propaganda by Pakistan

*750 SHRI ANNA JOSHI Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware of the reports regarding stepping up of Pakistan's hostile propaganda against India at domestic and international level and its official advice to its citizens to curb travel between the two countries

(b) if so the details thereof and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to counter this propaganda?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R L BHATIA) (a) and (b) Government are aware that Pakistan is indulging in inflammatory and provocative statements and actions directed against India including at the international fora

On 2nd December 1992 Government of Pakistan issued an advisory for its nationals calling on them to avoid traveling to India

(c) Government have on several occasions asked Pakistan to desist from statements and actions which violate the Simla Agreement and universally accepted norms of inter-state conduct. Government have and will continue to take appropriate measure to set the record straight and apprise the international community of the situation in India in its correct perspective. Other foreign Governments, international and organisations are kept informed of Pakistan's negative activities

Culture Protocols

*753 SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the number of cultural protocols signed with various countries during each of the last three years in terms of main provisions protocol-wise countrywise

(b) whether the Government have assessed their impact on the development of cultural relations,

(c) whether the Government have also identified the thrust areas in evolving new cultural policy with friendly countries on the basis of past assessment and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) (a) 14 Cultural Agreements & 35 Cultural Exchange programmes were signed in the last three years. A statement giving the

details is attached

(b) the impact of cultural protocols on our cultural relations with other countries is a continuous, ongoing process. The working of each protocol is assessed before further protocols are signed with any country

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. The finalisation of cultural exchange programmes is preceded by extensive consultations with the various implementing agencies to locate thrust areas. Each renewed cultural Exchange program is drawn up by department of culture in consultation with Ministry of External affairs and contains only those items of exchange which the agencies feel accurately reflect the special areas of interest in cultural relations with friendly countries such as Higher Education, Art & Culture, sports, Tourism, Cinema, mass-media etc.

STATEMENT

S No	Countries	Place of signing	Date of signing	Duration	Main Provisions
<i>Cultural Exchange Programmes (1990)</i>					
1	Cuba	New Delhi	10 4 90	1990-92	Art & Culture, Education & Science firms mass media, sports and tourism
2	Portugal	New Delhi	4 5 90	1990-92	-Do-
3	Rwanda	New Delhi	13 6 90	1990-92	-Do-
4	Afganistan	New Delhi	3- 8 90	1990-92	-Do-
5	Zambia	Lusaka	20 12 90	1991-92	-Do-
6	Yugoslavia	New Delhi	4 4 90	1990-92 (1991)	Do-
7	Ghana	New Delhi	4 1 91	1991-93	-Do-
8	Tanzania	Dar-es-salaam	4 2 91	1991-92	-Do-
9	China	New Delhi	12 3 91	1991-93	-Do-
10	Hungary	New Delhi	10 4 91	1991-93	-Do-
11	Peru	Lima	14 4 91	1991-92	-Do-

S No	Countries	Place of signing	Date of signing	Duration Main Provisions
12	North Korea	New Delhi	8 5 91	1991-92 -Do-
13	Mongolia	Ulan Bator	9 7 91	1991-93 -Do-
14	Colombia	New Delhi	7 8 91	1991-93 -Do-
15	Sri Lanka	Colombo	8 10 91	1992-94 -Do-
16	Iran	Tehran	11 11 91	1991-94 -Do-
17	Bahrain	Bahrain	23 11 91	1991-94 -Do-
18	Zimbabwe	New Delhi	12 11 91	1992-94 (1992) -Do-
19	Egypt	Cairo	15 1 92	1992-93 -Do-
20	Turkey	New Delhi	29 1 92	1992-94 -Do-
21	Vietnam	New Delhi	25 3 92	1992-94 -Do-
22	Nigeria	Lagos	18 4 92	1992-94 -Do-
23	Bangladesh	New Delhi	27 5 92	1990-92 -Do-
24	Finland	New Delhi	16 9 92	1993-95 -Do-
25	France	Paris	16 10 92	1993-95 -Do-

S No	Countries	Place of signing	Date of signing	Duration	Main Provisions
26	Kazakhstan	-	— 10 92	1992-94	-Do-
27	Kyrgyzstan	-	— 10 92	1992-94	-Do-
28	Turkmenistan	Ashgabat	10 10 92	1992-94	-Do-
29	Uzbekistan	Tashkent	12 10 92	1992-94	-Do-
30	Belgium	Brussels	21 10 92	1993-95	-Do-
31	Maldives	New Delhi	24 12 92	1992-94	-Do-
32	Philippines	Passy City	26 12 92	1990-93 (1993)	-Do-
33	Spain	New Delhi	8 2 93	1993-95	-Do-
34	Italy	Rome	26 2 93	1993-96	-Do-
35	Singapore	New Delhi	23 3 93	1993-95	-Do-
Cultural Agreements					
1	Namibia		25 1 91		Art & Culture Education & Science, films mass media, sports and tourism
2	Oman		3 8 91		-Do-

S No	Countries	Place of signing	Date of signing	Duration of Provisions
3	Uzbekistan		17 8 91	-Do-
4	Malta		14 1 92	-Do-
5	Kazakhstan		22 2 92	-Do-
6	Kyrgyzstan		14 3 92	-Do-
7	Ukraine		27 3 92	-Do-
8	Turkmenistan		20 4 92	-Do-
9	Suriname		22 9 92	-Do-
10	Jamaica		5 10 92	-Do-
11	Chile		13 1 93	-Do-
12	Russia		28 1 93	-Do-
13	Tajikistan		15 2 93	-Do-
14	Moldova		19 3 93	-Do-

[Translation]

Persons on Daily Wages in Telecom Department.

*754 SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether a large number of persons are working on daily wages for more than ten years in the Department of Telecommunications,

(b) whether the Supreme Court had issued any directions to the Government long-back to regularise such employees,

(c) if so, the details thereof,

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to regularise the said employees,

(e) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(f) the time by which these are likely to be regularised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) No, Sir All daily wages persons engaged upto 31 3 85 are regularised on completion of 10 years as on 31st march every Year

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) 1 To pay wages at the minimum of the pay scale of regular employees

2 To prepare a scheme on rational basis to absorb as far as possible the casual laborers who have been working for more than one year

(d) As at (a) above

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above Moreover, a ban was imposed not to engage labour after 31 3 85 except for coaxial cable

laying and dismantling/construction of lines in Railway Electrification Circle where ban was imposed on 22 06.88

(f) Casual labour engaged upto 31 3 85 and completing 10 years continuous service as on 31st March each year will be regularised and thus they will be regularised by 31 3 95.

[English]

Visa Policy of Pakistan

*755 SHRI RABI RAY Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware of the restrictive visa policy of Pakistan,

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any efforts for the convening of a meeting of the sub Commission IV of the India Pakistan joint commission to discuss visa and consular related matters and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R L BHATIA) (a) Government of Pakistan have announced a restrictive visa regime for Indian nationals whereby, First, visa applicants are expected to obtain a sponsorship certificate from their relatives or sponsors in Pakistan and secondly, visa applications by Indian nationals would be subject to pre-verification by the Pakistani authorities. In addition Pakistan has proposed an increase both in visa fee and in fee for extension of visa

(b) and (c) We have on several occasions in the recent past and at various levels suggested to Pakistan the convening of a meeting of the Sub-Commission IV of the India-Pakistan Joint Commission Which deals with the visa and consular related matters. Our latest proposal in this regard was made on 22nd February 1993 we are awaiting Pakistan's response

Tourism in Gujarat

[Translation]

*756. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the tourist circuits and tourist destinations proposed to be developed in Gujarat under the Tourism Action Plan; and

(b) the progress made so far and the allocation proposed to be made under the Eighth Five Year Plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b) : No tourist circuit or destination in Gujarat has been identified for development under the National Action Plan for Tourism. Allocation of funds for Central Assistance has not been earmarked State-wise under the Eight Five Year Plan.

However, the Central Government extends financial assistance to State Government on the basis of specific proposals for augmentation of tourist infrastructure, fairs and festivals and publicity support.

Power projects

*757 SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
SHRI KHELEN RAM JANGDE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been delay in the implementation of some power projects in Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar due to shortage of funds;

(b) if so, the names of such projects; and

(c) the remedial measures adopted or proposed to be adopted by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE); (a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) and (b): Amongst the power generation projects delayed in Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar due to shortage of funds are the following:-

S.No.	Name of the Project	Capacity(MW).	Type
ORISSA			
1.	Ib Valley phase-II Units 3 & 4	2x210 = 420	Thermal
2.	Upper Indravati	4x150 = 600	Hydro
3.	Potteru	2x3 = 6	Hydro
4.	Balimela-II	2x60 = 120	Hydro
MADHYA PRADESH			
5.	Pench, Units 1 & 2	2x210 = 420	Thermal
6.	Sanjay Gandhi Extn. Unit-3	1x210 = 210	Thermal

S No	Name of the Project	Capacity(MW)		Type
7	Birsingpur Unit-4	1x210	= 210	Thermal
8	Korba West, Units 5 & 6	2x210	= 420	Thermal
9	Bansagar Tons, ph 2 ph 3	2x15	= 30	Hydro
		3x20	= 60	
10	Hasdeo bango	3x40	= 120	Hydro
11	Tawa LBC	2x6	= 12	Hydro
12	Rajghat (UP MP-50 50)	3x15	= 45	Hydro
BIHAR				
13	Tenughat Stage-II Unit 3, 4 & 5	3x210	= 630	Thermal
14	Koel Karo	4x172.5 + 1x20	= 710	Hydro
15	Eastern Gandak	3x5	= 15	Hydro
16	Sone Western Canal units-3	1x165	= 165	Hydro
17	North Koel	2x12	= 24	Hydro
18	Candil	2x4	= 8	Hydro

(c) Besides according higher priority an allocation of domestic resources, other avenues for financing including external assistance and offering the projects for private participation are being explored

Encroachments on P & T Land

*758 SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have taken up with the state Government regarding removal of encroachments on the land belonging to P & T Department

(b) if so, the number of cases in which encroachments were removed during the last three years and the number of cases in which encroachments are yet to be removed. State-wise and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) Yes Sir

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House

(c) Question does not arise in view of (b) above

Power Projects in U.P.

*759. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI SUREITURA PAL
PATHAK:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the power generating capacity of the major hydro-electro projects of Uttar Pradesh at Present;

(b) the ongoing power projects in the state with foreign assistance and which need additional financial assistance;

(c) the reasons for seeking additional assistance; and

(d) the number of power projects for which additional financial assistance has been approved by the Government so far and the number of such projects awaiting approval, separately?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a): The installed power generating capacity of hydro electric projects in the Central & State sectors in Uttar Pradesh as on 31.3.1993 was 1624.55 MW, which included 35 MW in small hydel projects.

(b): On-going power project in the state with foreign assistance, which needs additional financial assistance is Ankara 'B' Ps (2X500mw), of UPSEB

(c): The reason for seeking the additional assistance is to bridge the resource gap.

(d): None.

[English]

National Action Plan for Tourism

*760. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any tourist circuits have been identified in the national Action Plan for tourism; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b): Seventeen travel circuits/destinations have been identified for intensive development under the National Action Plan for Tourism A state-wise list of these circuits/destinations is given in the statement allowed.

ANDHRA PRADESH

- Hyderabad-Nagarjunasagar-Tirupati

HIMACHAL PRADESH

- Kulu-Manali-Leh
- Manali (Solang Nallah)
- Kangra (Pong Dam)

KARNATAKA

- Banglore-Mysore-Hassan

KERALA

- Bekal Beach

MADHYA PRADESH

- Gwalior-Shivpuri-Orchna-Khajuraho
- Indore-Ujjain-Maheshwar-Onkareshwar Mandu

MAHARASHTRA

- Raigad Fort-Janjira Fort-Kuda Caves-Srivardhn-Hariheresswar-Sindhudurg

ORISSA

1 Bhubaneshwar-Pun-Konark

Rajasthan

1. Jaisalmer-Jodhpur-Bikaner-Barmer

TAMIL NADU

1. Madras-Mahabalipuram-Pondicherry

2. Muttukadu Beach

UTTAR PRADESH

1. Rishikesh-Narendar Nagar-Gangotri-Badrinath

WEST BENGAL/ SIKKIM

1 Bandogra-Sikkim-Darjeeling-Kalimpong

LAKSHADWEEP ISLANDS

ANDAMAN ISLANDS

US Report on Minorities in PAK6618. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAHELA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent report of the US State department regarding atrocities committed on minorities including Hindus in Pakistan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Government have seen the US state department's Annual Report on "Country reports of human rights practices

for 1992" which states, inter alia, that non-Muslim minorities continue to be persecuted in Pakistan.

(b) Government believe it is the duty of the Government of Pakistan to protect the rights of all its citizens in including those belonging to the minority communities

Remuneration of pilots.

6619. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines pilots are the highest paid ones compared to the private airlines pilots;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to make the remuneration of the pilots productivity-oriented; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the pilots thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b): The exact emoluments paid to private airlines pilots are not known. As such it is difficult to make a definite comparison.

(c) and (d): It is proposed by the Indian Airlines management that productivity-linked scheme could be worked out in consultation with the Indian Commercial Pilots Association by which increase in emoluments could be linked to the additional number of hours of flying and more number of landings. The proposal is to be discussed with the Indian Commercial Pilots Association.

Sri Sellaam Power Plant

6620. SHRI DHARMABIKSHAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has agreed to extend financial assistance for Sri Saim power plant in Andhra Pradesh,

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

(c) the time by which the project is likely to

be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P V RANFAYYA NAIDU) (a) and (b) Yes Sri Japan has sanctioned a loan of 26101 Million Yen under IOECF. Details of the loan are as under:

	(Million Yen)
(a) Foreign currency portion of generating units, other related equipments & services and civil works	18 025
(b) Local currency portion of civil works	7 830
(c) Constancy services	246
TOTAL	26 101

(c) As per the latest schedule the project having an installed capacity of (6x150 MW = 900 MW) is likely to be completed by 1999

National Speed Post Network

6621 DR AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state

(a) the details of new centres of the State have linked-up with speed post in National speed post network within 500 K M and beyond in next point chart 1 (CB)

(b) whether the Government propose to appoint private representatives of speed post on commission basis in view of its expansion programme

(c) whether reply speed post service is also under consideration, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHRAM) (a) During the 3 years that is from 1990-91 new speed post centres have been set up at the following places State wise -

State	Speed Post Center
Kerala	Tiruchir
Punjab	Jalandhar Ludhiana
Haryana	Ferozabad
West bengale	Howrah

All Speed Post Centers in the national network are linked to one another without distance restrictions and no discrimination is made based on distance except for purposes of tariffs.

(b) and (c) No Sir Not at present

(d) Does not arise

61 *Written Answers*
[Translation]

VAISAKHA 6 1915 (SAKA)
[English]

Written Answers 62

TV Relay Station at Sawai Madhopur in Rajasthan

6622 SHRI KUNJEE LAL Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether sanction has been accorded to set up T V transmitter at Sawai madhopur in Rajasthan,

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in setting up the same, and

(c) by when it is likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K P SINGH DE O) (a) A low Power TV transmitter is already functioning at Sawai madhopur in Rajasthan since 31 5 1989

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Loan From U T I by MTNL

6623 SHRI MOHAN RAWAI Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited have obtained a loan from the Unit Trust of India

(b) if so the amount of loan given by the U T I against the total demand

(c) the rate of interest to be charged by the U T I from the MTNL and

(d) the other terms and conditions of the loan agreement between the U T I and MTNL ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) to (d) Yes Sir MTNL have obtained loans of varying amounts from the U T I during 1988-89 to 1991-92 The details of the amounts, rates of interest and other terms are given in the statement attached

STATEMENT

	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
1. Amount of loan demanded (Rs. in crores)	100	200	200	300
2. Amount of loan given (Rs. in Crores)	100	200	200	200
3. Rate of Interest	14% p.a.	16% p.a.	16% p.a.	21% p.a.
4. Other terms & conditions				
1. Period of loan	5 years	3 months	6 months	10 5 months
2. Payable on	16.8.93	28.6.90 (paid)	1.10.91	10.2.93 (paid)
3. Security	Govt. guarantee	Current asset.	Current asset.	Current assets
			Part Pesa charge on fixed assets	

**Targets for P & T in Assam in Seventh/
Eighth Plan**

6624. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of targets fixed for opening of post and telegraph offices in Assam during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) whether these targets have been achieved;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any targets have been fixed for the Eighth Five Year Plan for Assam; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) and (b): A total of 308 Post offices and 3 Telegraph Offices were sanctioned in Assam during the 7th Plan period against the target of 327 Post Offices and 3 Telegraph Offices.

(c) and (d) : POST OFFICES

304 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and 4 Departmental Sub-Offices were sanctioned in Assam during the 7th Plan period. The targets could not be achieved in full due to the ban on creation of new posts imposed by the Ministry of Finance in January, 1984.

TELEGRAPH OFFICES

The details are given in Annexure-I

(e) and (f) : POST OFFICES

A target of opening 3000 Extra departmental Branch Post offices and 500 Departmental Sub-post Offices has been fixed in the 8th Five Year Plan for the country as a whole. State-wise

allocation of targets is done annually. In the year 1992-93, 27 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and 3 Departmental Sub Post Offices have been opened in Assam. In 1993-94 it is proposed to open 25 Extra Departmental Branch Post offices and 3 Departmental Sub Post Offices in the state.

TELEGRAPH OFFICES:

It is planned to provide Telegraph facility in new places based on demand. However, specific target on the number of telegraph offices to be opened has not been fixed.

STATEMENT TO BELAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA VIDE PARTS (c) and (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 6624 FOR 26.4.1993.

List of Departmental Telegraph offices opened during 7th Five Year Plan in Assam.

S.No.	Name of Departmental Telegraph office	Date of opening
1.	Sibsagar	27.3.1987
2.	North Lakhimpur	30.8.1987
3.	Golaghat	30.3.1990

Telephone connections from villages to cities in Karnataka

6625. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA, Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages of Karnataka connected with their cities through telephone under the scheme of connecting villages to cities through telephone up to December 31, 1992;

(b) the number of villages of the state proposed to be connected during 1993-94;

(c) the number of telephone exchanges set

up to December 31, 1992; and

(d) the number of telephone exchanges proposed to be set up during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) the number of such villages is 5241.

(b) 2300 Panchayat Villages.

(c) 27 telephone exchanges.

(d) 60 telephone exchanges.

Telecom Centre at Sriperumbudur, TN

6626. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a telecom centre at Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF IN COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The Telecom Centre at Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu is already set up and is working since 21.5.1992.

(b) Does not arise.

Power Projects in Collaboration with Bhutan and Nepal

6627. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: SHRI FOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the power projects likely to be set up in the country in collaboration with Bhutan and Nepal during the current financial year and the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the estimated cost, power generation capacity share of expenditure and power for India, Bhutan and Nepal, separately; and

(c) the time by which the power projects are likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a): No power Project is proposed to be set up in the country in collaboration with Bhutan and Nepal during the current financial Year and the 8th Five Year Plan.

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

Calcutta Telephone Directory

6628. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the latest telephone directory of Calcutta Telephones has not yet been published;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b): The latest Telephone Directory of Calcutta Telephones was published in 1989. The Contractor who was assigned the job of printing Calcutta Telephone Directory failed to bring out the Directory after 1989.

(c) Efforts are being made to bring out a Directory before March, 1994.

Screening of Cargo

6629. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Civil Aviation secondly has made some recommendations regarding screening of all cargo before loading in aeroplanes,

(b) if so the salient features of these recommendations,

(c) whether the recommendations have been accepted

(d) if so the steps taken/proposed to be taken to implement these recommendations and

(e) if not the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b) According to instructions issued of Civil Aviation Security in May 1992 cargo loaded on aircraft are required to be subjected to 36 hours cooling off period or 100% physical check or x-ray examination

(c) and (d) These instructions are followed by the air carriers

(e) Does not arise

[Translation]

Revenue and Expenditure on Telephone and P&T Services in Darbhanga, Bihar

6630 MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the total revenue earned through telephone post and telegraph services separately during 1992-93 in Darbhanga Bihar, and

(b) the amount spent on each of these services separately during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MIN-

ISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) The total amount of Revenue earned by the telephone, post and telegraph services separately, during 1992-93 in Darbhanga, Bihar is as under -

(in lakhs of Rupees)

Telephones	Posts	Telegraphs
403	38	4

(b) The amount spent on each of these services separately during the above period are as below -

(in lakhs of Rupees)

Telephone	Posts	Telegraphs
289	1.15	9

Post and Telegraph offices in Bihar Villages

6631 SHRI HAMLAKHAN SINGH YADAV Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state

(a) the number of villages which fulfill the criteria laid down for opening of new post and telegraph offices

(b) the number of villages in Bihar particularly in Arrah region where facility of sub post office is not available and

(c) the number of post offices / sub post offices and telegraph offices opened during 1991-92 and 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) POST OFFICES

The number of villages which fulfill the criteria laid down for opening of new post offices is 4,222

Telegraph offices

There is no laid down criterion for provision of Telegraph facilities with reference to a village as a unit. However, Telegraph Facility is provided based on need and demand.

(b) The number of villages in Bihar and Arunachal Pradesh district where facility of Sub Post Office is not available are 66,667 and 966 respectively.

(c) Post Office

The number of Post Offices/Sub Post Offices opened during 1991-92

Extra Developmental Branch Post Offices 268

Departmental Sub Offices Nil

The number of Post Offices/Sub Post Offices opened during 1992-93

Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices 70

Departmental Sub Offices 3

Telegraph Offices

No. of Telegraph offices opened in Bihar during 1991-92 and 1992-93 are 409 and 416 respectively.

[English]

Gandak Project (India-Nepal)

6632 SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the estimated cost of Gandak project,

(b) the amount proposed to be borne by the Government of Nepal and India for implementing that irrigation project,

(c) the total irrigation potential of that project, and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) (a) Rs 750 crores

(b) the entire cost of the project is to be borne by India as per Gandak Agreement, 1959

(c) and (d) The irrigation potential of the project is 15.26 lakh hectares in India and 0.44 lakh hectares in Nepal.

Utilization of Airports in Maharashtra

6633 SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the locations of the airports completed in all respects in Maharashtra

(b) the number of air services operating at the completed airports and

(c) the expenditure incurred on the activation of the unused airports in the State?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) Bombay, Nagpur, Aurangabad, Juhu, Kolhapur and Civil Enclave at Pune

(b) Indian Airlines are operating the following average number of weekly flights from the following stations in the state of Maharashtra as per existing schedule -

S No	Airport	Weekly flights
1	Bombay	226
2	Nagpur	14
3	Aurangabad	7
4	Pune	9

Air India, in their present schedule, are operating on an average 87 flights out of Bombay. Vayudoot Ltd., are presently operating to/from Bombay, pune and Kolhapur

(c): National Airports Authority, Since its inception in 1986, has not spent any money on the initialized airports viz. Akola and Sholapur.

Air Services in Maharashtra

6834. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start the air services on pune-Aurangabad and Nasik-Pune-Bombay routs; and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b): Constraints of aircraft capacity and other resources do not at present permit expansion of vayudoot services. The traffic demand on the Pune-Aurangabad and nasik-Pune-Bombay routs is not adequate for operation of Boeing 737 aircraft which is the smallest in the Indian Airlines fleet

[Translation]

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges of Agra, U.P.

6635. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT, Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to convert telephone exchanges of Agra district (including Agra City) into electronic exchanges dunnig 1983-84;

(b) if so the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Following exchanges in Agra Distt. are planned to be converted to electronic during 93-94;

1 Irradate nagger

2. Khandauli

(c) Not applicable.

[English]

Timing of Private Air-Taxi Operators

6636. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN. Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any control over the air-taxi services in finalizing their timing,

(b) if so, details thereof,

(c) whether it has been brought to the notice of his ministry that certain air-taxi services have been given time schedule just before the departure timing of the Indian Airlines flights,

(d) whether his ministry is aware that such wrong timings have badly affected to passenger traffic in the Indian Airlines in certain sector in the Southern region, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b): No Sir. However, the timings have to follow the restrictions imposed by the concerned Air Traffic Control authorities

(c) The timing of the flight are not approved by the Government.

(d) and (e). In Indian Airlines perception the

limited success of air taxi operators is mainly due to their fares and marketing practices, not on account of departure timings

Air Safety Violations

6637 SHRI SUKHENDU KHAN Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the number of incidents of air safety violations taken note of by the DGCA in the case of Air India India Airlines and private air taxi operators and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to prevent such incidents ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) There have been three significant incidents of air safety violations in the recent past. These incidents pertained to Air taxi operators

(b) D G C A monitors the observance of safety norms by all operators. Deficiencies observed are brought to the notice of the operators for corrective action. Measures such as suspension of permit, cancellation of certificate of airworthiness etc. are also taken wherever called for

1	Provision of toilet and drinking water facilities at Bhubaneswar and Konark	500
2	Yatri Niwas at Konark	29.25
3	Open Air Theatre at Konark	7.10
4	Konark Festival	2.00
5	Tourist Centre at Bhubaneswar	1.1
6	Swiss Cottage Tents for Konark Beach	15.00
7	Yatri Niwas at Puri	14.3

Development of Bhubaneswar, Konark and Puri circuit

6638 SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether the proposal to develop a triangle consisting of Bhubaneswar, Konark and Puri has been pending since long

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the delay and

(c) the financial allocation proposed to be made during the Eighth Plan for the development of the triangle and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b) No Sir. However, in the national Action Plan for Tourism, Bhubaneswar-Puri-Konark has been identified as one of the circuits for intensive development.

(c) and (d) Central financial assistance is extended to the State Government on the basis of specific proposals received from them and no lump sum allocation is made in the Eighth Five year plan. However, the following projects/schemes have been sanctioned for development of tourism facilities:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Participation in Human Rights Workshop at Jakarta

(b) Does not arise

6639. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH
PATIL
DR RRVIMALLU

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have participated in the Human Rights workshop organised for Asia Pacific at Jakarta recently, and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the broad outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIDINESH SINGH) (a) Yes Sir

(b) The Workshop did not adopt any Joint Declaration/Statement. Chairman's concluding remarks by Indonesia emphasized that implementation of Human Rights norms rests at national level. At international level, Human Rights should be pursued in a non-confrontational way recognizing interdependence and indivisibility of all human rights, including civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

[Translation]

Setting Up of Rice Mills

6640 SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN
Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up rice mills in paddy growing States during the current financial year, and

(b) if so, the State-wise locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) (a) No, Sir

[English]

Fire services of IAAI

6641 SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether in the inspection of the fire services of the International Airport Authority of India at Bombay airport, the crew coordination and time taken to break open the fire alarm box was found unsatisfactory and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b) Director General of Civil Aviation during his inspection of Bombay airport had observed that fire crew drill was not coordinated and first aid kit in the ambulance was sealed in such a way that it took a long time to be opened. The International Airports Authority of India have taken remedial measures on both

Pension scheme for India Airlines Employees

6642 SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the progress report on ending issue of pension scheme for employees of India Airlines

(b) whether his Ministry has formed any committee for the speedy action to implement the scheme, and

(c) if so, the details thereof??

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND

TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Indian Airlines had proposed a superannuation scheme in 1978 which was not approved by government. Subsequently in 1988, Indian Airlines had formulated another scheme, but the employees did not find it acceptable. No scheme is presently under consideration of the Government.

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise.

Nuclear Test Ban Treaty

6643 **SHRI DIPKAH. TOPIWALA:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to initiate any proposal for a comprehensive universal nuclear test ban treaty;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this treaty provides for full scope safe guard to the nuclear installations, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) (a) Not at present, Sir. But an Action Plan for ushering in a Nuclear-Weapon - Free and Non-violent world order

presented by former PM Shri Rajiv Gandhi on behalf of India at the Third Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly in May-June 1988 calls for the commencement and conclusion of negotiations on a comprehensive test ban treaty in Stage-I ending 1994.

(b) to (d) Does not arise

Recruitment of Cabin Crew in Indian Airlines

6644 **SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH, SHRI RAJESH KUMAR, SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA,**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any backlog in the recruitment of the persons belonging to SC/ST to the various categories of Cabin crew in the Indian Airlines, and

(b) if so, the year wise details in this regard from 1989 to 93?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Year wise details of backlog in respect of Air hostesses and Flight Purser from the year 1989 to 1993 are given in the statement attached

STATEMENT

Details of backlog of reserved vacancies in the categories of Airhostesses and flight pursers in Indian Airlines from the year 1989 to 1993

Position On	Airhostess		Flight Purser	
	Backlog	Position on	Backlog	Position on
	SC	ST	SC	ST
1.1.89	16	13	7	5
1.1.90	1	1	3	1
1.1.91	1	1	2	1
1.1.92	1	2	1	1
1.1.93	1	-	1	-

There has been no lapse or de-reservation of SC/St vacancies during these years

[Translation]

**Air Defence Material to Pakistan by
France**

6645 SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be
pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware of an
assurance made by France to Pakistan in re-
gard to providing air defence material/
equipment's,

(b) whether the Government have taken any
steps in this regard, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-
TRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R L
BHATIA) (a) During Pakistan Prime Minister's
visit to France in January, 1992 France had
agreed, in principle to sell Mirage-2000 fighter
planes to Pakistan. According to information avail-
able the transition has not been finalized so far

(b) and (c) Our concerns about any arms
sales to Pakistan disproportionate to Pakistan's
legitimate defence needs have been conveyed
to the French Government. Government con-
stantly monitor all developments having a bear-
ing on India's security and take necessary
measures to safeguard it

Issuance of Passport

6646 SHRI RAMBADAN Will the Minister
of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether attention of the Government has
been drawn to the news item appeared in *Sansatta*
dated February 27, 1993 regarding issue of
passports without affixing photograph and

(b) if so the facts thereof and the action taken
proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-
TRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI
R L BHATIA) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) On investigation it has been ascertained
that the passport of Shri Atul Kumar had been
despatched inadvertently due to a clerical error
even though the passport was incomplete as the
applicant had not submitted the required number
of photographs with the application. The applicant
was contacted and asked to submit photographs,
the passport completed in all respects and handed
over to him in person

[English]

Indian enclaves in Bangladesh

6647 SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN Will the
Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to
state

(a) whether any channels are available in
India enclaves in Bangladesh for redressal of
public grievances,

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) whether the Government propose to pro-
vide any channels for redressal of grievances of
Indian residents in these enclaves during 1993-
94, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI DINESH SINGH) (a) to (d) According to
information available with us, there are 119
exchangeable and 11 non-exchangeable Indian
enclaves in Bangladesh territory. India has no
access to or control over these enclaves in
Bangladesh. Therefore the question of chan-
nels for redressal of public grievances in the
said enclaves does not arise.

As stipulated under the Indo-Bangladesh
land Boundary Agreement, 1974, the Indian
enclaves in Bangladesh and the Bangladeshi

enclaves in India are to be exchanged. The de jure exchange of enclaves remains incomplete due to the non-ratification of the Indo-Bangladesh land Boundary Agreement 1974.

Power Projects

6648 SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether some approved inaugurated power projects are non starter/closed down or shifted to some other States

(b) if so the details in this regard

(c) the reasons therefor and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NADIDU) (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

Linking of Computerised Passport System with Air Ticketing System

6649 SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to link computerised passport system with the computerised air ticketing system at all the International Airports in the Country

(b) if so the details thereof and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI L BHATIA) (a) No Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) There is no functional requirement for linking the two systems

Kurigarkutty Karappara Multipurpose Project

6650 SHRI V S VIJAYARAGHAVAN Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

the latest status of the Kurigarkutty Karappara multipurpose project in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P K THUNGON)

On examination of modified report received in 2/91 it was observed that certain important recommendations of the Expert Group set up by the Ministry of Environment and Forests to look into the environmental aspect of the project which are likely to affect the project materially were not incorporated. Accordingly the state Government has been requested in 6/91 to submit modified proposal after incorporating the same.

Theatre Financing Scheme of NFDC

6651 SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the theatre financing scheme of the national Film Development Corporation is not receiving adequate response

(b) if so the reasons therefor

(c) whether the Government propose to bring changes in the scheme for increasing the response and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SING DEO): (a) and (b). Due to advent of TV and video, there has been a general decline in construction of new cinema theaters all over the country. Under the scheme of NFDC, loans are granted only against the security of bank guarantee. Such being the case, there has been very little response from the applicants to the scheme for finance for construction of new cinema theaters.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise

[*Translation*]

**Regularisation of Class IV Employees
in P&T Department**

6652. SHRI GOVINDACHANDRAMUNDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the policy adopted in his Ministry to regularise the services of Class IV employees;

(b) whether the Services of the Class IV employees are not being regularised in spite of their services rendered for more than five years in the post and Telegraph Department,

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the time by which their services are likely to be regularised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) All Class IV employees are appointed on regular basis in Departments of Posts and Telecom.

(b) to (d): Does not arise in view of reply at

(a) above.

Losses in India Airlines and Vayudoot.

6653 SHRI RAM PUNJAN PATEL.
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the Indian Airlines and Vayudoot running in loss; and

(b) the extent to which success has been achieved in reducing the losses in the Indian Airlines and Vayudoot?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) Indian Airlines has been incurring losses since 1989-90 mainly due to the following reasons,-

- Grounding of A-320 fleet
- Depreciation of the Rupee vis-a-vis foreign currencies
- Time gap between increase in ATF prices and increase in fares.
- Absorption of heavy incidence of fixed expenses associated with A320 fleet due to its reinduction in a phased manner
- Increase in insurance premium rates and landing charges.
- Additional burden on account of purchase of foreign exchange at market rate consequent to changes introduced in the Finance Act, 1992.
- Industrial unrest.
- Loss of revenue due to less passengers flown than planned.

- Increase in expenditure due to increase in Pay and allowances

The main reasons for Vaydoot incurring losses are,-

Undue expansion of network

Excessive manpower

- Obsolete and uneconomic fleet
- Non-remunerative fare structure
- Short-haul nature of operations

(b) The following are the main steps taken by Indian Airlines to reduce its losses -

- Monitoring of schedules
- Economy in aircraft fuel consumption

Frequent pre-flight checks to avoid wastage on food and catering items

Reduction in overtime wherever possible

Deferral/avoidance of avoidable capital expenditure

Optimum utilisation of existing aircraft fleet.

Vayudoot has reduced its losses from Rs. 37.08 crores in 1990-91 to approximately Rs 22 crores in 1992-93

[English]

Negotiations with China on Boundary question

6654 SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the present status of the ongoing negotiations with China on the settlement of the boundary question with that country,

(b) whether the two sides have achieved any agreement in principle on the approach towards this question,

(c) if so, the details thereof and

(d) the area of India territory which continues to be under occupation of China as on 31st December, 1992?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) (a) Discussions on the boundary question between India and China are held within the India-China Joint Working Group set up in December, 1988 for this purpose. The joint Working Group has held five meetings so far and the Sixth meeting is likely to be held in New Delhi this year.

(b) and (c) In the meetings of the Joint Working Group held so far, both sides are seeking ways to narrow their differences on the boundary in order to arrive at a fair, just and mutually acceptable solution. There is acknowledgment now that pending this India and China shall maintain peace and tranquillity on the line of actual control.

(d) The area under occupation by China as on December 31, 1992 in Jammu & Kashmir is approximately 38,000 sq kms. In addition, in the so-called Sino-Pakistani 'Boundary Agreement' of 1963, Pakistan has illegally ceded approximately 5,120 sq kms of India territory in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir to China.

ISI Conspiracy

6655 SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH
SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV
SHRI TARACHAND KHANDELWAL

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent reports regarding Pakistan's Inter-services Intelligence (ISI) conspiracy and nexus between the Pakistani and India syndicates to start a civil war in the country,

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in regard thereto,

(c) whether the Government propose to take up the matter at the international fore, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R L BHATIA) : (a) and (b). Government are aware of Pakistan aiding and abetting terrorism directed against India and of its organised support and involvement with elements in India in subversive activities

Government is fully resolved to counter these efforts and will take all measures to safeguard national security

(c) and (d) Government have and will continue to apprise the international community of the factual position regarding Pakistan's involvement with terrorism directed against India. There is growing international concern at the support that the terrorists receive from Pakistan

[Translation]

TV Relay Centre at Kharagone in Madhya Pradesh

6656 SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be please to state

(a) the number of low power and high power TV relay Centres functioning in the country at present State-wise

(b) whether the Government propose to set up a TV relay centre at Kharagone district in Madhya Pradesh,

(c) if so the details thereof and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K P SINGH DEO) : (a) Information is given in the Annexure

(b) to (d) A low power TV transmitter is already in operation at Kharagone in West Nimar district of Madhya Pradesh. Parts of the district also receive TV service from the high power TV transmitter at Indore subject to local terrain conditions. There is no proposal at present to set up more TV transmitters in the district. Further expansion of TV service in the district would depend upon future availability of resources for the purpose.

STATEMENT

Statewise TV Transmitters as on 23.4.1993

S. No.	State/U.T.s	HPTs	LPTs	VLPTs	Transposts	Total
1.	Assam	3	8	0	2	13
2.	Andhra Pradesh	5	25	0	2	32
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	2	16	0	19
4.	Bihar	5	26	0	1	32
5.	Goa	1	0	0	0	1
6.	Gujarat	3	28	1	0	32
7.	Haryana	0	5	0	0	5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	6	5	2	14
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	2	15	1	21
10.	Kerala	2	13	0	0	15
11.	Karnataka	4	24	0	0	28
12.	Madhya Pradesh	6	47	0	1	54
13.	Meghalaya	2	1	1	0	4
14.	Maharashtra	5	37	0	1	43

S. No.	State/UTs	HPTs	LPTs	VLPTs	Transposers	Total
15.	Manipur	1	1	3	0	5
16.	Mizoram	1	0	2	0	3
17.	NAGALAND	1	2	3	1	7
18.	Orissa	3	21	0	1	25
19.	Punjab	3	4	0	1	8
20.	Rajasthan	1	38	1	2	42
21.	Sikkim	0	1	3	0	4
22.	Tamil Nadu	2	23	0	3	28
23.	Tripura	1	0	0	1	2
24.	Uttar Pradesh	8	42	10	4	64
25.	West Bengal	4	13	2	0	19
26.	Delhi	1	0	0	0	1
27.	A & N Islands	0	2	6	0	8
28.	Daman & Diu	0	1	1	0	2
29.	Pondicherry	0	1	3	0	4
30.	L'Dweep Islands	0	0	9	0	1

S. No	State/U T s	HPTs	LPTs	VLPTs	Transposrs	Total
31.	Chandigarh	0	1	0	0	1
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	1	0	1
	Total	67*	374	82	23	546

(* excluding 4 Metrol Channel High Power Transmitters)

HPT = High Power Transmitter

LPT = Low Power Transmitter

VLPT = Very Low Power Transmitter

Food Processing Industries in Madhya Pradesh

6657. SHRI MAHANDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be please to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from the State of Madhya Pradesh for registration of food processing industries during each of the last two financial years.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). Under the New Industrial Policy in July, 1991 entrepreneurs of the Industrial undertakings are required to file, only a memorandum of information with the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals (SIA) in the Ministry of Industry for manufacture of articles not covered by the compulsory licensing. As per available information for the period ending February, 1993, 1993 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda (IEM) have been filed for food processing industries. So far as Madhya Pradesh is concerned, 157 IEM have been filed till December, 1992 involving an investment of Rs.

15460 crores. Besides, as on 1.1.1993, Madhya Pradesh had 66 number of fruit and vegetable processing units and 266 sweetened aerated water units licenced under the Fruit Product Order (FPO) 1955. During 1991, four licences including three in home scale were granted under Fruit Products Order in Madhya Pradesh. In 1992, 10 licences including four in home scale category were granted.

Civil Aviation and Tourism Facilities in Rajasthan

6658. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated for the development of civil aviation and tourism facilities in Rajasthan during each of the last three years;

(b) the achievements made thereof; and

(c) the names of the schemes which are pending in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). The amount allocated and relapsed for civil aviation and tourism facilities in Rajasthan during the last three years is as under -

Year	Civil Aviation		Tourism	
	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1990 91	2 22	2 22	1 52	1 00
1991 92	2 49	2 49	1 84	0 80
1992 93	5 11	1 85	1 53	0 69

(Rs in crores)

(c) No scheme relating to Civil Aviation facility is pending. A scheme for wayside amenities at Shiva on Jaisalmer-Bikaner high-way relating to Tourism is pending.

[English]

Digital Technology in Bombay

6659. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of digital network is in progress and the second generation digital switching technology is proposed to be made available in Bombay next year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One second generation digital switch has already been commissioned with main switch at Fountain -3 (6K lines) and remote units at Thane (4x lines). During the year 1993-94, 40L lines of same type is likely to be commissioned.

TV Coverage in Tamil Nadu

6660. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in Tamil Nadu which are not covered by Doordarshan network;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation from the Government of Tamil Nadu for extending the TV coverage; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI D. P. SINGH DEO): (a)

All the districts of Tamil Nadu are, at present, covered by TV service either wholly or partially.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A high power transmitter at Rameshawaram, five low power transmitters, one each at Aroct, Rajpalyam, Aranai Gudiyatam and Pattukottai and a very low power transmitter at Udumalpet are under implementation in Tamil Nadu. In addition, a high power transmitter is envisaged to be set up at Kumbakonam, subject to availability of resources.

Sale of ITDC Hotels

6661. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDYA: SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ITDC had short-listed certain leading intentional hotel chains for the partial sale of some of its hotels;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the terms and conditions of proposal and the final result

(c) whether bids are also likely to be invited for certain other hotels as well; and

(d) if so the comparative terms and conditions and also the position as of now?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) No, sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) At present there is no proposal to invite bids for other hotels for partial sale

(d) Does not arise

Development of Hassan-Belur-Halebid Triangle

6662. SHRI G. MADEGOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have chosen Hassan -Belur-Halebid triangle as a special tourism area;

(b) if so, the amount spent so far for the development of these tourist places;

(c) the amount proposed to be spent during 1993-94; and

(d) the details of the developments and other facilities provided during 1992-93 at these places?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir. However, the Government of India have identified Bengalroo Mysore Hassan as one of the Travel Circuit Under National Action Plan for Tourism.

(b) to (d). The Central Department of Tourism has extended financial assistance amounting to Rs., 108.40 lakhs for development of Tourism Infrastructure facilities at Belur, Halebid and Sharvanabelgola as per the details given below-

<i>Sl No.</i>	<i>Name of the Project</i>	<i>Amount Sanctioned (Rs in lakhs)</i>
1	Construction of tourist rest house, tourist dormitory and Canteen Block at Belur, Hassan District.	32.46
2	Visitor's Centre at Hoysala, Halebid	20.00
3	Construction of Xatrn Niwas at Sharvanabelgola	39.94
4	Public Conveniences one each at Belur & Halebid and two at Sharvanabelgola	16.00

[Translation]

Dams Under Narmada Project in M.P.

6663 SHRI SATHANARAYAN JATIYA Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the details of progress made in respect of each of the dams being constructed in Madhya Pradesh under Narmada Project up to March 31,

1993; and

(b) the details of the amount sanctioned by the Union Government for each of the dams and multipurpose dams in Madhya Pradesh for 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCE (SHRI P K THUNGON) (a) and (b) Information is being

collected and will be laid on the table of the house.

[English]

Potato Based Industries in Orissa

6664. SHRIK. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal for setting up of potato based food processing industries in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to encourage potato based food processing industries in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The Ministry is implementing several development plans/schemes under which assistance is provided to State Government undertakings, joint sector undertakings, cooperatives, voluntary organisation etc. for setting up/upgrading food processing units in different states. Potato based food pressing units are also eligible for availing such assistance.

Letters from Members of Parliament

6665 PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESHWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any instructions have been given to General Managers of Telecom of each State

to respond immediately to letters from Members of Parliament;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these instructions are not followed by them

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) From time to time suitable instructions have been issued in this regard to the Chief General Managers of the Department for prompt acknowledgment/attention. Replies to the communications received from the Members of Parliament. The Heads of Telecom Circles, etc. have also been asked to keep a strict watch on monthly basis on disposal of such letters to avoid any delay in replies to such letters.

(c) No such instance of non-compliance of instructions has come to notice in the recent past

(d) and (e). Does not arise.

Air Station Building at Rourkela, Orissa

6666. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the building for AIR station at Rourkela in Orissa has been constructed since long;

(b) if so, the reasons for not installing the equipment's there; and

(c) by when the station is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K P SINGH DEO) (a) and (b) Construction of the building for local radio station at Rourkela is nearing completion. Technical installation of equipment is also in progress.

(c) The radio station is expected to start functioning during 1993-94.

Agreement with Cable News Network (CNN)

6667 SHRI V SREENIVASA PRASAD
SHRI G DEVARAYA NAIK
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the Doordarshan has entered into some agreement with the Cable News Network of America,

(b) if so, the details in the regard, and

(c) the terms and conditions of the agreement reached between Doordarshan and the CNN?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K P SINGH DEO) (a) No Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Electronic Exchanges in Country

6668 SHRI HARADHAN ROY Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the number of electronic exchanges functioning in each state, at present and the number of those under construction and the time by which these exchanges are likely to become functional,

(b) whether any scheme is under consideration to set up more electronic exchanges in future, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) At present, a total of 12378 Electronic Exchanges are working in the country. 44 new electronic exchanges are under installation and will be progressively commissioned during 1993-94. State-wise details are given in the statement attached.

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) 3389 Electronic exchanges of various types are planned to be commissioned during 1993-94 (details in statement-II)

STATEMENT

State-wise number of existing/under installation electronic exchanges in the country

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of electronic exchanges functioning at present	No. of electronic exchs. under construction
1.	Andhra Pradesh	892	25
2.	Assam	231	.
3.	Manipur	22	1
4.	Meghalaya	32	-
5.	Mizoram	26	-
6.	Nagaland	18	14
7.	Tripura	34	9
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	45	-
9	Bihar	611	23
10	Gujarat (including Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu UTs)	766	37
11.	Haryana	471	5
12.	Himachal Pradesh	266	12
13.	J & K	83	4

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of electronic exchanges functioning at present	No. of electronic exchs. under construction
14.	Karnataka	1202	9
15.	Kerala (including Lakshadweep U.T.)	526	31
16.	Madhya Pradesh	1827	10
17.	Maharashtra	1279	132
18.	Punjab (including Chandigarh U.T.)	493	4
19.	Rajasthan	700	68
20.	T.N. (including Pondicherry U.T.)	763	26
21.	Uttar Pradesh	1082	10
22.	Orissa	565	10
23.	W.B. (including Andaman Nicobar U.T.)	318	11
24.	Sikkim	15	-
25.	Goa	47	1
26.	Delhi (U.T.)	64	2
	Total	12378	444

STATEMENT

List of various types of electronic exchanges planned for the year 1993-94

Sl No	Type	No of exchange
1.	64 P MILT	1000
2.	128 P C DOT	1500
3	512 P ILT/C DOT	250
4.	1000 L "	275
5.	1400 L "	170
6.	C.DOT MAX-I	48
7.	E 10B & new technologies	146
Total		3389

Extension/Modernisation of Irrigation Projects in Kerala

6669 SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal for the extension/modernisation of some irrigation projects

(b) the details thereof and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P K THUNGON) (a) to (c) Modernisation of Neyyar Irrigation Project of Kerala at an estimated cost of Rs 1724.55 lakhs was received in the Central Water Commission in 6/92. On examination it has been observed that the Project report has not been formulated according to the guidelines for preparation of detailed project reports. The observations on the report have been communi-

cated to the State Government in 8/92 for submission of modified report

[*Translation*]

Power Generation Capacity in Gujarat

6670 SHRIDILEEPBHAI SANGHANI Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether some proposals are pending for approval with the Union Government for increasing the power generation capacity of existing power plants in Gujarat

(b) if so the details thereof and

(c) the names of the power plants where additional power generation capacity is likely to be created during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) and (b) The following proposals for increasing the power generating capacity of existing power plants in Gujarat are under examination in the Central Electricity Authority

Sl No	Name of the Power Station	Existing capacity installed (MW)	Proposed capacity Extension (MW)
1	Gandhinagar TPS Distt Gandhinagar	2x120 + 2x210	1x210 (Unit 5)
2	Wankbori TPS Distt Kheda	6x210	1x210 (Unit-7)
3	Ukai Hydroelectric project	4x75	Capacity Addition of about 7% (21 MW) of installed capacity proposed to be achieved through renovation and modernisation of existing units

(c) A Capacity addition of 45 MW from the Uran Stage-I TPS and 200 MW through the

Kakrapar Atomic Power Station Unit 2 is proposed during the year 1993-94 in Gujarat

[English]

Doordarshan Kendras in Maharashtra

6671. SHRIMANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of T.V. transmitters in the Southern State;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up Doordarshan Kendra in different regions of Maharashtra State; and

(c) if so, the details therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) A total number of 124 TV transmitters of varying powers are, at present, functioning in the Southern States/Union Territories viz. Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Pondicherry, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep.

(b) and (c). 2 high power transmitters, 10 low power transmitters and 4 very low power transmitters are under implementation/envisaged to be set up, in different regions of Maharashtra State, as given in the statement attached.

STATEMENT

TV Transmitters under implementation envisaged to be set UP in Maharashtra State

District	HPT	LPT	VLPT	Total
Ahmednagar		Sangamner		1
Akola		Akrot Washim		2
Amravati		Chikaldhara		1
Buldhana		Khamgaon		1
Chandrapur			Adyal Tekdi	1
Jalgaon	Jalgaon			1
Osmanabad		Umerge		1
Pune			Junnar	1
Shirur			Karjat	1
Yashwantrao Chavan	Yashwantrao Chavan		Khed	3

District	HPT	LPT	VLPT	Total
Sholapur	-	Aktuj	-	1
Sindhudurg	-	Kankauli	-	1
Wardha	-	Hinganghat	-	1

Legend -

HPT - High Power Transmitter

LPT - Low Power Transmitter

VLPT - Very Low Power Transmitter

Pilferage/Selling of Desu Properties

6672 SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether alleged cases of pilferage and illegal selling of Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking properties have come to light recently,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the action taken by the Government against the persons involved in these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P V RANGAYAA NAIDU) (a) to (c) The cases of theft of DESU property including cables, street light fittings etc have been occurring from time to time. The reports of the thefts are lodged with the Police. DESU has requested the police authorities to expedite investigations in such cases with a view to bringing the culprits to book and for recovery of the stolen property.

Doordarshan Expansion Programmes in M P.

6673 SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any scheme for Doordarshan expansion in Madhya Pradesh during 1993-94, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K P SINGH DEO) (a) and (b) Besides establishment of Satellite linking facility at Bhopal for the purpose of relay of regional service programme and augmentation of power of the TV transmitter at Jabalpur from 1 KW (interim) to 10 KW, Low power transmitters at Data, Joesa, Alrajpur, Kukadeshwar and

very low power transmitters at Parasia are envisaged to be set up during 1993-94 in Madhya Pradesh. The Programme Generation Facility (PGF) Centre at Raipur is also envisaged to be commissioned during 1993-94.

[Translation]

Doordarshan Studios in Maharashtra

6674 SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) the criteria adopted for setting up Doordarshan studio centers in the country,

(b) the number of Doordarshan studio centres for which foundation stone were laid during the last two years in Maharashtra

(c) the number out of them constructed or under construction and

(d) the district wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K P SINGH DEO) (a) The establishment of programme production facilities at different places by Doordarshan is broadly governed by the following parameters -

(i) Establishment of Programme Production Facilities at the Capital of each State. This is in accordance with the long term objective to provide primary (regional) service in each State in the language of the respective State.

(ii) At selected centres other than State Capitals to cater to special area needs.

(b) No foundation stone has been laid for any Doordarshan Studio Centre in Maharashtra during the last two years.

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

*[English]***Revival of Ulunderpet Airport, Tamil Nadu**

6675 SHRI P KALIAPERUMAL Will the Minister of state of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the area of land covered by the abandoned airport in Ulunderpet, Tamil Nadu

(b) whether there is any proposal to revive the airport, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAMNABI AZAD)

(a) The airdrome at Ulunderpet in Tamil Nadu belongs to Indian Air Force. It has two runways of dimensions 6000 ft x 150 ft and 4800 ft x 150 ft

(b) and (c) The National Airports Authority has no plan to revive this airport

*[Translation]***Telephone connections from Villages to Cities IN RUNGAR**

6676 SHRI MOHAN SINGH (FEROZEPUR) Will the Minister of COMMU-

UNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the number of villages of Punjab which have been connected with the cities through telephone lines under the scheme of connecting villages to cities through telephone, and

(b) the number of villages proposed to be connected during 1993-94

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHARAM) (a) As on 31 3 1993, the number of such villages is 4056

(b) 3000 Panchayat Villages

*[English]***Laying of Underground Cable in Orissa**

6677 DR KARTIKESWAR PATRA Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number of underground cable in km network laid so far in Orissa and proposed to be laid in 1993-94 district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHARAM) District wise cable laid for last 4 years (from 89-90 to 92-93) and proposed to be laid during 1993-94 is as follows

Sl No	Name of the Telecom District	Cable laid from 89-90 to 92-93	Cable proposed to be laid during 93-94
1	Balasore	54 734 TCKM *	12 TCKM
2	Berhampur (GM)	43 515 "	12 "
3	Bhubaneswar	197 619 '	36 "
4	Bolangir	20 746	12 '
5	Cuttack	111 230	30 '
6	Dhenkanal	72 349 '	24 '
7	Korapur	38 064	12 "
8	Rourkela	66 202	30 '
9	Sambalpur	82 194 '	32 "
Total		686 653 TCKM	200 TCKM

* Thousand Conductor Kilometre

**Telephone Connections in Saurashtra
Region, Gujarat**

6678 SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether new telephone connections have been sanctioned from M P's and other VIP's quotas and general categories during January 1990 to March 1993 in the districts of Saurashtra region of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof, separately,

(c) whether all the sanctioned telephones have been installed, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which these are likely to be installed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHAM RAM) (a) Yes Sir

(b) Details of such telephones, district wise, in saurashtra region is as follows

<i>Sl No of the District</i>	<i>No of telephone Connections sanctioned during January 1990 to March 1993</i>	<i>Sl No of the District</i>	<i>No of telephone connections sanctioned during January 1990 to March 1993</i>
1 Rajkot	60	4 Junagarh	21
2 Bhavnagar	42	5 Amroli	15
3 Jamnagar	27	6 Surendra nagar	23

(c) All the telephones have been installed except the ones which are non-feasible

(d) Reasons for not providing the remaining telephones

- (1) Some parties cancelled their demand,
- (2) party's premises are under construction,
- (3) Party's locations to be confirmed,
- (4) Party has not registered his demand for telephone,
- (5) Party has not paid the Demand Note (necessary deposit amount), and

(6) Some of the sanctions have been issued only recently and the action to provide telephone connections early is being taken after observing usual departmental formalities

Pending connections are likely to be provided immediately after completion of required formalities

[Translation]

Telephone Rent for Commercial and Domestic Services

6679 SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to adopt different rent system for commercial and domestic telephone services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHRAM): (a) No, Sir. At present there is no specific proposal:

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above

T. V. Serial On Tansen

6680. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether T V serial on Tansen is pending for telecast with the Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be telecast?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

Construction of Doordarshan/Air Studios in U.P.

6681 SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Doordarshan and Akashvani studios under construction in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the present construction stage of these studios; and

(c) the estimated cost of construction of these studios?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). The details of Doordarshan studios and AIR stations with studio facilities under implementation/envisaged to be set up in Uttar Pradesh are given in the statement.

STATEMENT

<i>Scheme</i>	<i>Approved Cost (Capex)</i>	<i>Present status (Rs in lakhs)</i>
<i>Doodhataishan</i>		
1 Programme Generation Facility Centre Bareilly	630.24 (Both for PGF and High Power Transmitter Bareilly)	Technically ready
2 Studio Centre Allahabad	1772.15 (estimated capital cost)	Site has been taken over. Civil works to start after approval of the Project by the competent authority
<i>All India Radio</i>		
Radio Station (with inter-alia multi-purpose studios) at		
1 Chamoli	185.46	Civil works in progress
2 Pauri Srinagar	185.00	Civil works in progress
3 Jharkhand	293.75	Technically ready
4 Bareilly	277.70	Technically ready
5 Faizabad	292.00	Technically ready
6 Obra	283.50	Technically ready

Capacity of Telephone Exchanges in U.P.

6682 SHRISATYA DEOSINGH
SHRIBRIJ BUSHAN SHARAN
SINGH

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the installed capacity of the telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh

(b) whether the said capacity is sufficient as per the demand of the State

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the capacity of telephone exchanges, and

(d) if so the time within which the capacity of the telephone exchanges is likely to be increased and the year upto which the waiting list of new telephone connections is likely to be cleared as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRISUKH RAM) (a) The installed capacity of the telephone exchange in Uttar Pradesh as on 31.3.93 is 577758

(b) No, Sir

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) The capacity of exchanges is being increased every year according to development plans programmed on the basis of waiting list at the stations and available resources. The waiting lists are being cleared upto a specific date on expansion of an exchange. As per the objectives of the eighth five year plan of the Department, the waiting period for obtaining telephone connection under Non OYT general category in large telephone system areas is to be restricted to two years whereas the telephone system areas is to be restricted to two years whereas the telephones will be provided practically on de-

mand in small system areas and rural and tribal areas by the end of the plan period

[English]

T.A.C. in Maharashtra

6683 SHRIDHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Telecommunication Zonal Consultative Committee of Maharashtra circle have not been constituted upto the end of February, 1993

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to constitute all such committees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRISUKH RAM) (a) There are no zonal Telecommunications Consultative Committee as such. However, there is a Telecom Advisory Committee for Maharashtra Circle constituted on 10.4.1992

(b) and (c) Does not arise

[Translation]

Pay Phones in Uttar Pradesh

6684 DR LAL BHADURHAWAL Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether 'Pay Phone' connections have been provided in Uttar Pradesh,

(b) if so, the places where connections have been provided to the persons belonging to Scheduled Caste, handicapped and economically backward classes,

(c) whether any irregularities have been noticed in providing these telephone connections,

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHAM) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Pay phones are allotted liberally to all those who volunteer for the same including scheduled castes, handicapped and economically weaker sections of society. As such, categorywise statistics are not maintained.

(c) to (e) Required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Premises of Indian Missions

6685 DR Y S RAJASEKHAR REDDY Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the countries where Indian missions are functioning in their own (purchased) premises,

(b) the countries where Indian missions are functioning in rented premises,

(c) the total annual expenditure being incurred by the Government on these rented premises; and

(d) whether the Government have taken/propose to take any steps to reduce the expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) (a) and (b) Statement I and II showing two lists of Indian missions which are functioning in government owned and rented premises are placed on the table of the House.

(c) The total expenditure incurred by the

Government on these rented premises in 1991-92 was Rs 52,95,33,000 (Rupees fifty-two crore ninety five lakh and thirty-three thousand)

(d) With a view to reduce expenditure on rental of premises for our missions, the Government has been following a policy of contracting our own office and residential accommodation and to purchase suitable built-up properties wherever appropriate.

STATEMENT

Indian Missions Posts which are Functioning in Government-owned Premises

- 1 High Commission of India, ACCRA
- 2 Embassy of India, Amman
- 3 Embassy of India, Ankara
- 4 Embassy of India, Antananarivo
- 5 Embassy of India, Athens
- 6 Embassy of India, Bangkok
- 7 Embassy of India, Beijing
- 8 Embassy of India, Bonn
- 9 Embassy of India, Brussels
- 10 Embassy of India, Budapest
- 11 Embassy of India, Buenos Aires
- 12 Embassy of India, Cairo
13. High Commission of India Canberra
14. Embassy of India, Caracas
- 15 High Commission of India Colombo
16. Embassy of India, Copenhagen

141	<i>Written Answers</i>	VAISAKHA 6, 1915 (SAKA)	<i>Written Answers</i> 142
17.	Embassy of India, Damascus		40. Consulate General of India, Medan
18.	Consulate General of India, Dubai		41. Embassy of India, Mexico
19.	Consulate General of India, Dublin		42. Embassy of India, Moscow
20.	High Commission of India, Harare		43. Consulate General of India, New York
21.	Embassy of India, Helsinki		44. Permanent Mission of India, New York
22.	Commission of India, Hongkong		45. High Commission of India, Nicosia
23.	High Commission of India Islamabad		46. Embassy of India, Oslo
24.	Embassy of India, Jakarta		47. High Commission of India, Ottawa
25.	Consulate General of India, Karachi		48. Embassy of India, Paris
26.	Embassy of India, Kathmandu		49. High Commission of India, Port of Spain
27.	Embassy of India, Khartoum		50. Embassy of India, Rabat
28.	Embassy of India, Kinshasa		51. Consulate General of India, San Francisco
29.	High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur		52. Embassy of India, Santiago
30.	Embassy of India, Kuwait		53. Embassy of India, Seoul
31.	High Commission of India, Lagos		54. High Commission of India, Singapore
32.	High Commission of India, Lilongwe		55. Embassy of India, Tehran
33.	Embassy of India, Lima		56. Embassy of India, The Hague
34.	Embassy of India, Lisbon		57. Embassy of India, Thimphu
35.	High Commission of India, London		58. Embassy of India, Tokyo
36.	High Commission of India, Lusaka		59. Embassy of India, Tunis
37.	Embassy of India, Madrid		60. Embassy of India, Vienna
38.	High Commission of India, Malé		61. Embassy of India, Warsaw
39.	Embassy of India, Manila		62. Embassy of India, Washington

63. High Commission of India, Windhoek

STATEMENT-II**Indian Mission/Posts Which Are
Functioning In Rented Premises**

1. Embassy of India, Abidjan
2. Embassy of India, Algiers
3. Embassy of India, Abu Dhabi
4. consulate Geraral of India Aden
5. Embassy of India, Addis Ababa.
6. Asstt. High Commission of India,
Birmingham
7. Embassy of India, Brasilia
8. Embassy of India, Berne
9. Embassy of India, Baghdad
10. Embassy of India, Bahrain
11. Consulaste General of India, Chicago
12. Embassy of India, Beirut
13. Embassy of India, Belgrade
14. Berlin Office of E/1, Berlin
15. Embassy of India, Berne
16. Embassy of India, Bucharest
17. Consulate General of India, Chiangmi
18. Assistant High Comission of India,
Chittagoing
19. High Commission of India,
Dar-es-Salaam

20. High Commission of India, Dhaka

21. Embassy of India, Doha

22. Consulate General of India, Frankfurt.

23. Permanent Mission of India to
UN, Geneva

24. High Commission of India, Georgetown.

25. High Commission of India, Gaborone

26. Embassy of India, Hanoi.

27. Consulate General of India, Ho
Chi Minh City.

28. Commission of Indian, Hongkong

29. Consultate General of India, Hamburg

30. Embassy of India, Havana

31. Consulate General of India, Jeddah

32. High Commission of India, Kingston

33. Embassy of India, Kabul

34. Assitt. High Commission of India, Kandy

35. Embassy of India, Kiev

36. Embassy of India, Luanda

37. High Commission of India, Male

38. Consulate General of India, Milan

39. Embassy of India, Muscat

40. Embassy of India, Minsk

41. Embassy of India, Maputo

42. Commission of India, Mombasa

- 43 Embassy of India, Dakar
- 44 High Commission of India, Nairobi
- 45 Consulate General of India, Odessa
- 46 Consulate General of India, Osaka
- 47 High Commission of India, Port Louis
- 48 Embassy of India, Paganaribo
- 49 Embassy of India, Phnom Penh
- 50 Liaison Office, Phuntsholing
- 51 Embassy of India, Prague
- 52 Embassy of India, Pyong Yong
- 53 Asstt High Commission of India Rajshahi
- 54 Embassy of India, Riyadh
- 55 Embassy of India, Rome
- 56 Consulate General of India, St Denis
- 57 Embassy of India, St Petersburg
- 58 Embassy of India, Sana'a
- 59 Consulate General of India, Shanghai
- 60 Consulate General of India, Shiraz
- 61 Embassy of India, Sofia
- 62 Embassy of India, Stockholm
- 63 Consulate General of India, Sydney
- 64 Embassy of India, Tashkent
- 65 Embassy of India, Tel Aviv
- 66 Consulate General of India, Toronto

- 67 Embassy of India, Tripoli
- 68 Embassy of India, Ulan Bator
- 69 Consulate General of India, Vancouver
- 70 Embassy of India, Vientiane
- 71 Consulate General of India, Vladivostok
- 72 High Commission of India, Wellington
- 73 Embassy of India, Yangon
- 74 Consulate of India, Zanzibar
- 75 Consulate of India, Zaidan
- 76 Consulate General of India, Port Said
- 77 Embassy of India, Almaty

Power Connections in Delhi

6686 SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether the people of Delhi are being denied the electricity connections in unapproved areas/clones even after having accepted the money by Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking and issued receipts therefor

(b) if so the reasons therefor

(c) whether some of the persons were given power connections in such areas even after the non-giving of connections of electricity to persons who had made deposits earlier

(d) if so the reasons thereof, and

(e) the steps taken to provide electricity connections in unapproved areas to check theft of the electricity?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA)

NAIDU) (a) to (e) The electricity connections to individual consumers in the unauthorised colonies are released by DESU on completion of the electrification work. The delay in release of connections where the residents have deposited the development charges, is generally due to non-completion of the prescribed commercial formalities by the applicants or delay in the completion of electrification work in some cases due to non-availability of appropriate sites for sub-stations, right-of-way problems in laying the cables etc. Any specific case of discrimination in the release of connections can be looked into by DESU for appropriate action. As per the policy of Delhi Administration only the pre-1981 unauthorised colonies are eligible for electrification. DESU has intensified raids against theft of power, which is a cognizable offense under the Indian Electricity Act, 1910.

Strike by Junior Telecom Officers

6687 SHRI C P MUDALGIRYAPPA
SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether junior telecom officers throughout the country have decided to launch an agitation,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the demands of the junior Telecom officers, and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHAM RAM) (a) and (b) A notice dated 18.3.93 for Trade Union Action has been received from Junior Telecom Officers Association. The Trade Union actions proposed by the Association include

(i) Lunch/closing hour demonstrations

on 31st March, 93 at CGM/GM/TAM/TDE Headquarters

(ii) Relay hunger strike from 6th to 8th April, 93 at CGM/GM Headquarters

(iii) Dharagn on 16th April, 93 from 0900-1700 Hrs at CGM/GM/TDM/Headquarters

(iv) Relay Hunger Strike on 27th and 28th April, 93 at CGM/GM/TDM/TDE Headquarters

(v) Work according to Rule from 1000 Hours on 27th April, 93, till further notice

(c) the demands of the Association are -

(i) Creation of about 4800 Additional posts in TES Gr 'B' so that approximately about 550 AEs, who face reversions as result of recasting the seniority list sequel to the Court's judgment are not demoted and all the officials senior to them as per the revised seniority order are promoted

(ii) Second Lateral Advancement

(iii) Abrogation of TES Gr 'B' qualifying examination

(iv) Extending benefit of advance increment to Jogs directly entering the Department with a qualification of degree in Engineering and rationalisation of the number of increments

(v) Proper remuneration in the form of Overtime allowance for JTO performing duties on holidays beyond office hours

(d) The demands have been looked into. Action within frame where of Rules and direc-

tives of the Court Judgment would be taken

Dialogue is being held with the representatives of the Association and they are being persuaded not to resort to Agitation

Posting of Letters

6688 SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA. Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'posting letter to nowhere' appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated April 8, 1993,

(b) if so, the details of the salient points of the news-items, and

(c) the action taken on each of the points?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHAM) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The following points have been highlighted in the news item

- (i) Up-keep of Post Office buildings, duty and shoddy counters, indifferent behavior of the staff
- (ii) long waiting and delays at counter specially in the last month of the financial year; waiting in multiqueues for one transaction,
- (iii) Late delivery of mails including registered articles and letters posted and delivered within Delhi
- (iv) Non-availability of P os working round the clock

(c) Following actions have been taken to improve the postal service in Delhi,

(i) Maintenance of buildings is carried out as per annual programme

(ii) Complaints against postal services including the misbehavior by the staff are investigated promptly and suitable action is taken against the officials found guilty

(iii) Nine new Post Offices have been opened, additional counters are provided during peak hours multipurpose counters have been provided to minimise the time for counter transactions in some post offices

(iv) The timings of arrival of the mails depend upon the operation of the transport Agencies like Railways, Airlines and Transport. Close liaison is maintained at the highest level with the transport agencies

(v) Delivery of mails is frequently monitored and remedial measures are taken wherever delays are noticed

(vi) Working hours of selected post offices have been suitably structured to provide postal facilities to the public upto 8 P^m M on working days and upto 1 P^m M on Sundays holidays in different localities

Water Release from Farakka Barrage to Bhagirathi-Hooghly

6689 SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the quantum of water usually released to the Bhagirathi Hooghly river system from the Farakka Barrage during the peak and lean periods respectively

(b) the quantum of water originally planned to be released for improving the navigability of

the said river system and other purposes,

(c) whether there is any shortfall,

(d) if so, the reasons thereof, and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to release the required quantum of water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P K THUNGON) (a) The quantum of water released into the Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system from the Farakka Barrage varies from 40 000 cuses to 12, 000 cuses during the peak and lean periods respectively

(b) The quantum of water planned to be released for improving the navigability of Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system was upto 40 000 cusec ?

(c) to (e) The shortfall in not being able to release planned quantum were due to lesser arrivals of water in the river Ganga at Farakka. In addition India has also to provide for the water requirements in Bangladesh. Discussion have been held with Bangladesh for augmenting the flows in river Ganga

Import of Foreign Films

6690 SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the import of foreign films is likely to go up following the liberalisation of film import policy

(b) whether Government have any mechanism for ensuring the quality of films to be imported and

(c) if so the measures being, taken for

import of Asian, African & Latin American films

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K P SINGH DEO)

(a) It cannot be definitely said that the liberalisation of import policy will always lead to increase in imports. The exact position will be known only after the policy is in operation for some more time

(b) Yes, Sir. Only a film which has won an award in any of the International Film Festivals notified by Government or has participated in any of the official sections of the notified International Film Festivals or has received good reviews in prestigious film journals notified by Government can be imported. Further these films are also required to be certified by the Central Board of Film Certification in accordance with the guidelines prescribed under the Cinematograph Act 1952

(c) The import policy is applicable to all foreign films at par and no special measures can be taken for import of films from any particular country

NTPC Dues Against SEBs

6691 KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) the amount of the National Thermal Power Corporation dues on each State electricity Board as on March 31 1993

(b) whether the NTPC has offered some incentives to the States in order to facilitate prompt payment of the amount due and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P V RANGAYA NAIDU) (a) the details of the outstanding of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) against each of the State Electricity Board

Departments as on 31st March, 1993 are furnished in the statement attached

(b) and (c) The NTPC allows a rebate of 2.5% on the amount paid through Letter of Credit

(LC) upon presentation of bills by NTPC to any bank. Where payments are made subsequently through LC or otherwise within a period of one month from the date of issue of bills by NTPC a rebate of 1% is allowed.

STATEMENT

NTPC dues against SEBs as on 31st March 1983

SEBs/Organisations	Outstanding as on date	Surcharge billed	Total outstanding
Uttar Pradesh	312 79	195 98	508 77
Rajasthan	83 64	102 40	186 04
Delhi	96 86	53 08	149 94
Punjab	37 75	1 12	38 87
Haryana	141 13	76 62	217 75
Himachal Pradesh	11 46	6 87	18 33
Jammu & Kashmir	48 38	9 10	57 48
Chandigarh	1 31	24	1 55
Madhya Pradesh	75 14	140 48	215 62
Maharashtra	103 37	47 21	150 58
Gujarat	46 70	44 22	90 92
Goa	49	04	53
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	99	12	1 11

SEBs/Organisations	Outstanding as on date	Surcharge billed	Total outstanding
Daman & Diu	1.91	-	1.91
Andhra Pradesh	39.55	19.88	59.23
Karnataka	19.00	19.58	38.58
Tamil Nadu	54.04	33.22	87.26
Kerala	17.79	13.39	31.18
Pondicherry	-3.62	02	-3.60
West Bengal	37.60	42.07	79.67
Bihar	242.76	137.88	380.44
Orissa	21.08	17.43	38.51
Sikkim	88	.01	.34
Total	1390.45	960.56	2351.01

World Bank Assistance for Power Projects

6692 SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No 3970 dated August 3, 1992 and to state

(a) whether discussions with World Bank regarding funding of additional power projects yielded positive results,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P V SANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) to (c) Recently, a loan of US\$ 350 million for implementing a power system development project by the World Bank and discussions are continuing for the other projects

Re-Installation of Telephones in Delhi

6693 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether any norms or guidelines have been issued by his Ministry to the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited New Delhi for the re-installation of telephones kept by the subscriber in Delhi in safe custody of the MTNL while going abroad

(b) the number of such requests made by the subscribers on return from abroad for the re-installation of their telephones which are pending at present for re-installation at their new residences, and

(c) the time by which such telephone are likely to be re-installed, area-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI

SUKH RAM) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) No separate record is being maintained of cases of safe custody of subscribers going abroad

[Translation]

Helicopter Services in U.P.

6694 SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the number of additional places in Uttar Pradesh proposed to be linked with helicopter service during the next year and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) and (b) There is no proposal to link various places in Uttar Pradesh by helicopter services Pawan Hans Limited has however entered into an agreement to provide a helicopter to a charter who proposes to provide helicopter services on Rishikesh-Bagmath-Kendranath sectors with a helicopter based at Dehradun

Rural Electrification in Assam

6695 SHRI PROBIN DEKA Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) the names of projects under various schemes of electrification in Assam for which funds aid been sanctioned by the Rural Electrification Corporation during 1991-92,

(b) the amount released for each of such project so far and

(c) the district-wise names of projects sent by the Assam State Electricity Board to R E C for approval during 1992-93 along with the latest position in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Funds had been allocated to Assam during 1991-92 under the following schemes:-

- (i) REC Normal Programme;
- (ii) REC Minimum Needs Programme; and
- (iii) REC System Improvement Programme

(b) An amount of Rs. 600 lakhs was released during 1991-92 to Assam State Electricity Board as per the following details:-

<i>Amount released</i>	<i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>
(i) REC Normal	100
(ii) REC MNP	500
Total	600

(c) No Project was submitted by Assam State Electricity Board to REC for approval during 1992-93.

Organisations of Fairs

6696. SHRI N. J. RATHVA Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fair was organised in Calcutta in July, 1992 to encourage the interstate tourism;

(b) if so, the States participated in it;

(c) whether the Government propose to organise such fairs in various States and Particularly in Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a)

Yes, Sir. A Travel and Tourism Fair was organized by a private entrepreneur in Calcutta in July 1992

(b) The State Government of Assam, Meghalaya Tripura, Mizoram, Orissa, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Arunachal Pradesh and the Union Territory of Delhi participated in the Fair, besides the India Tourism Development Corporation and the Regional Director, Government of India Tourist Office, Calcutta.

(c) and (d). The Central Department of Tourism does not organise Fairs and festivals. These are organised either by private entrepreneurs or by State Governments. For organising Fairs and Festivals, State Governments seek financial assistance from the Central Department of Tourism.

[Translation]

Relief to Telephone Subscribers of Ranchi, Bihar

6697. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUHARY:
SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received during the last three years regarding the inflated telephone bills in Ranchi region, Bihar and Bilaspur region, Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the number of complaints, out of them, found genuine and relief/compensation given to the subscribers; and

(c) the criteria adopted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHI RAM): (a) to (c). The information has been called for from the concerned units and shall be

placed on the Table of the House.

Functioning of Rural Post Offices in Gujarat

6698. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rural post offices in Gujarat and the number, out of them, without departmental buildings;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding poor functioning of these post-offices located in the rural area; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve the functioning of these post-offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The total number of rural departmental post offices in Gujarat is 650 and out of them, 602 post offices are without departmental buildings.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The question does not arise.

[English]

Fax Service

6699. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of service provided to the public by FAX;

(b) the manner in which the FAX service is utilised; and

(c) the cities where this FAX service is available at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MIN-

ISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). FAX service enable instant transmission of document including hand written material, graphics, diagram, signatures, etc. to distant locations within or outside the country. A telephone subscriber can obtain a license from the Department to use FAX machine on his line, the license fee being Rs. 3000/- per annum in case the fax facility is for subscribers own use. From his FAX machine, he can transmit documents to any similar FAX machine connected to the telephone network. The FAX machine is procured and owned by its user.

(c) Fax service is available in all cities where STD facility exists

Operation of Private Taxi Operators

6700 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state.

(a) whether private taxi operators are regularly paying the landing charges, fuel charges etc. to the Government:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken to realise the dues from them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD). (a) Q to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Construction of Project in Foreign Countries

6701 SHRI H. D. DEVEGOWDA SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether various departments working under his ministry have signed contracts to construct several projects in foreign countries during each of the last three years,

(b) if so, the names of departments which have signed contracts, the names of countries with whom such contracts have been signed and the names and value of these projects,

(c) whether working capacity and efficiency of these departments had been evaluated before awarding them these contracts,

(d) if so, the details thereof,

(e) whether losses have been suffered while implementing these projects, and

(f) if not, the total number of projects constructed during this period and the extent of profit made?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (GHULAM NABIAZAD) (a) No enterprise under this Ministry has undertaken construction of projects in foreign countries during the last three years

(b) to (f) Do not arise

[English]

Japan Linking NPT with AID

6702. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES
SHRI BOLLABULLIRAMIAH

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether any talks were held with Japan on non-proliferation and nuclear issues during March 1993,

(b) if so, the broad features of the outcome,

(c) whether the Government have conveyed their principled stand on Non-Prolifera-

tion Treaty (NPT),

(d) if so, the response of that country thereto

(e) whether Japan has linked aid with NPT, and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DISNESH SINGH) (a) Yes Sir

(b) India - Japan bilateral talks on non-proliferation at related issues, pursuant to the agreement between the Indian and Japanese Prime Ministers in June, 1992, took place on March 12 1993. During the talks both sides reviewed international development in recent years and the policies and approaches of India and Japan with respect to nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear programmes, the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT), the security environment in Asia, regional approaches to nuclear disarmament, other systems of mass destruction, delivery systems and export control regimes. The talks resulted in understanding of the respective positions and concerns of the two countries on the above subjects.

(c) Yes Sir

(d) Japan took note of the Indian position on the NPT, but suggested further bilateral talks on the subject because of Japan's support for the NPT.

(e) No Sir

(f) Does not arise

[Translation]

Indian Artists to Pakistan

6703 SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Pakistan

have refused permission to some Indian artists to present their stage programme in that country,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Government of have taken any decision in this regard, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) (a) to (d) There is no Cultural Exchange Programme operative between India and Pakistan providing for visits by Indian artists to Pakistan

We are, however, aware that Indian artists do commercial visits to Pakistan in their private capacity to give stage performances in Pakistan, and that at times they have been refused permission to perform

We are for encouraging people-to-people contacts between the two countries and hope that Pakistan would not impeded such visits by Indian artists. India however, has no desire to impose its artists or culture on Pakistan

[English]

Bilateral Relations with Canada

6704 SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES
SHRI MANDRANJAN
BHAKTA

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to strengthen further the bilateral relations with Canada,

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) whether nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty is an issue between the two countries

and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) (a) and (b) Government attach importance to the continued expansion and diversification of relations between India and Canada. To strengthen bilateral relations, more frequent consultations between the two Governments have been instituted. Higher level visits of political leaders have also taken place. Government attach particular importance to increasing economic and commercial interaction with Canada.

(c) and (d) Canada has urged India to sign the NPT. Our position on the NPT is principled and well-known. We continue to regard it as being discriminatory in its present form and believe that it does not address our security concerns.

[Translation]

Indira Left Irrigation scheme

6705 SHRI KUNJEE LAL Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal for approval of Indira left irrigation scheme from the Government of Rajasthan,

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

(c) the details of the scheme and the number of districts to be benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) (a) and (b) Indira Left Irrigation Scheme has not been received at the Center for techno economic appraisal.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Purchase of Power by Desu

6706 SHRI NITISH KUMAR
SHRI NAWAL KISHRE RAI

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) the quantum of power generated and purchased by the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking during 1990-91 1991-92 and 1992-93 separately and the States from which power has been purchased,

(b) the amount spent by DESU in each

during the above period,

(c) the quantum of power supplied to different categories of consumers in Delhi during the above period,

(d) whether the quantum of power generated and purchased by D E S U is much more than that of supplied to consumers, and

(e) if so, extent of difference therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) The requisite information is given in statement-I during the last three years is as under -

(b) The amount spent by DESU on power generation/purchase during the last three years is as under -

Particulars	1990-91 (Provisional)	1991-92 (Provisional)	1992-93 (Provisional)
Power Purchased			
Quantum of energy imported by DESU (MU)	6378	6973	7254
Cost Billed (Rs /crores)	535 35	605 32	723 31
Payment released by DESU (Rs /crores)	194 64	345 73	322 84
DESU Generation			
Energy generated (MU)	1884	2194	2121
GENERATION COST (Rs /crores)	208 30	262 17	295 25

(c) The requisite details are given in Annexure-II
 (d) and (e) The difference between the power generated purchased and powers sold to the consumers by DESU during the last three years is as under

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>1990-91 (Provisional)</i>	<i>1991-92 (Provisional)</i>	<i>1992-93 (Provisional)</i>
(a) Power generated Purchased (MU)	8262	9167	9375
(b) Powersold (Difference (a—b))	6515 1747	7099 2068	7500 1875

STATEMENT

The quantity of Power-Purchase (Source-wise), energy generated during the years 1990-91 to 1992-93

Particulars	1990-91 (Provisional)		1991-92 (Provisional)		1992-93 (Provisional)	
	M.U.	M.U.	M.U.	M.U.	M.U.	M.U.
1 Power Purchase						
i) B T P S	3545 373		3469 733		3400 000	
ii) N T P C						
a) Singrauli/Rihand/ Western Grid	1838.042		2379 336		2335 000	
b) Anta/Auriya	338 589		390 525		450.000	
c) Dadri					210 000	
iii) N H P C						
a) Salal	258 867		257 434		260 000	
b) Baira Stul	74 205		81 083		75 000	
c) Tanakpur					10 000	
iv) Narora Atomic Power Station	36 913		31 359		150 000	

Particulars	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
	(Provisional)	(Provisional)	(Provisional)
	M U	M U	M U
v) P S E B	149 003	15 502	
vi) H P S E B	208 571	348 234	363 950
vii) R S E B	.		
viii) Others	37 167		
Total Power Purchase	6377 730	6973 206	7253 950
2 Energy generated by DESU (Net)	1884 438	2194 296	2121 050
Total Energy available	8262 168	9167 502	9375 000

STATEMENT

Quantity of Power Sold to different categories of consumers during the last three years

(Million Units)

Categories	1990-91 (Provisional)	1991-92 (Provisional)	1992-93 (Provisional)
Domestic	2415 522	3110 053	3265
Non-Domestic L T	690 398	563 240	620
HT	402 964	418 961	440
Industrial			
SIP 1189 160	1161 978	1300	
IIP 741 198	639 277	550	
Water Works	230 179	228 661	220
Agriculture	21 235	42 176	60
Public Lighting	117 354	133 862	160
Licences			
(a) N D M-C	617 362	682 286	800
(b) M E S	89 685	98 339	65
Total energy sold	6515 077	7098 833	7500

India-Nepal Treaty

6707 SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether India-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1950 provided some privileges to the nationals of one country in the territories of the other in the matters of purchase of property, establishment of business, employment and uninterrupted visits;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent of implementation of this treaty?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Articles 6 & 7 of the India-Nepal Treaty of Peace & Friendship provide that:

Article 6

Each Government undertakes, in taken of the neighbourly friendship between India & Nepal, to give to the nationals of the other, in its territory, national treatment with regard to participation in industrial and economic development of such territory and to the grant or concessions and contracts relating to such development.

Article 7

The Government of India and Nepal agree to grant, on request based to the nationals of one country in the territories of the other the same privileges in the matter of residence, ownership of property, participation in trade & commerce, movement and other privilege of similar nature.

(cc) The Government of India continue to implement their obligations under the provisions of the India-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship. The provisions in article 6 regarding

national treatment to Indians in regard to participation in industrial and economic development and grant of concessions and contract in Nepal are not presently being implemented in Nepal. Under letters exchanged along with the Treaty between Nepal & India dated 31st July, 1950, the Government of India recognise that it may be necessary for some time to come to afford Nepalese national in Nepal protection from unrestricted competition.

Article 7, which provides for the reciprocal grant of privileges to nationals of one country in the territories of the other in the matter of residence, ownership of property, participation in trade and commerce, movement and other privileges of a similar nature is presently being unevenly implemented. In the large interests of good India-Nepal relations, it has not been Government of India's policy to seek strict and immediate reciprocity in all such matters.

It is the Government of India's endeavour to secure full implementation of the provisions of the Treaty so as to strengthen the existing bounds of friendship between the two countries.

STD/ISD Public Telephone in M.P.

6708. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of STD/ISD Public telephones provided so far in Madhya Pradesh, district-wise; and

(b) the number of such telephone proposed to be provided by the Government during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHAM RAM): (a) The required information is furnished in the statement

(b) 4000 such telephone are proposed to be provided in 1993-94.

STATEMENT

*PCOs Set up in M.P. Telecom Circle Till
31.3.93 District-wise*

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>STDPTs</i>
1.	Bhopal	277
2.	Sehore	5
3.	Raisen	10
4.	Raipur	248
5.	Ambikapur	17
6.	Raigarh	28
7.	Shahdol	12
8.	Bilaspur	95
9.	Satna	47
10.	Rewa	21
11.	Bidhi	9
12.	Panna	4
13.	durg	140
14.	Rajnandgaon	21
15.	Jagdalpur	19
16.	Jabalpur	274
17.	Gwalior	214
18.	Datia	3
19.	Morena	25
20.	Shivpuri	28
21.	Bhind	16

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>STDPTs</i>
22.	Guna	28
23.	Sagar	66
24.	Damoh	12
25.	Chhatarpur	16
26.	Tikamagarh	5
27.	Nurshinghpur	14
28.	Mandla	14
29.	Saoni	16
30.	Balaghat	16
31.	Chhindwara	49
32.	Khandawa	61
33.	Hoshangabad	50
34.	Betul	16
35.	Dewas	23
36.	Khargone	19
37.	Dhar	23
38.	Isjjain	88
39.	Ratlam	56
40.	Jhabua	15
41.	Rajgarh	11
42.	Shajapur	20
43.	Vidisha	18
44.	Mandsaur	9
45.	Indore	442
Total		2600

Irrigation Management Policy

6709 DR CHINTAMOHAN
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether the draft of the irrigation management policy has been prepared,

(b) the data of its finalisation,

(c) the proven technologies recommended for acceptance

(d) whether the same has been approved by National Water Board and

(e) if so the data on which it is likely to be discussed in the National Water Resources Council?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P K THUNGON) (a) to (e) Yes Sir The policy paper was placed for consideration of National Water Board in its fifth meeting held on 22.3.93. The main thrust of the policy is on proper management of irrigation systems for the optimal use of water and the guidelines regarding operation and maintenance, conjunctive use, drainage, farmers' participation, maintenance grants, water rates, training, etc. because it will help conserve water while increasing productivity. Application of proven technologies like sprinkler, drip, etc. which also carry substantial incentives are recommended for acceptance.

The members of the Board are to submit their views to the Board for consideration. After it is adopted by National Water Board, it will be discussed in the next meeting of National Water Resources Council.

(English)

Performance of Power Units

6710 DR D VENKATESHWARA RAO

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have reviewed the performance of public sector units in power sector,

(b) the details of the non-viable power units which have made improvement so far,

(c) the number of those units which have not been made improvement and the amount of their total losses, so far, and

(d) the steps taken to make their losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) to (d) All Public Sector Undertakings under the administrative control of Ministry of Power are profit making Organisations.

LPT in Konkan Region of Maharashtra

6711 SHRIL RAM KAPSE Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to set-up a low-power T V transmitter in Konkan region of Maharashtra for the coverage of Bombay Dordaharshan/Punjab Dordaharshan, and

(b) if so by when it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K P SINGH DEO) (a) Two low power TV transmitters one each at Kankauli and Chiplun are at present under implementation in Konkan region.

(b) The low power transmitter at Kankauli is expected to be commissioned during 1993-94 and that at Chiplun during 1994-95.

Telephone Exchanges in Bombay

6712 SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the telephone exchanges in Bombay under Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited with their capacity and the connections given from each exchange;

(b) the extent to which the capacity of the exchange can be utilised;

(c) the reasons for giving connections more than permissible limit; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to provide the connections with permissible limit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Names of the telephone Exchanges, capacity and the connections given from each exchange are as per Annexure-1.

(b) The extent to which the capacity of the Exchange can be utilised is indicated in the column 'Connectable capacity' in the statement

(c) and (d). Generally connection given are not more than connectable/permissible limits. However, only in a few cases it is more marginally and this is purely temporary to meet emergent requirements. The steps are afoot to provide the connections within permissible limits by expansion of the exchanges with suitable capacity.

STATEMENT

Annexure-I

Bombay Telephone system As On 28.2.1993

Sl No	Exchange	Code	Type	Equipped	Connectable 28.2.93	DIELs as on
1	Gandevi-1	35	SXS	7000	7600	7512
2	S Park-1	45	SXS	8000	6500	7227
3	Khar-2	54	SXS	6000	5640	5125
4	Cooperage-1	23	PCXB	5400	4647	4895
5	Cooperage-2	24	PCXB	5400	4961	4405
6	Cooperage-3	22	PCXB	5400	4018	4028
7	Fountain-1	27	PCXB	7800	6807	6895
8	City-1	25	PCXB	7800	6580	4882
9	City-2	29	PCXB	7500	7050	6625
10	City-3	31	PCXB	7000	6580	5957
11	Mandvi-3	344	PCXB	9000	7635	7804
12	Gandevi-3	388	PCXB	10000	9400	9248

	Exchange	Code	Type	Equipped	Connectable 28 2 93	DELS as on
13	Byculla-3	309	PCXB	10000	9400	9386
14	S Park-2	46	PCXB	8000	7520	7632
15	Matunga 2	48	PCXB	6000	2820	2687
16	Thane-2	50	PCXB	8600	8084	7562
17	Andheri-2	628	PCXB	10000	9400	9346
18	Malad-2	888	PCXB	6400	5527	5092
19	Borivali-2	85	PCXB	5000	4300	4455
20	M Hill 1	362.1	C-400	20000	17150	17857
21	M Hill 2	367.8	C-400	13000	10500	10207
22	Mazgaon-1	376	C 400	10000	9600	9629
23	Mazgaon 2	372	C 400	10000	9600	9778
24	Wadala 1	412.1	C-400	15500	14880	14856
25	Prabhadevi-1	422	C-400	10000	9680	9510
26	Worli-1	492	C-400	10000	9600	9615
27	Worli-2	494	C-400	10000	9600	9614

Sl No	Exchange	Code	Type	Equipped	Connectable 28 2 93	DELS as on
28	Vilparle-1	612/3	C 400	14000	12440	13098
29	Vilparle-2	614/5	C-400	14000	13440	13119
30	Marol-1	832 0	C 400	12000	11520	11040
31	Marol 2	834	C-400	10000	9600	9405
32	Ghatkopar 1	512/3A 512 3B	10000	10000	9600 9600	19710
33	Mankhurd-i	561 5	C 400	20000	16500	17067
34	Mulund 1	551 0	C 400	160000	15360	15119
35	Cooperage 4	202/4	FETEX(A)	20000	16000	16128
36	Mazgaon 3	311 5-8		23000	22540	22387
37	Prabhadevi 2	430 7 6		24000	23520	23175
38	Bandra 1	642 0 3 4		33000	32340	31030
39	Fourtain 3	266	FFTEX(D)	6000	5880	5100
40	Thana RLC	539		4000	3920	3303
41	Cooperage 5	287	E10B	6000	5465	5566
42	Cooperage 6	215		6000	5880	5117

Sl. No.	Exchange	Code	Type	Equipped	Connectable 28.2.83	DEls as on
43.	C. Parade RLU	218/5		12000	1709	10836
44.	Fountain-2	261/2	" "	8000	15333	15651
45.	City-4	206/8	" "	20000	19600	18433
46.	Byculia-4	307/8	" "	17000	16503	16224
47.	Mazgaon-4	373	" "	0	0	0 (Caters to Mandvi RLU)
48.	Mandvi RLU	342/3	E10B	19000	16385	16529
49.	M. Hill-3	363	" "	5000	4900	4373
50.	Gandevi RLU	386/7	" "	17000	16660	16162
51.	Worli-3	493/5	" "	10000	9800	9575
52.	Wadala-2	413/4	" "	17000	16660	16021
53.	Bion-1	407/9	" "	16000	15484	15375
54.	Ghatkopar-2	511	" "	8000	7510	6406
55.	Ghatkopar-3	514/5	" "	14000	13281	13020

Sl. No.	Exchange	Code	Type	Equipped	Connectable 28.2.93	DEls as on
56.	Power RLU-1	578	" "	8000	7260	7641
57	Godrej RLU	517	" "	2000	1880	1862
58.	Mankurd-2	556	" "	5000	4847	3894
59	Chembur RLU	552/3	" "	14000	13665	11694
60	Mulund-2	564	" "	10000	9800	9738
61.	T. Charaj RLU	534	" "	9000	8812	8972
62.	W.Estat RLU	532	" "	5000	4416	4284
63.	Mumbra RLU	535	" "	2000	1882	1662
64	Khar-3	649/6/8	" "	23000	22540	21441
65	V. Parle-3	611/0	" "	12000	11612	10769
66.	Versova RLU-2	329	" "	6000	5880	6447
67	Andheri-3	620/1/3	" "	22000	21560	20836
68	Versova RLU-1	626/7	" "	12000	11760	11208
69.	Marol-3	836/5	" "	11000	10780	10285

Sl No	Exchange	Code	Type	Equipped	Connectable 28.2.93	DEls as on
70	Goregaon RLU 1	872/3		17000	16660	16276
71	Marol 4	837/8	20000	19600	16412	
72	Kandivali 1	805/6		16000	15680	15168
73	Malad RLU 1	882		8000	7840	6508
74	G Dham RLU 1	840		9000	8320	8722
75	Kandivali 2	801		10000	9800	9712
76	Malad RLU 2	889		9000	8820	7788
77	Bhayander RLU	819		6500	6370	5793
78	Khandivali 3	807/8		16000	15680	11844
79	Borivali RLU	893/2		9000	8820	8023
New B.P.L. Telephone Exchange						
1	Turbhe 1	768	PCXB	6000	5640	5643
2	Turbhe 2	767	PRX	3000	2940	2876
3	Kalamboli	742	PRX	3000	2940	2539

Sl No	Exchange	Code	Type	Equipped	Connectable 28 2 93	DEls as on
4	Turbhe-3	763	E10B	10000	980	782
5	Vashi RLU	766	E10B	8000	7840	7320
6	Rabale RLU	769	E10B	2000	1533	1797
7	Panvel RLU	745	E10B	3000	2940	2793
8	JNP RLU	724	E10B	1000	767	473
9	Uran RLU	722	F10B	1000	980	785
10	Nheva	721	RAX	88	86	82

Circulation of Fake Passports

6713 SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Canadian immigration authorities have brought to the attention of the Government about the circulation of several India fake passports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATTA): (a) to (c). The Canadian Immigration authorities had, in November, 1992 informed the Indian Consulate in Toronto that the Canadian authorities had intercepted blank Indian passport booklets which had been sent by registered post to an address in Canada.

One such seized passport which contained the stamp, without signatures, of the Passport Office, Jalandhar, as well as the stamps of the immigration authority at India Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi was forwarded to the Indian Consulate by the Canadian authorities and has been sent for investigation to the State Police in Punjab. The Central Bureau of Investigation has also been informed and asked to coordinate with the State Police.

Telecom Facilities in Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh

6714. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh territory where the facilities of telephones and telephone exchanges have been provided as on December 31, 1992:

(b) whether there is any proposal to extend

such facilities in any of these Enclaves during 1993-94;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the Enclaves where these are likely to be provided, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Only one Indian Enclave named "Kuchlibari" has been provided with Telecom. facility (Panchayat Telephone) as on December, 1992.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise

(d) No such proposal for extending Telephone facilities for other enclaves has since been initiated from any quarter since there are very small villages

Industry Status to Tourism

6715. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) Whether after the declaration of tourism as an industry, there has been an increase in the proposals of the construction of new hotels and expansion of existing hotels;

(b) Whether the institutional financing agencies, both central and in the States have been five necessary guidance to consider tourism as an industry and thereby effect consequential changes in the liberalisation of financing pattern; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) 334 hotel projects have been approved during 1990-1991 and 1992 as compared to 138 hotel

projects in the preceding three year period of 1987, 1988 and 1989.

(b) and (c). The Tourism Finance corporation of India has been set up to cater to the specialised needs of the tourism industry and to provide financial assistance for setting up and development of tourism related activities, facilities and services

Naming of Bombay International Airport

6716 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to name the Bombay International airport after Chhatrapati Shivaji,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM ((SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (c) It has been decided to rename Bombay Airport after Jawahar Lal Nehru, when the airport facilities are further upgraded

Adventure Tourism in Karnataka

6717 SHRI G. MADEGOWDA Will the

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the number of proposals sent by the Government of Karnataka to the Union Government for seeking financial assistance to promote adventure tourism,

(b) the details thereof and the assistance sought,

(c) whether the Government have approved those proposals,

(d) if so, the number of proposals which have been approved and which are still pending, and

(e) the amount of financial assistance given during 1992-93 in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM ((SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) During 1992-93, Seven proposals were received by Government of India from Government of Karnataka for financial assistance for Adventure Tourism

(b) to (d) The details are in the statement attached

(e) During 1992-93 a total sum of Rs 54, 62,736 was sanctioned and Rs 28, 10,000 was released as mobilisation fund

STATEMENT

<i>Sl No</i>	<i>Details of proposal</i>	<i>amount sought</i>	<i>Present status</i>
1	Promote Adventure Sports in Kodagu District of Karnataka	Rs.5,60,000	Approved for Rs 4, 60, 000
2	Setting up of Aero-sports at Mysore	Rs 29,80,000	Clarification awaited from State Government
3	Upgradation of facilities being provided at the Shimswary fishing camp on the banks of the river Cauvery	Rs. 11,63,760	Clarification awaited from State Government

<i>Sl No</i>	<i>Details of proposal</i>	<i>amountsought</i>	<i>Present status</i>
4	Adventure sports Base Camp at Kammanundi	Rs 5 20 000	Approved for Rs 5 00 000
5	Setting up of a Rock Climbing Centre at Ramanagram	Rs 22 57 200	Approved for Rs 3 57 500
6	Setting up of Advanturo Jungle Camp at Bellagodu in Kodagu District	Rs 37 00 000	Approved for Rs 34 00 000
7	Water Sports Trekking and rock climbing at Western Ghat & Chitradurga Explore India Event	Rs 8 52 000	Approved for Rs 7 65 236
Total Amountsought		Rs 1 20 32 960	

Pilot Scheme for Rural Exchanges

6718 PROF UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce pilot scheme in each district to monitor the functioning of rural exchanges and rural trunk facilities

(b) if so the details thereof and

(c) if not the scheme envisaged by the Government to improve the rural telephone system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHAM) (a) to (c) There is no proposal to introduce pilot scheme. However a scheme does exist for close monitoring of the rural network for which detailed institutions have been issued. In addition the rural network is

being modernised progressively with the introduction of reliable electronic exchanges and radiomedia

Rural Electrification

6719 SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR SHRI HARADHAN ROY DR LALBAHADUR RAWAL

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) the number of villages electrified during the Sixth and Seventh Plans period in each State district wise

(b) the number of villages electrified during each of the last three years State-wise and district-wise,

(c) the number of villages yet to be electrified

fied, State-wise and district-wise, and

(d) the number of villages proposed to be electrified during the current financial year, State-wise and district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

Improvement of Dum Dum Airport Calcutta

6720 SHRI HARADHAN ROY Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to improve the Dum Dum airport Calcutta

(b) if so the steps take in this regard and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (c) A new Terminal Building is under construction for enhancing and upgrading the facilities for passenger handling

Outlay for Power Sector in Uttar Pradesh

6721 SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have enhanced the total outlay for power sector for Uttar Pradesh for the year 1993-94, and

(b) if so the details of the schemes to be undertaken to improve the power sector in the State during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIN-

ISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) and (b) No Sir Provisions for Rs 1 500 80 Crores under the Annual Plan (1993-94) and Rs 6 974 76 Crores for the VIII Five Year Plan have been made for the power sector in Uttar Pradesh The following power generation projects are among the schemes to be undertaken during 1993-94 for which allocations have been made

1 Anpara B Thermal Power Project

2 Khara HEP

3 Manen Bhalii II HEP

4 Lakhwar Vyasi HEP

5 Tanda Thermal Project

6 Anpara A

7 Obra (Addl CHP)

8 Tehn HEP

[Translation]

Air Facilities in M.P.

6722 SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether any decrease in flights in Madhya Pradesh has been registered from 1987 to 1992.

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

(c) the details of airports where the number of the flights have been decreased

(d) whether the Government propose to link

some other cities and tourist spots of Madhya Pradesh with the air services in near future; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) Details of flights operated by Indian Airlines in March, 1987 and in November, 1992 are shown in statement. Changes in frequency and withdraw/introduction of air services depend on traffic demand, availability of suitable aircraft and crew and other facilities

With a view to rationalise its route structure and minimise the gap between revenue and expenditure, Vayudoot services were withdrawn from the following stations in the state of Madhya Pradesh

Bhopal, Bilaspur, Guna Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur, Jabalpur, Khajuraho, Raipur, Rewa and Satna.

(d) and (e) Inadequate traffic demand and other operational and commercial constraints do not permit operation of air service to more places in the state of Madhya Pradesh at present

STATEMENT

March, 1987

1. Bombay - Indore - Bhopal - Gwalior - Delhi & return - Daily
2. Delhi - Bhopal - Nagpur and return - Daily
3. Bombay - Indore - Bhopal and return - Daily
4. Bhopal - Jabalpur - Raipur and return - Daily
5. Delhi - Agra - Khajuraho - Varanasi and

return - Daily

6. Delhi - Raipur - Bhubaneswar and return - Daily

November, 1992

1. Bombay - Ahmedabad - Indore - Bhopal - Calcutta & return twice weekly
2. Delhi - Agra - Khajuraho - Varanasi & return - Daily
3. Delhi - Gwalior - Bhopal - Indore - Bombay return - Daily
4. Delhi - Nagar - Raipur - Delhi - thrice weekly
5. Delhi - Agra - Khajuraho - Varanasi - Delhi - three weekly

Telex Facility in Gujarat

6723 SHR DILEEPBHAI SANGHANI
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the places in Gujarat where telex facility is available,

(b) whether the Government propose to expand this facility at the other places of the State, and

(c) if so, the details with location thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The required information is furnished in the statement

(b) and (c) Expansion/upgradation of ex-changes in Gujarat at the following places is envisaged during 1993-94

S.No.	Name of Telex Exchange	Programme envisaged during 1993-94
1.	Ahmedabad	Expansion-200 Lines (1200-1400)
2.	Bharuch	Replacing Notional Telex by 40L ITEX
3.	Kalce (N.G.)	- do -
4.	Morbi	Replacing 20L SXS by 40L ITEX
5.	Palanpur	Conversion of Notional Telex by 40L ITEX
6.	Bhuj	- do -
7.	Porbandar	Replacing 20L SXS by 40L ITEX

The proposals are subject to timely receipt of the equipment.

STATEMENT

The Telex facility is available at the following places in Gujarat

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| 1. AHMEDABD | 13. UMERGAON |
| 2. BARODA | 14. GANDHIDHAM |
| 3. RAJKOT | 15. JAMNAGAR |
| 4. MORBI | 16. JUNAGADH |
| 5. DHORAJI | 17. PORBHANDAR |
| 6. SURAT | 18. VERAVAL |
| 7. BHAVNAGAR | 19. NDIAD |
| 8. VAPI | 20. ANAND |
| 9. GODHRA | 21. MEHSANA |
| 10. BULSAR | 22. SIDHPUR |
| 11. BILIMORA | 23. SURENDRANAGAR |
| 12. NAVSRI | 24. HALOL |
| | 25. DEROL |
| | 26. ANGLESWAR |
| | 27. GANDHINAGAR |

28 PETLAD

Telephone Exchange The number of telephone exchanges set up in Maharashtra is 1958 as Rs 31 3 93

29 BHARUCH

30 KILAPARADI

(b) Post Offices It is planned to open 3000 extra departmental branch post offices and 500 departmental sub post offices during to 8th Five Year Plan in the country as a whole out of which 62 extra departmental branch post offices and 19 departmental sub post offices have been sanctioned during 1992-93 in Maharashtra Circle It is proposed to open 80 extra departmental branch post offices and 11 departmental sub post offices in 1993-94 in Maharashtra The Pos are opened based on demand and on observing prescribed norms

31 BHUJ

32 AMRELI

33 KODINAR

34 KALOL (N G)

35 UNJHA

36 KADI

37 JHULSAN

Telephone Exchange Approximately 540 exchanges are proposed to be commissioned during 8th Five Year Plan period subject to the availability of equipment and financial resources

38 CHHATRAL

39 THOL

Outstanding Dues of Vayuoot

40 PALANPUR

6725 DR LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

41 PANOLI

Post Office and Telephone Exchanges in Maharashtra

6724 SHRI VILASARAO NAGNATHARAO GUNDEWAR Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether Vayuoot Limited was earlier a part of the Indian Airlines

(a) the number of post offices and telephone exchanges set up so far in Maharashtra and

(b) if so since when it was separated and the reasons and conditions therefor

(b) the number of post offices and telephone exchanges proposed to be set up during the Eighth Plan period?

(c) whether all the conditions have been fulfilled

(d) if not the reasons therefor and

(e) the total outstanding amount of Vayuoot Limited on the Indian Airlines up to 1991-93

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) Post Office The number of post offices set up so far in Maharashtra is 12

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD (a) No Sir Vayuoot is jointly owned by Indian Airlines and Air India in the ratio of 50:50 since its inception

(b), (c) and (d): Do not arise.

(e) Indian Airlines has to pay a sum of about Rs. 2.50 crores to vayudoot towards lease of their aircraft to Indian Airlines during the period December, 1992 to January, 1993.

Supply and Demand of Items of I.T.L. Factories

6726. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a gap in supply and demand of the items produced by the Indian

Mankapur Unit

<i>Item of Production</i>	<i>Order available</i>	<i>Supplies</i>
E 10 B	5.51 lakh lines	5.45 lakh lines
<i>Palaghat Unit</i>	<i>Order available</i>	<i>Supplies</i>
DTAX	0.9 lakh lines	0.82 lakh lines
E 10 B Local	2.01 lakh lines	0.72 lakh lines

(c) periodical reviews are held to sort out problems of supplies.

Target for Telephone Exchanges in U.P.

6727. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of CUMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whatever telephone exchanges set up in rural areas in Uttar Pradesh during 1992—93 are less than the target fixed thereof.

(b) if so, the details with reasons thereof.

Telephone factories located at Mankapur and Palgha;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) Yes, Sir, except for ILT 512p equipment which was supplied in full.

(b) Information in respect of demand and supply of the items produced by the Indian Telephone factories located at Makapur and Palghat for the year 1992—93 is indicated below:-

(c) the steps taken to achieve the targets fully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) No, Sir. Telephone exchanges were opened at 91 new places as against the target of 41 during 1992-93.

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

Supply of Power to Delhi

6728. SHRI CHHITUBHAIGAMIT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of power in MW supplied to Delhi from central pool and the per unit charges thereof during the last three years;

(b) the revenue collected from DESU in this regard during the above period;

(c) whether the revenue is less in comparison to the power supplied to Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (d) : The quantum of energy supplied to DESU from the Central Stations/ Northern Grid, its costs and the payments made by DESU during the last three years are as under:-

S. No.	Particulars (Provisional)	1990-91 (Provisional)	1991-92 (Provisional)	1992-93
1.	Energy imported by DESU (million units)	6378	6873	7254
2.	Cost of purchase of energy (Rs. in crores)	535.35	605.32	723.31
3.	Average cost per unit (Paise per unit)	83.93	86.80	99.71
4.	Payments released by DESU (Rs. in crores)	194.64	345.73	322.64

DESU could not make full payments for the purchase of power, particularly from Badarpur Thermal Power Station due to its difficult financial position.

Telecast of Film Fare Awards

6729 SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the Dooradarshan telecast the 'Film Fare Award' function live from Bombay recently, and

(b) if so, the income earned by the Government therefrom

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) (a) and (b)
Yes, Sir Dooradarshan earned an income of Rs 33.80 lakhs from the live coverage of the event

Food Processing Industries in U.P

6730 SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN
SINGH
DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state

(a) Whether the Union Government have received any proposals from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for setting up of food processing industries during each of the last three financial years

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon

(c) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh have sought any financial assistance in this regard and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the decision

taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) (a) to (d). Yes Sir The assistance provided under different schemes of the Ministry of the proposals received from Uttar Pradesh are at statement

[English]

Outstanding Dues of ITDC

6731 SHRIMATI GEETAMUKHERJEE
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that more than half of the total outstanding dues of the eight ITDC hotels in the capital are owed by the Union Government and State Governments and public sector undertakings and

(b) if so the total outstanding dues of the ITDC hotels in Delhi and the dues owed by union, state Governments and public sector undertakings during 1991-92 and 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a)
No Sir

(b) Does not arise

Power Project with German Collaboration

6732 SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have made any agreement with Germany for setting up some power projects in the country

(b) if so the details of the power projects and

(c) the estimated cost and power genera-

tion capacity of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY POWER (SHRI P V RANGAYYA

NAIDU). (a) to (c) A list of power generation project and their estimated cost, for which financial assistance has been made available by Germany to meet part costs is given below

Sl. No	Name of the project	Capacity (in MW)	Estimated Cost (in Rs Crs)	Amount of Aid (in million DM)
1	Singarauk STPP (Stage-II)	1400	1118.88 (Stage I & II)	171.2
2	Korba STPP (Stage-II)	1100	1625.25 (Stage I & II)	173.8
3	Ramagundam STPP (Stage-III)	1100	1674.62 (Stage I & II)	145.8
4	Farakka STPP (Stage-II)	1000	1511.27	70.0
5	Dadn Gas Project	817	783.44	484.9
6	Uran Combined Cycle Power Plant	240	845.0	310.0

Shortfall of sc/st Jto's

6733 SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS/be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any shortfall of SC/ST Junior Telecom Officers in the Department of Telecommunications for Promotion to TES Group 'B' Posts,

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) Yes Sir There is a shortfall of only eligible Scheduled Tribe Junior Telecom Officers in the Department of Telecommunications for

promotion to ES, Group 'B

(b) There is a shortfall of 106 Scheduled Tribe Candidates due to non-availability of eligible Junior Telecom Officers

(c) The shortfall is met by granting special relaxation of marks to Scheduled Tribe candidates in Departmental Qualifying Examination for promotion to TES Group 'B' as per rules and this will also meet the requirement only partially. The remaining shortfall will be transferred to Sc quota after the prescribed period

{ Translation }

Inflated Bills in Uttar Pradesh

6734 DR LAL BAHADUR RAWAL Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS/be pleased to state

(a) the number of complaints received in Uttar Pradesh with regard to inflated telephone bills during the last three years; and

(b) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a): The number of complaints received in Uttar Pradesh with regard to inflated telephone bills during the last three years is as under:

Year	No. of complaints
1990-91	32268
1991-92	28922
1992-93 (up to Feb. 1993)	28293

(b): Action taken by the Government in this regard is as follows:-

- (i) The complaints of excess metering are thoroughly scrutinised for checking up possibility of any faults in metering etc.
- (ii) Random watch is being kept regarding metering of other telephones by use of special observation machinery like Multi-line Observation Equipments.
- (iii) Wherever Electronic Exchanges are available, the subscribers are requested to avail dynamic STD control facility.
- (iv) All the vital points where there is a possibility of deliberate mischief or tampering of telephone lines like distribution points are kept locked.
- (v) To avoid clerical errors billing work has been computerized at all the districts.
- (vi) In order to redress the grievances of

the subscribers "Telephone Audits" are conducted periodically.

[English]

Delivery of Letters from Foreign Countries.

6735 DR. Y. S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS/ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that letters from foreign countries like U.K. received in Delhi and delivered after five to six days;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure prompt delivery of letters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY COMMUNICATIONS OF (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Letters received in Delhi from foreign countries are normally delivered on the day of following the day of receipt. In some cases, due to check by Customs authorities, this general norm could have been exceeded.

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

[Translation]

Communications Facilities in Rural and Tribal Places of Gujarat

6736. SHRI N.J. RATHAVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS/ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide communications facilities for connecting important tourist centers of tribal areas in Gujarat to the major cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION SHRI
SUKHRAM): (a): Yes, Sir.

(b) : The communication facilities pro-
posed for connecting important tourist Centres
of tribal areas in Gujarat to the major cities is
as under:-

SL No.	Name of Tourist Existing Center of Tribal Exchange areas	Transmission Medium proposed for STD facility
1.	Uakai, Taluka Songadh, 128P C—DOT Distt. Surat	30 Channel UHF link between Songadh—Ukaid during 1995-96
2	Saputara Taluka- -do- Ahwa, Distt. Danges.	30 Channel UHF link between Ahwa-Saputara during 1996—97.

(c) : Question does not arise.

[English]

**Dooradarshan Kerala in Malabar
Region**

6737. SHRI MULLAPALLY
RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of IN-
FORMATION AND BROADCASTING be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set
up a separate Dooradarshan Kendra or Mobile
Camera Unit for the Malabar region of Kerala;

(b) whether the State Government has
allocated land at Calicut for this purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to
cover the various functions held in the Malabar
region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MIN-
ISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROAD-
CASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) : The
re is, at present, no proposal to set up a TV studio
or provide a mobile camera unit for the Malabar
region of Kerala.

(b) and (c) . A land measuring approxi-
mately 3.52 acres allocated by the state govern-
ment has been taken over for setting up a High
Power TV Transmitter at Calicut.

(d) : It is Dooradarshan's constant en-
deavor to give adequate coverage to important
local functions festivals depending upon their
news value and subject to limitations of re-
sources and time.

Import of Coal Power Stations

6738. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the
Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government pro-
pose to allow the States to import coal, directly
for their thermal power stations.

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Coal India Ltd., has failed to
meet the demand of coal of State thermal power
stations; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF POWER
(SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) and
(b) Import of coal is permitted under

Open General License Scheme.

(c) and (d) : During the year 1992-93, the overall receipt of coal by power stations in Central Sector was 95% of their requirement while power stations in State Sector received coal at 92% of their requirements. The short receipt is attributed to transit losses, short loading etc. Supply at some power stations was affected due to their inability to make payments to coal companies and Railways.

[Translation]

Opening and UP Gradation of Branch Post Offices in U. P

6739. SHRI SOSH DUMAR GANGWAR: Will Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be please to state:

(a) whether a large number of applications proposals have been received for opening of new branch post offices and up ganding the existing ones into sub-post offices in hilly and backward areas of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of branch post offices likely to be opened and the existing ones upgraded during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS/(SHRISUKH RAM) (a) No., Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A target for opening 93 extra departmental branch post offices and 12 Department Sub offices (including the up gradation of branch post offices) in Uttar Pradesh, during Annual Plan 1993-94 has been fixed (subject to justification).

Development of Power Grid System

6740. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRI
APPA :

DR. CHINTAMOHAN:
SHRI K. H. MUNIYUAPPA:
SHRI V. SREENIVAS,
PRASAD:
SHRI G. DEVARAYANAIAK.

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a project has been formulated for development of power grid system in the county;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated amount to be spent thereon indicating the sources of funds;

(c) whether the World Bank has also offered financial assistance in this regard.

(d) if Some the details thereof along with terms and conditions thereof;

(e) the extent to which the country's power transmission system is likely to be improved as a result thereof; and

(f) the time by which the project is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER SHRI P.V. RAGAYYA NAIDU): (a): Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) : The project comprising mainly of Ramjagudam—Hyderabad 400 KV line including Switchyard, Unified Load Despatch and Communication Project for Southern Region, Additional transmission system associated with Vindhyachal Stage-I and various technical studies is estimated to cost about US\$ 764 million (Approximately Rs. 2368 crores). While the World Bank has approved a loan of US\$ 350 million (approximately Rs. 1085 crores) remaining funds would be arranged by Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWER GRID)

Through other borrowings and internal resources. The World Bank loan is repayable over 20 years including 5 years of grace period at the Bank's standard variable interest rate; The loan would be given to POWERGRID directly with Government of India acting as a Guarantor for which a guarantee fee of 1% per annum will be admissible to the Government.

(e) On completion the project will augment power transmission system, promote inter-regional and inter-State power transfer for optimizing power availability and improve coordination in system operation.

(f) The project is likely to be completed by the end of 1999.

[English]

Overstay of Indians in Singapore

6741 SHRI MANDRANJAN BHAKTA Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state

(a) Whether the Government of Singapore have held any talks with our Government to resolve the problem of overstaying of Indians in that country, and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Government of Singapore has assured the Government of India that Singapore continues to welcome genuine social and business visitors from India. Singapore hopes to deal with the problem of illegal overstayers through cooperation with the Government of India. As of December 1992, Singapore authorities have enforced a bank guarantee procedure as a deterrent to potential illegal migrants among visa seekers.

Potato Based Industries in Maharashtra.

6742 SHRI ANNA JOSHI Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals for setting up of potato based food processing industries in Pune

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Government propose to encourage potato based food processing industries in the Maharashtra state, and

(d) if so, that details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI)

(a) and (b) No proposal has been received during the current year for setting up of potato based food processing industries in Pune. However, a joint venture proposal of M/s. JMRPCO Ltd for setting up of a unit at Mulshi Taluk of Pune Dist. in Maharashtra was approved in January 1992 for the manufacture of processed snack foods and beverage essence/beverage basis which amongst other include manufacture of stickable potato chips.

(c) and (d) The Ministry is implementing several developmental plans/schemes under which assistance is provided to State Government undertaking, Joint Sector Undertakings, cooperatives, voluntary Organisations etc for setting up/upgrading food processing units in different states. Potato based food processing units are also eligible for availing such assistance.

Repatriated Children from West Asian Countries

6743 SHRI MOHAN RAWAT Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the number of children repatriated since August, 1992 so far from West Asian countries where they had been taken to be used as jockeys, in camel races;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps for the rehabilitation of the repatriated children,

(c) whether any of the children are reported to have died in these countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to approach the Government of these countries in this regard;

(f) whether there is any proposal to raise this issue at international level; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA):

(a) One

(b) Information in this regard is being collected and will be placed on the tables of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise

(e) Camel racing is popular only in the U.A.E. As soon as any case of an Indian child camel rider comes to the notice of the Indian Mission concerned, it is taken up with the host Government for repatriation of the child to India.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) It is primarily the responsibility of the Government of India to take necessary steps in

this regard.

FAO Assistance for Revival of Deep Sea Fishing Industry.

6744 PROF. UMARADDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appeared in the Economic Times dated March 20, 1993 regarding revival of deep sea fishing industry;

(b) if so, whether the Government have approached Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the response of FAO thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): The Government had earlier approached the World Bank in this regard. Presently, the World Bank has informed that deep sea fishing is not one of the priorities of their Agriculture Division's pipeline; They have, however, stated that the subject is interesting and important and they would share with Government of India an information of possible assistance if it becomes available.

[Translation]

More Foreign Post Offices in Maharashtra

6745. SHRI VILASRAO NAGANATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open more foreign post offices in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details with location thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) and (b): No, Sir, the Government does not propose to open any more Foreign Post Offices in Maharashtra for the

Pulse Processing Mills in M. P.

6746 SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether pulse-mills have been set up in Madhya Pradesh for processing of pulses;

(b) whether adequate provisions have been made under National Pulse-Development Scheme for this purpose; and

(c) if not, the efforts made by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI)

(a): Yes, Sir. Pulse Mills have been set up in Madhya Pradesh for processing of pulses.

(b) and (c): The National Pulse Development Project is being implemented in 26 states including Madhya Pradesh and Union territories of Delhi & Goa. Under this Scheme, farmers will be entitled to get 50% of the cost as subsidy for the purchase of Dal Processors subject to a maximum of Rs. 4,000/- . During 1993-94 a provision of Rs. 6.70 lakhs has been made under the scheme, out of which Government of India's share is Rs. 5.00 lakh s. No proposals in this respect have been received so far and therefore no comments on the adequacy of this amount can be offered.

Accommodation for P&T Employees

6747. SHRI CHHITUBHAICAMIT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to

state:

(a) the number of P&T quarters available with the Government as on March 31, 1993, state and category-wise;

(b) the minimum service required to be completed by the Government employee for getting the allotment of the Government accommodation under each category?

(c) the minimum service required to be completed by the Government employee for getting the allotment of the Government accommodation under each category?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM)

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

(c) No conditions of minimum service has been prescribed for being eligible for allotment of Government accommodation in any category.

Sardar Sarovar Project

6748. SHRI YASHWANTRAOPATIL-SHIMATI PRATIBHA DEVI SINGHPATIL: SHRI GOVINDRAONIKAM:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government have sent a six-member delegation to Europe to discuss about Sardar Sarovar Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) the details of the Morse report on Sardar Sarovar Project, and

(d) the action Government propose to take to rehabilitate the evacuees of Sardar Sarovar

Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) (a) and (b) Pursuant to the decision taken in a meeting held by the Prime Minister on 27th August, 1992, a six member delegation led by Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources was sent to Sweden, Japan and Australia from 22nd September, 1992 to this discussions with the officials of these countries and to remove the prevailing misgivings and misunderstandings in these countries about the Sardar Sarovar Project. The other members of the team were Chief Secretaries of the State Governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, former Secretary Ministry of Water Resources and Senior Advisor to the Chairman, Review Committee for Narmada Control Authority and a representative from the department of Economic

(c) The independent Review on to report (Morse Report) had adversely commented mainly on the resettlement and rehabilitation policies and their implementation and inadequacies in the studies associated with environmental issues. Government of India clarified these issues in its detailed response to the World Bank

(d) The State Governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh have drawn up appropriate action plans for resettlement and rehabilitation of project affected families which is linked with dam construction and submergence schedule. The Narmada Control Authority is closely monitoring and coordinating the implementation of the resettlement and rehabilitation programmes in the three States

International Airlines

6749 DR Y. S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether any international airlines have decided not to fly into or over Delhi

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) the reasons therefor and

(d) the Government reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (d) - While JAL (Japan Airlines), LOT (Polish Airline) and Alitalia (Italian Airline) discontinued their services to/from Delhi in the recent past a few others have increased their scale of operation in accordance with their commercial

[*Translation*]

Rice Mills in Gujarat

6750 SHRI N. J. RATHVA Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state,

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal for setting up of rice mills in Gujarat during 1992-93 and

(b) if so, the action taken on these proposals and the locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI RTARUNGOGOI) (a) No Sir

(b) Does not arise

[*English*]

Flight from Calicut to Trivandrum

6751 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMMACHANDRAN Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to start daily flights from Calicut to Trivandrum to enable the

passengers of Malabar region to reach the capital city of Kerala.

(b) whether any proposal from the Government of Kerala has been received by the Ministry in this regard, and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD) (a) to (c) A request for operation of air services between Calicut and Trivandrum was received from the Government of Kerala in the Year 1991. Due to operational and commercial reasons, there is no plan to introduce air service between Calicut and Trivandrum in the near future.

[Translation]

Power Bonds

6752 SHRI NITISH KUMAR
SHRI MANJAY LAL

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state (a) the target fixed and the actual amount collected by the Government through Power Bonds in 1992-93

(b) whether there is any possibility of slackness in the construction work of some power projects in the country due to non-collection of the target amount

(c) if so, the details of projects which are not being taken up for construction in time due to lack of funds, and

(d) the proportions of construction cost made by the Government while according approval to these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) Against Rs 1747 crores allocated

by the Finance Ministry to the various Public Sector undertakings under the Ministry of Power against issue of Bonds for the year 1992-93 only Rs 50 crores could be raised during the year.

(b) to (d) The timely execution of projects is dependent on various inputs including the availability of adequate funds. The three new Power Projects which could not be taken up for execution during 1992-93 are given below:

Name of the Projects	Approved cost
1 Ranndit HE Project	Rs 181.16 Crores
2 Kool Karo HE Project	Rs 1338.81 Crores
3 Dhaultganga HE Project	Rs 601.98 Crores

[English]

Discussions with French Delegation

6753 SHRI MANORAJAN BIKTAKTA Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether a French delegation visited India during February 1993 for discussions on disarmament, non-proliferation and international issues

(b) if so, the broad outcome of the talks held by the delegation with Indian counterparts

(c) whether the issue of French supply of new nuclear fuel for the Tarapur Atomic Power Plant also figured in the talks, and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) (a) Yes. Sir

(b) The discussions were aimed at developing a better understanding of each other's positions on a broad range of issues relating to

non-proliferation, nuclear disarmament and international security related developments.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The French position was that while France would abide by its present contractual obligations which are valid till October 1993, the future supply of nuclear fuel to the Tarapur Atomic Power Plant would depend on India accepting full scope International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards, in conformity with France's new Nuclear Export Policy. India's stand on full-scope safeguards was conveyed to the French delegation.

Effect on Indian Airlines Share in Passenger Traffic

6754. DR. Y. S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether with the introduction of the East West Airlines, the Indian Airlines has been gradually losing its share of passengers to it;

(b) if some, the estimated loss suffered by the IA as a result thereof;

(c) the reasons identified for the shift of passengers; and

(d) the way by which situation is proposed to be improved?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b): Indian Airlines has assessed that about 1,63,500 passengers have been carried by East West Airlines in February and March, 1993. Assuming that these passengers would have been carried by Indian Airlines in the absence of East West Airlines, Indian Airlines would have earned an additional revenue of Rs. 14.75 crores

(c) The reasons identified by Indian Airlines for shift of passengers to East West

lines include commercial practices adopted by the latter making its service more attractive.

(d) Indian Airlines are reviewing their own marketing policies and strategies to meet the situation.

ISD/STD Facilities in Gujarat

6755. SHRI N. J. RARHAVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to profiled more ISE/STD Public Telephone facilities in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) : The policy is under review.

Contracts for Radar Technology

6756. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any contracts from securing radar technology have been signed with the US firm by the national Airports Authority and the Bharat Electronics Limited; and

(b) if so, the cost and other terms of collaboration?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b): An agreement pertaining to Transfer of Technology (TOT) for manufacture of radars on Omdoa nun M/s Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has been signed by the American Com-

pany with the National Airports Authority (NAA). The scope of TOT covers transfer of technical know-how including complete documentation, training, supply of jigs and fixtures to enable BEL manufacture and sell Airports Surveillance Radar and Monopulse Secondary Surveillance Radar. The agreement also provides for buy-back arrangements of components, modules, sub-systems and services from BEL the American Company M/s Westinghouse Overseas Corporation (WOSCO). The agreement will be in force for 8 years during which period M/s WOSCO would supply BEL all updates and improvements to the radar systems for incorporation by BEL. BEL has also been given exclusive sales right in India and rights of non-exclusive sales in other countries excluding USA where it will be through M/s WOSCO. The cost of TOT is US\$ 5.954 million.

Liberalisation of Aviation Policy

6757. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have liberalized the charter and aviation policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the further liberalisations of charter and aviation policy is necessary to increase the flow of tourists; and

(d) if so, the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAR NABI ASAD): (a) and (b): The guidelines for operation of tourist charter flights to India have been liberalized. Under the revised guidelines, the following amendments have recently been made:-

- (i) Hoteliers recognised by the Department of Tourism have been brought at par with the Indian Principal / Travel agent / Operator to sponsor tourist

flights.

- (ii) Foreign exchange required to be remitted by tourists from S. A. A. R. C. countries is now 50% of the remittance required in the case of tourists from other countries.

(c) and (d): The guidelines for operation of tourist charter flights to India are amended as and when required with a view to promote tourism in India.

Setting Up of Dooradarshan Kendras/ T.V. Relay Centres

6758 SHRI PARASRAMBHAREWAJ Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) the plans drawn up and being implemented to set up more Dooradarshan Kendras and T V Relay Centres during the Eight Plan period;

(b) the total population likely to be covered by the above expansion programme; and

(c) to what extent the INSAT-1B is helpful; in the above expansion Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO)

(a) The following number of TV projects are under implementation/envisaged to be set up as part of Dooradarshan's on-going VII Plan schemes and schemes under Annual Plans 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93:-

- (i) Programme Production Centres (PPCs) / Programme Generation Facility (PGF) Centres
- (ii) TV Transmitters of varying power (including Transmitter projects for augmentation of power)

In addition 8 projects for augmentation of PPCs PGF Centres are also under implementation. Locations for establishment of additional TV transmitters to be set up during the remaining period of VIII Plan i.e. 1993-97 have not been finalised

(b) On commissioning of the TV transmitter projects about 90-95% population of the country (inclusive of population in fringe areas) is expected to be brought under TV coverage

(c) INSAT IB is no longer in operation

People of Indian Origin In Myanmar

6759 SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have taken up with Myanmar the issue of grant of citizenship to the stateless persons of Indian origin in that country and

(b) if so the response of that country thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) (a) Yes Sir The matter has been taken up with the Government of Myanmar on several occasions

(b) We have been assured by the concerned Myanmar authorities that the issue will be resolved in due course

Air Crashes, Bombay

6760 SHRI SUDARSHAN RAYCHAUDHURI Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the number of accidents of Air—India taken place in Bombay during each of the last three years

(b) the details of casualties and extent of

damage to aircraft and property in each case

(c) whether compensation has been paid to the victims and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) (a) There has been no accident to Air India aircraft in Bombay during the last three years

(b) to (d) Do not arise

Film on Veer Sawarkar

6761 DR. K. D. JILSWANTI Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the Dooradarshan Propose to telecast documentary film on the life of Veer Sawarkar and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI P. SINGH DEO) (a) Presently there is no proposal to telecast a documentary film on the life of Veer Sawarkar

(b) Does not arise

Selection of TV Serials

6762 SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA
SHRI PRABHU LAL RAWAT
SHRI CHITTA BASU
SHRI LALITORAON

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) the details of the A plus category proposals approved by the Dooradarshan

(b) whether the CBI has since submitted its

reports on the serial scam of the Dooradarshan

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K P SINGH DEO) (a)
Details are given in the statement attend

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the details of proposals approved/ rejected finally?

(b) The final report of the CBI has not been received as yet

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

(c) Do not anse

STATEMENT

S No	Category	Number of Serial Selected	No of Serials waitlisted
1	Family Serials	18	15
2	Comedy Serials	09	14
3	Classical/Novel Based Serials	18	41
4	Short Stories	09	22
5	Detective Stories	08	-
6	Social/Environmental Serials	18	38
7	Science Fiction	09	01
8	Historical/Cultural	09	26
9	Quiz Programmes	04	-
10	Children s Interest	09	25
11	Documentaries	09	16
Total		120	188

Assistant Transponder

6763. **SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:**
DR. P. R. FGANGWAR
SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA
SHRI MOHAN SINGH
(DEORIA)
SHRI VILLAS MUTTEMWAR
SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether a delegation of his ministry recently visited Hongkong to explore the possibility of leasing a transponder on ASIASAT,

(b) if so, the details of the efforts made to renew the lease of a transponder on ASIASAT,

(c) the implications involved with the non-availability of ASIASAT transponder,

(d) the response of the lessee company regarding rebooking of transponders on ASIASAT—

(e) whether offer was made for a transponder on ASIASAT—II, and

(f) the time by which it is likely to be available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise, as no transponder on ASIASAT has been hired

(d) It has been reported that all transponders on ASIASAT—I Satellite have been rebooked, as the right to continue the lease vests with the first lessee.

(e) Yes, Sir

(f) The ASIASAT—II satellite is likely to be operationalised in the last quarters of 1994 or in the first quarter of 1995

Nengpo-Guwahati Power Transmission Line

6764. **SHRI PRONIN DEKA** Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether Techno-economic clearance to the 220 KV DC Nengpo—Guwahati power transmission line has been accorded,

(b) if so the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) No proposal for construction of a 220 KV D/C power transmission line between Nengpo and Guwahati has so far been received by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA). However a 220 KV D/C power transmission line between Longpi and Guwahati has been cleared by CEA in June 1991 as a part of additional 6th Five Year Plan transmission and transformation schemes of Assam

(b) and (c) Does not arise

Materialising of Trunk Calls

6765. **SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA**
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANLAL

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned way don't many trunk calls materialise after 10 P. M. appearing in the Indian Express dated March 26, 1993

(b) if so the facts thereof and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon

this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) Yes Sir

(b) and (c) The factual position and the action taken by the Government on each of these points is as under

1 Vigilance Investigation regarding the report of trunk call racket has not revealed any such racket so far

2 A number of surprise checks and raid were conducted by Department of Telecom/ Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd officers along with the C B I officers that resulted in initiating disciplinary action against 31 Departmental officials in the last one year C B I have also requested five cases in Delhi and Bombay

3 Complaints of this type which are very small in number are received from time to time. Certain administrative actions have been taken to minimise such cases

For keeping a close watch on proper use of trunk circuits an observation cell is working in MTNL and the trunk circuits are monitored to ensure proper use. Also a vigilance organisation headed by a JAG officer exists in the MTNL to carry out surprise inspections for taking action if any irregularities are observed

Functioning of Pawan Hans Limited

6766 DR K D JESWANI Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to improve the functioning of Pawan Hans Limited and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) (a) and (b) Pawan Hans Limited is a profit making organisation. Improvement in its functioning is a continuous process. The performance of the Company is reviewed periodically, areas needing improvement are identified and action is taken accordingly. It is also expanding its sphere of activities.

[Translation]

Government Guest Houses and Hotels

6767 SHRI PRABHU DAYALL KATHERIA.
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether irregularities are being committed in the Government owned guest house and hotels in Delhi

(b) if so the details thereof and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against those found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) and (b) India Tourism Development Corporation Ltd and Hotel Corpn of India Ltd operate hotels in Delhi. The irregularities committed in the hotels generally relate to purchases, allotment of rooms, settlement of bills of customers, award of contracts etc.

(c) The Management of the hotels get these irregularities investigated through their Vigilance Divisions, CBI etc depending upon the gravity of irregularities committed. On the basis of investigation, Competent Authorities take suitable action against the earning personnel under the Disciplinary Rules.

[English]

Rehabilitation of Evacuees from Irrigation projects

6768. SHRISRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES
SHRI RAM NAIK

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether United Nations Commission on Human Rights in its 49th session in Geneva had declared that removal of inhabitants for building big dams is gross violation of human rights,

(b) if so, the Government have accepted the declaration in principle

(c) if not, the reasons therefore and

(d) the steps taken in this regard to persons evacuated for construction of specially Sardar Sarovar Project, irrigation project of Narmada Valley and hydro-electric project in Orissa and funded by the World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) (a) The resolution adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its 49th Session did not address the questions of forced eviction in the context of big dams. The resolution however, recalled the general comment of the committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights made in 1990 which States, inter alia, that international agencies should avoid involvement in projects which involve large scale evictions or displacement of persons without the provision of all appropriate protection and compensation

(b) and (c). Do not arise

(d) For Sardar Sarovar Project and other irrigation and multipurpose projects in Narmada Valley and Indravathi hydroelectric project in Orissa the concerned State Governments have drawn up appropriate action plans for resultant and rehabilitation of project affected families and also adopted liberalised policies for resettlement and rehabilitation packages. At the Center steps have been initiated for adopting a national policy for resettlement and rehabilitation of people affected by reservoir projects

Super Thermal Power Project at UDAPI in Karnataka

6769. SHRI H. D. DEVEGOWDA Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation propose to set-up a super thermal power project at Udupi in Karnataka

(b) if so whether the Union Government have accorded techno economy clearance for it and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU)

(a) to (c) There is no proposal of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) to set up a Super Thermal Power Project at Udupi in Karnataka. However the NTPC proposes to set up a Super Thermal Power Project at Nandikur near Mangalore in Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka. The techno-economic clearance to which was accorded by the Central Electricity Authority in January 1991

Organisations of Fairs and Festivals, Kerala

6770. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state the details of the central assistance proposed for the organisation of fairs

of fairs and festivals in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABII AZAD)

The Department of Tourism grants financial assistance for the celebration of identified fairs and festivals of various States of Kerala.

- (1) Great Elephant March
- (2) Nishagandhi Dance Festival
- (3) Onam Festival and
- (4) Boat Race Festival (Cochin - Alleppey Quilon)

Financial assistance would be sanctioned on receipt of specific proposals from the State Government and subject to merits of the proposal, inter-se priority and the availability of funds.

Permanent Membership—on UN Security Council

6771 **SHRI MALINI BHATTACHARYA**
Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state

(a) the reaction of British Prime Minister and the Russian President in regard to India's candidature to a permanent seat in UN Security Council during their recent visit to the country

(b) the extent of support India could mobilize for the permanent membership of UN Security Council?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Prime Minister Major has not expressed any views on this subject. President Yeltsin during his recent visit to India stated at a Press conference that this was a difficult question not because he did not support India's position. He added that the question calls for further scrutiny and there was need

to take close look at the principles underlying the formation of the Security Council.

(b) India has been emphasizing the need to expand the Security Council with equitable representation, proportionate to the number of members in all multilateral and bilateral fora an effort to build consensus. At the 47th UNGA in 1992, India and other countries tabled a Resolution on "Question of Equitable Representation and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council" which was adopted by consensus. The Resolution requests the Secretary General to invite member States to submit not later than 30 June, 1993, written comments on a possible review of the membership of the Security Council. The Resolution further requests the Secretary General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty—eight session for its consideration, a report containing comments made by member states on the subject.

Incidents Involving Indian Fishermen off Coast of Rameshwaram

6772 **SHRI N DENNIS:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu have reported to the Indian High Commission in Sri Lanka Regarding some incidents involving Indian fishermen off the coast of Rameshwaram during the first week of March, 1993,

(b) if so the details thereof,

(c) whether the Government have taken up this matter with Sri Lanka and

(d) if so, the response of that country thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of Tamil Nadu reported to the Indian High Commission in Sri Lanka two incidents of harassment of Indian fishermen by

Sri Lankan Navy on 5th March and 6th March 1993 Our High Commission promptly took up these cases with the Government of Sri Lanka, who denied Sri Lankan Navy's involvement in these incidents. Sri Lanka Government implied that these incidents could have been perpetrated by extremist Tamil elements of Sri Lanka

scales of the postmen and Group D employees, discrepancies in fixation of pay and appointment on compassionate grounds etc

(b) if so the details thereof and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Memorandum from Bharatiya
Postal Employees**

6773 PROF PREM DHUMAL Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum regarding revision of pay

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
SUKH RAM) (a) Yes Sir

(b) and (c) Bharatiya Postal Employees Union (Postment & Glass -IV) have submitted a memorandum containing certain demands. The details thereof and action taken/proposed to be taken are indicated in the annexed statement

STATEMENT

<i>SI No demand</i>	<i>Action/position taken or proposed to be taken</i>
1 they pay scale of postmen and Group D' employees may be revised in view of the responsibilities involved. The postment may be given pay scale of Rs- 950—1500	<p>Before the implementation of Fourth pay Commission Report, the postment were in the pay scale of 210-270. The commission replacement scale recommended by pay for the per-revised pay scale of Rs. 210—270 was Rs. 800—1150. The pay Commission, however recommended a higher pay scale of Rs. 825—1200 for the Postmen Cadre after taking into account the nature of duties initiative and skill required etc. The Pay Commission also recommended higher standard of educational qualification for the postmen. Accordingly the postmen were given the special pay scale of Rs. 825—1200. There is no justification for grant of high pay scale of Rs. 950—1500. A writ petition filed by the Postman in the Supreme Court for grant of a higher scale has also since been dismissed.</p> <p>As for Group 'D' employees the revised pay scale of 750—940 was prescribed by the pay Commission after taking into account all the relevant facts and nature of duties. Thus there is no scope for further revision pay scale of Group D' employees.</p>
2 Pay scale of Rs. 1200—1800 may be given to postment under BCR on completion of 26	<p>While recommending the pay scale of Rs. 975—1600 for postment on completion of 26 years of service due consideration was given to the demand for the</p>

<i>Sl No demand</i>	<i>Action/position taken or proposed to be taken</i>
years of service	pay scale of Rs 1200—1800 at par with Linemen in the department of Telecom In the case of Linemen a rationalisation of technical cadres in the in the septt of Telecom resulted in the higher pay scale of Rs 1200—1800 due to enhanced prescribed skill levels respective technical cadres No such rationalisation of cadres having any bearing or the prescribed level of skill has been undertaken in the Deptt of posts not there is a felt need for it It is therefore not appropriate to equate the pay scale of postmen with the Linemen in the DOT on grant of Second Time Bound Promotion
3 Inclusion of non—test category in One Time Bound promotion/BCR Scheme	The OTBP/BCR Schemes are applicabel to the to the basic operative cadres peculiar to the Deptt of Posts of the Govt of India The cadres common to other Deptt of India v d z peons/Daftry/Sweepers/ Farashes etc (Non test category employees) are not cadres common to other Deptt of Govt of India v z peons/Daftry/Sweepers/ Farashes etc (NON—test category employees) are covered by the scheme The proposal to merge the test category staff with test category Group D staff grant them the benefits of OTBP BCR Schemes has been accepted by tthe Govt and as such a benefit w have wide financial repercussions on other Deptts Therefore the OTPB Scheme cannot be made applic to non test category staff
4 Age of retirement of Group D category promoted under BCR may be retained at 60 years	The poroposal to allow Group D officials promoted under BCR to retire at the age of 60 years instead of 58 years has been considered but it has not been possible to agree to it because of its implications on other cadres in the sanme scale of pay However the officials have been given option to refuse promotion under BCR so that they can retire at the age of 60 years
5 Payment of bouns to casual employees be linked to the actual wages received by them The part—time workers should also be paid bonus	The proposal received from the Union to enhance the quantum of bouns paid to the Casual workers and to introduce payment of bonus to the part—time employees of the Deptt of Posts is under examination
6 Justified posts may be	The Deptt reviews the overall requirement of staff

<i>S/No demand</i>	<i>Action/position taken or proposed to be taken</i>
created and sanctioned in accordance with increase in workload	in its operative offices etc from time to time As a result of the review carried out, a number of posts were created during 1990—92 The review of establishments is a continuous process and posts are sanctioned if found justified
7 The working hours of chowkidars may be reduced from 72 hours to 48 hours a week	The issue of working hours of chowkidars is at present under consideration of the National Council (JOM) The Deptt of Posts therefore cannot take any decision in isolation as it would have implications in various other Deptts also
8 The supply of uniforms should be regular and the quality needs to be improved The Deptt should consider cash payment to employees in lieu of supply of uniforms	At present good quality uniforms conforming to Deptt of Personnel & Trg specification evolved and developed by the Bureau of Indian Standards are supplied There have been few instances of delay due to certain operational problem within the DES&D when the supply was centralised with that agency With the winding up of DGS&D the Deptt is making concerned efforts to improve the quality substantially and also supply the uniforms regularly As for payment of Cash Allowance in lieu of uniforms it has not been possible to agree to the proposal as it is not in conformity with the policy of the Govt in this regard
9 At least one dependent of retired employees be employed in the Deptt on compassionate grounds	Compassionate appointments are made in accordance with the instructions/guidelines of the Govt on the subject It has not been possible to accept the demand to provide employment to one dependent each of retired employees
10 The system of payment of OTA on hourly rate basic be made applicable to postman	It has not been possible to agree to this demand since the duty hours and the nature of duty performed by postment does not fulfil the basic conditions under which OTA Scheme has been made applicable to the categories of staff The OTA scheme is applicable to the categories of staff having fixed duty hours which are susceptible to precise checks and measurements Therefore it is not possible to cover postmen under OTA Scheme as their duty involves field/out-door work which is not susceptible to minimum checks and measurements However, the fixed monthly compensation paid to postman has been revised recently as indicated below -

Sl No demand**Action/position taken or proposed to be taken**

	Existing Rate	Revised Rate
(a) when one postman performs the duty an absentee postmen	Rs 9 00	Rs 18 00
(b) When two postmen perform the duty of absentee postman	Rs 6 00 (per postman)	Rs 12.00 (per postman)
(c) Holiday monetary Compensation	Rs 12 00	Rs.25 00
11 The present rates of washing allowance, cycle allowances are too meagre and should be doubled	Payment of washing allowances and cycle allowances is regulated in accordance with the decision of the Government and these rates cannot be increased in the Deptt. of Posts only in isolation. As for payment of cash allowance to Cash overseers, it has recently been raised from 15/- to Rs 30/- per month.	

Impact of Liberalised Economic Policy in Food Processing Sector.

6774 SHRI PRAKASH V PATEL will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the impact of liberalised economic policy of the Government in the food processing sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI)

Since the liberalisation of the Industrial Policy in July, 1991, about 1993 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda have been filed in respect of food processing industries involving an investment of about Rs 25,343 crores upto February, 1993. Government have also approved investment proposals of over Rs 4000 crores in the food processing and deep sea fishing sector. These include proposals of Joint Ventures, export oriented units, units requiring industrial licenses, units with non-resident Indians (NRIs) and Overseas Corporate Bodies

(OCB) investments and the units for which plan assistance has been provided. These proposals envisage foreign equity investment of approximately Rs 840 crores.

Extension of Delhi—Bangalore Airbus Service to Calicut

6775 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend the Delhi—Bangalore Airbus A—320 to Calicut

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be done and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) to (c) Indian Airlines does not propose to extend the Delhi—Bangalore A-320 service to Calicut, because of lack of traffic demand.

12.00 hrs

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice for adjournment Motion regarding the hijacking of plane.... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA (diamond Harbour): I have also given notice on hijacking.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hijacking of planes has become a daily practice these days. It should be taken seriously and not as a routine. Everybody of us knows it as to how the passengers have been saved. While on the one hand, I would like to point out that it is the total lapse of Security on the part of the Government on the other hand, I would like to give my thanks to the Security personnel who tackled this matter so tactfully and bravely and supplied food, in fact, our comandos foiled the attempt of hijacking. I think hijacking is a very serious matter and there cannot be any other matter of greater concern for this country. Minister of Internal Security is sitting here. I think it comes under his department because Ghulam Nabi Azad is smiling which shows that it is not his concern. I would request the hon. Minister to take this matter seriously and the Government should come forward with a statement in this regard and assure the House as the hijacking of planes has become a routine. Not only those people who board the planes but the whole country feels insecure and worried about such happenings. I think this is a very serious matter and it is highly condemnable. The Government should come forward with a statement on it and take this matter quite seriously.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):

I will be giving a statement this afternoon. (*Interruption*)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Under which Ministry comes this issue? (*Interruptions*). This will be replied by civil aviation Minister or by the Minister of Internal Security?

*(Interruptions)**[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: It is the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Ministry of Civil Aviation has its concern in this matter up to a certain limit so we would also like to have a reply from the Home Minister. I think he would like to reply. Newspapers have given four different versions of the incident how the man was killed. I agree that he was criminal and he committed a mistake and the Government should deal with the criminals strictly, but from our discussion with the general public and from morning newspapers what I have been able to make out is that the man was apprehended by the Government.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us wait for the statement.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: You caught the man. You brought him out and then you shot him dead. (*Interruption*)

[Translation]

Please, excuse me. I am not talking about that particular man but I am worried about the way the life of a human being is treated in our

country. (*Interruption*)

Today it happened there. Tomorrow it may be somewhere else. People are being beaten up in the police stations. The Government should honestly make their position clear in the House, Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the Government does not reply, then you may please get an inquiry conducted into it. Killing the people in this manner is not a good thing. (*Interruption*)

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not venture to give my personal opinion because I have no personal opinion, my own version as to how that person died. But the way the reports have come out in the newspapers is very disturbing. (*Interruptions*) It is not a question of partisan matter. (*Interruptions*). I do not know how you are shouting. This is a serious matter and it has, I believe, its own international ramifications. So, what people will think? Therefore, a person who was supposedly caught, if he had to be shot dead before he could be apprehended, that is a different thing. But the newspaper reports are different. Some newspapers say commandos. Some say one commando. When did it happen? (*Interruptions*)

Hijacking of the plane is a serious matter. The Government cannot ignore it. It has happened recently on a number of occasions within four weeks. Therefore, it is not a matter to be trifled with or to be lightly looked into. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is not going on record. Please sit down.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Therefore, in a matter like this, it is proper that the Government should come out with such a statement which would give the facts fully. (*Interruptions*) I am not blaming anybody.

I am only saying that this is a matter where the international community is concerned to find out also, not only the Indian people. Plane hijacking is not a normal activity. I hope it does not become a normal activity in this country. You have got a Government. You have got the responsibility. Thereof if an hon. Member says "We would like to know what has happened in view of the conflicting reports in the newspapers," You start shouting him down. This is not the way to function. (*Interruptions*) This is a matter which you must clarify and see that nobody can say that people are being treated in a manner which will give bad name so far as this country is concerned.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (KOTTAYAM): First of all, I congratulate the Government. The hijacking of the plane is condemned by the whole House. I appreciate that a statement from the hon. Minister is necessary. The hon. Minister of Civil Aviation just mentioned that he is coming out with a statement in the afternoon. What more do you people want? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No Don't complicate the Minister's position unnecessarily.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: You have to condemn them also. We do not want to distort the issue. This is not correct. You are making the whole issue a non-issue.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry that we stand divided and swayed by emotions on the matter of this sort on which the whole House has expressed its concern and which requires the whole country to stand united to face the challenge it is posing before us. If Shri George Fernandes wanted to get some information, he should have asked it straight away and the Government also should have come out prepared to provide that information. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the problem is this and it is also a fact that

the plane belonged to the Government of India and Mr Azad is the Minister of Civil Aviation but what has happened to the Security of our airports? From where the terrorist hijacker had come? If he belonged to Kashmir was he all alone or he had some other people with him? It is very difficult to seek clarifications from the Government all the news which have appeared in the newspapers in this regard. However all these things are creating apprehensions in the minds of the people

Mr Speaker Sir in view of the situation prevailing in the Kashmir valley, I would like to say that some senior Minister who is associated with the internal security of this country should come forward to make a statement on hijacking of plane. I would like to tell my friend George Fernandes that including the terrorist every citizen has a right to love as a human being.

Even all those 140 passengers who were hijacked and made captive for hours with the fear of death approaching them have the right to live and seek protection. Sitting on the other side you should not get imbalanced in such matters. Mr Speaker Sir in view of the deteriorating law and order situation in Kashmir valley you may ask them to make a statement on it because the House is very much concerned over it. In Jammu and Kashmir the situation has deteriorated to such an extent that even the J&K police have risen in revolt and have approached the United Nations for their intervention. It appears that the Government is not in a position to do anything to deal with the situation. What sort of initiative was taken there? What was the purpose of changing the Governor? What is happening in the Kashmir valley. What is the reason that Prime Minister is not consulting the opposition on this issue. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) What are you discussing?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE We are

discussing a matter of urgent public importance (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE Mr Speaker Sir excuse me this attitude is not proper

[*English*]

MR SPEAKER You are in such a defensive position. You are in a strong position.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE Since you are in majority and in power would not you allow us even to speak? (*Interruptions*) Is not the condition of Kashmir valley a matter of concern for you? (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER Mr Bansal please sit down.

[*English*]

MR SPEAKER You should not obstruct. That is all. The only thing that you should do is not to obstruct him.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE The hijacker had come from Kashmir. He is a member of some banned organisation. How did he succeed in reaching here? Were other people of his group also with him? Where did he stay in Delhi? Is he associated with the deteriorating conditions in Kashmir? Mr Speaker Sir if you want me to connect the things I can do that but do not try to pay our mouth and I know you are also worried over the situation of Kashmir. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR SPEAKER Why are you obstructing him? Let him speak. You are not necessarily

complicating the matter

(Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER I will decide whether it is orderly or not

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE Mr Speaker Sir, I am unable to understand as to what my Congress friends want. My Congress friends were asking just now what we want. We want that they should resign. *(Interruptions)*

MR SPEAKER Please sit down. It is an important matter for all. If any information has been sought from the Government it means that it is an opportunity given to the Government to clear the misunderstandings in the minds of the people. This question has arisen as to whether a statement should be made by the Ministry of Civil Aviation or the Ministry of Home Affairs? This controversy has arisen to clear the doubts whether this is just a question of security of the plane or it has some other implications also? In my opinion the statement should be made by the Ministry of Civil Aviation. If there are other implications also then both the Ministers can discuss the matter. Officers of both Ministers or both Ministers can sit together to prepare the statement. Since it is the joint responsibility no Minister can say that it is so because the Finance Minister or the Planning Minister has not provided funds for the purpose. In the same way if one Ministry is mainly concerned and the other Ministry is also directly or indirectly concerned with it then the main Ministry can seek required information from the other Ministry and issue the statement and if detailed information is to be given then I think all the three or so Ministers are competent and they can hold a meeting and prepare the statement. Mr Rajesh Pilot if you want to say something please say. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Sheohar)
Mr Speaker Sir I am not challenging the ruling

given by you but this is matter related to internal security Ministry Civil Aviation Ministry is involved only is so far as that the plane has landed.

(Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER I have also held that portfolio I know these things. You are unnecessarily talking of that area about which you have no knowledge.

(English)

That is not correct. It comes under the Civil Aviation Minister.

[*Translations*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIR (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) Mr Speaker Sir my colleague Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad has stated that Government would issue a statement this evening in this regard. Then Government will come forward with full information in this regard to answer the queries of the members. He will respond to the questions. *(Interruptions)* Secondly Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee has added one more point that the Kashmir problem is serious. It is correct that Kashmir problem is serious problem. Two factors have been involved with the Kashmiri tangle. Whenever the situation seems to be improving militancy takes every step to show its superiority. The biggest problem in this case is how to put an end to the militancy. Whenever there is an improvement in the situation the militancy and our neighbouring countries ensure that the situation does not improve. So in this process sometimes it appears as if the situation is improving and sometimes it appears that there is no improvement. I would like to assure my elder brother Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee that Government is trying its best to see that normalcy is restored there and the elections are taking place do stop. Tomorrow a discussion in the Ministry of Home Affairs will start. Government is trying to

sider the views of the Members of the House before taking action in this matter. Tomorrow in the meeting of the Home Ministry, a full discussion on the Kashmir issue would take place and we would like to implement the suggestions of hon. Members.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): What about the revolt in Police and army in Kashmir.

MR. SPEAKER: No, that would be dealt with later on.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a very serious question in the House. There is much disturbance in the film world at this juncture and the distributors and producers are passing through great difficulty. Some people of one organisation, in connivance with some journalist, are making false propaganda against some film-artistes who have dedicated their life in maintaining amity and harmony in the country. Their films are being burnt at some places. The boards of the film 'Kshatriya' were set to fire but the police remained silent spectator. The way the Police is treating Sanjay Dutt is like treating him as a bigger criminal, even greater than Memon brothers. Is the recovery of one or two illegal weapons from a person sufficient ground for his arrest under TADA? Is it a good thing to have a person on police remand for 15-16 days and to torture him to force him make a wrong statement? I strongly condemn it. I would like the Government to come forward with a statement in the House to indicate as to what statement Sanjay Dutt has made in the present situation and as to how he is connected with the Bombay bomb blasts. Is it justified to arrest him under TADA? Moreover, is it justified to launch a propaganda campaign and ban the films of those actors who have worked for communal harmony throughout their lives. Is it a right thing to make the whole cinema world a puppet of the communal forces? I strongly condemn it. The Government should take necessary steps to thwart these attempts and also to inform the House about all the steps taken by them.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had given you a notice in this regard and while agreeing with the views expressed by my colleague Shri Mohan Singh, I would like to say that now-a-days artistes are facing a lot of problems. The crisis in the film industry is certainly that but the cultural relations between India and Pakistan have transcended their Governmental bounds as is evident from the fact that in spite of differences between the Governments of the two countries, there is a continuous programme of exchange of writers, Hindi and Urdu poets between them. There are a number of decent people in our film industry. Recently I had gone through the interviews of Dileep Kumar and Shabana Azami and I am very sorry that we have never thought of it as to what sort of people they are. In fact, we don't know much about them. Similarly, the people like Shri Sunil Dutt, whose feelings I can understand very well, is quite sensitive. His son might have committed a crime but that thing is being given a wide publicity and comments are being made about the whole film industry and people are being asked not to watch some films, it is not something good. On account of this move, particularly in Bombay, the families of 2 lakh people have been ruined and thousands others have been killed. In spite of all these things, our laws which appear to be apparently very strong, are in fact, so weak and ineffective that within the country itself they cannot deal with the persons who have committed serious crimes or have been out to make a propaganda.

The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is sitting here. It has been said that he has relations with them. Though he has categorically said that he has no relation with them but I would like to say that all sorts of persons come in contact of a political person but we would not say that he is a traitor or anti-national. It is against our dignity. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the treatment that is being meted out to our cultural artistes in this country is matter of shame. What sort of situation is prevailing in this country that Bal Thackeray is surpassing even * recorded .. Who is giving his Fatwas and Surpassing the

laws of this country have not been effective enough to deal with him

[*English*]

MR SPEAKER That word about the foreign dignitary will not go on record

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV The Government of India under the provisions of the law of the country is not taking any action against the person who is responsible for rendering 2 lakh people homeless. What is the reason that no action is being taken against him? On the other hand all the newspapers of the country are giving wide publicity to the news that a gun has been recovered from Sanjay Dutt. What has happened to this country? How are we going ahead and why we have kept our thinking pent up within our religious confines? Have we become habituated to it?

Mr Speaker Sir, in this country the cultural artistes are above all considerations of caste and creed and they command our respect. Generally they know no bounds in their private life. I know a number of such musicians who speak such a language in their personal life that one may feel ashamed of meeting them. In this personal life Firaque Saheb was very beunt but for his valuable contribution to Indian literature the cultural artistes of India and Pakistan command love and respect of the people of both the countries for their Qawals, Ghazals etc. Pakistani Ghazals have a larger number of listeners in India. I would like to say that if the law of the land is soft towards those who commit crimes in the name of religion in the country and if the same law takes a rigorous course against the people belonging to a particular religion then it will not add to the glory of this country. Friends I am not saying anything against you. So you should not interrupt me. (Interruptions) Mr Speaker Sir finally I would like to say that cultural artistes of India and Pakistan belong to the same cultural stream of India. All Indians

know the people like Shabana Azami, Dileep Kumar and Sunil Dutt. I would not like to go into the details of their party affiliations but it is a fact that Shabana Azami has been closely associated with the Ekta Andolan of India. All of them are decent people who give respect to others and get respect from them. To ill-treat or humiliate them is to go against the culture traits of this country. All sorts of people live in India and here artistes enjoy a lot of freedom in their personal life. So it is not proper to brand them as traitors. (Interruption)

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) I agree with the sentiments expressed.

MR SPEAKER Would you like to speak afterwards?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) Mr Speaker Sir, we all have great sympathy for the hon. Member Shri Sunil Dutt. I would like to say that one can imagine the condition of father whose son turns out spoilt. It is a matter of regret for Sunil Duttji. If a person keeps AK-56 rifle and that issue comes before the police and they arrest him under TADA, only then the times will tell as to what action is taken by the police after that. An inquiry into the Bombay riots. I don't think that such a statement will help us to restore peace in Bombay.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV It is not a good thing. I have not anything of that sort. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM NAIK He said that two lakh people have been rendered homeless. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRISOMNATHCHATTERJEE (Bolgpur)

I agree with Shn Sharad Yadav There should not be any witch hunting, and the away even somebody has been found guilty and some people are issuing fatwas- that it should be seen and it should not be seen - is not good (*Interruptions*) They are not allowing to see them You should stop them and it should not be allowed (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI

GEETA

MUKHERJEE (Panskura) I also fully sympathise with what he has said Witch hunting should be stopped (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER Mr Ram Naik it should not be wrongly referred to That is all

SHRI RAMNAIK I am not at all doing that

MR SPEAKER He has not said this thing So please do not interpret it like that You come to your point He has not said anything

SHRI RAMNAIK He has said that Sir

MR SPEAKER Now you come to your point only

(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMNAIK Along with the appointment of a commission the matters should also be discussed here (*Interruptions*)

PROF PREMDHUMAL (Hamirpur) The Government has arrested him Then why are you blaming us? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla) Which party is ruling in Maharashtra and who is ruling at the Centre (*Interruptions*) It is your party's Government which has arrested Sanjay Dutt

MR SPEAKER You, please sit down Why are you interrupting him

(*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER It is also such an issue on which we should have a balanced view in the House We should not be swayed by emotions As I have heard and understood Shn Sharad, I think there is nothing wrong in what he has said

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMNAIK Mr Speaker, Sir I was saying that commission has been appointed to conduct an inquiry into the riots in Bombay It has started functioning, therefore (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER I will say, what I have to say

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) Mr Speaker Sir I would just take one minute A parallel Government is functioning in Bombay This I can say for sure Today the persons belonging to the film world are being instructed not to take particular person in their films as an actor director or music director They are also extorting money from them The way they have been treating Sunil Dutt's Son Hangal Dileep Kumar Shabana Azmi Mandakini and Govinda and there are a lot more names (*Interruptions*)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) Sir I entirely agree with the sentiments expressed by the House Nobody can have any doubt (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER Wait a minute please so

that you are audible to all of us

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR SPEAKER Mr Fatmi you are spoiling the issue You may sit down

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI SHRAFFATMI
Mr Speaker Sir the culprits in Bombay are roaming around freely and on the other hand the innocent people are being harassed *(Interruption)*

[English]

MR SPEAKER I am not going to allow you to defend those people who are mentioned in the Report

(Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER Yes You may now speak

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA Sir I agree with the sentiments expressed by the House and there should be no doubt that Shri Sunil Dutt is one of the most outstanding patriots of the country He has done a Yeoman's job for bringing communal harmony and peace in Bombay If for some criminal offences some of his relatives have been booked by the police his name should not be associated with them

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV I have read the interview of a great personality like Dilip Kumar Kindly about his trauma also *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA I want to submit that be it Shri Dilip Kumar or Shabana people give them respect because they have worked for patriotism and communal harmony We should not keep ill feeling in our minds So

far as the question of Sanjay Dutt is concerned, a ready an inquiry is taking place and after that law will take its own course But trying to involve Mr Sunil Dutt in it and thus vitiating the atmosphere is totally wrong I am very happy body in this august House have unanimously condemned this activity of certain group which is involved in destroying the posters and also disturbing the film shows of certain id deplorable Such things should not be allowed We should try our best not to involve the names of such personalities in such acts who have served the country Because they have never been indulged in such type of activities Those who are found guilty will be taken to task by the police I hope that this will be done in a just manner *(Interruptions)*

MR SPEAKER As the case is under investigation we will have to be very cautious while saying or expressing our opinion in this regard I feel that the hon Members who so ever have spoken here so far have done so with an utmost care But even then it has two aspects The first aspect is that the respected personalities of our country should not be subjected to any harm and such atmosphere should not be created which may instigate one to speak up against them neglecting their life time achievement On the other hand we should also see to it that investigating agencies may do their job without any hinderance Such type of subjects need to be tackled with more care I think it is not advisable to prolong our discussion on this issue

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH Mr Speaker Sir, kindly give your ruling regarding the point raised by Shri Sharad Yadav about Shri Vidya Charan Shukla and the Russian Pathan

MR SPEAKER My ruling is that you need not raise such an issue

(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR Mr Speaker Sir an organisation is being formed by U N O for

monitoring the disposal of chemical warfare in the world. Many friendly western countries have asked India to put forward its claim for the post of Executive Secretary the Chief of this organisation and to project a suitable name for the same. When a delegation of External Affairs visited U.S.A. last November, at that time also this suggestion came up there, but no suitable name for this post but India. They wanted a senior persons' name for this post but India did not put forward its claim for this post. And one junior officer, the mentioning of whose name is not appropriate here, presented himself for the post of Deputy Executive Secretary and not for the Executive Secretary's post. Our permanent mission at Geneva....

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nitish Kumar, one cannot raise a question here regarding anybody's appointment.

SHRINITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not a question of an appointment. In fact, it is a matter of concern as prestige of the nation is at stake.

MR. SPEAKER: But one can say that this issue was raised on somebody's initiative.

SHRINITISH KUMAR: This is not a matter of an appointment alone because this international organisation is going to monitor the disposal of chemical weapons. It was a golden opportunity for India... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot raise a question regarding any appointment or transfer. You may consult the Minister for External Affairs in this regard.

SHRINITISH KUMAR: Me. Speaker, Sir,, this is not merely a question of an appointment. Why India did not make a claim for the post of the Executive Secretary, whereas China, Pakistan and Austria presented their claims for this post.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not appropriate,

you can discuss it with me.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not an ordinary issue. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No, this is not appropriate. You can discuss it with me. I will tell you about it repercussions.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nitish Kumar, my ruling is that, I am not going to allow a matter like this. Please understand this... (*Interruptions*) This is not correct. If you are raising issues of the appointments of the officers in other organisations here, well we will be burdened.

SHRI ANBARASU ERA (Madras-Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to your kind notice an important issue. Yesterday, I had an occasion to attend a Reception organised by the linguistic minorities in Delhi. There, a large number of people belonging to linguistic minorities represented to me that ration cards are not issued to them. A large number of them were from Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kamataka and Kerala who are settled in Delhi. Unfortunately most of the people do not have their own houses. They either live in rented houses or the poor people live in J.J. Colonies.

Further, the Government of India officials transferred from these States to Delhi are living in Government accommodation or in private accommodation.

When they apply for ration cards, it appears that the production of a residential certificate from the house owner is compulsory. In such cases, the house owners, invariably, refuse to admit their tenancy and they refuse to issue residential certificates. Even if the Government officials produce their certificates from their employers, they are also not accepted. It is the

same case with the employees working in the public sector and private sector also

This has created very much hardship and untold misery to the linguistic minorities settled in Delhi. Therefore I urge upon the hon. Minister of Civil Supplies to issue proper instructions to the Delhi Administration to issue ration cards on production of a certificate from the employers who are working in public and private sector companies and on production of a certificate from the Government Offices for the Government employees. A certificate from the elected representatives, namely MPs and Councillors, may also be accepted to issue a ration card so as to relieve the linguistic minorities from such difficulties in getting ration cards.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai) In a few weeks from now it is going to be one full year since the One man Commission of Inquiry into the assassination of the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi submitted its report. We are about to complete this entire Session of Parliament after the report was made public. We are about to arrive at the second anniversary of the martyrdom of the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi and yet this House has neither been given an opportunity to discuss the contents of Justice Verma's Commission of Inquiry Report nor has the Government given this country or this House any indication whatsoever about the steps that they are taking or propose to take to fix the responsibility and punish those who are culprits.

12 42 hrs

[**SHRI SHARAD DIGHE** *in the Chair*]

It is a matter of grave disturbance to several of us particularly on this side of the House and I refer to those of my colleagues who have signed along with the letter that I submitted to you earlier today requesting permission to speak during the Zero Hour on this issue. That the Government seems to be so tardy, so lethargic about attending to a matter which should be a matter of priority certainly to a Congress Government

I would therefore plead with the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that time be found in this Session itself for a full-fledged discussion on the Report of the Verma Commission of Inquiry so that those of us, especially those of us who are on the Treasury Benches, are given an opportunity to express our deep concern about the acts of Commission and Commissions for which a perusal of the Verma Commission Report will indicate that there can be no atonement for such a sin. This has not been done. It is extremely important that it be done, especially because the draft action taken report prepared by the officials of the Ministry of Home Affairs has apparently been leaked either partially or entirely to the press, resulting in certain reports that have come in the press to which there has been no contribution from the Government.

I would plead with the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to ensure that there is a full discussion on this issue in this House in this Session and ask the Home Minister to ensure that such a discussion is made possible. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P C CHACKO (Trichur) I have given a notice. I support the opinion expressed by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar.

On the 23rd of December 1992 the Verma Commission's Report was placed before this House. It is going to be five months now. We would like to know what action has been taken by the Government of India on this matter. It was described by Verma Commission that the decision taken by the then Government to withdraw the security cover to late Shri Rajiv Gandhi was tenuous. There are clear indications Omissions and Commissions by the then Government and by many are clearly spelt out in the Verma Commission's Report. We are at loss to understand what action has been taken since the last five months after receiving this Report by the Government.

So I support the opinion expressed by my friend and request the Government to make a

statement about the action taken by the Government on the subject and also allow a full fledged discussion on it

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Sheohar) Yes, there shall be full discussion on the Verma Commission Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) The Government will make a statement tomorrow on the progress on steps taken by the Commission

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR Do we have an opportunity for a discussion?

MR CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHAFI AD DIGHE) After the statement it can be decided by the Business Advisory Committee when it is to be discussed

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHAR VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) Mr Chairman Sir many areas in our country are affected by drought and reports of some starvation deaths are pouring in. It was decided that a Parliamentary delegation would visit drought affected areas. I do not know whether any delegation has gone or not. If it has not gone so far, the reasons to cause such a delay should be made known to us. Recently our Prime Minister had visited drought affected areas and also announced some financial assistance to the State Governments. Therefore I would like to say that the Prime Minister who himself has visited the drought affected areas should make a statement in the House. It is a matter of great concern for all of us and the statement of the Prime Minister who has been the condition with his own eyes will help us in making correct assessment of the situation. Therefore Sir you kindly ask the Prime Minister to make a statement on drought affected areas in the House.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR Sir we also sup

port it. It was demanded in the House and it was said by the Hon. Speaker that a Parliamentary delegation would visit the drought affected areas. Only the Hon. Speaker knows whether it will be done or not. The hon. Prime Minister has visited these areas. Regarding Parliamentary delegation I would like to say that it must be sent to make an on-the-spot study of famine affected areas and make recommendations regarding the relief measures to be taken by the Government. The Prime Minister has visited drought-affected areas of Orissa and Bihar so he should give a detailed statement on the prevailing situation, the financial assistance being given and other measures being taken to face the situation. The financial assistance is the main thing. So long there is no coordination between the Centre and the States I do not think we may be able to cope with situation effectively. Therefore Sir you please direct the Prime Minister to make a statement in this House.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Fardkot) Mr Chairman Sir with a heavy heart I would like to mention in the House about a tragic incident.

[*English*]

MR CHAIRMAN Are you speaking on the same subject?

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR I have given notice on this.

MR CHAIRMAN Mr Parliamentary Affairs Minister do you want to react?

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) Mr Chairman Sir I support the issue raised by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Shri Chandrajeet Yadav and myself went to Uttar Pradesh and visited Chail, Maizampur, Vasaimjea, Fatchpur areas. People are facing acute water problem in those areas. It is a very serious matter and has been raised there in the House. The Prime

Minister has himself seen the situation. Therefore, the Government should take it seriously and the Prime Minister should tell the House as to what steps have been taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to face the drought problem.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhunjharpur): Sir, I agree with the issue raised by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The drought situation has become critical. Though the Prime Minister has visited drought-affected areas of Orissa and Bihar, yet the assistance of Rs. 175 crore as announced by the Prime Minister is not adequate. Be it Palamu or Garhwa, the water table is continuously going down, as a result of which there is an acute water problem in those areas. It is a humanitarian problem and a natural calamity, therefore, the Government should give a detailed and clear account as to how it is going to tackle the drought situation. The Government should also make its position clear about the additional financial assistance. Mere visiting areas will not solve the problems. It is a national problem. Power crisis has further aggravated the water problem. It has raised suspicions in the minds of people. Therefore, we would like to request the Government to take this problem seriously and make a statement giving details of different heads under which additional financial assistance is being provided by the Government.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN. Mr. Minister, do you want to say anything on this subject?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA). I will consult the Prime Minister and the Speaker about it, then, whatever is decided, we will take action accordingly.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Mr. Chair-

man, Sir, with a heavy heart I would like to mention one thing in this House that Yesterday, a big seminar was being organised in University Extension Centre in Punjab in which the Union Minister Shri Arjun Singh was also to deliver his speech. It is a matter of regret that it was a fifth such incident. Therefore, being an elected member of the House I would like to mention about it in the House.... (*Interruptions*) It is my personal matter. I am not talking about Shri Arjun Singh. I would like to say that it happened for the fifth time. Earlier it happened at Muktesar, Bhatinda, Ludhiana and Talwandi..... (*Interruptions*)... I am receiving threatening letters. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

Mr. Chairman: This is a State Government's subject.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: It is a serious matter.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is a State subject and cannot be discussed here. It is a State subject. I have not allowed.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: I have not been allowed to go into my constituency. I need your protection.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have said that I am not allowing this subject because it is a State subject.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rose). This is a very serious matter. He wants your protection. He says that he is not being allowed to enter his constituency. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR. This is

not a question of Shri Anjun Singh. It is a question of an elected Member of Parliament of this House. I have been told that I would be shot if I address a meeting anywhere in Punjab. According to them they may think that—I have a different viewpoint or a different opinion on the Punjab issue. But they say that if I go to address a meeting anywhere, with the help of the Police, with the help of the para-military forces, they are going to eliminate me in Punjab. It is a very serious matter and I want to bring it to the notice of this august House. The Chief Minister of Punjab, has been elected. I have full regard for him but I want to say,

Mr Chairman, one thing on this (*Interruptions*)

MR CHAIRMAN You cannot discuss this subject here. Please.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR Yesterday the Politicals Secretary of the Chief Minister (*Interruptions*)

MR CHAIRMAN Nothing is going on record.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BUDA SINGH (Jalore) I have a point for order (*Interruptions*)

MR CHAIRMAN Nothing is going on record. Please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) Sir, please do not say "sit down". He is seeking your protection.

MR CHAIRMAN I have not allowed this subject (*Interruptions*)

MR CHAIRMAN I have not allowed this subject. Do not say anything. I do not want to allow this subject at all.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV Mr Chairman, please listen to me. Sir, I request you not to take it as a technical matter. The hon. Member of this House is requesting the House he is requesting the Chair. And he is seeking the protection of his personal life and security. Now it is not a matter of any political party (*Interruptions*)

MR CHAIRMAN To that extent I allowed him to speak. But he went on.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV It is not the question of allowing him to speak (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR I have not been able to say what I have wanted. I have the highest regard for my Party. But I want to say what is happening in the State today. I should be given an opportunity to speak (*Interruptions*)

MR CHAIRMAN I have listened to him and to a limited extent I allowed him to speak and put his grievance before the House also. That is all.

(*Interruptions*)

MR CHAIRMAN Do not speak on the same subject. We do not want any discussion on that.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) It is a question of the right of a Member (*Interruptions*)

MR CHAIRMAN to that extent I have allowed him to speak. To that extent when a Member of the House is not allowed to speak in his own State. I have allowed him to put his grievance before the House. The Government should take due note of it. That is all.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI (Maharaj Ganj) Mr Chairman, Sir, I feel that the exploitation of

women is there not only outside the House but there is also exploitation of women parliamentarians inside this august House I have been standing for last five minutes to catch the eyes of the Chair, Sir, the plateau region of Bihar is experiencing severe drought situation People of that region have been facing water and foodgrains problem for the last one year Many persons including the Prime Minister have visited that area Before the visit by the Members of Parliament (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR CHAIRMAN That subject is over now

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHANALAJHIKRAM (Mandla)
Mr Chairman, Sir, an accident took place in Madal area on 30th in which a bus and a train collided on the crossing The main reason behind the accident is improper maintenance of railways in that area Mampur is the biggest narrow gauge railway junction in Asia Earlier the DRM office was there which has since shifted to Nagpur as a result of which railways are not being properly maintained there It was the fourth accident in which 7 persons were killed and 15 other seriously injured The Governor has announced the payment of Rs 5000 to the family of each deceased persons, Rs 2000 to seriously injured persons and Rs 1000 to other persons who sustained minor injuries But it is a matter of great regret that the Ministry of Railways has not announced any compensation for the family of deceased and injured persons Therefore I would like to submit that the Railways should immediately make announcement for payment of compensation of Rs one lakh to the family of each deceased Rs 50 000 to grievously injured persons and Rs 25 000 to the persons who sustained minor injuries Besides that the DRM office which has been shifted to Nagpur should be brought back to Mainpur so that the recurrence of such accidents could be checked

[*English*]

MR CHAIRMAN Now paper to be laid on the Table

Shri Sukh Ram

12.50 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notification under Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRISUKH RAM) I beg to lay on the table a copy of the Notification No. G S R 62 (E) Hindi and English versions) Published in Gazette of India dated the 11th February, 1993, containing a corrigendum to the Notification No G S R 830 (E) dated the 28th October, 1992, issued under section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act 1885

[Pleased in Library See No T 3886/93]

12.59 hrs

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Forty Seventh Report

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) Mr Chairman Sir I beg to present the Forty Seventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts on Utilisation of Foreign Assistance

12.59 1/2 hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE

[*English*]

SHRI BUTA SINGH (Jalore) Sir I beg to present the First Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Defence of Demands for Grants (1993-94) of the Ministry of Defence

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

13.00 hrs

(1) Telecom Tariffs

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) MR CHAIRMAN, Sir I take this opportunity to make the following statement -

The hon Members are aware that the last revision of Telecom Tariffs took place on 1 4 90 This revision did not make any sizable increase in the rates but had introduced reduction in the rental of for Measured Rate Exchange Systems below 100 lines from Rs 750/- to Rs 600 p a and unit charge for calls beyond 50000 from Rs 1 25 to Rs 1 10 In addition charges on calls made from Long Distance Public Telephones were reduced from full to 50 per cent and further concessions in retails for telephones of Recognised Educational Institutions and the Institutions working for the Handicapped were affected The revision was therefore limited in its impact and it may not be inappropriate to say that the real tariff revision took place five years ago only on 1 4 88

Telecom is capital intensive sector While the cost of capital has been rising continuously the cost of other inputs as also operations has also increased In addition as hon Members are aware the Government has been following a liberal policy of extending the telecommunication services into rural areas on subsidized basis Investment in telecom sector is however not drawing upon Government budgetary support

The Telecommunication Department has made every effort to absorb the effect of rising costs by increasing productivity through better conductivity accessibility and reliability There has been considerable improvement in the network especially during the last three years The number of stations with Subscriber Trunk Dialing facility increased from 892 on 1 4 90 to 4049

as on 31 3 93 The percentage share of Electronic Exchanges has also gone up from 5% in 89-90 to more than 50% at the end of 92-93 thus improving the reliability of services significantly

In keeping with the commitment to faster development and better accessibility of the Telecom facilities we have not only accelerated the expansion of telecom Network but have also taken up the up gradation of the existing system for improving the quality of service Against the average annual addition of 3 39 lakh lines during the Seventh Plan 9 87 lakh new lines have been provided during 1992-93 The waiting list which stood at 8 3 lakhs at the commencement of the Seventh Plan has however increased to 22 90 lakhs as on 31 3 92 and to 28 46 lakhs as on 31 3 93 In the rural sector 54750 Gram Panchayats are proposed to be provided with telephone facility during 93 94 supported by large subsidies

It is in this context that the Telecom Tariffs were reviewed to consider whether these could be adjusted suitably such that the burden on rural and weaker sections is kept to the minimum Accordingly I propose to make the following revisions in the existing tariffs

Telephone Rentals It is proposed to revise the rentals for Measured Rate Exchange Systems of 30 000 lines and above by about 10% even though a much bigger increase is justified on the basis of actual costs However in pursuance of the policy of providing subsidized telephone services in rural areas the telephone rentals for Exchanges in rural areas are not proposed to be revised

Metered Telephone Call Charges It is proposed to reduce the number of free calls from 150 to 120 per bi monthly period in all exchange systems of 1000 lines and above and to revise the call unit charge increasing it by about 13 to 27% in different slabs The charges for calls made from Attended type STD Public Telephones will be revised from 1 to Rs 1 25 per unit so that revision in call charges does not create

[Sh Sukh Ram]

serious anomalies in tariff structure (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roseria)
Sir, we totally oppose this (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) Sir, it is against the promises of the Government. Instead of reducing the prices, they are increasing the prices, putting more burden on the people (*Interruptions*). After the presentation of the Budget, the Minister has no right to increase the tariffs like this (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) Mr Chairman, Sir, now-a-days nothing is mentioned in the Budget and prices are revised before and after the presentation of the Budget through statements. The per call charges has been revised from Rs 1 to Rs.1.25 (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR CHAIRMAN Let him complete first. Yes, you complete it.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV Sir, there should be no increase without discussion in Parliament (*Interruptions*)

MR CHAIRMAN Please allow him to complete and then you can say what you want to say

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV Without discussion in Parliament no price increase should be there on anything. This is new way of doing the things (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUKH RAM 6 3 MANUAL TRUNK CALL CHARGES The trunk calls on account of manual assistance cost the Department more than the subscriber Trunk Dialed (STD) calls. The tariffs for Manual Trunk Calls should not, therefore, be less than those for STD calls of the same duration. It is accordingly proposed to revise the rates for distances above 50 kms. The increase would be between 11 per cent to 30 per cent.

6 4 International Operator Assisted Call Charges Consequent on the revision of tariffs for call units, a 50 per cent increase in the tariffs for International Operator Assisted Calls is proposed.

6 5 Concessions to Rural Sector With a view to popularising the use of telephone in the rural sector, it is proposed to not only continue the 50 per cent concession on trunk calls from the Long Distance Public Telephones but to further reduce the charges for calls from a Long Distance Public Telephone to its Parent Exchange. The charges now proposed are a nominal 25 per call to a Flat Rate Exchange System and 50p per call to a Measured Rate Exchange System. These charges will be irrespective of the distance at which the parent exchange is located.

6 6 No change in Telegram Rates I am also glad to inform the House that it is not proposed to increase the charges for the Telegrams even though the telegram charges were last revised as far back as 1 3 83. This is in keeping with the fact that the service mainly assists the weaker sections. No increase is also proposed for the telegram charges applicable to the Press.

The above proposals will be effective from 1 5 93 and will result in a net additional revenue of Rs 740 crores for the year 1993-94. Details of the proposals are given in the Annexure 7 0. It is also proposed to revise the initial Registration Fee of Rs 28 4 93 for OYT and Non-OYT registrants in the Measured Rate Systems as

follows:-

(a) OYT APPLICANTS:

-less than 1,000 lines	From Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 8,000
-1,000 lines and above but below 10,000 lines	From Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 10,000
-10,000 lines and above	From Rs. 8,000 to Rs. 15,000

(b) NON-OYT APPLICANTS:

-up to 9,999 lines	From Rs. 800 to Rs. 2,000
-10,000 lines & above	From Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 3,000

7.1 No change is proposed in respect of Flat Rate Exchanges which cater to the rural areas.

7.2 For information of Hon. Members, the amounts paid for registration were previously termed as "Registration Deposits" and earned interest which is now replaced by a waiting charge. With the increase in the Registration Fee as above, it is also proposed to allow applicants an additional waiting charge at the rate of 3 per cent over and above the normal rate of waiting charge payable on the Registration Fee if the telephone connections are not provided within six months in the case of OYT and two years in the case of Non-OYT registrants. The enhanced fee as also the additional waiting charge will be applicable only to those applicants who register on or after 28.4.93. This will apply also to applicants of the Flat Rate Exchanges registered on or after 28.4.93 if the connections are not provided to them within the specified period.

8.0 I would like to assure the House that these revisions had become absolutely necessary, in the light of mounting costs and the fact that the Telecom Sector has to be self-sufficient. I would further like to assure the House that the Telecom Sector would continue its efforts for

increasing connectivity, improving reliability and enlarging accessibility of services and for bringing the rural and remote areas into the mainstream.

9.0 The Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951, will be suitably amended to bring into force the above changes under the authority vested in the Central Government under Section 7 of the Indian Telegraphs Act, 1885. The relevant Notification in the official Gazette will be placed on the Table of the House in due course. (*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Sir, it is too much. Thousands of people are waiting for telephone connections and their requests are pending since long. Government has not cleared the pending lists. (*Interruptions*) People are waiting for 10-20 years for telephone connection. The Government has now increased the rates (*Interruptions*) Sir, it will affect the common people. The rentals and the registration charges are all increased. (*Interruptions*) Sir, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is here; let him clarify. It is not correct. (*Interruptions*)

I would request the Government to reconsider the decision. The increases proposed by

[Kumar Mamata Banerjee]

[*Translation*]

the hon Minister are not correct They should
be withdrawn (*Interruptions*)

MR CHAIRMAN Let the hon Minister
complete the statement first

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South
Delhi) Sir the BJP wants to oppose this
Functioning of telephones is poor We would like
to oppose the hike in telecom tariff rates on
behalf of the Bhartiya Janata
Party (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUKH RAM Sir the annexure to my statement is as follows

	Bi-Monthly	
	Existing Rs	Proposed Rs
I Telephone Rentals		
- 30 000 lines and above but below 1 lakh lines	250	277
- 1 lakh lines and above but below 3 lakh lines	330	360
- 3 lakh lines and above	330	360
II Metered Telephone Call Charges		
- free calls per bi-monthly period		
(a) No change in respect of Exchange Systems of Less than 1 000 lines (i.e. 150)		
(b) 120 in respect of exchange systems of 1 000 lines and above		
121 151 (as the case may be) 1000 calls from Re 0 80 to Rs 1 per unit		
1001-2000 calls from Rs 1 10 to Rs 1 25 per unit		
Above 2000 calls from Rs 1 10 to Rs 1 40 per unit		

III. Manual Trunk Call Charges:

Existing		Proposed	
Radial Distance	Rate per 3 minute or part	Radial Distance	Rate per 3 minute or part
51 - 100	Rs. 15	51 - 100	Rs. 20
101 - 200	Rs. 25	101 - 200	Rs. 50
201 - 500	Rs. 45	201 - 500	Rs. 50
501 - 1000	Rs. 55	501 - 800	Rs. 65
Above 1000	Rs. 75	Above 1200	Rs. 90

IV. International Operator Assisted Calls:

Charges per minute *

Existing		Proposed	
(a) SAARC Countries		Rs. 26	Rs. 39
(b) Other Neighbouring countries		Rs. 30	Rs. 45
(c) Countries in Africa, Europe, Gulf, Asia and Oceania		Rs. 60	Rs. 75
(d) American Continent & Rest of the World		Rs. 60	Rs. 90

* Minimum three minutes initially.

13.13 hrs

resign

**RE STATEMENT BY MINISTER ON
REVISION OF TELECOM TARIFFS**

[Translation]

SHRI MADHAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi) Sir, we would like to oppose it on behalf of the BJP. On the one hand, the telecom tariffs have been revised and on the other hand the telecom facilities are deteriorating fast. We would like to oppose the hike in the telecom tariffs and in protest we walk out of the House.

13.14 hrs.

Thereafter Shri Madan Lal Khurana and some other hon. Members left the House. *(Interruption)*

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) Mr. Chairman, Sir, through the statement made by the hon. Minister in the house approximately Rs 800 crore have been proposed to be mobilised. We oppose the like in telecom tariff rates at all levels and think that this is an anti-people measure. Sir, I would like to draw your attention to one more point that the hon. Minister has yet to reply on the Budget and the Budget Session is in progress. Demands for Grants have not been discussed and the debate is yet to be initiated. Standing Committee has already been constituted. This revision in telecom tariffs tantamounts to bypassing the Standing Committee and is hence, not proper. Standing Committee on Communications has already been constituted and I am a Member of that Committee. Being a Member of the Committee I would like to submit:

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roseria) Despite that

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV Despite that this is the state of affairs

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN You may

SHRICHANDRAJEET YADAV Mr. Chairman, Sir, the meeting of the standing Committee is scheduled for day after tomorrow. The Government in all sincerity should have put the matter before the Standing Committee. The Committee has been constituted by the House only which is a new experiment. They should have told the Committee that revision is required in public interest for the sake of modernisation. Had the Government wanted to keep the whole affair secret the discussion could have been held in camera and they could have brought the difficulties to our knowledge and could have sought our help and the matter could have been discussed. But now a new precedent is being created and all such things cause discontentment among public. The importance of the House is also undermined and the people lose faith in democratic values.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, secondly the House is debating on the Budget and even then of Rs 800 crores an additional burden is being put on the people. I think this is against parliamentary norms and amounts to disrespect of the House and the Standing Committee. We are sceptical about all these things and we apprehend that after the Budget the prices of petrol, diesel, LPG, etc. will be revised. For overcoming the shortage of LPG private companies are being invited to join this sector. Power tariffs are also going to be revised. The Government is hiding its incompetence and resources are being misutilised. Therefore we totally oppose it and would allow the House to function.

KUMARI MAMATA BENERJEE (Calcutta South) Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for allowing me to speak. From the point of view of public welfare and not on political grounds, I would like to urge the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and the hon. Minister of Communications to reconsider the proposed hike. People who applied for telephones 10-20 years ago are yet to get the telephone connection. We are also in favor of modernization but the public should not

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

be burdened or mobilising additional resources. Prices of every item are going up. After the statement of the hon. Minister it could be concluded that now the common man will find it impossible to apply for the telephone connection because the registration fee has been increased from Rs 1 000 to Rs 5 000 and from Rs 6 000 to Rs 10 000. Therefore, I urge the Government to reconsider this proposed hike. Telephone now has become a necessity and is not more a luxury. Therefore, I urge the Government to reconsider the proposed hike. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) Sir, I thank you for permitting me to speak. Without repeating anything, I want to support the points which have already been made. So I demand that this Statement be rescinded immediately and let them come before Parliament to discuss it.

[Translation]

SHRINITISH KUMAR (Barh) Mr. Chairman, Sir, when the hon. Minister was making statement, I thought the permission to raise a point of order. It is a very serious matter. Budget session is going on. Demands for Grants have been put in the House, the House has not yet discussed the matter but in the meanwhile tariff has been increased to mobilise about Rs. 800 crore which is improper. Administered price rise took place before the session began, besides the Government managed to arrange a huge amount of money in the name of like-in-triff even before the presentation of the Budget and the discussions, the Demands for Grants. At what cost this is being done? The rate of a telephone call has also been increased from Rs 1 to Rs 1.25 per unit. It is a direct 25 per cent enhancement. How much interest is being paid to those who are in waiting list? The Government also asserts that the rate of interest for those who

seek out of turn connection and have to wait for six months or so will be 3 per cent. (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) The rate of interest in this regard will be the same as that of the State Bank of India. In case of Non-OYT if the telephone connection is not given within the period of two years additional 3 per cent interest would be given. Registration fee is adjusted in rental but what has been adjusted would not again be adjusted in rental. (Interruptions)

SHRINITISH KUMAR Registration fee for telephone connection has been increased from Rs. 800 to Rs. 2000 besides the amount regarding the out turn connection. Therefore we have a strong objection to the hike in registration fee for a subscriber of general category. To raise rates and to ignore the House in the Budget session is breach of privilege of the House. (Interruptions) Is it possible that when discussion on the Demands for Grants has not taken place in the House he may bring a such resolution or make such statement. I insist on withdrawal of the is motive statement in the interest of Parliamentary democracy failing which would strongly oppose it. (Interruption) We cannot tolerate such attitude and raise strong objection. (Interruption)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN Mr. Chairman, Sir, Recently when the hon. Speaker had constituted the Standing Committee, the hon. Members of both the House had met him, he had made it clear to them that the Standing committees will have some powers, these Committees would not only deal with the matters regarding Demands for Grants but also look deeply into the policy matters and make recommendations. The meetings of Standing Committees are being held and Demands for Grants are going to be discussed. My colleagues told me that the tariff has been increased even before the Budget when demands for Grants are being discussed and the meetings of the Standing Committees taking place. You are in the Chair and visit other

countries. Telephone and petrol are the cheapest things in foreign countries but these are being made costly in our country. The things of essential need are being made costly. I would like to submit to you that there is lack of efficiency in the department of communications, no improvement is taking place there but tariff is being increased— all this is a separate issue. But with regard to the matter of propriety, I would like to submit that keeping in view the point of view of a common man and dignity of the House, he should withdraw his statement. It is only when the Demands for Grants are discussed that the proposal to this effect may be placed before the Standing Committee which comprises of the hon. Members of all parties. It will make its recommendations. Then only the proposal to increase rates may be taken up and the matter be decided as per the opinion of the hon. Members. The Government should not enhance the tariff on their own. This is my submission. (*Interruption*)

[*English*]

SHRISRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack) Chairman, Sir there are two aspects in this. One aspect is whether it is proper on the part of the Government to enhance tariff in between when the Budget is being discussed in the House and the Standing Committee has not taken up this aspect for consideration. Hon. Members of the standing Committee have rightly said that this matter has not come up before the committee. The Speaker had very categorically stated that these types of statements and the policy decisions have to be examined first in the Committee and then on the recommendation of the Committee it will be discussed in the House. In my opinion this announcement of the Government should not be given effect to. It should first be sent to the Standing committee for its opinion so that the House can take up this matter subsequently.

Sir 20 per cent of the consumers of telephones are using 80 per cent of the infrastructure that had been created by the Telephones Depart-

ment. We belong to the other category viz. 80 per cent category and we are really using 20 per cent of the infrastructure. While protecting the interests of our, we are also protecting the interests of 20 per cent consumers viz. those who are really using the 80 per cent infrastructure that had been created by the Telephones Department.

In my opinion, the standing Committee should really discuss this aspect as to who are the consumers who are really using the telephone apparatus and the telephone infrastructure in massive way and who are not paying.

I am politician. I am really concerned about tomorrow. Suppose, if tomorrow if I receive a huge bill, I will have to pay more. That is my concern. In the process of opposing this, I am also supporting the same persons in the Stock Exchanges, who are using ten or twenty telephones at a time, who are paying the some amount what we are also paying.

That is why the Standing Committee should discuss this aspect and a categorisation has to be made in a manner so that the common users like the politicians, the press people, the voluntary organisations, the rural consumers etc should be treated in one category and the bulk consumers should be treated in another category. Their tariff should be separate.

So, in my opinion the Minister should agree to keep this in abeyance till the Standing Committee and the parliament discusses this matter at great length. Then only the government should give effect to this.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN (Chirayinkil) Mr Chairman Sir this is very shocking. Actually the hon. Minister was reading it out casually. Nobody know about this. In between when I put on the earphones then only I come to know that there will be an increase in the telephone tariff.

If such is the case the people will beat us.

[Smt Suseela Gopalan]

when we go out of the House They will ask Did you not hear it? It was done in the Budget Session'

This is somewhat surprising, how such an announcement be made in a casual manner on the floor of the House they should have mentioned it in the Order paper and should have brought it as Demands for Grants, if at all it is very essential How can we accept this? It should be withdrawn immediately and they should take it up with the Committee They should discuss it in the Committee first and afterwards they can bring the name on the floor of the House and discuss it Only after that it can be accepted It is against all parliamentary norms (*Interruption*)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE Sir is he rescinding? on that it depends what we shall do

SHRI NITISH KUMAR What is your ruling? we have raised the point of order

MR CHAIRMAN I am not going into the merits of the case but I do want to express that it was not proper to enhance this when we are in the midst of the General Discussion on the Budget and then the Departmental Committees are examining the Demands From that point of view it was not proper But now law prevents them from making this statement and therefore the Government is entitled to do so

(*Interruption*)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA The government should either withdraw or send it to the standing committee

13 28 hrs

(At this stage Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and some other hon Member left the House)

MR CHAIRMAN the House stands adjourned for Lunch to re-assemble at thirty minutes past fourteen of the Clock

13 29 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till thirty minutes past fourteen of the clock

The Lok Sabha Re-Assembled After lunch at thirty minutes past fourteen of the Clock

(MR DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roser) Mr Deputy Speaker Sir through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a very important incident I have received an information that an aircraft on the route from Aurangabad to Bombay crashed today and a large number of passengers have been killed and injured I would like the hon Minister to get this information confirmed and furnish the same to the House

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) Mr Deputy Speaker Sir at the moment I do not have the required information However with regard to what the hon Member has conveyed I would gather the details and furnish the same to the House

[*English*]

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER The Government will get the information and place it before the House

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to set up an Electronic Telephone Exchange at Bilaspur in Madhya Pradesh

[*Translation*]

SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE (Vilas pur)
Mr Deputy Speaker Sir, the telephone system in my constituency Vilaspur (Madhya Pradesh) is deplorable. This area has been developing as an industrial area. But since the equipment in telephone exchange is outdated the telephone subscribers have been facing a lot of difficulty. STD facility hasn't been provided so far in such important cities like Mugali, Katoraa, Shakti, Ajgir etc. due to which most of the time telephone lines are not available in these cities. Telephones proposed to be provided to Gram panchayats have not been installed so far.

Therefore, I would urge upon the Central Government to equip all the telephone exchanges in Vilaspur with modern facilities at an early date.

(ii) Need to settle Maharashtra-Karnataka border dispute early

Uncollected/not for publication

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane) The issue of Maharashtra-Karnataka border exists since States reorganisation in 1956 and it has been raised almost every year in the House to form the attention of Government. The people of the border areas had organised peaceful 'Dhama' and 'Hunger strike' in Maharashtra and Delhi from time to time. Unfortunately, despite people verdict unequivocally expressed through the Assembly and local body elections since 1957 the issue has remained unresolved. These elections were fought on the question of settling the dispute by treating village as a unit and by taking into account linguistic majority geo-

graphical continuity. Both the House of Maharashtra Legislature have passed resolution urging upon the Union Government to solve the dispute principles.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to settle the dispute early.

(iii) Need to allot land to the people of Tangia community settled in North and South Gorkhpur region in Uttar Pradesh.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY (Maharajanj) Mr Deputy Speaker Sir majority of the people in big county like India are those who acquire proficiency in their occupation as an inherited gift and not by getting any formal training. These include the people of Tangia Community. This community has always been living in forests and besides doing cultivation they were engaged in planting different types of trees. Most of the area in Maharajanj district in Uttar Pradesh is covered by the forest and the people of Tangia community have been living in forests for a long time. But now the Government having taken the charge to look after the forest area has started evacuating them from those places. These people neither have any other occupation nor they can engage in other occupation than cultivation and planting trees. In the prevailing situation they have been demanding for at least one acre of land for each family for cultivation in the area they are residing or somewhere else - be it the land of Gram Samaj or the land other than that comes under ceiling - so that they can live there permanently and earn their livelihood. I tried to draw the attention of the Government to their difficulties several times however no concrete measures have been taken to solve their problems so far and the problem remains unresolved.

Therefore I would urge upon the hon. Minister of Environment and Forests that keeping in view the gravity of the problems of these people the Government should take immediate

[Sh Pankaj Chowdhary]

steps to distribute the required land to the people of Tangia community living in North and South Gorakhpur on priority basis so that their problem is solved

(iv) Need to take steps to preserve the Manas National Park, Assam

[English]

SHRI UDHAB BARMAN (Barpeta) Every day the news of destruction of wild life stock in Assam and particularly in Manas national Park has appeared in the newspapers though there are several Government agencies at the Central and State level to look after the interest of wild life as far these agencies have failed to protect the destruction of wild life and protect the forests and animals

Manas national park a tiger reserve under Project Tiger is a home of at least 22 other endangered species listed in the schedule of wild life protection Act 1972 Endangered species such as golden langour, pigmy hog, hispid hare and capped langour are peculiar to this Park The park also houses famous one horned rhinos manasm can boast of housing one-third tiger population in Assam

The Park has been a favorite spot for both domestic and foreign tourists But since 1989 it has been kept out of bounds for tourists for security reasons

The Park has been in the grip of armed militants and poachers, between whom the dividing line is very thin They stalk the Park, Killing wild life felling trees, gunning down forest officials etc

In view of the above I urge upon the Venral Government to take necessary steps to preserve the national park and also improve all communications to and from the park

(v) Need to Supply natural gas to Karnataka from Bombay High seas, Cauvery Basins and Godavari Basin.

SHRI C P MUDALA (Chitradurga) (Chitradurga) The State of Karnataka was once a pioneer satate in the field of industry Now this has been pushed down for the reason that it does not have enough power to set up more industries The entrepreneurs are reluctant to set up new industries, though Karnataka has a healthy climate except the shortage of power There is excess natural gas available at Bombay basin which can be drawn through pipe lines to the industrial growth centers in Karnataka At one time, it was suggested that natural gas from Bombay High Seas should be connected to mangalore through sea We can get natural gas from cauvery basin (Bhuvnagin and Karikal) from Tamil nadu With the gas made available from the existing industries and also for industries that is going to be set up we can at least have large scale industries to be set up in Karnataka particularly in industrial growth centers (Hassan Dharwad and Raichur) which have been selected as growth centers by the Government of India Industries in Bellary district are the worst affected in Karnataka due to power shortage

Hence I urge upon the Central Government to make arrangements to draw excess natural gas from the above mentioned areas and to provide the same to the starving industrial growth centers in Karnataka State

(vi) Need to Commission Akshwani centre at Dhulia, Maharashtra

SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE (Dhule) In my constituency Dhule maharashtra the foundation of Akashvani Center is ready for the last two years It is not being commissioned till today A large population of Dhule is deprived of this communication facility All infrastructure is already ready

I therefore urge upon the Central

Government to take steps for early commissioning of Akashvani Centre there.

[Translation]

(vii) Need to provide Constitutional status to Minorities Commission.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (BARH): Mr. Deputy Speaker, sir, all the legal formalities have been completed to provide constitutional status to the Minorities Commission about one year ago, yet the post of the Chairman, Minorities Commission has been lying vacant so far. Consequently, the work of the Commission has come to a standstill. Even the Annual Report for the financial year 1992-93 has not been submitted, the vacancy of para representative has also been lying vacant for the past several months.

therefore, with a view to instill a feeling of confidence among the minority communities, I would like to urge upon the Central government to give constitutional status to the Minorities Commission

(viii) Need to direct ONGC to pay its share for construction of bridge at Yanam and Yeduralka

SHRIG.M.C. BALAYOGI (Amalapuram): At present people in Konaseema area have to cross Gowthami branch of river Godavari by ferry service from Yeduralka to Konaseema to Yanam in Punditry Union Territory and then to proceed by road to Kakinada. It is proposed to construct a high level bridge at this place to provide facilities to the public of Konaseema and to transport their agricultural produce to the markets of Yanam and Kakinada and vice versa. It will facilitate the ONGC activities in Krishna and Godavari basins which are in full swing for the movement of their vehicles and also supply of natural gas to other industrially developing centers. The cost of the bridge is estimated at Rs 85 crore.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh had

taken up the matter with Government of India and the Punditry Government to share the cost of the bridge by equal ratio i.e. 1:1:1 by the Pondicherry Government, the ONGC and the Government of Andhra Pradesh. The Pondicherry Government has agreed to pay its share; the Government of Andhra Pradesh has also agreed to pay its share

I, therefore, request the Central government to kindly issue necessary orders to ONGC to pay its share of the cost of construction of the bridge at Yanam and Yeduralka.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera). Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Minister of state in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs has confirmed that an accident has occurred

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): Sir, I simply contacted the Office of the hon. Minister for civil Aviation. They are still collecting the information. As soon as they get the information, they will inform the House

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The minister will come with the substantive information.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we shall take up further discussion on the General Budget

14.47 hrs

GENERAL BUDGET 1993-94 GENERAL DISCUSSION

PROF. K. VENKAT AGIRI GOWDA (Bangalore South): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I nice to speak on the third Budget for the current year.. This is the third Budget presented by Dr. Manmohan Singhji. The first Budget was presented in the month of July 1991; the second in February 1992; and the third in February 1993

[Prof K Venkatagiri Gowda]

year

When I spoke on the first Budget in July 1991, I had made a savage attack on the Budget and its illustrious author. When I spoke on the second Budget in March 1992, I said that the Budget like the curate's egg, is good in parts and I welcomed the good parts of it.

Now I am speaking on the third Budget. I do not know what exactly to say. I would not join with those who call the Budget a mass deception. It would be ungenerous to do so. I do not also join with those who call it a harbinger of hope, of stability, of equity and of external solvency. But I must make a comment and that comment is that the Budget is confounding and disappointing in the extreme.

The country is faced with three crises: inflation crisis, recession and balance of payment crisis. They are not new to the country. They are there for the last thirty-five years ever since 1956 when the Second Plan was launched. But we cannot blame Dr. Manmohan Singh for the crisis now because they had a long history. In 1956, the Second Plan was launched; the plan was based on the Nehruvian model. In the First Plan, there was no inflation crisis nor was there any balance of payment crisis. The First Plan was a time affair. It was agriculture-oriented. It was small in size; the amount of deficit was very small. As a result, during the Plan period, the price level fell. There was also a balance of payment surplus.

In 1954, Mr. Chairman Lai, the Chinese premier, visited India. He was taken to several parts of the country. And on his way back, he invited Pandit Nehru to visit China. In the following year, in 1955, Nehru visited China and he was taken around the Chinese industrial establishments. The Shines model was based upon the Russian model. The Russian model was based upon the Feldman model. And this was heavy industry oriented. In 1955, Pandit

Nehru came back to India and wanted to prepare a Plan along the Chinese model. He invited his Economic Adviser, Prof. P.C. Mahalanobis to prepare a Plan along the Chinese model.

The amount of deficit financing was Rs 800 crores for the entire plan period that is Rs 160 crores per year. At that time, Professor Kaldor of Cambridge University was invited to prepare a report on Indian tax reform. He met the Planning Commission Members and he said, your plan is badly conceived and the country is not able to digest Rs 800 crores of deficit financing. Then Professor Colin Clark of Ford published a booklet called "Growthmanship" where he said "In an extraordinarily foolish statement Mr. Nehru said, you must produce machines to produce machines. The country is not in a position to undertake this kind of a plan. However, the plan was launched. Two years later the inflation crisis and balance of payment crisis sprang up. The Plan was pruned but the core was kept intact and the core was heavy industry. The subsequent Plans were based on the same Nehruvian model, but with certain marginal adjustments. Therefore, the two crises persisted and they are persisting even today.

Shri Manmohan Singh's Budget is based on the Targets-instruments approach to economic policy, familiarised by Professor Jan Tinbergen of Netherlands. According to this approach, there should be as many instruments as there are targets. If there is one target, one instrument is enough. If there are three targets, three instruments are necessary. Shri Manmohan Singh has adopted three instruments to realise three targets: the targets are reduction of inflation rate, remedying recession and establishing balance of payment equilibrium.

The fiscal deficit was 8.5 per cent of GDP in 1991. It was brought down to 6.5 per cent of GDP in 1992. It was further brought down to 5 per cent in 1993. The present Budget wants to bring it down to 4.5 per cent. Even then the deficit is an inflationary factor. Just before the Budget was announced, there were hikes in various prices.

The prices of coal, steel, sugar etc had been increased and they fetched to the Government Rs 3000 crores. Then, there was a hike in freight rates which fetched the government Rs 1850 crores. The hike in freight rates had a cascading effect on the price level because as the transport cost rose, it had to be passed on to the consumers of goods in the form of higher prices.

Shri Manmohan Singh announced monetary policy to remedy recession. The bank lending rate was reduced from 18 per cent to 17 per cent in order to make borrowing cheap and to encourage borrowing for investment and consumption. The industry felt that reduction of lending rate by one per cent was not enough. Furthermore the Statutory Liquidity Ratio and the Cash Reserved Ratio were also reduced in order to increase the funds available at the disposal of the banks and to enable them to lend more liberally. So these factors were intended to remedy the recession. At the same, they are adding to inflationary forces in the economy. Low interest means more borrowing more borrowing means more spending and more spending means higher prices.

Thirdly, the Finance Minister introduced, what is called unified exchange rate which is normally called full convertibility of the rupee. Last year rupee was made partially convertible. Under this scheme, 40 per cent of the foreign exchange had to be surrendered by the exports to the Reserve Bank of India at the official rate and the remaining sixty per cent had to be sold at the market rate. But now the exchange rate is made fully convertible and there exchange rate between rupee and dollar is Rs 32 or so. The Finance Minister thinks that the rupee will be stable and it will not depreciate further. The exchange rate has not fallen because therefore, this held up the value of the rupee from falling any more. An American research institute has said that in the course of the year the exchange rate will fall to Rs 34-35 in which case the value of imports will rise, especially the value of oil which we import will rise. This adds to inflationary forces in the economy.

Apart from all these things, there are certain other factors which should be taken into account in judging the budget. Take, for example, the tax policy. The Finance Minister has not been very kind to the tax-payers. Last year he had reduced the tax rates but this year he has not reduced the taxes at all. Furthermore, he has kept the exemption limit at Rs 28,000. Prof. Madhu Dandavate had raised it from Rs 18,000 to Rs 22,000. In the first budget, Dr. Manmohan Singh had kept it at Rs 22,000 but last year he raised it to Rs 28,000. Now he has kept it at the same level. In 1961 the exemption limit was Rs 15,000. At the present price level that should have been Rs 50,000 therefore the limit should be raised at least to Rs 40,000, if not to Rs 50,000, to give relief to the taxpayer from the rigours of inflation. Similarly, the standard deduction is Rs 15,000 in the case of male employees and Rs 18,000 in the case of female employees. It should be the other way round because the responsibility of bringing up the children and maintaining the family rests more on the male income earner than on the female income earner. Therefore it should be reversed or it should be made equal.

In the case of corporate taxes the Finance Minister has not reduced them at all. The corporations need funds to be able to increase the investment and grow. So, their investment depends mostly on internal savings. If the savings are more, then they will invest more and grow faster.

Furthermore, the double taxation of dividends should also be avoided and depreciation based on the replacement cost should be introduced in place of the present system of historical cost.

Furthermore, there is need to graduate the wealth-tax rates and gift tax rates to be able to curb the menace of black money. What about the balance of payments? It is in a state of crisis. At present, the deficit is of the order of Rs 10,000 crores and in the course of time with the rise in the value of imports with the rise in the value of

[Prof. K. Venkatagiri Gowda]

oil, it will rise further. Unless exports are increased and imports are reduced, it will not be able to curb the balance of payment deficit. At present, the exports are rising only at the rate of four per cent whereas imports are rising at the rate of eighteen per cent. This explains the gap. The Government introduced the new Exim policy last year. Under that, imports were liberalised, with the result imports poured into the country to a great extent and flooded the economy.

15.00 hrs

But the exports are not able to rise as compared to imports, for several reasons. In the first place the exports lack quality and price-competitiveness. Secondly there is recession in western countries to which our exports go and they have erected protective barriers against our exports, and we are not able to control them. Thirdly, India lost a very good market in Soviet Russia. For these reasons the exports could not rise. For these reasons, the balance of payment gap is going to persist for a long time.

How to meet this problem? The I.M.F. and the World Bank are there to give us money and this will be used to close the gap. But this adds to the debt burden and lands the economy at the threshold of debt trap. We will not be able to repay these debts nor our children or grand-children.

*These are the problems with which the Finance Minister is not concerned at all. The crisis can be resolved by means of the following measures: By imposing a constitutional limit on internal borrowing and external borrowing; at present the total debt is of the order of Rs. 4,50,000 crores. Unless this is brought down, the country will not and cannot solve the problems. Therefore, if the country imposes constitutional limit on borrowings, the prices would stabilise and the balance of payments gap would also be reduced.

There should be constitutional limit on the monetary expansion also. At present the money

is growing at 16 per cent rate per annum. This means more purchasing power and more spending and higher prices. Higher prices mean more imports, less exports and balance of payments gap.

- At the same time there should and freeze on the D.A. Paid to the Central Government employees. Yesterday there was a press report that additional dearness allowance is released to the Central Government employees which will cost the exchequer Rs. 750 crores. Where is the money? This would increase the Budget deficit. A wage-freeze and D.A. -freeze should be introduced.

If these measures are adopted then there will be no inflation at all.

The hon. Finance Minister has said that with the reduction in the rates of customs duties and excise duties the inflation is reduced. The customs duties are reduced by 14 per cent and the excise duties are reduced by four per cent. This makes the imports cheaper than domestic goods. And this area signifies rise in the demand for imports other than in the demand for domestic goods. The domestic industry will have to face the recession again. The reduction of import duties is import-promoting rather than export-promoting.

Furthermore the hon. Finance minister has said that this will reduce the price level in the first instance the prices will, of course, fall. But they will rise again for two reasons. Firstly the lowered prices mean higher demand and higher demand means higher prices. Secondly with the fall in prices, supply of money remaining constant, the real balances rise and this rise in the real balances a rise in demand which gives a rise in price level.

Therefore, as I said already, the Budget is confounding and disappointing. I hope that the hon. Finance Minister will take the suggestions made over here with due seriousness and revise his proposals when he replies to the Budget

Thank you.

15.04 hrs

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT (Rajapur). Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I rise to support the Budget for 1993-94. At the outset I will thank the Government and Dr. Manmohan Singh for pulling the country out of deep crisis of June, 1991 and bringing us to a situation where we can think of facing the future with confidence.

15.05 hrs

[SHRI NITISH KUMAR in the chair]

In June 1991 this country was on the brink of bankruptcy, but having charted out the new policy—the economic policy, the industrial policy and the trade policy—the Government has today succeeded in stabilising the situation wherein we can now look forward to embarking on the path of progress and going into the 21st century as a strong nation based on a strong economy. However, we must realise that in today's world the situation is characterised by instability and uncertainty where the battle for markets has been joined and wherein the battle would become more viscous as the days go by, and that is why we will not be able to look for formulae or ideologies which will have universal application but we will have to become more practical today and that is precisely what the Government has done. Taking stock of the situation that is existing, we have embarked on a path—a direction, which I am certain will bring us to the path of progress. However, in this hostile world, which is essentially hostile for this country today, we must realise that we cannot be hindered by ideological dogmatism at the same time we will have to be practical and not denigrate any ideologies merely because they have not succeeded because while socialism has not succeeded in giving the desired quality of life which is aimed at, nevertheless it gave every human being the right to be human.

At the same time capitalism has also not succeeded in giving the desired quality of life and led to issues like unemployment, poverty, and moral and social corruption. Whereas free market economy can be an ideal mechanism where there is healthy competition, but at the same time there is a demand for reduction of trade intervention and a free market economy where there is no state intervention will create a situation which is very dangerous for humanity because in free market economy also there are all chances of monopoly or concentration of economic wealth into the hands of a few and where there is no State intervention, those of the few who hold the economic power would also hold the political power and essentially it would give rise to economic corporations transcending international boundaries and give rise to sovereign multinational corporations in place of sovereign nations. In such a situation where the shift in the listed figure happens to go into the hands of some demigods, it would lead the world to doom. We are thankful that Hitler did not have a nuclear trigger but such a situation can arise in future. My formulation essentially would appear Hawkish at this point of time but this is a direction in which the world may go and this is a danger against which we will have to guard ourselves.

There has been a continuous debate on public sector and private sector. The Finance Minister in his Budget speech has said that public sector must generate surpluses, that continued budgetary support has led to inefficiency and has led to failure of public sector. I may agree to this but essentially what have we done to make the public sector an efficient machine? The public sector certainly can generate surpluses if it is given the condition to generate surpluses. I would quote for example the Cement Corporation of India—one of the ten most loss-making Companies which was given a dynamic leadership and has been converted into a profit-making enterprise.

Because, the first factor that is required for the public sector is autonomy in decision. The

[Sh. Sudhn Sawant]

second factor is that the public sector is not free to enter or to indulge in those practices which the private sector indulges in. That is where in many places even the Government sector has not supported the public sector. For example in my district itself there was tremendous opposition to buying cement from the Cement Corporation of India in spite of getting a favorable tender. The reason was that somebody has greased the palm of somebody and that is why the public sector cannot indulge in such practices. Hence we must now take real stock of the situation and support the public sector in manner and give it autonomy in decision and proper leadership. If it is done definitely the public sector will generate surpluses. This I can say with confidence. I would also say that the public sector has failed in many places because of the geographical location. It is also because the public sector had taken up apart from profit motives the other motives that is development of backward areas. Hence I again compare public sector with the private sector. It is because the private sector has also failed in many areas. That is why public sector is not non-redundant in today's set up. But for the economic progress we will require public sector to generate surpluses. For that we must try to create necessary conditions. But apart from this debate we require to develop an alternative. The third alternative being in the field of cooperatives. It is because in this field it has been neglected at the national level. I agree that free market economy can generate economic growth. But it cannot address to the problem of equity. This has been clearly stated in the Eighth Plan document. If you have to address to the question of equity then you have to look for credible alternatives. The living example is Western Maharashtra's arid zone. Here there was no water for 30 years and because of cooperative movement this region transformed into a region now stands which has catered for majority needs of the population and also generated surpluses. It has also addressed to the problem of equity. Western Europe has clearly contrib-

uted to the progress because of cooperative sector. In Italy itself the turnover of the cooperative sector is 20 billion dollars, Germany it is 32 billion dollars and practically in every field there is already a cooperative movement. Take the examples of tourism, insurance, banking and so on.

It was initially supported by the Government but in a free market condition it can look after itself. It is also needed in many other fields like manufacturing of steel, ceramics, construction activities and so on. In Sixty per cent on the Western European countries agriculture is in cooperative sector. If you want to learn from the West then you must learn these issues which are addressed to equity and not to merely try to coin attractive phrases of free market economy.

When we talk of progress of agriculture we must realise as stated by the Finance Minister giving remunerative prices to farmers as compensation against increase in fertilizer prices. How much of it can generate surpluses in this country to take advantage of this remunerative pricing? A majority of the constituencies which are situated in coastal areas including my constituency in hilly and backward areas where the land holdings are small. When land holdings are small they are spread along a large area. For example my family owns seven acres of land and it is spread around an area of 3 kms to 4 kms.

I can never hope to take advantage of irrigation modern agriculture because there is no consolidation of land holdings. The Eighth Plan talks of consolidation of land holdings. But the only method we can do consolidation is not by Government action but by cooperative action and that is why cooperative farming is one area in which the Government must concentrate on and the cooperative farming is an area in which like in Mizoram the farming is totally cooperative. In Nagaland the farming is totally cooperative but it has not been given institutional backing and institutional recognition and that is why the need of the hour is to give recognition for cooperative farming and coop-

erative field ,

As far as agriculture is concerned, I congratulate the Government again for the increase of 36 per cent in the outlay. However, this itself is not sufficient because the basic problem of agriculture is credit. The credit has also been increased from Rs 30,800 crore to Rs 16,500 crore- an increase of 20 per cent which is also welcome. But which are the farmers which can utilise this credits? That is a problem, and hence this increase in credit must be linked with cooperative farming to really have the benefits percolate to the lowest land holders in this country, because, otherwise, the credit will be utilised by farmers, if not, holding, and NABARD must be told to formulate certain schemes in this regard.

The Next thing is fishery because we talk of export. Cooperative system can, in fact, contribute, to a great extent in agricultural export and export of fishery. But nothing has been done in this regard at the national level as well as at the state level also except for Maharashtra where we have shown the path where grapes are being exported by cooperative farming. Last year I demanded in the Parliament that Mangos should be exported. This year, cooperative system is functioning well and the mangos are being exported. It is an example, if we want to promote export in the agricultural field, the methodology has to be in the cooperative field and cooperatives should be encouraged and given concessional finance which has been designed for export, and cooperatives purely meant for export must also be encouraged.

Fishery is a trade which has been not recognised at the national level and no attention has been paid. I have to make such an allegation because probably the seat of political power has always been held by people who have no coastal linkage, but fishery is one department where tremendous opportunities exist today for increase of export, and that is why I call on the Government to establish a separate Ministry for fishery and also a separate Ministry for cooperation because cooperative field now requires to

integrate industrial cooperatives and agricultural cooperatives and also cooperatives in tourism. I would also call upon the Finance Minister - I have already submitted a demand that if we want to deregulate the insurance sector then you must do it in the cooperative field, hence in the cooperative field we can do an experiment where insurance sector can also be brought into it.

The most important demand from my constituency is about the debt relief. In 1989, there was a package fortunately for us. But at that time, the Finance Minister of this country was from my constituency, and that debt relief was promised to the farmers and a condition was put for recognising non-wilful defaulters. A condition was put by the Ministry of Unewan System and because of the Anewan System, none of the farmers in my constituency could get the benefit of this debt relief. Why? Because in my constituency only 7000 farmers could get the benefit of debt relief whereas in Satire District 1 1/2 lakh farmers could get the benefit, in Akola District 1 1/2 lakh farmers could get the benefit. And this Anewan System has been inequitable and violate Article 14 of the Constitution. This has also been brought to the notice of this House.

Then I asked whether there were any interim measures I said O K you do not want to give debt-relief right, because I myself am against the debt-relief. It is against banking system, against the norms. But why I am speaking here and why am I demanding is because the farmers of my constituency had to suffer. The farmers in my constituency have been discriminated against. Hence I would request the Government here at least to take steps to waive the interest on the loan because today all the cooperative institutions disbursing finance have been on the brink of bankruptcy. I would request the Finance Minister to consider this position and at least take steps to waive-off interest and also to again allocate loans in the district cooperative banks to establish themselves.

One last point I want to bring about the

[Sh Sudhn Sawant]

black-money any and smuggling Both of these are inter-related. I have a letter on 6th April 1992 with the signatures of 75 Members of Parliament of this House. Black-money and smuggling are prevalent in the economy for a long time. The reason is because there is no organisation to deal with this problem.

The Customs Department which deals with the smuggling is dealing with this problem in a limited manner. There are Directorates of Revenue Intelligence and Narcotics Control Bureau which are supposed to be responsible for controlling smuggling because smuggling is the federation of organised crime on which foundation there is lawlessness and the law and order problem of the country is mainly because of smuggling. What has happened?

The Customs Act Prevent the State police the CBI the RAW, Intelligence Bureau from launching investigation and prosecution against smuggling. There is no interaction, there is no coordination between these forces and this gives rise to underworld and people like Dawood Ibrahim whom Pakistan utilises. They are absconding in safe heavens like the Gulf from where they run the smuggling operations which encourages terrorism. The entire funding of terrorism in Punjab was done from Bombay and that is why today we see the results where the blasts in Bombay have taken crores. Where new situation is being created, where the Underworld rules the institutions of State of every political party and corrupts every structure of the society. That is why the first Act that Government and the Finance Ministry must take is to amend the Customs Act and give the State police powers to investigate and prosecute.

The RDX was landed on the coast of Konkan and the Policy could not interfere with the launches in the sea until it was landed on the beaches. Even then the Police was not supposed to prosecute or launch investigation.

However, in the last one year the Maharashtra Police and the Customs Department worked well in league and 220 kgs of narcotics was seized in just one year. This was because of the coordination but that does not solve the problem. What is required is amendment of the Customs Act.

Lastly, I will take Home Defiance and Intelligence. These are the three elements of the Budget about which we know nothing. Neither the House discusses anything about it. I will not say whether the allocation on Defiance and Home is more or less because I cannot say as I do not know. However, I can tell you one thing that certain the Defiance structure requires total reorganisation and for total reorganisation we must have a small standing army with large amount of reserves. This is the principle on which we must function. More manpower does not mean credible defiance machinery what we require is the striking potential and this has to be created.

The Arun Singh Committee Report has not yet been placed before the House. I would request that the Government now appoint a Committee to go into the Arun Singh Committee Report and give a final report.

I will now come to the Intelligence community. Every organisation in this country is raising its intelligence agency. The Economic Affairs has got its own economic intelligence agency.

The Home Minister has got its own intelligence agency. The Defiance Ministry has got its own intelligence agency and I believe now the Health Ministry has also got one. The result is that in places like Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and the border areas there is a mixture of hundreds of agencies working at cross purposes. There are even incidents of one agency killing the agent of another! This is what is happening at the ground level. There is no coordination.

Crores of rupees of this country's tax pay-

[Sh Shiva Sharan Sinha]

indigenous business. It had made our country slave after spreading its business through the country. We became slave. At that time, a handful of big Maharajas and landlords helped them. Today the Government is welcoming multi-national companies and providing all facilities to them. I would say that the Government is inviting these multinational companies and ultimately, it will ruin domestic business, increase unemployment and cause a great loss to our small scale industries. The public enterprises will also suffer in the same manner. The government has till now kept mum over the Dunkel Proposals. Not only all the experts and economic in India but a large number of people of progressive thoughts have also expressed their view against the Dunkel proposals. Then why the Government of India is keeping mum on this topic? The Government of India should clarify its policy and intention. It should be discussed at length in the House. But keeping silence means its acceptance. It means that the Government is accepting these proposals. Remember that day would be the doom's day for India when the Government accepts Dunkel Proposals. But we will not allow it to do so. The people of the country will not allow it to accept these Dunkel Proposals. Maybe, today you are in power, tomorrow you may have to step down. The people of the country are not ready to tolerate it. The Government is endeavouring to tie us in the chains of slavery. The Government is shattering the dream of self-reliance and Swadeshi of Mahatma Gandhi. God knows to which age you are taking the country to. The Government is ruining the country by taking foreign loan. Till 1992 we have been burdened with a foreign loan of Rs 21.2 lakh crore. We have to pay about Rs 4800 crore as interest every year and that too by taking loan. I would like to ask as to what sort of approach it is of the Government. Long ago there was Rishi Charvak in ancient India. His policy or dictum was 'Yavat Jeevet Sukham Jeevet, Rinam Kritva Ghritam Peevet'. Our Dr Manmohan Singh is following his policy word by word. All of us can understand easily as to what

would be its ultimate result.

Mr Chairman, Sir the multi-national companies are during such medicines which have been banned in foreign countries and hence ruining our health. Not only this, banned insecticides are also being supplied to our country. They are ruining our health and agriculture and yet we claim that we are very progressive and marching ahead in making the country prosper. You cannot cheat the country now. In such a situation any Indian who has love for his country and feeling independence and want to retain his freedom cannot accept it. It will hurt the soul of those people who have sacrificed their lives for the sake of the country and tolerated tortures for ensuring country's freedom. Had Sardar Bhagat Singh and Chandrasekhar sacrificed their lives to see this day? What was the dream of Mahatma Gandhi? You refer to Gandhi time and again and talk of Gandhism. Which policy of Gandhism and Nehruism this Government is following? Today there is no Nehruism, no Gandhism, only Manmohanism is going on. Shri Manmohan Singh will take the country to ruination. Thus you should be cautious in this regard. All the opposition Members are of the same view and many Members belonging to the ruling party are also of the same view but in the name of party discipline, they cannot speak and vote against their party. Gandhi had said 'that type of discipline was better which led the country towards prosperity and progress. But if it creates hindrance in way of progress, it cannot be called discipline. To violate such type of discipline is the real discipline. I would like to urge upon the hon. Member to have introspection and decide what to do for the welfare of our mother-land. We have to get rid of Manmohanism.

Mr Chairman, Sir I do not want to go into the details of statistics. The learned speakers who spoke before me have given statistics. But I would like to place the sentiments of the people before you. I have referred to farmers. The farmer has to purchase farming inputs which are essential for him at higher rates. I would like to cite an example in this regard. The multinational

ers are being wasted on the foreign tours of the officials of these agencies, which I know from first hand information.

That is why what is required is, like the standing committee one very ministry, I would like to call for a Standing Committee of Parliament on Intelligence. Maybe, the entire discussion can be in camera. The Intelligence Standing Committees are there in various Houses. So, I request that such a committee be appointed to oversee the intelligence

As far as Defiance is concerned, the false sense of secrecy must be eliminated and we must be more open and what is spent by the Defiance Ministry must be brought to the notice of the public. What is required to be hidden is the strategy, and the plan. What is required to be hidden from the public and kept secret is the factor of surprise and nothing else is required to be hidden from the public, because the enemy knows more than what a Member of Parliament know in this House

So, Mr Chairman, I have placed certain views on the Budget for 1993-94 and the Demands also. I am certain that with the steps that the Government is taking we are in fact, now at a point of time in history after independence where we have taken a definite direction, and a direction towards progress

What is required is that along with the political movement, is required to be generated in the country to take advantage of the programme and plans of the Government. Shrmment and there in will lie the future of this country and lie the future of this great nation wherein this national will go to the 21st century, a country which will be second to none

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHIVA SHARAN SINHA (Vashali)
Mr Chairman, Sir, I would like to say a few words on the Budget in consonance with the feelings of general public of the country. It appears from the

Budget that has been presented that it against the interests of 90 per cent people of the country. Only handful of big people have welcomed it. It has caused frustration among rest of the people. There is frustration among farmers. The agricultural workers, general public who live below poverty line are all being ruined by this budget when the poor of the country are becoming poorer and the rich are becoming richer, how can the general public welcome such a Budget?

Mr Chairman, Sir, this Budget is proving a great blow to the farmers, laborers and poor. I would like to explain as to how the farmers are being ruined. All the inputs relating to farming have become costly. All varieties of fertilizers have become costly.

The Government and the Minister of Finance had promised alleviation of poverty, removal of unemployment, checking of rising prices as well as paying more attention to rural development and social welfare, education and health, etc. But their announcement for poverty alleviation programme is not holding any good. The poor have become poorer right from first Budget. Instead of the poverty is increasing. How can we trust their words and deeds?

The multi-national companies are coming at the invitation of our government. In such a situation, unemployment will increase. The Government may show decline in inflation in terms of percentage on paper but in reality, the poor, general public is suffering from rise in prices. The price rise is hurting them. The Government has not succeeded in any sphere.

All of us know that this Budget will give a fatal blow to self-reliance and feeling of Swedish. The Government has surrendered itself before multi-national companies, the IMF and the World Bank. The Government is doing all this at their behest. The Government has accepted subjugation of their authority. In such a situation, I recall the East India Company. We all know that when East India Company entered India, it had ruined our small and cottage industries and

companies sell the seeds of tomatoes at the rate of Rs 16,000 per kg and seeds of onion @ Rs 30,000 per kg. After the purchase, you can grow it but you cannot make seeds through it. Whenever there is a requirement you will have to purchase seeds from the same company. Is it in the interest of farmers? Is it the good the government is doing to farmers? You deliver lengthy lectures, cite statistics and eulogise your scheme formulated for the welfare of farmers and the poor. But we are confronted with such a miserable condition.

Mr Chairman, Sir, since every country takes loan particularly in today's age, we accept that we may take loan or assistance if it is inevitable. But we should take loan at our own conditions and not by mortgaging our sovereignty. There would be no use of taking loan if it is taken by mortgaging our sovereignty.

Dr Manmohan Singh is propounding new theory. He should not be allowed to pursue this path, otherwise, the fate of our country will be doomed. However, we will try our best to save the country from meeting its doom. We will have to wage a struggle to protect the interests of farmers, labourers and common people of the country. If the Government turns a deaf ear to our suggestion and goes on passing the Budget on the basis of its majority, a very critical time and situation will emerge in our country. Whenever the people of the country understand it, it will be very difficult for the Government to survive. Let the vote-issue be abandoned here. I wish that the country should overcome this critical issue and taking into account the honour and glory of the country it should take loans wherever necessary, [English] but not at the cost of our sovereignty, not at the cost of the interests of the Kisan labour and others.

[Translation]

I would like to state that this Budget is not balanced rather it is an imbalanced one. The Government lacks equanimity with regard to the

development of backward States in the country. The intention here appears that the poor are supposed to remain poor and the rich are supposed to remain rich. Similarly it is the desire of the Government that backward States should remain backward.

Bihar is called a backward State. The Government is bent upon ruining it deliberately. The allocation for its Annual Plan is reduced on the pretext that it might have not mobilised resources from its internal sources. When the Government of Bihar mobilises resources from internal sources the Central Government does not approve of it. For example the Central Government has withheld the amount of Rs 754 crore of Bihar Government. The Planning Commission says that because the Government of Bihar has not mobilised its internal resources it is withholding this amount. It means let Bihar remain backward. At present Bihar is facing drought and famine. Taking all aspects into consideration the State Government has given a memorandum in the month of October that it requires Rs 1254 crore to meet the drought and famine situation. I would like to know as to how much amount has been given by the Central Government. The Chief Minister gave memorandum to the hon Prime Minister, the hon Minister of Finance and others but no action has been taken on them till now. Only recently the hon Minister of Finance has provided some assistance. The hon Prime Minister had gone there the day before yesterday and granted Rs 180 crore out of which Rs 175 crore were given for the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and Rs 5 crore for the alleviation of unemployment. The greatest problem is of drinking water, food-grains and fodder. The amount for the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana will be spent in its own manner so the funds for fodder should have been allocated separately. As against the requirement of Rs 1254 crore only Rs 200 crore have been granted. It is just like a drop in the ocean. It is all being done only with an intention to keep Bihar backward and teach it a lesson for not voting for the Congress there. The allocation to Bihar from the Natural Calamities Funds also has been re-

[Sh Shiva Sharan Sinha]

duced. The Government can suspend the development of Bihar, starve the people and keep them thirsty. The Central Government can do what it likes. We can sustain ourselves by eating grass and remain content with halfed. But we will not tolerate this attitude of the Central Government. The Congress has won only one Parliamentary seat from Bihar but in future it may not win even a single seat from there.

The soil of North Bihar is very fertile. But it has three problems viz, flood, water-logging and want of irrigation. The Gandak and the Kosi Irrigation Scheme was commissioned at the inspiration by Late Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru and the work was started, in the beginning of the Third Five Year Plan, but it was suspended by the Planning Commission at the end of the Sixth Five Year Plan with the promise that it will be started in the next phase. But that next phase is yet to be started. The Gandak Irrigation Scheme has inter-State and inter-national ramifications. It was expected to irrigate 14 lakh hectares of land under this scheme. But it has irrigated 8 lakh hectares of land so far. Today the Eighth-Five year Plan is in operation but there is no mention of this Scheme in it. When we raise questions in this regard, the hon. Minister of Irrigation says that there are no funds. There is no shortage of funds for other States. Thus the Government is neglecting both these Schemes. The lives of nearly 4 crore people in the entire North Bihar are given to be ruined, they are being harassed. By providing irrigation facilities and removing the problem of water-logging in the State, two or three crops can be grown on 9 lakh hectare of land there. If the water is somewhat deep somewhere, we can undertake fisheries there. We can produce at least 30 lakh tonnes of food-grains there very easily, whereas the Government moves heaven and earth to import 10 lakh tonnes of wheat from America. The farmers of our country are ready to produce food grains with their own hands, then why the Government does not complete the incomplete Gandak and Kosi Projects.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhunjharpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, some hon. Members are dozing.

MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): Shri Kewal Singh dozing in the House is prohibited.

SHRI SHIVA SHARAN SINHA: I would like to ask the Government and the Planning Commission as to why they have neglected such a big area. If the Government provides facilities for irrigation and water-logging drainage, then we can feed even other States also. Would the Government like to pay attention to it and would the hon. Minister like to say something in his reply in this regard?

Right from the independence of the country, the people of North Bihar have been raising the demand to start a railway line from Hazipur to Mothian via Vaishali, Lalganj, Sahibganj and Areraj in the North-Eastern zone. Vaishali is the mother of democracy. Several Presidents and great leaders have visited that place. When the common people had presented this demand, they were given assurance. But when we are demanding how it is said that there are no funds available. Money is being spent for the entire country except our State. It is a backward area. All the hon. Members of Parliament from this constituency have demanded this rail line but no attention has been paid so far. This is the height of injustice. This railway line should be laid immediately.

Mr. Chairman Sir, as regards the construction of a railway bridge on Digha-Pahleja ghat across the river Ganges, the Government of Bihar gave it in writing and a survey was conducted but it is yet to be constructed. With the construction of this bridge, the Eastern Uttar Pradesh and North Bihar will be benefited. But the Central Government seems to avoid any work which can benefit Bihar. Moreover, the Government of Bihar wrote to the Central Government to set up six new sugar mills but that is also lying pending. Recently an hon. Minister

had visited Jahanabad and he said that no proposal from the Government of Bihar was lying pending. How can we say that he is speaking right. But it is a fact that the proposal is lying pending in his office. No attention has been paid to it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the major parts of North Bihar are backward. No new industry is being set up there. Through you, I would like to request the Government not to neglect Bihar in such a manner. Bihar was the front-ranker of freedom struggle and Mahatma Gandhi chose this State as his 'Karmbhoomi'. It is the place where Lord Gautam Buddha had attained enlightenment and Lord Mahavira was born there only. But today that very Bihar is being neglected. It will do good neither to the country nor to the ruling party. I, therefore, would like to request you that the Government should think over the solution of these problems in the interest of the country, Bihar and the people otherwise, the nature of the people of Bihar is well known. The people of Bihar are very firm in their determination. Once they make up their mind, they won't give it up. The Government will have to win their hearts. You cannot get vote by neglecting them. Even your supports will change their loyalty. The bye election is going to be held there. What will happen? I hope that the Government will render its service with selfless feelings. The people of Bihar also pay their taxes and so it is a gross injustice not to spend their money in their interest.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I express my thanks for giving me time to speak here. While expressing my opinion, I am presenting the sentiments of the common people and not my personal ones. The people have been disappointed by the Budget—whether it is the Rail Budget or the General Budget. Bihar has suffered from the Railway Budget also. There is gross disappointment among the people of Bihar. I have said about the General Budget. In such a situation, how will a gentle main, patriot, philanthropist who has a soft corner for socialism and the poor, support it.

So I request all the hon. Members to disapprove this Budget which is against the common man and is in favour of only rich people and thereby bring the Manmohan era to an end

[English]

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL (Amravati): Sir, I rise to support the Budget presented by the hon. Minister for Finance.

Sir, President Truman once publicly demanded to have around him Economists with only one hand, as those of their tribe who eternally kept tossing their views first "on the one hand" and then "on the other hand" led themselves and the country into a state of murky morosa! It may well be that in entrusting Dr. Manmohan Singh with the most sensitive and delicate task, the Prime Minister, Shri Narasimha Rao, was having in mind only his impeccable professional credentials as an Economist and obvious sincerity. To his and the country's good fortune, Dr. Singh also turned out to be one who does not fall between two "hands" but has clear and firmly held conviction about his goals and priorities and the unblinking vision and unflinching will to translate them into workable policies and propositi.

Sir, his philosophy is undoubtedly one of speeding up growth to integrate the Indian economy with world economy and enabling India to achieve the stature of a major player on the world state commensurate with its size, potential and resources.

Sir, if you see the Budget-I will not go into each and every aspect of that - in the Central Plan, there is spectacular rise of 32 per cent viz. from Rs. 48,407 crore in 1992-93 to Rs. 63,936 crore in 1993-94. This has put us in a better shade. Now, the sectors which have been affected are the following. I have heard the remarks made by the earlier speakers. But I would like to bring to your notice that 62 per cent of the outlay that had been allocated is to the rural development. Sixtytwo per cent has been allo-

[Smt. Pratibha Devisingh]

cated to Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. It has a vital bearing on the eradication of poverty and unemployment in this country. The inflation has gone down and it has come to a one digit mark. This is a very congratulating feature so far as this Budget is concerned. However, Sir, surprisingly, I see that the allocation for family welfare has gone up from Rs. 1000 crore to Rs. 1270 crore only. That means, it has gone up only by paltry figure of 27 per cent compared to the enormity of the problem. For power and road, it is only 22 per cent which is also very less.

Sir, you must be knowing and I think the House also knows about it that we are adding 17 million people every year in our country, which is equal to another Australia. So, a country like Australia is being added in India and we have to make arrangement for all their standard of living and for all the requirements in this country with all the difficulties that we have. Therefore, Sir, I feel that many of our major problems are caused by population explosion which has led to the increase of poverty, hunger, disease, malnutrition, illiteracy, unemployment, pollution, energy and other shortages. So, this is a basic issue which our Budget should have dealt with.

16.00 hrs

I see that there is no reference regarding how are we dealing with this problem of population increase in our country which is very necessary to increase the quality; and that is why the standard of living goes up and the quality of life increases. Therefore, urgent and concerted efforts are required to create consciousness among the people to reduce birth rate to stabilise the population; and they should be supported by the leadership of all concerned.

If we can gain by the experience of China and Singapore, I think this country should try to find out how it has been done. So, here, I would appeal to all the Members of different political parties also that we must cut across party lines

and dealing with this problem of explosion of population should be the first on our national agenda where there should not be any controversy of any political party. I would like to inform you that last year there was a SAARC Conference on the welfare of child in Nepal where some Parliamentarians were there. I was also one of the delegates consisting of three Members of Parliament. Two Members were from Lok Sabha and one was from Rajya Sabha. There was subject regarding welfare of the child. At that time also, the problem of population explosion was discussed; and all the countries unanimously passed a resolution that if we want to have a child welfare, it is also necessary that we must see that the population control is also observed in each country; and all the parties endorsed this view including Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Why is the Budget made? The Budget is not made only for the existing problems regarding giving more houses, giving more facilities and putting up more industries, it is to solve the problems; it may be poverty; it may be unemployment. So, increase of population is one of the major problems of this country, which has not been dealt with fairly in our Budget. I want that the Budget should take care of this also, what is the size of the population and what is the budget allocation we are making for it. Therefore, increase in the population should also be looked upon as a crime against the economic conditions of our country.

I have also introduced as a Private Members Bill in this House. If we get a chance to discuss it in the House, I will put forth my views on that.

Regarding integration of the State Governments with the national economic reform process and the distinct possibility of the Centre and some of the States pulling in opposite directions, the State Governments dragging their feet in the matter of implementing the reforms package is very bad enough; much worse is the damage they are prone to cause by their total

disregard of finance norms, prudence or priority, pervasive corruption, inefficient working of State public undertakings; bloated bureaucracy, and politicking at the cost of people's welfare. Diversion of Central funds to non-development purposes for which they are not meant is a routine matter that we see. The State Governments are diverting the funds given by the Central Government for non-productive purposes. In 1990-91, Haryana budgeted Rs 12 crore for construction of roads and bridges, but could not scrape more than Rs 55 lakh for these purposes when the Central Government had made this allocation.

16.03hrs

[SHRI TARASINGH - *in the Chair*]

West Bengal found the Jawahar Rozyar Yojana funds handy for paying salaries to its employees. So, when the Central Government is making provision for a particular scheme, when it goes to the State, the State is not utilising it but diverting it to some non-productive purposes. What is the Central Government going to do about it? And that should also be one of the precautions that the Central Government should take while allocating this fund.

The Finance Minister has given a very important place to exports to enable our country to manage our balance of payment position so that we are not continuously required to bring our finance from abroad. This he asserted in his speech, is the only meaningful route to self-reliance and he has provided a number of openings and facilities to this end including the unified exchange rate and that of course is there. It is showing its sign of improvement so far as our economy is concerned.

But the exports, if we really go into the details, I have been told that the export potential of this country can touch \$50 billion to \$60 billion per year by the year 2000 against the present \$19 million by fully exploiting its known strength

such as textile, leather, gems and jewellery and other hidden exploited strength of our agro business. These are the spheres where Government of India should press more and more sort of stress to see that textile leather industry improves, gems and jewellery and agriculture of our country improves so that we can touch even \$50 to 65 billion per year by the year 2000 and this is the potential strength of our country which we can really achieve.

At the present we have fixed up the growth rate as the rise of this by 15 per cent but it should go by 14 per cent. That should be the target of our country to achieve it and if we can really do this I think it would be possible within reasonable limits to achieve this.

There are two points which we should look into so far as these exports are concerned. We have to boost up the selected higher value items and bring the substantial return from them. At present the situation is that there are about 2 lakh exporters, small, medium and large. They are crowding the scene. There is a lot of confusion, quality is not maintained and you see there is no uniformity or any channelised sort of export which is being done. So if the Government of India and its other authorities try to concentrate on this it will be very useful because this is the sphere where the small scale sector is doing bulk of exports. Therefore, if the small scale sector is given more and more help from all sides then that will be able to achieve the desirable goal so far as exports are concerned. But as I said all these sorts of people, small, medium and large scale, creating all sorts of confusion, instead of doing it haphazardly and individually without knowing to go about it, if we can have cooperative federation units or other allied sectors, it will be possible for us to deliver the incentives and serve this purpose in a better way.

So far as the cooperatives are concerned my colleague did mention about cooperatives, but then I want to mention here that there are about 3,53,00 cooperatives of various types with

[Smt Pratibha Devisingh]

membership of 160 million and the working capital is more than, 700,000 million rupees in the cooperative sector in our country. So in a number of economic spheres cooperatives have acquired a predominant position making themselves as indispensable constituent of the national economy.

A few examples I would like to cite in the sphere of cooperatives in agricultural finance despite the multi agency approach 40 per cent of the distribution is done by these primary cooperatives. The distributions of fertilizer is also done in the cooperative sector.

Sir, the sugar production is 60 per cent in the cooperative field in our country. I know what are the problems faced by the sugar industry in our country. The other day we had a meeting. The Members of Parliament were there. The goal which has been fixed for the country to achieve is 160 lakh tonnes as the target fixed by the Government. It is therefore, necessary to have 30 lakh tonnes additional production. But if that has to be so then you will have to give institutional finance to the new sugar factories which are at a standstill for the last three years. Government has given licences, they have raised their share capital, the State Government has given the contribution some of them had given order for the machinery, one instalment has also been paid and now they are being strangled for want of finance.

The other day we had a meeting. They say that for about 60 or 70 sugar factories, the institutional finance will be needed about Rs 2,000 crores.

They have been able to make a provision for only Rs 250 crores. I like to mention here that the sugar industry has earned a name for India in the world. It is one of the leading industries in the world, it has an export potential and an industrial base. This is an industry which is agro-based where a farmer with two acres of

land becomes the owner of a sugar factory. He is integrated with the network of the rural industrialisation of this country and I do not know why attention is, to that extent, not being paid to this industry.

Similarly, there are many industries like dairy industry, housing, fisheries, consumers, textiles, public distribution and the cooperatives have made a significant contribution so far as these fields are concerned.

Despite these concrete contributions to the national economy the cooperatives have escaped the attention of the Planning Commission for the specific terms in relation to the development perspectives under in the Eight Five Year Plan document. In the previous Five Year Plan documents, the cooperative sector used to have a separate chapter. But this time there is no mention so far as the cooperative movement in this country is concerned. Even in the Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister I do not think that there is any mention so far as the cooperative sector is concerned.

Rs 5700 crore has been provided for rehabilitation of nationalised commercial banks. Cooperative credit institutions continue to suffer on account of non-release of funds due to them under the agricultural rural debt relief scheme. This is another example of lack of appreciation of the problems of the cooperative movement in our country.

There are other problems which continue to affect cooperative sector like excessive governmental control, rigid and restrictive cooperative legislation, absence of professional management and alienation of membership. In spite of initiatives and pleadings of Government of India for adoption of model cooperative laws, the State Governments continue to have an indifferent attitude towards democratisation of cooperative laws and regulations.

I remember, along with others, I happened to be a Director of the National Federation of

Organised cooperative banks and credit societies and the Directors and some Members of Parliament had gone and waited on the Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh. He did listen very carefully to what we had to say, but in spite of the constant pleading and a clear assurance for not taking any governmental or financial assistance, the proposal for establishing a National Cooperative Bank of India to bridge the systematic gap within the cooperative sectors managing with the Ministry of Finance. Such a sort of approach does not go well with the ethos of the new economic reforms.

So far as taxation is concerned, the Chellaiah Committee recommendations will be implemented and this has been mentioned by the Minister of Finance in his Budget Speech. The recommendations are more private sector industry-oriented and do not give due weightage to the interests of the cooperatives.

The Chellaiah Committee has more or less shattered the concept of mutuality and nature of cooperative operations for bringing the surplus of cooperatives in the net of taxation laws. I like to plead with the Government of India that before formulating any proposal for taxation on cooperatives, cooperative sector should be consulted and it should not be neglected.

I like to again emphasise on the point that the system of cooperation, that this sector is based on human values, democracy, equality and equity which are so vital to the nation's strength.

A strong, vital and self-reliant cooperative movement therefore becomes a *sine qua non* for a strong nation.

I remember that another hon. Member mentioned about the cooperative agricultural farming which is also very important so far as agriculture in this country is concerned. You may have it in cooperative sector or you may have it in joint sector also. We have distributed lands under the Tenancy Act, two acres, three

acres, five acres to different farmers which is not really a viable proposition. So far as farming goes. After giving the land to those people who had nothing to sow, who had not to put any inputs in that land, it has remained barren.

There was one other mention regarding the Cooperative Agricultural Business Consortium. It was also mentioned by the Minister for Finance in his speech that for the small farmers there will be such a consortium. I would like to mention to the Minister that if you really want to make it very productive it is necessary that we will have to bring in very radical change so far as farming of this country is concerned. I do not know what has happened to this Agricultural Business Consortium. I am told that this file is tossing between one Ministry and the other Ministry. There is lack of coordination between the Ministries, which is the first thing that we have to have. How are we going to improve our administration also? That is also very moot point because after increasing the outlays to such a big amount, it is the same machinery, through which we are going to implement the schemes and if the same machinery is not improved, not strengthened, lacunae are not removed, I do not know how are we going to implement all these and how are we going to bring success so far as implementation of different schemes are concerned.

Sir, last but not the least is the Industrial Policy Liberalisation. Of course we do welcome that. But at the same time I would like to say that so far as industrial development of this country is concerned, we must also see that the finance effort, labour and entrepreneurship put by the indigenous industrialists for many years are not swayed away because the new investors will be storming with their fat money bag whatever had been done by the previous people should not be completely dislodged. We will also have to see that the indigenous industrialists who had done a lot for industrialisation of this country do not suffer because of this new policy.

There is one industry regarding which there is some change in the price of the PVC.

[Smt Pratibha Devisingh]

[Translation]

rasin The basic price was formerly Rs 25 per kg and now after the Budget it is Rs 26 per kg. The rate of excise, which was at Rs 46, is now Rs 35. But ultimately, it has helped the large industries. The small industries use this project as their raw material. For them, the basic price was Rs 56.28 and it is same after the Budget also. But so far as the rate of excise is concerned, from 17.25 per cent it has been increased to 20 per cent. Now they will have to purchase the raw material at a higher price and these are all small industries. So, that should also be neglected.

As we have a Sub-Committee on Industries, we will be putting forth our views there. This is only one example.

I think you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

16.19hrs

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

(ii) Crash of Indian Airlines Flight I C 491 at Aurangabad

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) Sir, with a very heavy heart I have to share a very sad information in the House that today at 13.05 hours Flight I C 491 crashed immediately after taken out from Aurangabad. It is the Flight which goes Delhi-Jaipur-Udaipur-Aurangabad-Bombay. After took off within few minutes the preliminary report says that one of the engines reported to have caught fire and it turned back, tried to land and crashed. As per the information available now, six crew members and 12 passengers reported alive and other casualties are in the operation of recovery. The information at 14.40 hours was that at least 40 people have died. (Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi) The figure that has come on the teleprinter is 112, the newsmen already know it. (Interruptions) How serious you are. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT Six crew members and 12 passengers are alive. (Interruptions)

DR S P YADAV (Sambhal) Please do not mislead the House. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT I have to share the information which is available to me through the sources of the Government. (Interruptions)

The Indian Airlines Plane carrying 112 passengers crashes. But, my information is different. I am saying that it was carrying 112 passengers plus 6 crew. Out of them, crew has survived and 12 passengers also have also seen surviving. But in the meantime the recovery is going on and the body which has been recovered from the fire is 40. So other operation is going on. We have got to see how many of them have survived and how many died. There is no controversy on it. Whatever information I am getting I am sharing with the House. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI TEJSINGHRAO BHONSLE (Ramtek) How many of them were foreign tourists? (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT I do not have details in this regard right now and when details come I shall keep the House informed about it. (Interruptions)

[English]

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism

has gone to Aurangabad with Secretary, Civil Aviation to see on-the spot

commandos to Adampur near Amritsar and then to Amritsar by helicopters

(iii) Hijacking of Indian Airlines Flight IC-427 on 24th April 1993

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION OF TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)
Hon'ble members are aware of the hijack of Indian Airlines flight IC-427 on 24th April, 1993

The flight took off from Delhi at 1357 hrs for Srinagar. At 1443 hrs a message was received by Air Traffic Control Delhi that the plane had been hijacked and was heading for Kabul. A passenger on board who identified himself as Syed Salauddin, claimed that he was carrying pistols and a hand grenade and demanded that the flight be taken to Kabul. Air Traffic Control of Lahore refused to permit the aircraft to enter Pakistan airspace. The aircraft ultimately landed at 1520 hrs, at Amritsar where the hijacker kept the entire crew and passengers hostage and demanded refuelling so that the aircraft may proceed to Kabul. 141 persons were on board, 126 passengers, 9 infants and 6 crew members.

The Crisis Management Group (CMG) at the Cabinet Secretariat and the Central Committee at Delhi Airport were activated and contact was established with Amritsar where the Deputy Commissioner and the Senior Superintendent of Police of the district had arrived and taken up negotiations. The Director General of Punjab Police was asked to proceed to Amritsar where he reached at about 1800 hrs, and took charge of negotiations.

There was prolonged negotiation with the hijacker but he remained adamant on his demand to take the Plane to Kabul. The hijacker had also fired a warning shot which pierced through the body of the aircraft.

The CMG advised the negotiating group at Amritsar to continue negotiations with a view to weaning down the hijacker. The CMG also despatched National Security Guards (NSG)

Continued negotiations failed and the hijacker remained adamant even after being told that Kabul Airport was closed for the night and Pakistan Government had prohibited entry into their airspace. At around 2300 hrs the hijacker gave a final ultimatum for refuelling the aircraft failing which he would blow it up. The CMG gave green signal to the NSG commandos and the negotiating group at Amritsar to storm the Plane leaving to their discretion the timing of the storming operation depending upon assessment of the ground situation.

Storming operation by NSG started at about 0100 hrs, on 25th April and in a few minutes the hijacking was terminated without any casualty or injury to any passenger or crew members. There was also no further damage to the aircraft. Sudden entry of the commandos into the aircraft totally surprised and dazed the hijacker. As a late reaction he tried to fire but before he could do so he was shot at with a silencer pistol by NSG commando brought out in an injured state to the tarmac and handed over to the local police. Director General of Punjab Police has reported that while the hijacker was being shifted to a vehicle by the local police it was found that he had succumbed to the injury.

The identity of the hijacker has not yet been established. Two loaded 9mm pistols were recovered from his person.

Two criminal cases, one by Punjab Police and another by Delhi Police, have been registered under the relevant provisions of the Anti-hijacking Act, Indian Penal Code, Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act and the Arms Act. Investigation is in progress.

Preliminary assessment indicates security lapse at Delhi Airport. Delhi Police have suspended an Inspector and a Sub Inspector. Government have also instituted an inquiry by Secretary (Security) in the Cabinet Secretariat.

[Sh Ghulam Nabi Azad]

to look into the security lapse, assess the extent thereof, fix responsibility for the lapse and recommend remedial measures. Meanwhile, security has been beefed up.

While full facts would come to light after completion of the inquiry and investigations by Police, I would like to take this opportunity to place on record Government's appreciation of the manner in which the Commander and the crew of the flight managed the contingency with patience. I would also like to compliment the passengers for having borne the agony of the hijack with fortitude and remaining calm throughout. I hope the House is pleased with the performance of the National Security Guards in carrying out a neat and swift operation by which the hijack was terminated and the passengers and crew members were saved of further harassment.

16.25hrs

RE STATEMENT BY MINISTER OF
HIJACKING OF INDIAN AIRLINES FLIGHT
IC 427 on 24th April 1993

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi) Nothing now has been stated the same information that appeared in newspapers has been compiled and narrated. In the morning we had asked some questions as to where the hijacker was shot dead, where did he stay in Delhi, what happened to the two persons who were with him, who is inquiring into the case, CBI or any other agency? Please tell us the name of the terrorist organisation of Kashmir to which he belonged.

MR CHAIRMAN He has said that he will give the information.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Sheohar) It is a serious matter. On the one hand I

congratulate the S P G for its excellent performance but on the other hand I would like to say with deep sorrow that law and order situation has been deteriorating ever since Shri Pilot has taken charge of the Internal Security. In a way he had been kind enough that he has not suspended a constable he has suspended only one inspector. The responsibility for the airport security is that of the security in charge D C P. He as well as your friend Mr. Kaushal should be relieved of their charge. This is not an ordinary matter. I have a famous book with me.

MR CHAIRMAN He has told an inquiry will be ordered into it.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH This book narrates how an attempt on the life of De Gaulle was made. It was the same scenario here. If you wish I can give that book to you. The film is also available. Our friend K P. Singh D C G can supply the film. The incident is exactly the same.

MR CHAIRMAN Please give every Member a copy each.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH I can give it to all the Members especially to Shri Rajesh Pilot for reading as he has made a mockery of the internal security. One Sub-inspector has been suspended. The more agonising part is that another plane has crashed today at Aurangabad.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA Which agency is inquiring into it? In the morning he had promised to reply to every question, we have asked only 3-4 questions, he should reply.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Bath) Mr. Chairman Sir, during zero hour today when this question was raised by Shri Madan Lal Khurana, the honourable Minister of State in the Department of Internal Security had said that inquiry was going on and that he would reply to each and every question. But he has not said anything about how that man died?

MR CHAIRMAN He has told that the man was hit by a bullet and he died when he was being taken out

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA Outside or inside? This is what we want to know, this should be inquired into Who is inquiring into it

SHRI NITISH KUMAR This a cock and bull story and not a statement by the Minister

MR CHAIRMAN Mr Minister, Please clarify these two points—Firstly, where and how the man died and secondly which agency has been asked to inquire into it

SHRI RAJESH PILOT Mr Chairman, Sir, is this the personal opinion of the honourable Member or is he saying what Shri Hari Kishoreji has said I have also said it in my statement Now two things are there in the minds of Shri Madan Lal Khurana and all the Members So, I would like to tell that as the Commando Operation started, 6 Commandos entered the plane simultaneously from 6 emergency exits There was darkness all around as the window screen was pulled down by the hijacker knowingly When the commando reached near the cockpit the hijacker became perplexed and he tried to fire at the commando but by then the commando had fired at him in the plane Then he was brought down, he walked on the ladder himself commandos were with him He had spoken and seen around when he was handed over to the police When he was being taken to the hospital in the police van he died So, he was fired at inside the aeroplane sound was not heard because a silencer was fitted in the weapon When he was brought out by the commandos he was bleeding Everyone has been him walking

The second question pertains to inquiry, as raised by Shri Hari Kishore Singh Inquiry is going on We had fixed a yardstick in this regard that there has been some security lapse on the part of the shift in charge on duty at that time Inquiry has been conducted by the security

Secretary who sits separately in the cabinet Secretariat He has no connection with any of the departments Those found guilty will be punished and the lapses found by the inquiry will be rectified and for that there may be a need for a book or a film We all cannot become perfect to plan for hundred years It cannot be said that there may be no lapses during hundred years The Government will take every possible step to find out where and how the lapses have taken place and how these can be rectified As regards the question of Shri Hari Kishore that internal security has deteriorated I would tell Shri Hari Kishoreji that he should see outside Bihar also (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA Which are the agencies involved in the investigations?

SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV (Ajajmarh) I would like to know about one aspect of this inquiry Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee had raised a question this morning that undoubtedly there had been security lapse and inquiry is being conducted but the question is that hijacking has been done in Delhi If hijacking had been done in Srinagar it was understandable How did he reach Delhi? Whether there were other people of his group who helped him?

SHRI RAJVEERSINGH (Aonia) Which doctor put plaster on his leg and how did that revolver reach inside?

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA This aspect is different from security I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any inquiry would be conducted in this regard also This feeling is spreading among the people that it is not safe to travel in plane

MR CHAIRMAN Case has been registered after a lot of efforts and it is not so that just F I R has been registered and the matter is over F I R has been registered for conducting an inquiry and the inquiry is being conducted (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) Nothing has come out regarding planning (*Interruptions*) Everybody is allowed to say, why not? (*Interruptions*) What I am objecting to the Statement is that nothing has come out about planning behind this (*Interruptions*)

MR CHAIRMAN This cross-examination cannot end

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA He has not mentioned anything about the planning which has gone behind this particular mission (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA Sir let me say You have allowed him to say (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRIMADAN LAL KHURANA You have not taken any action against the security in charge, Who is responsible? It is a total failure of security agencies He stayed in Delhi for several days (*Interruptions*)

MR CHAIRMAN Please note there is no provision for clarifications here Since this morning you had said that there are two three points I allowed you to raise these queries

SHRIMADAN LAL KHURANA Mr Chairman, Sir we would like to know the time by which this inquiry is likely to be completed? (*Interruptions*) Sir whenever any incident takes place it is said that steps are being taken in this regard but everything stops within ten days I would like to know if any time-limit has been fixed for the completion of an inquiry? Public should be apprised of the facts Time limit should be fixed

SHRI RAJVEERSINGH (Aonla) We would like to know when the Minister of State for

Internal Security is being dropped from the cabinet The incidents are constantly on the increase after his induction If he is dropped everything would be all right

[*English*]

SHRI AMAL DATTA What we want to know is very simple

Sir, obviously this particular episode has been a very planned one Now we are agitated because the killing of this person the hijacker, has precluded the inquiry about the planning—who were the people behind it—because that is what may have happened Now if the Minister can assure us let him do so that the death of this person does not preclude a full inquiry into the planning and conspiracy which has gone behind it This is what we want the Minister to assure us because from the stage of the inquiry it must now be apparent whether they will have any lead to any person who has been involved in the conspiracy and from whom they can get the details We want the assurance from him

SHRI RAJESH PILOT Mr Chairman Sir two points have been mainly raised One is that the inquiry should be time bound I totally share the feelings of the hon Members that in such cases we should have time-bound inquiry so that action should be taken immediately because delayed action in such cases really does not produce the required results I will request my colleague because this inquiry has been ordered by the Civil Aviation Ministry

I will request my colleague Ghulam Nabi to put a time frame for this inquiry and make it a time bound inquiry

The second point has been raised—in the morning also Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji has mentioned that it is a serious matter to know the connections the plan the motive behind this hijack It is a very serious concern and that is why considering this factor we are getting this inquired into by the Secretary (Security) who

has an access to the external agency and internal agency. We will keep that point in mind so that Government knows completely the plan where he stayed, how he stayed, what he planned and who planned. Because, this is certainly a planned thing. This is not something that somebody has played some other tactics, which the hijacker of Delhi-Hyderabad flight had done. This is certainly a planned hijacking. That will give a scope to find out. That is why Secretary (Security) who comes directly under Cabinet Secretary has been ordered. This factor will certainly be taken care of. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I did not intend to speak but since the series of questions has started, I would also like to ask a short question. Generally the hijacker lays down some conditions. He wanted to take the plane to Kabul. Did he lay down some conditions or he wanted to get down in Kabul. Who was that man? Were some other people of his group also with him? These questions are required to be answered urgently. Whether questions have been raised or objections have been raised regarding the killing of the hijacker. The basic question is that if that man has died then it is not possible to get facts about his motives etc. It was reported in newspapers. Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a matter of regret that we have to depend upon newspapers for information and newspapers reported that there were some passengers without luggage whose addresses are not correct. Was any other accomplice present in the plane along with him? Has Government paid attention to all these aspects?

[*English*]

SHRI AMAL DATTA : They have not done any inquiry at all. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : It is serious matter. I don't mind replying query which any hon. Member had raised, as special case.

[*Translation*]

Sir, Atalji has made certain points, viz, whether other persons of his group were also there. It has appeared in newspapers, that some of the passengers did not have any luggage. All these points have been considered. Who was the agent through which the hijacker had booked his seat. (*Interruptions*)

Which agent had booked the seats of the passengers? It is certain that during conversation over R. T., he did not put any conditions. He only said that plane should be taken to Kabul. Nobody asked him why it should be flown to Kabul. Nothing of this sort has come to light. He was adamant on taking the plane to Kabul after re-fueling. He said that if he was not allowed to take the plane to Kabul, he would blow it up.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : He had no specific demand, all of his demands were general. If he made any special demand, tell about that. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : It is better if we take this matter seriously. It is true that this is a serious matter. The whole of the country is worried and it has created a very critical situation. I would like to assure the House that I would talk to the Minister of Civil Aviation and ask him to conduct a time-bound inquiry. It would take into consideration all the aspects to which Government and other agencies have drawn attention. Government has admitted that it has initiated inquiry to find out how this happened.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL (Irondol) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, no action has been taken against any engineer or the maintenance staff for the accidents that took place in the past. Prime facie it is clear that the engine caught fire in this accident. In the new statement, Government should clarify whether the maintenance staff was suspended or not. This should be inquired because afterwards nothing comes out. Another important factor is this that all crew members have escaped death. How did it happen because the

[Sh. Vijay N. Patil]

main responsibility of the crew members is to save the passengers and to evacuate the people. This should also be inquired into as to how crew members were safe while some of the passengers dies due to burns.

MR. CHAIRMAN : They say they are finding it out.

(English)

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling) : One short query. No light has yet been thrown about the identity of this particular individual. Some ticket could have been issued to him. There would be some name which would be available with the Government and the authorities. So, I would request the Minister to kindly throw some light on the identity of the individual.

The Home Minister has just said he was shot in the head, if I heard him correctly. (*Interruptions*) If he was shot in the head, then there should be some bloodstains inside the plane. The newspaper reports say today that there were no bloodstains within the aircraft.

So, kindly throw some light on these points so that there is no scope for any doubt: (a) in regard to bloodstains; (b) in regard to the identity. Surely something must be known about the identity. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Inderjit, with such cross-examination, we will not be able to reach anywhere.

(*Interruptions*)

16.46 hrs

GENERAL BUDGET 1993-94- GENERAL DISCUSSION

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISRA (Bilhaur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the 1993-94

Budget because it is against the principles of swadeshi, swarajya and self-reliance. It seems as if the Budget has been dictated or produced by some other agency. Although our Minister of Finance Shri Manmohan Singh is the hero, still foreign financial institutions are behind it. Although at a glance, the Budget appears to be good but if the supporter of swadeshi, Gandhiji, would have been alive, he would have cried over the plight of rural poor farmers, workers and employees. The population of this country is one sixth of the total world population. Very meagre employment opportunities have been generated for a population of eighty five crores. One sided attention to machinisation, computerisation and automation in modern technology alone cannot give any benefit to us. Our economic set up rests on the activities of farmers, people like small traders, pavement shopkeepers, workers, tribals, people living in forests, deserts and hilly areas and poor fishermen. Our economic policies should be framed for them.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, if we go on doing machinisation in-stead of providing employment to them, the number of unemployed persons would go on increasing unabated creating an atmosphere of lawlessness and violence creating law and order problems. The problems of poverty, hunger and unemployment would grow and to tackle these problems Government would have to prepare another Budget for allocation of funds. Prevention is always better than cure. Thus budget is not leading the country to that direction. In the first three paragraphs of Budget, the hon. Minister of Finance has referred to the difficult situation in which the Government came to power. At that time Foreign Exchange position was not satisfactory, international reputation was not good, investors has no trust, economic development was detenerating. He has also stated that Government has brought radical changes in these twenty months. I would like to submit that Government has not raised foreign exchange reserves. It has not raised national income. It has not promoted export. Government has earned foreign ex-

change by putting the country in the vicious circle of loans. Whatever foreign exchange the country at present possesses has not been earned it has come through foreign loans. A major part of loans has been spent a small part is left. That is why Government is to pay an amount of Rs 38 thousand crores, i.e. one-fourth of the Budget, as interest. We can hide our 'langoti' under the borrowed coat-pant to project as if we are rich but for how many days this drama will last. We are a paid lest we shower not have to give up that 'langoti' for the sake of pant-coat, and we are exposed. I would like to submit that the population of China is more than that of India but it has not given preference to taking loans. It has given priority to investment, so it does not have to face any problem regarding payment and interests. Our country is facing this problem.

[*Translation*]

Now, we are saying that we have to pay interest worth Rs 39 thousand crore per year that means we taken loan to repay the interest. How long will this situation continue in the country?

The hon. Minister of Finance announced big schemes for export but in reality how much benefit are the exporters getting from those schemes. Are they getting what they want? The concessions given by the Government and their demands are quite contrary. If they demand bread the Government give them rice and if they demand rice, it gives them bread. For how long this situation will continue and how will it promote exports of the country? Another point I would like to make is that much attention is being paid to promote exports but no attention is being paid to protect the internal trade of the country. There is Foreign Trade Department to deal with export but unless internal trade does not increase how exports will increase. Unless internal trade of the country is not strengthened how quality products can be manufactured.

16.55hrs

[MR SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

If these things are not there, then how export will increase. Today, no importance is being

given to the businessman of the country. Reserve Bank of India is not providing them advance and restrictions have been imposed on them. In such a system I would like to say that the Government have to promote internal trade along with the foreign trade. They should also be given trade facilities but there is no mention of it in this Budget.

The Government has simplified rigid laws and given concessions in controls on trade but not for small traders and entrepreneurs. Neither import duty nor excise duty has been lowered for them. Small entrepreneurs and small industries will not get any benefit of these concessions. Economic policy of the country cannot be formulated only on the basis of big industries. Therefore I request you that there is a need to take effective steps to save small industries and small traders from rigid controls, exploitation, insult and corruption.

The Government has distributed handsome amount all over the country in the name of industries. Seminars and Conferences have been held at different places. Camps have been organised but the trade of the country is decreasing and industries are becoming sick. Why this situation is arising in the country? Banks have no financial resources. There is a wide gap between the interest rates of banks on the deposits and interest rates on loans. No effort has been made to reduce it in this Budget. R B I had imposed restrictions on the credit of traders earlier when there was economic crisis in the country but now no relaxation has been given in those restrictions in this Budget. It is a matter of surprise that banks have money to finance speculators like Harshad Mehta but they have no money to finance the poor farmer, small trader, small entrepreneur, rickshaw-puller, vendor and hand-cart-puller. How such a situation can continue? When Government will finance speculators to the extent of Rs 5700 crore and if this money is lost how the Budget will be balanced? The Government has not made any provision in this regard in this budget.

[Sh. Shyam Bihari Misra]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to say that if a limb of the body is paralysed, how circulation of blood can be possible in other limbs. The Government has not made any arrangement to provide better bank facilities to the poor farmers. When provision has not been made to provide jobs to the labourers, unemployed and small traders, how this Budget can be a good Budget.

I would like to make another point that the banks have increased commission on bank drafts and other service charges and every year this amount is debited to the accounts of the parties but facilities have not been improved. Now, banks are not accepting notes of small denomination. Drafts are not being made on payment of cash and bank employees are not coming to duty in time. To make the matters worse, the Government has opposed a restriction that payment of Rs. 10,000 or more would be done only by draft or cheque but banks do not prepare drafts, then how this system can function. The urgent need of the hour is that the restriction on the cash payment of Rs. 10,000 or more should be removed, so that irregularities being committed in the banks on this account could be controlled. This Budget represents western materialism. The Government has increased prices of coal, cooking gas, food grains sugar, petrol diesel, iron and electricity charges before the presentation of Budget. But it claims in the Budget that prices of commodities are not being increased. What sort of mockery of the Budget is being made by the Government? The demands of the Post and Telegraphs Department were not taken up for discussion but telephone charges have been increased today. I would like to say that there should be some sanctity of the Budget in a democracy. Do not make a mockery of the Budget, otherwise the people of India will lose faith in it. Basic principle of Bapuji is propagated to contest the election but now it has been forgotten. Bapuji has told Jawaharlal Nehru that before taking any decision it should be seen as

to how much it will benefit the poorest of the poor. Gambling is going on in the country in the name of lotteries. No ban has been imposed on speculation and sale of liquor. As a result, the moral standards in the country have fallen. The person living below poverty line suffers... (Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker: You have already taken 15 minutes.

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA: There are problems of industrial sector. All the industries are sick. One Kanpur was an industrial city but now it has become a graveyard of industries. Six Cotton Mills running there under the NTC are on the verge of closure. J.K. cotton mills, is already closed. Employees of B.I.C. are on strike. A gas plant was set up in Etawah, which was inaugurated by the former Prime Minister late Shri Rajiv Gandhi but gas supply has not been sanctioned for that plant. Foreign exchange worth Rs 200 crore has been sanctioned but supply of gas has not been sanctioned by the Ministry of Petroleum and the result is that the plant is not running. The Government has stopped giving licence to set up new industries in Bulanshahar Khurja Aligarh, Mathura, Agra and Ferozabad. The Government had formulated the scheme that gas pipe line would be laid there and all the industries would use gas in place of coal. The scheme is ready and crores of rupees have been spent on it but the Government has not supplied gas simply because the B.J.P. came to power there. The Government is encouraging politics even in the name of development. No facility has been withdrawn. The production of fertilizer is far away from the target of 180 lakh tonnes. Its prices of fertilizers are not reduced, the target will not be achieved. Unless and until these industries and small industries are not encouraged, the situation would not improve. Now we have the problem to pay interest on loan but what will be the position when the loan will have to be returned. (Interruptions) This Government is leaving this problem for the future Government of this country. In my opinion, it is leaving this

problem for the BJP which is likely to come to power. Therefore, I would like to say that this issue should be considered seriously as there is a need to change the policy. Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me time to speak.

Mr Speaker 8 hours were allotted for this discussion but already 20 hours have been taken.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR Shri George Fernandes is yet to speak.

Mr Speaker He has said that he will not speak. 62 Members have already spoken on it. Now it is not possible to allow more Members. I ask the hon Finance Minister to reply to the debate. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI RAMNAIK (Bombay North) Sir, my point of order is that we had a marathon debate, as you have just now explained. Now, some hon Members have appreciated the Budget and some Members have criticised the Budget. Of course, the Finance Minister will be replying to the observations. The courtesy to this House demands that he must particularly reply in this House. But, before two days, outside the House, he had made an announcement which has appeared in the Times of India dated 25th April, 1993. It is a PTI and UNI release. It reads "No restoration of subsidies. Manmohan." He is making a policy statement outside the House. Now, I am quoting from the news:

"The Finance Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, today ruled out restoration of any subsidies and scotched the opposition charge that the country was heading for debt trap due to borrowings from the International Monetary Fund (IMF)."

It also reads

"Dr. Singh further stated the govern-

ment will use anti-dumping duties to prevent foreign goods flooding the Indian market and hitting domestic industry."

This statement should be made in this House. When the Budget has been discussed, we are expecting the reply here and instead of that he has done it outside and it is really a breach of privileges. In the morning you could not take up my notice.

Kaul and Shakhder says on page 253 and I quite

"Making of important policy announcements by Ministers outside the House while the House is in Session is a breach of privilege."

So, on this point I want to raise the order and request you to inform the Finance Minister that this is derogatory to the House. This my point of order.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Sheohar) I will take half a minute. I would like to say that today Shri Sukhram has put a tax burden of Rs 740 crore on the people. Is Dr. Manmohan Singh going to present new budget today or will he reply to the discussion? The people in the Central Hall and elsewhere are talking that our able colleague Dr. Manmohan Singh is likely to present the new Budget on 15th May.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) Sir Shri Ram Naik has raised a point of order. The hon Finance Minister, whatever he had said earlier, they were a part of his Budget Speech. There is nothing new that he had said outside the House. (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER Now, I will give my ruling

SHRISRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack) In the forenoon, a statement was made by the Minister of State of the Ministry of Communications about the tariff rate of the telephones (Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER What is it you that are raising Mr Jena? At least they have raised the point of order. These points are not in order. So there is no point of order.

Secondly, we generally expect that the new policy statements are to be made first on the floor of the House when the House is sitting. If the old policy statements are repeated outside then I do not know how it can be stopped. I think he is going to reply and he would be replying in the course of his debate.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH) Mr Speaker, Sir, I thank all the hon. Members who have spoken in this general debate on the Budget. The fact that as many as 62 members have taken part in this debate I take it as a measure of interest and that is of interest which all sections of the House share to build a vibrant, modern, progressive and a compassionate economy. That is the common objective. Despite the differences that exist among various sections of the House, I am heartened by the fact that there is a broad consensus at least about the six objectives of economic policy that I outlined in my Budget Speech and I repeat those objectives.

The first objective is that fiscal discipline is important for securing our social and economic goals and for that it is necessary that we must further reduce the Fiscal deficit.

The second point that I made in my Budget Speech was the room for manoeuvrability that we have gained in the last two years by reducing the fiscal deficit. This fiscal consolidation must be used to step up rate of investment in the economy as well as the allocations for the vital

anti-poverty programme and social services like education and health.

The third point that I made was that we must pursue a strategy which would lead to a strong industrial recovery leading in the three remaining years of the Eighth Plan to a vigorous boom in industrial activity.

The fourth point I said was we need a tax reform which must ensure that we move towards a simpler tax system with moderate rates and greater focus on voluntary compliance.

The fifth point that I made was that if this country wants to take the goal of self-reliance very seriously, then we must mount a vigorous export effort. That export promotion must become a truly national endeavour.

Finally, I said that no strategy in a country where seventy per cent of people live in rural India can succeed if we do not pay adequate attention to agriculture and to rural development.

These are the six objectives against the background of which this Budget ought to be judged.

On the first point, we have reduced the fiscal deficit from 8.5 per cent in 1991 to roughly 5.1 per cent in the last year and we further propose to reduce it to 4.7 per cent of GDP. This is very important if we take an anti-inflationary stance of our policy seriously. Inflation, as the experience of the last three years has shown, hurts the poor the most. Therefore, if we care about social justice, we must control inflation and to control inflation, it is necessary to control fiscal deficit further.

Several hon. Members have pointed out that revenue deficit is still very high. In my Budget Speech, I shared the concern of the hon. Members with the fact that we have not been able to reduce the revenue deficit to the level that it ought to be reduced. But there are certain compulsions. The very fact that interest rates are

such a heavy burden and such a heavy component of the revenue deficit, this problem can be resolved but only in the medium-term, over a period of two to three years. If every year we contain the fiscal deficit, I feel confident that by 1995-96, the interest payments would reach a plateau and thereby the revenue deficit would come under control.

Another point that I do want to point but is that sometimes the revenue deficit is inflated because of the accounting conventions that we adopt in this country. For example, a very large proportion of the Central Plan in this country consists of expenditure which is in the revenue account. The whole of rural development programme, the whole of agricultural development programme, the whole of money that the Central Government spends on education, on health, on family planning all these appear in the Revenue Budget and yet you all know that many of these activities do create durable asset. When you look at the whole thing in that perspective, I venture to think that though it needs to be replaced - we do not have to take such an alarming account of the present revenue deficit.

In the course of the debate, Shri Jaswant Singh brought up the question of the adjustment and he quoted from a particular document from Mr. Rosenthal, an old friend of mine, who is presently working as Executive Secretary of ATLAS. I obviously feel that it is partly because of lack of knowledge about Latin America that Shri Jaswant Singh chose to quote what happened in Latin America with our own experience. Today the whole world is convinced that if you have the smoothest going programme of adjustment - cum-structural change, it is the Indian programme. We have avoided in this country the misery, the unemployment, the inflation, the social and economic chaos that prevailed in Latin America in the Eighties which led to the Eighties being described for Latin America and a large part of Africa as "the lost decade". We have avoided India getting into that sort of a dangerous situation.

In the first year itself the national income grew. But in the second year we have ensured that the national income would grow at a healthy four per cent per annum. In the current year, if the weather-gods are normal, I expect the economy will grow at least by 5 per cent and thereafter move at a much faster pace. Therefore comparing India with Latin America or with Africa - I would submit to Shri Jaswant Singh - is not a fair comparison.

Several hon. Members have pointed out to the price situation. When we started we were in the midst of a double-digit inflation. The inflation reached as high a point as 17 per cent on a point-to-point basis.

Today we are in a situation where the annual rate of inflation is no more than 5.4 per cent. We may not quibble about the various indices of measuring inflation. But every single index shows the steep fall in the inflation rate. If you look at the consumer price index for industrial workers, the latest index that I have is for the month of February which shows an annual inflation rate lower than the inflation rate shown by the Wholesale Price Index, that is 5.7 per cent. If you look at the consumer price index for agricultural labourers, the latest index that I have is for the month of January, which shows an index of no more than five year cent.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTIC HATTERJEE: Are you saying point-to-point?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: Yes.

With this comparison between point-to-point and average, I am confident that the averages to compare hereafter in this year would show a steep fall. Even now if you compare the average for the current year with the preceding year of any conceivable index, they show a significant fall. Therefore the improvement that has taken place in the price situation is a fact of life. The fact that after the presentation of the Budget prices of several commodities have, in fact, fallen is also a fact of life, even

[Sh. Manmohan Singh]

though some hon. Members might not like to admit that this has happened

Several Members have used the Budget debate to talk about the process of import liberalisation. Shri Jaswant Singh referred to the process of globalisation. I could not really understand what he meant because in the same breath he said that his party supports the integration of India with the world economy, but somehow it opposes globalisation.

New, let me explain what is our concept of globalisation. I do want to state categorically that when we talk of globalisation, it does not in any way mean surrendering India's economic sovereignty. When we talk of globalisation, we mean a strategy of economic development which will improve the productivity and technology capacity of this nation so that it could look straight in the eyes even of the most powerful nations in the world. Ours is a strategy of self-reliance, not surrendering our sovereignty or our interests to foreign countries, and I submit to you that we live in a world of inter-dependence and that in the interdependent world (*Interruptions*)

We live in this world of inter-dependence and therefore, the only way in which India's full development potential can be realised is by taking advantage of the international division of labour that is, by pushing our exports. India is a large country, but we do not often recognise that on a per capita basis India is not as well endowed in terms of natural resources as we believe. If India's full development potential is to be realised, India must become a major trading mission of the world. If we want to become a major trading mission of the world, exports have to grow. This pessimism that has prevailed in this country for a long period of time that somehow India cannot compete, that somehow we are inferior to other countries, I think this is how it is being looked at.

We must look at what is happening in

South-East Asia, in Indonesia, in Thailand, in Singapore, leave aside Korea and even when smaller nations have made up their mind, they have shown that it is the domestic capabilities which is the biggest single barrier to those of exports, that is certainly the case with India. When we look at India and China - I think Shri Nirmal Chatterjee brought up the case of China - in 1973 if you look at India's exports and China's exports, they were roughly of the same order of about 13 billion Dollars. We have reached from 1973 - 20 years later - to about 18 billion Dollars. The Chinese exports have exceeded 50 billion Dollars. And that is why China is taken very seriously. Next to Japan, the United States has the largest deficit in its trade with China and that is why the Chinese sensitivity, the Chinese concern are taken note of in the world. If India wants to be taken seriously, if India wants to be a major sphere in the world, then we have no alternative but to have a forward looking exports factor. That does not mean a philosophy of subjugation, that is truly a philosophy of self-reliance.

Some Members in the course of the debate argued that we have opened our doors to a flood of imports. Obviously these Members I say with all humility have not looked at the facts. If you look at India's import bill and if you leave out oil imports, India's imports in Dollar terms are lower in 1992-93 than they were in 1989-90. The fact that we have removed bureaucratic control through which India's foreign trade was being regulated does not mean that we are going to open our country indiscriminate import of foreign goods. We have today in place of tariff cum-import exchange rate mechanism which will ensure an orderly relation between our exports and imports and the House, therefore, can have my assurance that we will never allow a situation to develop where we are swarmed by foreign imports.

Some Members have expressed concern about dumping of foreign goods. In my Budget speech I had assured the House that we will remain alert, we already have anti-dumping legislation, we have already made effective use

of this in one or two cases. We will make full use of the provisions of anti-dumping laws of our country to ensure that the liberalised policy does not make our country a dumping ground for unwanted foreign goods. This assurance, I repeat. We have, of course, reduced import duties but these import duties have been reduced in a manner which in the medium term will strengthen Indian industry. After all we all talk of a high cost economy. How does the high cost economy arise? We are a country endowed by nature with large human resources. We have a large reservoir of technical and managerial skills and yet even in labour intensive projects, we find our cost of production is uncompetitive. How that has come about? Because, we have jacked up our import duties on capital goods, on raw materials to levels which do not prevail in any other country at this level of development. If, we want to move from a high cost economy to a low cost economy, we must launch a process of gradual reduction in duties on capital goods, on all raw materials that, over a period of time, our economy becomes truly a low cost economy, the benefit of which will go to the farmers, the benefit of which will go to the consumers of India and at the same time, it will strengthen India's export efforts. In deliberating our import duty structures we have taken due care that it will not hurt Indian industry ours is not a strategy of de-industrialisation; it is a strategy of industrialisation of India, an industrialisation process which develops industry, but at the same time creates new jobs, an industrialisation which bridges the gap, the yawning gap between urban India and rural India. I assure you, the new strategy that we have in mind will usher in a new pattern of employment intensive type of industrialisation. Therefore, there should be no fear that reduction in import duties will lead to our country being swamped by foreign goods. In fact, if our policy succeeds, it would strengthen India's ability to compete domestically as well as internationally.

Shri Jaswant Singh referred also that his party's policy is also a policy of liberalisation. But that, there should be proper sequencing that

we should first pursue a policy of internal liberalisation but that is precisely what we did. As soon as our Government came into office in June, 1991, the first thing that we did was to streamline our Industrial Policy. And that was designed to strengthen the forces of competition, strengthen the forces of internal liberalisation. But, we live in a world where domestic market at home, does not provide adequate competition. So, simultaneously, we have to begin with a process. Together with the force of integral competition, selective introduction of international competition is also done. Otherwise, you cannot have an Indian economy developing in isolation, not knowing a new technology that had been developed, not knowing the new marketing techniques which are being utilised in the rest of the world. Technology and knowledge are today growing at a pace that if we do not catch up now, we will never catch up with the rest of the world.

Sir, in the same way, some hon. Members, in the Opposition have referred to our strategy of getting more foreign investment as an attempt to sell out. I assure you that this is a policy of strengthening Indian economy's capability to meet the growing challenges that lie ahead. We have never believed that developments can simply be imposed. The development of this country will depend essentially on the resources mobilisation by the people of India themselves.

But at the margin, if we do want to get some help, I don't think there is anything wrong with it. In the past, this help used to come in the form of concessional aid; concessional aid era, whether we like it or not, is coming to an end. In the 1980s, we substituted aid by high cost commercial borrowings. But the logic of compound interest rate has caught up and we have now reached a situation where large scale commercial borrowings is not a feasible proposition.

Therefore, if India's economy is to grow, if India's balance of payment is to be well managed, I think, it is necessary to substitute the non-debt creating flows in place of the debt creating

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type of flows, and these flows will be so regulated, these flows will be so small that they will strengthen our economy, but they will never be able to swamp the domestic industry

If you look at the economic policies suddenly our friends on the left have seen the virtues of the polices that the Congress Government have pursued for the last 40 years you would notice that foreign investment in our country was not bad 40 percent, 51 percent, 74 percent even 100 per cent foreign owned investment was allowed. The only difference was that all this was done on a case by case method, that led to a lot of delay, a lot of uncertainty, unpredictability. All that we have done now is that we have changed the procedure, we have laid down clear guidelines, we have laid down a list of industries in which people if they satisfy those criteria, can come and get 51 percent of foreign investment, this is in no way amounts to a radical departure from the past practice except the procedural simplification that I believe has been welcomed both by Indian industries and foreign industries as well.

Now some Members are, of course, obsessed with IMF and the World Bank. I said that we live with inter-dependent world, we do not feel ashamed that we have received aid from the international financial institutions. But I am absolutely categorical that we have used this aid to strengthen our economy. You look at the amount of money that came from the IMF during the period when the Opposition was in power, with the support of the Members of the BJP they brought in from the IMF 2.5 billion dollars in a short period of about 15 months. Our Government has roughly borrowed the same amount 2.8 billion dollars from the IMF in the last about 24 months.

What did they do when they came into office? They had a reserve of 3 billion dollars, they borrowed from the IMF 2.5 billion dollars: that money was wasted. The research at the end of the period, when they left, was no more than

1 billion dollar the accumulated loss of roughly 4 billion dollars. What did we do when we came into office? With foreign exchange reserve of 1 billion dollars, today, you will be glad to know our reserve is as high as 7 billion dollars. This is the highest level of foreign exchange reserve in the history of India in the last 20 years. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH Is it your own or have you borrowed it? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH And out of this, at best, you can say we borrowed 2.5 billion dollars. So, all the rest is the result of sound economic policies that our Government has pursued so intelligently under the leadership of the Prime Minister Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao. (*Interruptions*) There are certain professional prophets of gloom. When I heard the speech of Shri Jaswant Singh for whom I have great admiration when I heard the speech of Shri Amal Datta when I heard the speech of Shri Chatterjee I could have read these speeches that they delivered last year and the year before that. The substance has not changed the facts have changed but they do not have the courage to own up that the facts do not coincide with what they have been saying.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) They are inspired by the earlier Finance Minister. The same speech he delivered in 1991, we are hearing today.

(*Interruptions*)

May I ask only one clarification? We were told solemnly it will take three years for the economy to change substantially. Our condition will be improving milk and honey will be flowing in this country. Sir for how long these three years will be extended, I want to know.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH I am glad that my hon. friend has raised this question. What I said when I become the Finance Minister I said our economy, as a result, if he reads, of the

mismanagement of the previous 15-16 months was in such a bad stage that for any Finance Minister it will take a minimum period of three years to set things right. Today I feel bold to say that it has taken much less than three years and the fact that inflation rate is no more than 6.4 per cent, the fact that our foreign exchange reserves despite import liberalisation are as high as 7 billion dollars as a living truth of what we have been saying as a living truth of the wrong things that the opposition is saying. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE He is expressing people's agony. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH Sir, I was saying that the distinct improvement in the economic situation, in the balance of payments on inflation front and on the production front is a positive proof of the increasing success of the type of policy that our Government has pursued.

Sir, reference has been made to agriculture. I share the concern of the House to the state of agriculture but we can take pride in the fact that thanks to the efforts of our Government and our Agriculture Minister this year this country has harvested the record amount of food production of 180 million tonnes. For this our Government deserves credit.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) Sixth Plan target was 180 million tonnes. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH In the course of this year the provisions that have been given the largest increase are agricultural development in the Central Plan is increased by over 35 per cent, rural development programmes have been increased by 62 per cent, education and health expenditure has been given a substantial increase of over 30 per cent. All this is a proof of our Government's commitment to sustain agricultural development to sustain creation of jobs in the rural India to sustain interest in showing that the health care and educational facilities particularly of the Scheduled Castes

Scheduled Tribes and the backward classes are increased over a period of time. (*Interruptions*)

Sir, several Members have expressed concern about fertilizer prices. Fertilizer prices have increased of complex fertilizers and I share the concern of the House that this can hurt the growth of agricultural production. I can assure the House that the Prime Minister himself is now engaged in an exercise to find ways and means as to how this burden on the farmers of India can be reduced. Our Government sincerely believes that there can be no sustained progress in our country without a prosperous agriculture.

It was an English poet who said that with a bold peasantry the country strides and what is destroyed can never be supplied.

The House can rest assured that we will not do anything which hurts the interests of farmers because therein lies India's future, if we want to go forward. (*Interruptions*)

I do want to inform this House that on the subject of fertilizer prices the Prime Minister himself is engaged exercise as to how we can reduce the burden of higher fertilizer prices of complex fertilisers on the farming community in our country like DAP and other complex NAP fertilizers.

These are some of the points that have been raised in the debate. There have been other issues. Several hon. members have expressed concern about nothing having been done for the savings in the Budget of the current year. I have on several occasions said that I do believe that in the long run we must move towards a system of direct taxation which is simple, which is free of too many ambiguities, free of too many exemptions. But I do take note of the concern that has been expressed in the House that something more needs to be done to promote savings. When I come to present to this House the amendments to the Finance Bill I will have more to say on this subject.

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I have also received several representations from several segments of industry, with regard to some anomalies, certain reductions in duties which might hurt the Indian industry and as I said, ours is not a strategy of hurting the Indian industry, ours is a strategy of imparting a new element of dynamism to that industry. We are now engaged in an exercise, in consultation with the other Ministries, to identify the areas where corrective action can be taken. I will, when I come to the presenting of the amendments to the Finance Bill, deal with this subject as well.

This I believe, takes care of most of the points that have been raised in the debate. The economy has done well. But I must be very honest with the House that we cannot take it for granted that if this country is ridden with communal strifes, if lawlessness spreads, we can continue to enjoy the fruits of sustained improvement in the economic and social well-being of our country. Until November, 1992 our tax revenues, our exports were growing at a healthy rate. But since November there is a visible declaration in the collection of revenues. In fact, the rough calculation that I have made shows that the riots in December and January have cost our country in terms of revenue alone a loss of Rs. 5000 crore. In small measures, this is the economic cost of Ayodhya and of its fall-out.

Therefore, it is not in a partisan spirit that I appeal to all Members on this House that if India's full economic potential has to be realised then I think we must get over this atmosphere of confrontation, of communal tension which bedeviled our country in recent months.

The second source of danger is that if we loosen the grip of fiscal discipline, we are today not in a situation where inflation can be controlled and fiscal deficit is allowed to soar.

We cannot have a situation where the public sector enterprises continue to make losses year after year. We cannot have a situation

where the States can ask the Central Government to foot the bill even when the State Electricity Boards today are earning a negative rate of return, of minus 21 per cent. Today the State electricity Boards are losing early five thousand to six thousand crores of rupees per annum. If the same money were available for expanding electricity supply, you can imagine how much we can do by way of taking the benefit of electricity to those farflung areas of rural India which still lives essentially on kerosene

Finally, Sir, we must control the rate at which our rate of consumption of petroleum products is increasing. Our consumption of petroleum products is increasing at the rate of 8 to 10 per cent per annum. Our domestic production is falling. This is a situation fraught with grave danger. I think, if we take self-prelian seriously, then we must do everything in our power to see that the power sector, the energy sector, in our country functions effectively and the State Electricity Boards' losses are reduced so that wherever oil is being used; petroleum is being used, it can be replaced by electricity so that in the use of petroleum product there is utmost conservation, there is utmost economy. If we do not do that, India's balance of payment cannot be properly managed.

Sir, Shri Jaswant Singh had referred to the need for State administration being improved. What is true of the Centre must also apply to the States. India lives in State. All the investments that we want to make ultimately take place in the States, and if the State administrations are not quick enough to provide water, to provide land and other facilities, then I agree with him that this New Economic Policy will not achieve the desired results. Therefore, here is a challenge for all entities, Centre and states to work together. India is on the threshold of major opportunities. But we also face major perils. If we do not pull together.

While I conclude, Sir, I am reminded of a very famous sentence, which the last statesman Dr. S. Radhakrishnan mentioned when he ad-

dressed in 1954 the convention of the Punjab University, the year in which I graduated. He said, The time has come when this nation should act in a unified manner to deal with its economic and social problems " He quoted a couplet from the famous book, which he had written in 1929 I am quoting from Kalki "the future of civilisation " where he said.

"There is so much good in the worst of us and so much bad in the best of us that it will behve any of us to find fault with the rest of us "

India needs to day a new sprnt of reconcilation of all political parties working together in a spirit of harmony to realise the great potential that this country has India is in the move The extent to which we take advantage of these opportunities would depend very much o the response of the Members of this House. I in vertall Members of this House to support the Budget (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (*Dumdum*) What are you going to do about the Tanff Commission? Are you going to have it? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North). Sir, the Finance Minister has given a rough estimate of loss of revenue of about Rs 5000 crores due to not in Bombay Subsequently there have been chain of bomb blasts also Has any figure, as to what is the loss the country has suffered because of those bomb blasts, been arived at? (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER I have allowed the questions to be asked to the Finance Minister and not to Shn Mani Shankar Aiyar

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE Sir, many Members have raised a question of the Government's proposal to disinvest shares, particularly in the nationalised banks No reference has been made by the Finance Minister to

the disinvestment of shares in nationalised banks, apart from public sector undertaking because we understand and we know that many of he shares of the public sector undertakings have been sold not even at a proper value which those should fetch. Therefore, we are very much concerned about these banks I would like to know what is the policy of the Government on this

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) I wanted to know from the Finance Minister that he has mentioned about certain measures which have been to control inflation and also increased rate of growth He has not mentioned anything what concrete steps are being taken to meet the growth of unemployment because unemployment is growing at a very high rate and that is the major concern of the youth

Secondly, he invited us for discussions He also agreed that because of the bureaucratic delays and quick response from the bureaucracy, the investment which should take rapidly in our country is being hampered I would like to know what steps are being taken to streamline the administration

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa) The Finance Minister has just now said that our foreign exchange reserve position has improved. Now, if that is true, then why the Government is not coming forward to say that they are not negotiating for the next round of IMF loan and they will forego it

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether the Government would ensure that the American Services Industry - particularly Insurance company are not allowed to enter our country? So far as the inflation or parice rise is concerned, I would like to know from the hon Minister whether his wife is agree with him that prices have come down

[English]

SHRICHETANP S CHAUHAN (Amroha)
Sir, more than seven banks are functioning without Chairman and Managing Directors for over one year. It is an industry of 250 lakh crores which is being neglected. I would like to know why these banks as well as the National Rural Bank of India are functioning without Chief Executives. I also want an early formation of National Rural Bank of India.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur) Mr Speaker, Sir the hon Minister has made a reference to the farmers and fertilizer in his speech. Is the Prime Minister himself thinking about it to find any way out? Besides that, you have made a mention about dumping also and stated that the Government have anti-dumping law and that is being used as and when it is required. Two three months back some fertilizer plants particularly DAP factories including that of IFFCO factories have been closed. Thousands of workers were working in those factories. Though there will be a separate discussion on it yet I am raising it because the hon Minister has referred to it. I also wrote a letter to the Commerce Minister and two days back I received written reply from him, stating that the Government have adequate legal provisions to deal with it but they have not been used so far. And so far as fertilizer is concerned, I have not received any written complaint. Perhaps raising such matter in the House does not amount to a complaint and I am not aware of it whether there is any designated authority with whom the complaint is to be lodged. I would like to know from the hon Minister that DAP fertilizer which is being sold at a price of 260 per tonne by USA in its own country is being sold here in India as dumping goods at the rate of 160 per tonne. The Government is not able to check such small things. The Government may last for 11 years instead of 11 months but it will not be able to check such things. Till now the Government have completed two and a half years but during this

period it has ruined our industries particularly rural and agro-based industries to a large extent and have allowed USA to use India as dumping ground. Why the Government have not yet taken any step to check such tendency?

SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansol) Mr Speaker, Sir I would like to say that no attention has been paid to Public Sector units and no investment has been made therein. Many sick units are on the verge of closure but no concrete steps have been taken in this direction. Lakhs of workers of Public Sector Undertakings are being retrenched. What the hon Minister is doing for them? The hon Minister is being praised but he should state as to what steps are being taken to save the public sector undertakings and their workers. (Interruptions)

[English]

DR KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore)
Only one point, Sir.

MR SPEAKER No, you belong to the ruling party, you have to reply.

DR KARTIKESWAR PATRA Sir, I have only one point regarding diversion of Central allocation. For example, for drought affected areas, P M released the amount but that has not been properly utilised and is diverted to some other region.

MR SPEAKER Now it is not possible for the Minister to reply to the new points which are raised. If there are any doubts about the statement made by the Minister on the floor of the house, those can only be clarified.

SHRIMANMOHANSINGH Mr Speaker, Sir, I am happy to clarify the various points which have been raised by the hon Members.

Shri Somnath Chatterjee raised the issue relating to disinvestment of shares in the public sector banks. In my Budget Speech, I had pointed out that the Government needs to put in

about Rs 20 000 crores if all the bad and doubtful debts have to be written off. We want to strengthen our banking system and that is why in this year's budget I have made provision of Rs 5 700 crores from the budget. But Budget has many other claims. We have claims of rural development, we have claims of agriculture, we have to consider whether these public sector resources should be used for poverty alleviation or they should be used to add to the capital so that these losses in the banking system which are a fact of life can be made good. It is in this respect that we have come to the conclusion that while maintain the essential public sector character of the nationalised banks, we should at the margin allow these banks—not all the banks can take advantage of it—but those banks which have the credit worthiness to go to the market to raise a part of the resources that they want for this purpose. We have not devised a concrete scheme. We will be very happy to discuss the concrete scheme with the hon. Members. We want to benefit by their guidance and experience. This is the background to the disinvestment of part of the share capital of the public sector banks. Therefore, Chandra Jeet Yadav brought up this issue.

AN HON. MEMBER: What about privatisation of banks?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: I have said that while new private sector banks can come in with stringent condition, with a minimum capital of Rs 100 crores and with no individual or no group owning more than one per cent of capital, we have no intention to denationalise the public sector banks. In all these banks, at least 51% of shares will be with the public sector. So their essential public sector character will be maintained.

With regard to the inflation and the growth of unemployment, I share the concern of the House with regard to unemployment. But in the long run, how are we going to deal with the problem of unemployment except on the basis of a high growth of economy and industrial

growth which is employment intensive, an agricultural growth which creates new opportunities for the growth of agro-processing activities? That is precisely what this budget does. Our strategy does not say that growth will take care of all the problems of unemployment. That is why we are strengthening the anti-poverty programmes. That is why there is the great increase in the allocation of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana with the target of 11 000 million mandays being created in rural areas.

18 00 hrs

That is why we have a target of a minimum of 3.5 lakh rural workers being trained under TRYSEM scheme. There is no magic solution to the problem of growth or to the problem of unemployment. We have to actually create the growth. We have also to ensure that the growth pattern is such that it lays emphasis on the creation of employment oriented industries. That is precisely the purpose of reduced levels of protection of reduced levels of input intensity of industrial processes in our country.

The third issue that Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav raised is about bureaucratic delays. We do share his concern. That is why in my Budget speech, I said that this year we have asked all Ministries, all Departments of the Government of India to set up special groups to review their procedures, rules and other activities which come in the way of speedy implementation of the process of economic reforms. That is launched by our Government. That process is under way. I do hope that at the end of this year we will move some way ahead in reducing the bureaucratic delays.

I think someone on this side brought up the issue that when we have so much reserves, why do we need to go to the international financial institutions. We have today large reserves. But let us be very candid. Our economy is still very vulnerable, both to internal shocks like a bad weather condition or to external shocks like a rise in the price of oil. Therefore, I feel that it is

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in this country's interest to work out a social safety net at an external level so that if we get into difficulties we can draw upon the balance of payments support. Otherwise we will be subjecting our economy to excessive amount of uncertainty. But in the process we will never accept any conditions which lead to compromise with the country's interest or its economic sovereignty.

Then with regard to the bank chairman every effort is being made to expedite the process of selection of bank chairmen. Shri Chauhan has raised the issue of national rural bank. With regard to it we are today considering several alternatives. One of the alternatives is the establishment of national rural bank. I hope that in the next 2-5 months we will be able to find durable solutions to the problems of regional rural banks. Shri George Fernandes has raised about the DAP price. I do want to tell him that the nodal ministry for it is *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH I am talking about price rise. Are you not worried about it? *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH I do not discuss these issues with my wife. Therefore I am unable to answer that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE Is she not on speaking terms with you any longer?

(Interruptions)

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH With reference to the anti-dumping measures, I would like to inform Shri George Fernandes that the nodal ministry for the administration of anti-dumping legislation is the Commerce Ministry. I am sure the Commerce Ministry would be very happy to

receive any complaints with regard to dumping of foreign goods and that appropriate action will be taken.

But I think, we must distinguish between foreign goods being cheaper and being dumped into our country. Today the DAP price in our country - if you produce it at home - is Rs 9,500 per tonne. Internationally the same thing is available at a price of Rs 6,000 per tonne. Should we then burden the farmers of India to buy this fertiliser at a price of Rs 9,500 per tonne? What will happen to the economy? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES Mr Speaker, Sir, DAP fertilizer is being sold in USA where it is produced at the rate of \$260 per tonne whereas after including all overhead expenditure incurred on export it is being sold at the rate of \$160 per tonne in India as dumping goods and that is my complaint.

[*English*]

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH Sir I do not care what America does at home. The fact that the farmers of this country are going to get the fertiliser at the cheaper price is the predominate consideration for me *(Interruptions)*. And therefore, we are not going to protect the industry at the cost of our farmers. The farmers' interest has to be given predominance *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES Mr Speaker, Sir, when our factories are closed, USA will increase its rates *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR Please tell us as to what is anti-dumping law?

MR SPEAKER The House will not function like a class room.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR SPEAKER The House will take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos 16 to 22 relating to the Minister of Deceance, for which five hours have allotted, tomorrow

Hon Members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demands for Grants have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table This will be done within 15 minutes of the commencement of discussion on these Demands Those cut motions only will be treated as moved

A list showing the serial numbers of cut

motions treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board

In case any Member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table without delay,

The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow, Tuesday the 27th April 1993, at 11 A M

1807 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, April 27 1993/
Vaisakha 7 1915 (Saka)*

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